

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS
ILLINOIS
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Sharing, Serving, Reaping for Christ Around the World



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FCFI Prayer Guide - April 2025

1. *Returning the third time, He said to them, (His disciples) are you still sleeping and resting? Enough! The hour has come. Look, the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners, (Mark 14:41). The disciples were asleep and lest we feel better than them let us remember the times we have been asleep in our devotion to Christ. We Pray to not be insensitive or unprepared for Christ's work. Please pray for Taran, he is high school age and just been diagnosed with cancer. Please pray for healing, courage, strength and comfort for him and his family and that they may come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord.*
2. *Now Judas, who betrayed Him, knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with His disciples. So, Judas came to the grove, guiding a detachment of soldiers and some officials from the chief priests and Pharisees. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons, (John 18:2,3). The temple guards were Jews given authority by the religious leaders to make arrests for minor infractions. The Roman soldiers accompanied them for security. We pray to use our authority in Christ to further the work and not hinder it. 2-4 Nebraska FFA, Jeff Goss*
3. *Jesus, knowing all that was going to happen to Him, went out and asked the, who is it you want? Jesus of Nazareth, they replied. I am He, Jesus said. Judas the traitor was standing there with them. When Jesus said, I am He, they drew back and fell to the ground, (John 18: 4-6). An encounter with Jesus does not go unmarked in our lives. We fall to our knees in praise or fall back out of fear or disbelief. We cannot help but react to His power and authority. We pray to fall toward Jesus and not away from Him. 3-5 south Dakota State FFA Convention, Brookings, SD, Jeff Goss*

4. Now the betrayer, (Judas) arranged a signal with them. The one I kiss is the man. Arrest Him and Lead Him away under guard. Going at once to Jesus, Judas said Raggi and kissed Him, (Mark 14:44,45). Traditions says it was a full moon night. We know the arresting group had some lanterns. All men dressed similarly and similar in height and build made it difficult to establish who was who. Judas gave what has been called the kiss of death and Jesus was arrested. We pray to give the kiss of healing, hope and health. **3-5 Oklahoma City Farm Show, Oklahoma City, OK, Jerry Rice**
5. Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound Him and brought Him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year, (John 18: 12,13). God had ordained who the High Priests would be but the Romans changed that and the Jews allowed it to become a position of authority and wealth, rather than an opportunity to serve and listen to God. Annas was a former High Priest and had NO authority. It is supposed Jesus was led to him first so that a quorum of the Sanhedrin could be gathered because it was well before daybreak. We pray to always be awake and on guard in our Spirit so we may not betray our Lord and Savior. **4-6 Flowertown Festival, Summerville, SC, Bill Brown**
6. Then Annas sent Him, still bound to Caiaphas the High Priest, (John 18:24). Jesus had six trials that night and early morning. Each one is a mockery of injustice. First to Annas, Caiaphas, Sanhedrin, Pilate, Herod and lastly back to Pilate again. None of them but the Jewish leaders could find anything against Jesus. Plainly the Jews wanted His influence removed. We pray for Spiritual guidance in all matters and pray to listen to God's Word rather than mans. **Please pray for our hearts to prepare for the upcoming Easter season...a perfect opportunity to share the love of Jesus.**
7. Peter replied, (for the third time) Man I don't know what you're talking about! Just as he was speaking the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times. And he went outside and wept bitterly, (Luke 22:60-62). This experience changed Peter's life dramatically. He had been cocky and self-assured but half-hearted disciple. Now, after failure, he became a repentant disciple. Finally, he became God assured, the kind of person Christ could use to build His church. We pray to use every opportunity to help us grow spiritually...especially our failures. **Please pray for our farmers as they begin the new crop year of 2025. Pray for safety, wisdom, and commodity prices to increase.**
8. The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so they could put Him to death. But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward, (Matthew 26:59-60). The very people who should have been praising Jesus as the Son of God were looking for ways to condemn Him. **Please pray for Phyliss's family. She**
27. If perfection could have been attained through the Levitical priesthood (for on the basis of it the law was given to the people), why was there still need for another priest to come, on in the order of Melchizedek, not in the order of Aaron, (Hebrews 7:11). Christ's sacrifice was offered once and it offers total and permanent forgiveness. He is the New Covenant which canceled the Levitical priesthood with Christ as our high priest. We pray to embrace the new covenant of Christ. **Please pray for those with chronic, long-term disabilities after living a good strong life...pray for grace for their situations.**
28. And the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness, and he was called God's friend, (James 2:23). True faith always results in deeds. We pray not to sit and sour in our salvation. **28-29 Minnesota FFA Convention, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota**
29. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example. That you should follow in His steps, (1Peter 2:21). Christ as our example never sinned, yet He suffered. Suffering isn't easy but it is especially hard when we suffer unrightfully. We pray to use our example of Christ when persecution comes. **Please pray for a young man who has been an addict for most of his life. He got clean and stayed that way for 2 years and gave his life to Christ. A bad relationship break-up and he has chosen to go back to addiction...him and millions of others.**
30. But they deliberately forgot that long ago by God's Word the heavens existed, and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed, (2 Peter 3:5-6). In the Beginning was the Word. God formed the earth and later in Noah's day judged His people with waters in a flood. We pray not to forget the truths of God's Word. **Please pray for Stacy. He is a good, kind soul but struggles with alcohol...which makes him mean, surly and not pleasant to be in a relationship with.**

