

PRAYER GUIDE // MARCH 2024

The Power of the Cross for Revival

The disciples didn't know true revival until they witnessed firsthand the power of the Cross of Christ revealed through the resurrection! Prior to the Cross, they were content to follow their Rabbi/Teacher as Jesus taught, performed miracles, and proved that He was the true Messiah.

They participated in Jesus' ministry by collecting fishes and loaves. They brought people to meet Him. They battled fear on the raging seas and demonstrated a bit of faith in crying out to Jesus for help. But the power of the gospel did not yet flow through them.

Then came the darkness of the Cross, two days of confusion and uncertainty—and the bursting forth of Jesus as the Overcomer of Death and the Giver of Hope. The Cross transformed them into devoted followers who healed the sick, raised the dead, and spread the gospel abroad. Revival overtook them as the Spirit breathed life, power, and hope into them!

This month we journey with Jesus toward His glorious resurrection. Let's join the disciples in living in the hope of revival through the power of the Cross.

1 The Cross of Jesus offers light in a culture darkened by sin and rebellion. We may witness evil seep into spheres of society, but we are not without hope! Pray that you will not be overwhelmed with discouragement, but instead embrace Jesus as the Overcomer (John 12:46).

2 Jesus boldly proclaims He is the light of the world - and the darkness simply cannot overtake Him. He defeated it at the Cross. Pray that believers will reflect the light of Christ to others, especially those who walk in darkness (John 8:12).

3 Praise God for the power of the Cross. Because of it, the glory of the Lord has risen upon us! We need not cower in fear or embrace the gloom of sin. Pray that your soul is revived and refreshed by the glorious presence of Christ (Isaiah 60:1).

4 Healing is a byproduct of the Cross. When we seek the Lord for the refreshing of our souls, He provides an abundance of prosperity and security. Pray for His reviving Spirit to heal you and instill hope for your future (Jeremiah 33:6).

5 When God revives us, we die to sin and live to righteousness. It is by Jesus' wounds that we are healed! Pray that you and your family will be restored by embracing the gift of the Cross (1 Peter 2:24).

6 The Cross brought clarity to Peter as he stood before the religious rulers. He now understood his one message: that salvation is found in no one else except Jesus! Pray that your soul is revived to this truth - and you, too, will know your mission to proclaim Christ (Acts 4:12).

7 Jesus' message as He launched His earthly ministry was clear and concise: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Repentance—turning to embrace new life filled with the glories of heaven—comes through the Cross. Pray for hearts in our nation to be inclined toward repentance, that we might be revived in hope (Matthew 4:17).

8 Repentance turns the heart toward Jesus and invites the cleansing work of Christ to wipe out sin. And joyfully, times of refreshing from the Lord are unleashed to those who surrender in faith and trust. Ask God to refresh His Church with His forgiveness granted through the Cross (Acts 3:19).

9 Confession of sin leads to forgiveness and cleansing of the soul that can only be accomplished through Jesus and the Cross. Pray for those closest to you—family and friends—to embrace the power of confession and forgiveness (1 John 1:9).

10 John the Baptist understood the power of repentance: "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." The Cross opened the floodgate for followers of Christ to produce expansive spiritual fruit. Pray that reviving repentance will characterize your church and lead to much Kingdom fruit (Matthew 3:8).

11 Praise God that He is rich in mercy! Through Jesus and the Cross, we are alive with transformed hearts and abundant living. Ask God to reveal His mercy to those walking in darkness so that they are awakened to hope in Christ (Ephesians 2:4-5).

12 In God's great mercy, He gives us "new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." Pray for the lost to be awakened to their desperate spiritual state—and for a new awareness of God's mercy toward them (1 Peter 1:3).

13 We live in hope because “mercy triumphs over judgment.” Pray for God’s mercy upon our nation—that our deserved judgment is replaced by an outpouring of His Spirit in revival and awakening (James 2:13).

14 Because of the Cross, we can approach God’s throne of grace with confidence and receive mercy in our time of need. Pray for people across our nation recognize our desperate need. Call upon God for His mercy through Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:14-16).

