

# 100 Days of Prayer

## PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE LORD

**WEEK 5 (Feb 22 - Mar 1)**

### **A Weekly Guide for 100 days of Praying to Prepare the Way for the Lord**

Starting on January 25th, 2023 (Day 1), Culminating on May 4th, 2023 (Day 100)

#### **KEY VERSES FOR THE WEEK: John 3:27-30 (NIV)**

27 To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. 28 You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ 29 The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. 30 He must become greater; I must become less.”

#### **REFLECTION: *Humility***

What must it have been like to be John the Baptist?

His birth was supernaturally guided. His ministry was the fulfillment of prophecy. Jesus Himself described him as the greatest of all the prophets up to that time.

John would have the unprecedented honor to be a forerunner of Jesus, to prepare the way for the long-awaited Messiah.

And John’s ministry was no small deal. It caught the attention of the influential Jewish religious council as well as powerful Gentile government leaders. It attracted big crowds to hear John’s words, even if it meant they had to travel deep into the wilderness. Many sought to be baptized by him, and some committed to follow as his disciples.

But through all the fame and notoriety, John knew beyond a shadow of a doubt that this was NOT about him. He was not the big deal. He was not meant to be the center of attention. John never claimed to be and never sought to be “the Messiah”.

He was just a good friend getting ready for the Bridegroom to arrive. John’s joy was found not by focusing on the crowds or how often his name was mentioned. His greatest joy was in hearing the Bridegroom’s voice, knowing that He was near and that the wedding was about to begin.

John, the great honored prophet, understood humility. It is having a sober and correct assessment of oneself, as seen from God’s eyes. This is not about John thinking how small he was. It was knowing his role in all this. And, it was about knowing how great and astounding was the One to come.

Jesus was the Messiah. John was there to prepare the way. To call others to get ready. To point to Jesus. To delight in what Jesus was doing and saying. To be willing to be lesser so that Jesus would become greater.

How is the Church today doing in the area of humility? How are you doing? Does it matter too much what people are saying about you? Are we dropping names left and right but perhaps forgetting to lift up the one name of Jesus?

What can I practically do today so that I become lesser and people truly see how great Jesus is?

## PRAYER POINTS:

*Use these suggested prayer items as a starting point for where the Holy Spirit will lead you...*

1. Praise God for how He calls us His friends and invites us to join in His Kingdom work.
2. Pray that humility would make our hearts more tender and our eyes more attuned to what Jesus is doing. Ask that God would break any self-obsession and self-exaltation and fill our vision with MORE of Him.
3. Pray that God would indeed expand our boundaries and the impact of our ministries, but that we would always point to Jesus as the answer.
4. Pray for the 40+ US cities preparing to receive the Korean intercessors in May. Pray for the Spirit to allow humbleness to bridge any divides and bring unity in the Church.
5. Pray that we would be like John and be filled with complete joy as we hear the voice of the Bridegroom - Jesus Himself - drawing near to revive His people.

### **FOR MORE INFO ON THESE GUIDES:**

Call 512.554.7979 Walton Yuen

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