

Prayer Guide

2016



LENT

New Beginnings UMC

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Lent at New Beginnings

By Rev. Scott Brown

Lent is a season of reflection and deep devotion. It is an intentional time of preparing ourselves for the miracle of Resurrection. Over the years, I have witnessed people observe the season in different ways. For some, it is a non-event. They recognize that the colors in the Church change and there is a push toward Easter but that is about it. For others, Lent is a time of year to give up something while enjoying the season as the music takes on a traditional theme and the messages move toward Easter. And for the rest, the Lenten season takes on a sense of deep reflection and introspection. While these are all acceptable, I believe Lent offers us an opportunity to experience resurrection in a meaningful and powerful way.

In Isaiah 61:3, it says that God exchanges our ashes for beauty. That image has always moved me in a significant way. In ancient times, ashes were used to show grief, sorrow, repentance, and overall distress. If you were wearing ashes or in the ashes, you were in an unenviable place in life. Therefore, when God says that He will give us beauty in the place of our ashes, He is saying that He will bring us to a very good place out of our very

Thursday, March 17th: Pray for a spirit of discernment in your family so that you can see what God wants to show you. Pray for God's discernment in our church.

Friday, March 18th: Pray for God's compassion in your life and family, as well as in and through our church.

Saturday, March 19th : Pray for refreshment from His spirit in your life and family. Pray for refreshment in our church.

Sunday, March 20th : Pray for rest. Whatever pops in your mind when you hear the word rest indicates where you should probably focus this prayer. Pray for rest in our church.

Monday, March 21st : Today begins Holy Week. Spend time reflecting on what this week means.

Tuesday, March 22nd : Reflect on His commitment to you.

Wednesday, March 23rd : Reflect on His passion for you.

Thursday, March 24th : Reflect on His obedience to His Father for you.

Friday, March 25th : Good Friday! Reflect on His unbelievable sacrifice for you.

Saturday, March 26th : Praise God for His patience on this critical day.

Sunday, March 27th : Easter Sunday!!!! Praise God for His Resurrection Power!!

Monday, March 7th: Pray for God's protection over your life, family, job, etc. Pray for God's protection over our ministries and members.

Tuesday, March 8th: Pray for God to give faith in your life where you feel you are short. Pray for Him to increase the faith of our church so that we can be where He wants us.

Wednesday, March 9th: Pray for God's strength (our battle is not against flesh and blood..Eph. 5:12). Pray for God's strength in our church. (Same reason)

Thursday, March 10th: Pray for a spirit of worship in your life and your families (you can help this prayer get answered by actually worshipping). Pray for a spirit of worship in our church.

Friday, March 11th: Pray for a spirit of faith in your life and your families, as well as in our church.

Saturday, March 12th: Pray for healing in your life, your family and in our church.

Sunday, March 13th: Pray for a spirit of joy in your life and in the life of your family. Pray for a spirit of joy in our church.

Monday, March 14th: Pray for your gifts to be manifest and used. Pray for God to release His gifts in the church.

Tuesday, March 15th: Pray for the spirit of peace in your life and in your family. Pray for spirit of peace in our church.

Wednesday, March 16th: Pray for God's spirit of love in your life and family. Pray for God's spirit of love in our church.

bad place. I believe that this proclamation is a promise that we all have from God.

In this booklet, we have laid out a daily prayer plan that will help us seek God in many areas of our lives and our community. God loves it when we pray together and I believe the key out of the ashes is always prayer. So please join in as we pray in unity through this season of Lent. Listen carefully as you pray and let's find out where His beauty lies for us.



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Wednesday, February 10th: Prayer for your children (if you don't have children, pray for those children in your family). Pray that God will bless them and use them in spite of mistakes that we have made in their lives. Don't let the enemy use anything against them. Pray that they will see God's goodness and draw closer to Him. Pray for the Children in our church. Pray that for those who are in difficult situations. Pray for them as they grow up in a Godless generation and that God will intervene in their lives.

Thursday, February 11th: Pray for your own health or body issues. It may be something you are experiencing now, or you may pray for continued health. Pray for the health and wellbeing of those in our church. It would be a good time to go to the prayer list.