Share Your Prayer Items with Others

Continue to send in specific prayer requests either to the FCFI office or to Mary Jones (Email: mdjones11@att.net, Text: 229-339-0126
 - put Prayer Guide in the subject line in text or email)
 by the 13th or 14th of the month so they can be included in the Prayer Guide for the following month.

Urgent Prayer Requests

Can be placed on the website prayer list page at any time, forward urgent, immediate attention prayer needs to Dennis Schlagel (email: fellowship@fcfi.org) at the FCFI office.

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spices for His body. God blessed their diligence and devotion by letting them be the first to witness the resurrection. We pray to take advantage of the opportunities we have and do what we can for Christ, instead of worrying about what we cannot do. **Easter Sunday!!!! Please pray for the Salvation of many through the sharing of the Jesus Sticks.**

21. *Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father, (Philippians 2:9-11).* The thought of the most shameful death for the only sinless man humbles us to bow in adoration! We pray to bow in faith rather to bow later in condemnation. **21-23 Arkansas FFA, Hot Springs Convention Center, Mike Weaver**
22. *We (disciples) proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I (Paul) labor, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me, (Colossians 1:28-29).* Salvation is available to all through faith in Christ. As Christ works in us, we tell others about Him. Through the Holy Spirit, He strengthens us for His service. We pray to spread the Good News of Salvation. **Please pray for our college students...many are at a crossroads in their lives and need God's guidance and wisdom.**
23. *For now, we really live, since you are standing firm in the Lord. How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you, (1Thessalonians 3:8-9).* We love to hear stories of people standing strong in their faith. It encourages us and inspires others to stand up and stand out. We pray to be counted in those that stand strong. **23-26 Georgia FFA Convention, Macon Centrepark, Macon, GA, Dennis Schlagel**
24. *On the day He comes to be glorified in His holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you, (2Thessalonians 1:10).* A great day is coming! We will see Jesus as He is and because we have believed by faith in Him, we will both be glorified. We pray that our faith will be glorified as Christ is glorified. **Please pray for Ruby. She was put on steroids for swelling in her arm and hand and they made her body crash, and she is now in need of rehab before going home from hospital.**
25. *Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen, (1 Timothy 1:17).* AMEN!!! We lifted a shout of praise. **Missouri FFA Convention, Columbia, Missouri, Jeff Goss**
26. *In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of His appearing and His kingdom, I give you this charge, (2 Timothy 4:1).* If we are Believers, we have a charge to share the Word of God. We pray to be diligent in spreading the Gospel. **Bloomsburg Renaissance Jamboree, Bloomsburg, PA, Ernie**

passed after a long hard-fought battle with breast cancer. She was a fellow co-worker and friend.

