

100 Days of Prayer

PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE LORD

WEEK 6 (Mar 1 - Mar 7)

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: Matthew 3:5-8(NIV)

5 People went out to him (John the Baptist) from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. 6 Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? 8 Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.

REFLECTION: *Eager Obedience*

Obedience is not a word that is popular today.

It carries overtones of forced submission or mindless compliance.

It seems to run in opposition to personal freedom and the use of our free will.

And yet, the Word of God points to a God who values obedience in contrast to mere sacrifice. 1 Samuel 15:22 tells us that “To obey is better than sacrifice.” Why is that?

It’s because God is not looking for us to reluctantly yield to the perceived whims of a dictator. He’s not asking for us to go through the motions to fulfill some vague notion of religion. He doesn’t desire for us to give up on thoughtful reflection or to stop asking questions.

What He wants is an obedience born out of trust in Him. This implies that we have a relationship with this God. It also implies that we have witnessed up-close His goodness, His faithfulness, His worthiness. And so, we can trust Him. We may not

understand why He works the way He does. We can still have some questions. But when He asks us to do something, we obey.

As John the Baptist proclaimed a message of repentance and of preparing for the Messiah, he also called people to demonstrate this repentance through the act of water baptism. It was meant to be a symbol of turning away from their sins and making ready their heart for what God would bring.

What did the people do when they heard this message? Did they pause a long time and drag their feet? Did they argue endlessly and write books about John's words? No, they obeyed. And quickly. The whole region came out to him and got baptized in the Jordan River.

People chose to be immersed in the water as an act of deep trust in God. It was an act of free will. It was a step of faith. It was showing who had priority and ultimate importance in their lives.

Perhaps you've heard of the revival taking place at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky. In the midst of all the worship and prayers and profound peace in His presence, there is a fierce desire to obey God. And to do so with eagerness and attentiveness. God's will matters more than traditions or schedules or orderliness.

How are you doing in your obedience to what God has clearly shown you? Do you trust Him enough to do difficult or risky things? Are you willing to promptly go where He sends you? He will give you His strength. He will pour out His resources. He will work through you and bring forth good fruit if you will trust Him.

Today, will you trust Jesus enough to obey Him without delay?

PRAYER POINTS:

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

1. Praise God for His being absolutely good and faithful and worthy of our total trust.
2. Pray that we would hear His voice and know His will for us with great clarity. Pray that we would have sufficient faith to surrender to Him and obey Him quickly.
3. Pray that God would grant divine provision for the financial needs of the 400 Korean intercessors as they purchase airline tickets and get ready to come to the States.
4. Pray that the city of Charlotte would finalize which churches are hosting the Koreans in the evenings during their visit. Pray that more believers and churches would join in the 100 days of prayer before May 4th.
5. Pray for Christians here to be "sold out" for Christ, just like in the days of the 1960's Jesus Movement.

FOR MORE INFO ON THESE GUIDES:

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