

2025 PRAYER FOCUS: HIS STORY

“They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth. As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world” (John 17:16-18).

A couple of weeks ago, many Missionary Church pastors and delegates met in Fort Wayne for our biennial conference to conduct business and also to be challenged by the many stories of what God has done in and through the Missionary Church. There are stories of lives being changed, churches planted, and missionaries sent. There was the reminder to *Love like Jesus and Live like Missionaries*.

Our prayer is that the stories will continue to inspire and challenge us and that the messages will broaden our vision of what God wants to do through the people of the Missionary Church. One of the great opportunities is raising up another generation of pastors, missionaries, and leaders to have an even greater impact on our culture.

AUGUST PRAYER FOCUS — PRAYING FOR STUDENTS/SCHOOLS

In just a few weeks, students will be returning to school. Many, at the public-school level and in secular universities, will face challenges to their faith from fellow students and from faculty and administration. Some will face those challenges with strong faith and emerge even stronger. Others who are not grounded may waiver and cave to the pressures of different ideologies. The prayer focus this month serves as a reminder to pray faithfully for the next generation.

While we raise concerns for students, we also want to acknowledge what God is doing on many high-school and university campuses. There is a growing movement of prayer, worship, and discipleship. This past year, thousands of university students were baptized across several campuses. Hopefully our prayers will fan into flame what God has started in this generation. It is exciting to see how God is transforming lives.

PRAY FOR THESE KEY EVENTS THIS MONTH:

- MICHIGAN REGION
 - BROWN CITY CAMP – JULY 31 – AUGUST 10
- PASTORAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (PLI)
 - AUGUST 17 ENROLLMENT FOR FALL CLASSES
- BETHEL UNIVERSITY
 - August 29 - Annual Prayer Walk/Missionary Church Day at Bethel University

WEEK #1 — August 1-7

This week as we pray for the leaders of the Missionary Church, take time to praise the Lord that we have leaders who are looking for ways to invest in the next generation and who

have a passion to see this generation become fully devoted followers of Jesus who hear His call on their lives.

Pray for Rodney and all the members of the MLC/GOC, that their love for the next generation and their desire to see them respond to God's call on their lives will never be diminished by the demands of leading an organization.

Pray that as they love and live like Jesus, their example will impact the next generation so that these young people will love like Jesus and live like missionaries.

Allow the Holy Spirit to use the following Scriptures and prayers to inform your prayers for our national leaders. Allow the Spirit to lead you. Your prayers matter more than you will ever realize.

Friday, August 1

"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and in His law he meditates day and night. He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper" (Psalm 1:1-3).

PRAYER: Father in heaven, we praise you that your Word is life-giving and that those who live by it are blessed and fruitful. Forgive us for neglecting your Word and for neglecting to teach it to the next generation. We pray for our leaders, that they will model a delight in your Word so that a hunger for the Word is caught by the next generation. We pray you will use our leaders as mentors who can speak into the lives of the next generation, so that God can guard their hearts and minds from the evil one.

Saturday, August 2

"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen" (Matthew 28:18-20).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for the assurance of your presence. We praise you that as teachers enter schools as your disciples, you are with them and you will equip them to live as disciples and to engage others. Lord, sometimes Christian teachers feel alone. We pray they will sense your empowering presence in every conversation. We pray you will grant them favor in their classrooms and freedom to speak the things of Jesus. We pray you will remind our leaders of the significance of classroom ministry.

Sunday, August 3

"Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled" (Hebrews 12:14-15).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for your grace. We know that holiness is rooted in your grace. Your Word connects holiness not only with our relationship with you, but also with our relationships with those around us. We praise you for the men and women you have called to serve in education. We pray that in these challenging times when they feel pressure to compromise their faith, that you will give them courage to stand firm. Guard their hearts from bitterness. Give them grace to love those who stand in opposition to the truth of your Word. Grant them favor with colleagues and school boards. Purify their hearts. We pray they will be encouraged by leaders in the church who model godly leadership.

Monday, August 4

“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore, the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure” (1 John 3:1–3).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that you have called us your children. We praise you for this assurance, and also for the promise that one day we will be like Jesus. Lord, our hearts ache for those students who have not experienced your love. Where we have failed to show them your love, forgive us. We pray for students across the country, that they will experience your love so that they are filled with hope, even in this time when so many are experiencing despair. Put godly teachers and godly peers in their lives. We pray for the leadership of the Missionary Church, that they will continue the focus on reaching and equipping the next generation.