Friday, February 12th: Pray for your finances. So many Christians forget that all we have is God's. Pray that He will make you a good manager of His money. Pray for God to redeem past financial mistakes. Remember, He is able to do what we think is impossible. Pray that He teaches you the joy of giving. Pray for the finances of our church. Pray that we can pay off the debt on our building. Pray that we have wisdom in all of our financial areas for the future.

Saturday, February 13th: Pray for your marriage. If you are single pray for your future spouse or that God would bless and use you in your singleness. Pray for the marriages in our church. Satan loves to attack marriage and it is under the gun big time in our current culture.

Sunday, February 28th: Pray for God's mind. Pray for that we would understand His plans and His ways. Pray that the church would have wisdom and know God's plans for our ministries.

Monday, February 29th: Pray for God's compassion. Pray that we would show God's compassion toward all of those who are in our lives and those that He brings across our path. Pray that the church will have the compassion of God to all who are lost and hurting.

Tuesday, March 1st: Pray for God's movement. Pray that God moves in the things you are praying for and in the things that you don't know to pray for. Pray that God moves in our church, through our worship services, counseling, ministries, etc.

Wednesday, March 2nd: Pray for God's hands and feet. Pray that we become God's hands and feet in our daily lives and that He sends others into ministries that are needed in your life. Pray for God's hands and feet to rise up in our church so that we can do more ministry to our community and to serve one another.

Thursday, March 3rd: Pray for God's character in your life. Pray for God's character and in our Church so that our world will see Him.

Friday, March 4th: Pray for God's direction in your life. Pray for God's direction in our Church.

Saturday, March 5th: Pray for God's will in your life. (This one may require some honest reflection) Pray for God's will in our church.

Sunday, March 6th: Pray for God's blessings (yes, it is alright to pray for blessings!). Pray for God's blessing in our church.

Saturday, February 20th : Pray for God's vision for your life and family. Include your career and ministry. Pray for God's vision in our church. We want His, not ours.

Sunday, February 21st: Pray over your past. Thank God for the good and ask Him to redeem what wasn't good. Pray for our church's past. Ask God to help us to learn from where we have been and grow from those lessons.

Monday, February 22nd : Pray for prosperity. Let God define what prosperity means for you and your family. It is not always financial. Pray for prosperity at New Beginnings. Again, not necessarily financial.

Tuesday, February 23rd : Pray for Next Things. What does God have next for you and your family. Pray for mates that will eventually be in your children's lives. Pray for transition between work and retirement. Pray for the Next Things that will come our way as a church.

Wednesday, February 24th: Pray for Old Things. Pray that we don't forget our foundations as individuals and the lessons that God used to shape us. Ask Him to guide your memories. Pray the same for New Beginnings. Sometimes God is ahead of us, sometimes He is resurrecting the past.

Thursday, February, 25th: Pray for God's eyes to see your life, family, school, job, etc. Pray for God's eyes in our church.

Friday, February 26th: Pray for God's ears. Pray that you hear your spouse with God's ears, your kids, friends and family members. Pray that the church will hear with God's ears as we move forward.

Saturday, February 27th: Pray for God's heart. Pray that He will reveal His heart to you about all that is around you. Pray that the church will move according to God's heart.

Sunday, February 14th: Pray for you job or career. Pray for success, but also pray that He would put you wherever he can best use you. Pray for your boss and/or your employees. If you are retired, pray for former bosses or employees, or for your former company in general. Pray for companies to come back to a God centered foundation. Pray for those in the church or in your life who are looking for work or in need of better employment.

Monday, February 15th: Pray for your family members. Take that as far as you want. We all mean something a little different when we say family. Pray for healing in your family where needed. Pray for restored relationships. Pray for church families.

Tuesday, February 16th: Pray for area in which you need to forgive others or you hope others will forgive you. Don't be afraid to ask for forgiveness where the Spirit leads. Pray that a spirit of forgiveness prevails always in our church.

Wednesday, February 17th : Pray for your leadership. In your family, your work, your ministry, etc. Pray for leadership in our church.

Thursday, February 18th: Pray for the ability to hear God. Give him permission to speak anything He needs to into your life. Pray for our Church to hear and listen well.

Friday, February 19th: Pray for God to break strongholds in your life. Weak places, addictions, laziness, thoughts, spiritual struggles, etc. Pray for God to break any strongholds that may exist in our church (hurts feelings, unforgiveness, selfish motives, etc.). **Note:** Strongholds are something every Christian has to watch for occasionally. We slip into these things very subtly.