

Weekly Prayer Strategy

25 Feb – 2 Mar

This week's prayer strategy is based on the sermon by Paul Nyamuda entitled:

Proclaiming Christ Pt I & II

Prayer Point 1

Gal 1:6-8

⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel — ⁷ which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse!

- Pray that we would a Church that preaches Christ and Christ only and will not turn to a different gospel.

Prayer Point 2

Pray that the following mind shifts will take place in our Church as we proclaim Christ in Jozi:

Shift in citizenship

Phil 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

- Pray for a revelation of the full benefits of our heavenly citizenship and wisdom to know how to activate the blessings of that citizenship.
- Pray that we would be a Church that is relevant in community and society.

Shift in assignment

Acts 16:6-7

Paul and his companions travelled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to.

- Pray that we would be a Church that is very clear regarding the specific place and people we are called to and that operates within the spiritual jurisdiction that God has called us to.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you answer these questions (as this will help you understand to whom you been called to proclaim Christ?
 - How are you wired?
 - For what do people ask you for advice?
 - What complements do you receive most?
 - What comes to you easily without much training? (Listening, baking, hospitality etc)
 - What can you get up and do at 2am without complaining?
 - What do you get so absorbed doing that you lose track of time?
 - What can you do that requires minimal effort but the results are phenomenal? (getting revelation from the word, writing, developing card games etc).

Shift in Association

Acts 16:13-15

On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you which relationships to initiate, nurture, rebuild, redefine or terminate. (Truthfully answer these questions and make the necessary changes: Are you spending a few hours with people you should only be spending a few minutes with? Are you spending a few minutes with people you should actually be spending a few hours with?)

Shift in what you confront

Acts 16:16-21

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of

Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her. When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. They brought them before the magistrates and said, “These men are Jews, and are throwing our city into an uproar by advocating customs unlawful for us Romans to accept or practice.”

- Pray for boldness to confront what is not of Christ.
- Pray that you would not become consumed by the love of money.

Shift in what you do

Acts 16:22-28

The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods. After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone’s chains came loose. The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, “Don’t harm yourself! We are all here!”

- Pray that you would be one to praise God and pray regardless of circumstances.

Shift in power

Acts 16:29-37

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved — you and your household.” Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his household were baptized. The jailer brought them into his house and set a meal before them; he was filled with joy because he had come to believe in God — he and his whole household. When it was daylight, the magistrates sent their officers to the jailer with the order: “Release those men.” The jailer told Paul, “The magistrates have ordered that you and Silas be released. Now you can leave. Go in peace.” But Paul said to the officers: “They beat us publicly without a trial, even though we are Roman citizens, and threw us into prison. And now do they want to get rid of us quietly? No! Let them come themselves and escort us out.”

- Pray for a revelation of the power and authority God has given you.

Shift in your love for the Word

Acts 17:11-12

¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

Heb 4:2

For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith.

- Pray that you would grow in your love, revelation and passion for the word of God.
- Get into the discipline of asking the following question whenever you sit under the teaching of the Word:
 - What does it mean?
 - What is God saying to me now?
 - What can I start doing differently in response?

Shift in perseverance

Acts 17:16-17

While Paul was waiting for them in Athens, he was greatly distressed to see that the city was full of idols. So he reasoned in the synagogue with both Jews and God-fearing Greeks, as well as in the marketplace day by day with those who happened to be there.

Acts 17:24-31

²⁴ “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. ²⁵ And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. ²⁶ From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. ²⁷ God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. ²⁸ ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’^[a] As some of your

own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.'²⁹ "Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill.³⁰ In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent.³¹ For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

- Pray that you would be one burdened by the things that burden God.
- Pray that you would never lose sight of how big God is in all circumstances.

Shift in motivation and character

Daniel 5:15-17

¹⁵ The wise men and enchanters were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they could not explain it. ¹⁶ Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom." ¹⁷ Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

Daniel 5:18-21

¹⁸ "Your Majesty, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendour. ¹⁹ Because of the high position he gave him, all the nations and peoples of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death; those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled. ²⁰ But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. ²¹ He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like the ox; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes.

- Pray that like Daniel, there would be no selfish ambition in you and that you would not be corrupted.
- Pray that your character will be made up of the following:
 - **Self-discipline** – the ability to do what's right even if you don't feel like it.
 - **Core Values** – Principles you live by that enable you to take a moral stand.
 - **Sense of Identity** – a realistic self-image based on who you are in Christ.
 - **Emotional security** – the capacity to be emotionally stable and consistent.

Shift in anointing

Daniel 2:19-23; 27-28

¹⁹ During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven ²⁰ and said: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. ²¹ He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. ²² He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him. ²³ I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors: You have given me wisdom and power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king."

²⁷ Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, ²⁸ but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you were lying in bed are these:

Daniel 1:17

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

- Ask God to reveal to you mysteries for He knows all things.
- Pray that God would anoint our church with the anointing to transform society.

Shift in favour

Daniel 1:9

Now God had caused the official to show favour and compassion to Daniel

- Pray that God would cause people in authority to show you favour.

Shift in competence

Daniel 1:20

In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

- Pray that you will be ten times better than your peers in all you do; because of the Holy Spirit in you, so that God gets all the glory.