Tuesday, August 5

“Then He said to His disciples, ‘The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest’” (Matthew 9:37-38).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for the stories we hear of people coming to faith in you all over the world. We praise you for teachers who are trusting in you. We praise you for those trusting you even when they are faced with ridicule and loss of employment for their faith. Forgive us for our lack of personal involvement in the harvest. We pray for our teachers, that they will see themselves as harvest workers, whether they are in public school or teaching in a university. We pray you will not allow the enemy to stand in the way of their being used of you. We pray you will also place Christian leaders on every campus, so that students might hear the Good News. We pray for leaders of the Missionary Church, that they will continue to remind us of the readiness of the harvest.

Wednesday, August 6

“Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow” (Isaiah 1:16-17).

PRAYER: Lord, we praise you that you call your people to a higher standard than we would ever pursue on our own. You call us to seek justice and to rebuke the oppressor. Father, forgive our sins of omission—the sin of silence in the face of oppression and the sin of neglecting to seek justice for those who are treated unjustly. We pray for our schools. Give administrators wisdom and discernment to know the truth about matters of justice in our culture. Give them courage to stand for the oppressed and against those who oppose truth. We pray their voice for justice and mercy

will reflect your heart. We continue to pray for our leaders, that they will champion the next generation.

Thursday, August 7

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen” (Matthew 28:18-20).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that we serve under your authority and have the assurance of your presence with us. We praise you for the reminder that many of the first disciples were young people. Forgive us for underestimating what you can do through students. We pray for our students. Assure them of your presence and your power as they walk as your disciples in their respective schools. We pray you will teach them how to walk with pre-Christians and new believers to help them become fully devoted followers of Jesus. We pray our students will be salt and light on their respective campuses. We also pray that the leadership of the Missionary Church will continue to seek ways to invest in the next generation.

WEEK #2 — August 8-14

This week, we encourage you to pray for Bethel University—for Dr. McDonald, who has been chosen as the next president of Bethel University. Pray for the cabinet and staff, that God will grant them opportunities to invest in the lives of students, so that they might walk as Jesus walked.

Pray for students who are new to the journey with Jesus. Pray that God will put people in their lives who will help them grow deeper in their walk with Jesus so that they can live as disciples in this secular world. Pray that God will give them an appetite to know Him better.

Pray that the focus on making disciples will continue to be clear. Pray for Dr. McDonald, that he will be able to partner with the Missionary Church to make disciples of this next generation who know how to live for Him in this challenging culture.

Allow the Holy Spirit to use the following Scriptures and prayers to inform your prayers for Bethel University. Your prayers matter more than you will ever realize.

Friday, August 8

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that you take worldly, ungodly people and transform them so that they can demonstrate what is your perfect will. Forgive us for our reluctance to present ourselves fully to you. Forgive us for those times we have resisted your transforming power and settled for looking more like the world around us. We pray that you will continually transform our teachers to be more and more like you. We pray you will give them faith that you can also transform the most

ungodly people on their campus. We pray for an awakening on every campus in the US that results in the transformation of faculty, staff and administration.

Saturday, August 9

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30).

PRAYER: Lord, we praise you for the invitation to rest in you. We praise you for your gentleness toward us. We confess that we get weary, and we know that most of that weariness comes from carrying the weight of ministry and the needs of others on our own. We need you. Today, we pray for our schools and their leadership. We especially pray for those who are weary—wearied with school, weary with choices, weary trying to walk as Jesus walked. We pray the faculty and staff at Bethel will accept this invitation to be yoked with you, and that they will find rest and peace.

Sunday, August 10

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2).

PRAYER: Lord, we praise you for your mercy. We praise you for your power to renew our minds, so that we can live according to your will. Forgive us for not modeling a fully committed life to the next generation—for compromising and being conformed to the values of the world. Forgive us for failing to pray faithfully for students and faculty at Bethel. We pray for our students. Capture their hearts so that they eagerly give themselves fully to you. Renew them day by day, so that they do not conform to the pattern of the world. Give them courage to stand strong in their faith. Use the faculty as examples what it means to be a living sacrifice for you.