15 God does not stay angry forever but delights to show mercy. He pardons and forgives those who seek Him. As a nation, we are undeserving of His mercy. But because of the Cross, we have hope! Pray that the leadership of our nation turns to God with humble hearts and seeks His mercy (Micah 7:18-19).

16 God’s presence is revealed to us through the power of the Cross. In His presence, there is great joy. Pray for a revival of joy in your heart and in your family because you welcome the presence of God, which results in eternal pleasures! (Psalm 16:11).

17 God’s presence is ushered in because of the Cross. When we trust in Jesus, we are assured that we need not fear because God will neither “leave us nor forsake” us. Pray that your church serves as the dwelling place of God in your community—with revived confidence to be immersed in a lost world. (Deuteronomy 31:6).

18 God declares that He will be exalted among the nations of the earth! Pray for the lost in our nation to recognize the one true God and seek Him through the Cross. Ask God to revive our nation with the glory of His presence (Psalm 46:10).

19 We live in a dry and weary land. Our only hope for revival is the watering of the soul through God’s healing presence. Pray for people to recognize how thirsty and parched they are without the hope of the Cross. Invite God to flood our land with His presence (Psalm 63:1-3).

20 Jesus declared that He will be with us “always, to the very end of the age.” The Cross assures us death is defeated and hope is alive! Pray for your community to know the love of Christ demonstrated through your church—and that the lost will be awakened to their need for Jesus (Matthew 28:20).

21 The Spirit gives us boldness to proclaim the power of the Cross. When Peter and John’s accusers witnessed their courage under fire, they were astonished and acknowledged these “ordinary” men had been with Jesus. Pray that those around you will have no doubt that you know Jesus (Acts 4:13).

22 The Holy Spirit gives us the boldness to “fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.” Pray that you will

confidently proclaim the message of the Cross whenever you have opportunity to testify of Jesus (Ephesians 6:19).

23 Even while in Roman custody, Paul “proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ—with all boldness and without hindrance!” Paul’s heart was revived with the hope of the Cross and his mission was undeterred. Pray that believers will proclaim the gospel without hesitation (Acts 28:31).

24 Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem with great joy, the waving of palm branches, and shouts of “Hosanna!” On this Palm Sunday, rejoice that Jesus is the hope and salvation for all who receive Him. Pray for the triumphal welcome of Jesus into your own community (John 12:13).

25 As Jesus got closer to the Mount of Olives, the crowd joyfully praised God for the miracles they had witnessed. Pray for such a reviving, refreshing work in your community that the people cannot stay silent! Pray for miracles of surrender to the gospel and healing of broken lives (Luke 19:37).

26 Jesus continues His journey toward the Cross. Followers of Jesus can stand strong and let their hearts take courage because revival and spiritual awakening are embodied in Jesus’ willingness to confront death head-on. Praise Jesus that He makes all things new (Psalm 31:24).

27 Praise God that He gives us victory over the sin and the sting of death through our Lord Jesus Christ! Pray for opportunities to proclaim hope over death to those around you—that they might awaken to Christ (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).

28 Jesus’ blood poured out for us represents the ultimate sacrifice in the new covenant between God and man. Praise God that because of Jesus and the Cross, we live in a revived and restored relationship with our Father (Luke 22:20).

29 On this Good Friday, Jesus’ journey to the Cross culminates in being pierced and crushed for our sins. Darkness reigns and boasts victory. Yet, it is by Jesus’ wounds that we are healed! Give thanks for the Cross that shatters the darkness (Isaiah 53:5).

30 Jesus prepared His disciples by telling them exactly what would happen: “They will kill him, and after three days he will rise.” Pray as you wait for it. No matter how dark it seems, Jesus will rise and revive us to live forever in the power of the Cross (Mark 9:31).

31 Hallelujah, the glory of Christ breaks through with the dawn of Easter morning! Jesus has swallowed up death forever and wiped away the tears from all faces. Pray for the power of the resurrection to sweep our nation with a Great Awakening to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord! (Isaiah 25:8).