

Prayer Calendar

April 2020

Hope and Encouragement

We live in uncertain times. In the midst of this pandemic fear abounds, however the Resurrection is before us. God is with us, before us and beside us. We are never alone. Reflect on these passages offering hope and encouragement and allow them to sink into your spirit for renewal.

Wednesday, April 1

Jeremiah 29:11 | For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

~ Holy God, we trust in your promise that you love us and no matter present circumstances you give us a future with hope.

Thursday, April 2

Isaiah 26:4 | Trust in the LORD forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock.

~ Loving Lord, it is hard for me to trust sometimes – I am not sure why it is hard for me to let go and give control to you. Your promises are true. Help me to trust today.

Friday, April 3

John 14:17b | You know him, because he lives with you and will be with you.

~ Lord, sometimes I don't understand what you are saying. Clear my head so that I might understand with my mind and respond with my heart and know with my soul and act in your strength.

Saturday, April 4

John 14:18 | (Jesus said) I won't leave you as orphans. I will come to you.

~ Lord Jesus, your words are a comfort – to know that you will come again, that we will not be alone. Help me remember that you are always with me. Let me see your face today in the people I meet.

Sunday, April 5

Philippians 4:13 | I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

~ Gracious God, you promise I can do even the hard; the impossible things when I depend on you for my strength. Thank you. Help me today: _____.

Monday, April 6

Psalms 23:4 | Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me.

~ Holy God, I trust in you to walk with me every day. Today I hold fast to your hand.

Tuesday, April 7

1 Peter 5:7 | Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

~ Lord, give me your calmness even in my anxious hours. Help me breathe deeply.

Wednesday, April 8

Psalms 55:22 | Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you: he will never permit the righteous to be moved.

~ Lord Jesus, I do not have to carry my burdens alone. You give me friends and companions to share my heavy load. Always you are with me – carrying me in your arms.

Maundy Thursday, April 9

Mark 14:32 | They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.”

~ Loving Jesus, we will sit and pray with you. We know you were alone that night, but we will stay awake and will sit and pray with you.

Good Friday, April 10

Mark 15:33 | When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

~ Savior, we sit here in the darkness, trying not to rush Easter, but sit with your suffering and love for us.

Saturday, April 11

Psalms 46:10 | Be still and know that I am God!

~ Holy One, in this time of waiting we still struggle. Carve these words upon our hearts to stop struggling and to be still, for you are our God.

Easter Sunday, April 12

Luke 24:5b | “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen.”

~ Great God, we are still perplexed for we cannot believe that we can share in your resurrection of faith, life and well-being. Your dying and rising again shows us that with you all things are possible.

Monday, April 13

I John 4:8-9 | Who ever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

~ Loving God, help us show your love to everyone and to live a life as shown by Jesus the Christ.

Tuesday, April 14

I Peter 3:9 | Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse; but on the contrary, repay with a blessing. It is for this you were called – that you might inherit a blessing.

~ God of All, you call us to be a blessing. Show me how to be a blessing to others today.

Wednesday, April 15

Matthew 9:9 | ...and he said to him, "Follow me."

~ Dear Jesus, every day you call us to follow you. We have a choice, to follow you or our own path, every day. Help us today to stop what we are doing and to follow you.

Thursday, April 16

Genesis 39:23b |...because the LORD was with him;

~ Holy God, as you were with Joseph, so you are with us now. Help us to pay attention, look around and see you at work in our lives. (Place your name in this scripture)

Friday, April 17

Isaiah 41:10 | ...do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God.

~ Holy God, you give us a spirit of confidence, not fear. Remove our fears and replace them with the assurance and confidence that you are with us; loving us, providing for our needs. These are my fears today: _____.

Saturday, April 18

Isaiah 41:10 | I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

~ God of Grace, today I need the strength and energy that comes from your grace and your presence. Hold me up – these things are holding me down. _____.

Sunday, April 19

Romans 8: 2| In the same way, the Spirit comes to help our weakness.

~ Holy Spirit, I want to believe that I am not weak, but strong and in control of everything all the time. Yet, this is not so. I know you are willing to help me, if I allow it. I name those areas in which I need your help: _____.

Monday, April 20

Romans 8: 26 | We don't know what we should pray.

~ Loving God, you call us to pray, but sometimes I have no words, no thoughts, no idea of what to say. I trust that you will teach me to pray.

Tuesday, April 21

Romans 8:26 | ... but the Spirit itself pleads our case with unexpressed groans.

~ Holy Spirit, I will be still and silent and allow you to pray for me. Thank you for knowing and loving me.

Wednesday, April 22

Jeremiah 1:19 | They will fight against you; but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, says the LORD, to deliver you.

~ Gracious Lord, I am grateful that you are with me in all circumstances and we are not alone.

Thursday, April 23

Romans 8:27 | And God, who searches the heart, knows how the Spirit thinks, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints, according to the will of God.

~ Spirit of God, you plead on my behalf? Truly you are the Advocate and you lead me in the way of God's will and desire.

Friday, April 24

Romans 8:28 | We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose.

~ Loving God, sometimes I can't see the good working in difficult situations. Help me remember that you will ultimately bring good out of the pain in my life.

Saturday, April 25

Read Psalm 27 slowly | The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear...

~ Merciful God, this song of trust and reliance is sung once again in my heart. This is my song of hope, trust, encouragement and faith. Thank you for your presence.

Sunday, April 26

2 Corinthians 4:8 | We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair.

~ Gracious God, you know times are tough around here. You know our situation and you are holding us close. Help us join the saints through the ages and sing this song of faith and assurance.

Monday, April 27

Matthew 7:12 | "In everything do to others as you would have them do to you, for this is the law and the prophets."

~ Loving Jesus, you give us this rule of life to treat others, as we want to be treated. Help me remember when I am irritable or angry to treat other people with kindness and grace.

Tuesday, April 28

Psalm 138:1 | I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.

~ Loving God, we confess that we do put other gods before you: sports, money, power, work, politics and the list goes on. These gods pale and cannot help in this time of trouble.

Wednesday, April 29

Isaiah 40:30-31 | Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

~ Holy God, thank you that you continually strengthen me. I am grateful today for:

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Thursday, April 30

Read I Corinthians 13 slowly | If I speak in tongues of human beings and of angels but I don't have love, I'm a clanging gong or a clashing cymbal.

~ Holy God, these powerful words help me know that love is the ultimate hope and encouragement. Thank you, for your love that endures forever

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This prayer calendar is designed to aid you in your daily life of prayer.

Read the scripture for the day over and over, out loud if possible. As you read, listen with an “ear of the heart” to a word or phrase that strikes you.

Reflect on that word or phrase asking yourself the question: “What is God saying to me through this word or phrase at this time?” Spend time in silence with this scripture mulling it over in your mind and heart.

Allow God to speak to you in the silence. Offer a prayer out of your reflection.

Thank God for whatever you received in the silence of your prayer and take that with you through your day.