Monday, August 11

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for your Word. We praise you that it provides the correction and instruction we need to live righteously. We praise you because it reveals your heart for us and your plan of redemption. Forgive us for the times we have tried to live out our faith in our own wisdom. Lord, we pray that you will give the Bethel faculty an even greater love for your Word. Increase their understanding and confidence in its truth and authority. Help them instill a hunger for the Word in the lives of their students and those they mentor. We pray your Word will inform every lecture.

Tuesday, August 12

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion. Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men” (Romans 12:15-18).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that you give us a greater capacity for loving others than we can imagine. Forgive us for not always tapping into that reservoir of love. Forgive us for any jealousy or envy that keeps us from rejoicing with those who rejoice. We pray for Bethel, that you will guard faculty from any sense of jealousy. Help them demonstrate the fullest measure of your love and grace toward others. Give them hearts of compassion toward those who are marginalized. Give them wisdom to navigate this changing culture.

Wednesday, August 13

“But the Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord concerning you, both that you do and will do the things we command you. Now may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the patience of Christ” (2 Thessalonians 3:3-5).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that you are faithful—that you can establish our hearts and guard us from the evil one. Forgive us for entertaining anything that comes from the enemy. We pray for our Bethel students, that you will establish them. Guard them from the evil one. Direct their hearts into the love of God, so that they may stand strong and full of hope. We pray the world will not squeeze them into its mold. We pray they will grow and mature as fully devoted followers of Jesus.

Thursday, August 14

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

PRAYER: We praise you, Father, for the power of the Gospel. We praise you that it has changed us. We confess that in some circles we have been ashamed of the Gospel—embarrassed or fearful to acknowledge our faith. Forgive us. We pray for the Bethel faculty. Remind them of the power of your Word. Give them boldness to speak when your Spirit prompts. Keep them from timidity. We pray you will give them courage to stand on the authority of your Word whether challenged by students, colleagues, or community. Regardless of the academic discipline, give them confidence in your Word.

WEEK #3 — July 15-21

The focus for this week is praying for pastors. Praise the Lord for pastors who are committed to walking as Jesus walked—living as disciples in a secular world. Praise the Lord for his call on their lives. Praise the Lord for the impact pastors have had in shaping the lives of young people.

Pray for these leaders, that God will encourage them daily as they give leadership to the church and to the community. Pray they will not become weary. Pray the Lord will surround them with wise counselors and with men and women who will hold them up in prayer. Pray that God will use them to lead the next generation to live faithfully as disciples in this ever-changing culture.

Pray for protection from the enemy as they focus personally on following Jesus and leading others to do the same. Pray that the leadership of each church will also be committed to living as disciples of Jesus.

Friday, August 15

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples” (John 15:7-8).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, for the privilege of abiding in you. We praise you that in abiding, you give us one mission—bear fruit. Actually, you give us a promise that if we abide in you, we will bear much fruit. Forgive us for thinking we could bear fruit on our own or that we could not bear fruit at all. We pray for our pastors, that you will open doors for ministry to teachers and administrators, to lead them to abide in you, so that they can, in turn, invest in the next generation and help students abide in you. We pray that our pastors and churches can partner with schools to make them a safe place for students to practice their faith.

Saturday, August 16

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9).

PRAYER: Father, when we read Peter’s description of us—your people—we are humbled. We praise you that you didn’t just call us out of darkness, but you called us to something better. You called us to be a royal priesthood, a holy nation—your people—so that we might proclaim your praises. We praise you that you gave us a purpose. Forgive us for becoming so busy and distracted by our own pursuits that we have failed to proclaim your praises. Forgive us for those times when our lives haven’t resembled citizens of a holy nation. We pray for our pastors, that you will use them to help students grasp the depths of your love for them – that they will understand their true identity as a part of your royal family.

Sunday, August 17

“Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, ‘If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple’” (Luke 14:25-26).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that the expectations you have of disciples are very clear. These are hard sayings, and we want to gloss over them; but you are clear that our love for you must exceed our love for anything else. Forgive us for putting anything or anyone ahead of you in our lives. We pray for our pastors, that they will model what it means to live their lives totally focused on you. We pray they will help the next generation count the cost. We pray you will use our pastors to help students realize that the cost of following you is far less than the cost of not following you.

Monday, August 18

“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20-21).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that you are able to do more than we can even imagine. Forgive us for our small thinking. Even our largest dreams and greatest accomplishments pale in comparison to what you desire to do in and through us if we simply rest in you. We pray for our pastors, that you will open their eyes to see the great mission field in the local schools. Remind them that you are

doing more behind the scenes than they can see. Help them rest in you. We pray you will do exceedingly more in classrooms across this country than we can imagine. Enlarge your Kingdom.

Tuesday, August 19

“For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor” (1 Thessalonians 4:3–4).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that it is your will to make us holy—to purify us and set us apart for your purposes. We praise you that you created us as sexual beings, and that you intended that sexuality be expressed in the safe context of marriage between one man and one woman. We confess that we have misused, abused, and perverted what you intended for a special intimacy within marriage. We know from your Word that holiness involves sexual purity. We pray for our pastors, that you will give them the boldness, the grace, and the wisdom to address purity with students. We pray that students will be open to your Word and understand that what might feel like restrictions are really prescriptions for something better.

Wednesday, August 20

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).

PRAYER: Father in heaven, we praise you for the promise that you will direct our paths. We praise you that we can rest in you to lead us. When we have trusted in our own understanding, we have been lost. We have made choices that did not help us grow and did not advance the Kingdom. Lord, today we pray for our pastors, that you will help them find ways to come alongside teachers and administrators to help them put their trust in you. We pray our pastors will be able to speak into the lives of those who are speaking into the lives of the next generation.

Thursday, August 21

“Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things” (Philippians 4:8).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that your Word is true and that you have created a world full of wonder and beauty. You created man in your image, and you have given us the opportunity to know you in all your goodness. Forgive us for filling our minds with things like envy, jealousy, lust, and hatred. Lord, we pray for our pastors, that you will use them to invest in the next generation, so that they will grasp and embrace those things that are true, noble, just, and pure. We pray you will use our pastors to help students see the wonder of God.

WEEK #4 — July 22-28

As we continue our focus on living as disciples of Jesus, we want to pray for each local church, that there would be a broader commitment to living more and more like Jesus, so that we can have a greater impact on this secular culture. We praise the Lord for our churches that intentionally engage the culture. God is using them to see lives changed.

Pray that every Missionary Church will pursue a lifestyle of radical disciples. Pray that there will be a growing number of believers in our churches who intentionally build relationships with students, so that they might show them the love of Christ and introduce them to His power to heal broken lives, messed up marriages, and rebellious hearts.

Friday, August 22

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for the power of the Holy Spirit. We praise you that you empower your people to do the work you have given us to do. We praise you for the promise that by your Spirit we will be witnesses. Forgive us for trying to do ministry in our own strength and for being shortsighted in the scope of our ministry. We praise you for the students in each of our churches who are truly committed to you—students who desire to change their campuses. We pray for these students, that you will continually fill them with your Spirit, that they might be empowered to witness for you wherever you send them. Guard their hearts from the attacks of the enemy. We pray the church will champion them and encourage them in their walk with Jesus.

Saturday, August 23

“How long will you judge unjustly, and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah* Defend the poor and fatherless; Do justice to the afflicted and needy” (Psalm 82:2-3).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that while you are a God of mercy, you are also a God of justice. You hold us accountable for our actions. Forgive us, individually and nationally, for defending the wicked because it served some personal or political agenda. We pray you will help our churches discern the political movements and give them wisdom to know how to engage with teachers and administrators who may differ politically. We pray you will equip our churches to support teachers and students who are striving to serve you.

Sunday, August 24

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind” (James 1:5-6).

PRAYER: Lord, we praise you that you are not stingy with wisdom. Forgive us for frequently ignoring this huge expression of your grace. We acknowledge our need of your wisdom. We need it for life and for ministry. We pray that you will give our churches wisdom to know how to navigate an increasingly challenging culture. Increase their confidence in you. Keep them focused on you so that they are not tossed about but, rather, are able to stand firm on the solid rock, Christ Jesus.

Monday, August 25

“Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for young men and women who have chosen to follow you. We praise you for their commitment and love for you. Forgive us for not regarding them as highly as we should. We pray you will equip the church to empower this next generation. We pray they will outpace previous generations in their zeal for the Gospel and in their commitment to live godly

lives. We pray you will keep discouragement from their doors. We pray that our students will walk boldly as Christ followers.

Tuesday, August 26

“Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation *is* Your people.’ And He said, ‘My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.’ Then he said to Him, ‘If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here’” (Exodus 33:13-15).

PRAYER: Father, Moses prayed that you would show Him the way, that He might know you. You promised your presence. We praise you that teachers can know your presence, even when they are in a secular venue. Forgive us for the times we have worried that the noise of the political atmosphere would destroy the sense of your presence. We pray that you will raise up intercessors who will faithfully pray for teachers, so that as they return to school, your presence will go with them. We pray you will show them your way. We pray your protecting grace will be with them each day.

Wednesday, August 27

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves” (Matthew 23:15).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you that we have the privilege of being a part of seeing the lives of others transformed. Keep us from being like the Pharisees. We pray for school administrators and school boards, that they will live as authentic disciples of Jesus so that others will truly follow you. Help them lead in a spirit of humility. We pray you will lead Christian men and women to serve in these leadership roles. Use your church to stand with these servants who serve in the classroom. May we never cease to pray for them.

Thursday, August 28

“I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5).

PRAYER: Lord, we praise you for the privilege of abiding in the vine, Christ Jesus. We praise you that you have grafted us in and that our lives are in you. We confess that there have been times when we have tried to bear fruit on our own. We pray for our churches, that they will teach students to truly abide in you. We pray they will daily grow closer to you. We pray that as they abide more deeply and become increasingly dependent, their witness on campus will bear much fruit. We pray for intercessors in each local church who will pray faithfully for students.

OUR PERSONAL WALK

In these last three days of the month, we focus on our personal work with Jesus. Are we willing to consider what it means to live a radical life for Jesus? Are we willing to fully embrace a Jesus-life that is full of compassion, humility, justice, and mercy? Are we willing to engage at some level with the next generation?

As you reflect on the next generation, do you tend to be critical, or do you lean toward being encouraging? Do you look for opportunities to speak into their lives? Pray for open doors.

Whether you are a senior citizen or middle-aged, you may have just the right word for a student.

Friday, August 29

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

PRAYER: Father, we praise you for the power of the Holy Spirit. We praise you that you empower your people to do the work you have given us to do. We praise you for the promise that by your Spirit we will be witnesses. Forgive us for trying to do ministry in our own strength and for being shortsighted in the scope of our ministry. Help each of us to be faithful to stand with students and teachers. We pray for our teachers, that you will continually fill them with your Spirit, that they might be empowered to witness for you wherever you send them. Give them confidence in you. Guard their hearts from the attacks of the enemy.

Saturday, August 30

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5).

PRAYER: We praise you, Lord, that you desire a relationship with us. There is no other One like you. Forgive us for the times we put other things in front of you. Remind us to pray for our schools, that they will be places where students can grow in their love for you and not be hindered. We pray you will be established as the One Lord over schools. We pray that teachers and administrators will recognize your authority.

Sunday, August 31

“Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, ‘If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes’” (Luke 19:41-42).

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, we praise you that you loved us enough to go to the cross for us. You wept over Jerusalem out of love and compassion. Forgive us for our lack of care for our cities and our schools. We pray that churches will see their schools as a harvest field. Give each of us hearts of compassion for students and teachers who do not share our values. Help us see the schools as you see them. Keep us from becoming insulated and calloused to the needs of students. Raise up intercessors for the schools. Break our hearts for those schools most closed to Christian witness.

BEFORE WE LEAVE

WHO ARE THE STUDENTS OR TEACHERS GOD HAS PUT IN YOUR LIFE—PERHAPS IT IS SOMEONE IN YOUR YOUTH GROUP AT CHURCH, OR A NEIGHBOR, OR THE YOUNG PERSON WHO BAGS YOUR GROCERIES.

- Do you regularly pray for someone in high school or college, or someone in that age group, or a teacher?
- What have you done to engage with them?
- What have you done to encourage them?

- If there are no young people in your life, consider asking the Lord to bring them to you or lead you to where you can engage with them.