9. *Yes, it is as you say, Jesus replied. But I say to all of you, in the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, He has spoken blasphemy! What do you think? He is worthy of death, they answered, (Matthew 26: 63-65).* The Romans allowed the Sanhedrin to make decisions over religious disputes, but a death sentence had to be approved by the Romans. We pray not to blame Jesus when things don't go the way we have planned. **9-12 Wyoming FFA, Cheyenne, WY, Mike Weaver**
10. *Early in the morning all the chief priests and the elders of the people came to the decision to put Jesus to death. They bound Him, led Him away and handed Him over to Pilate, the governor, (Matthew 27:1-2).* Pilate was not popular, but the Jews had no choice if they wanted Him dead, He had to go before the Roman governor of the region. We pray to look for Life and not death in deciding who Jesus is to us. **Please pray for Alice's family. She battled Dementia in the end. She leaves a close- knit family that mourns their loss.**
11. *When Judas, who had betrayed Him (Jesus), saw that Jesus was condemned, he was seized with remorse and returned the thirty silver coins to the chief priests and the elders. I have sinned, he said, for I have betrayed innocent blood. So, Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself, (Matthew 27:3,5).* Judas changed his mind but the religious leaders' hatred for Jesus was more important to them than helping Judas find forgiveness. We pray to have a forgiving heart. **Please pray for our country with all the changes going on and all the emotions running rampant.**
12. *Upon hearing this (that Jesus started in Galilee), Pilate asked if the man was a Galilean. When he learned that Jesus was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent Him to Herod, who was also in Jerusalem at that time, (Luke 23:6-7).* Herod was greatly pleased. He hoped to see Jesus perform some miracle. He asked Jesus many questions but when Jesus wouldn't answer him, Herod sent Jesus back to Pilate. We pray to worship Jesus for who He is and not for what He can do for us. **Please pray for our senior community, many are feeling anxious right now.**
13. *Pilate called together the chief priests, the rulers of the people, and said to them, you brought me this man as one who was inciting the people to rebellion. I have examined Him in your presence and have found no basis for your charges against Him. Neither has Herod, for he sent Him back to us, as you can see, He has done nothing to deserve death. Therefore, I will punish Him and then release Him, (Luke 23:13-17).* Pilate knew Jesus was innocent and that the Jewish leaders were jealous of Him. He tried three different times to let Jesus go free. But the leaders had incited a riot. The very people who praised Jesus as King just a few days before now condemned

Him for proclaiming to be that very King. Crucify Him they shouted till Pilate gave in. We pray to keep our eyes upon Jesus and not the crowd around us. **Palm Sunday!!! Lift a song of praise!!**

14. *When Pilot saw that he was getting nowhere, but instead an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd. I am innocent of the man's blood, he said. It is your responsibility. All the people answered, let His blood be on us and our children. Then Pilot released Barabbas to them. But he had Jesus flogged, and handed Him over to be crucified, (Matthew 27:24).* Pilot thought Jesus was on trial but really Pilot himself was the one on trial, as well as the people and so are we all. We pray to know it costs little to know about Jesus but cost our lives to follow Him. **13-15 Iowa State FFA Convention, Ames, IA, Jeff Goss**

15. *As they were going out, they met a man from Cyrene, named Simon, and they forced him to carry the cross. They came to a place called Golgotha (which means The Place of the Skull). There they offered Jesus' wine to drink, mixed with gall, but after tasting it, He refused to drink it. When they had nailed Him to the cross, they divided his clothes by casting lots. And sitting down they kept watching over Him there, (Matthew 27:32-36).* Jesus had been beaten, mocked, spit on and up all night. His physical body was weak. Simon was probably one of the thousands of Jews in Jerusalem because of the Passover celebration. To the soldiers this was just another crucifixion, except that Jesus' garment was made of one piece and they didn't want to rip it apart, so they played a game to see who would win the most precious garment in the world. We pray to see the cross as a place of life after we die to ourselves.

15-16 Syracuse Gun Show, Syracuse, NY, Bill Brown

16. *Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with Him to be executed. One of the criminals who hung there, hurled insults at Him, Aren't (if) you the Christ? Save yourself and us! But the other criminal rebuked him. Don't you fear God, he said, since you are under the same sentence. We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong. Then he said, Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom. Jesus answered him, I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise, (Luke 23:32,39-43).* Jesus had rebuked James and John for wanting to be next to Him in His kingdom. Here the two dying criminals teach us the way to the kingdom is by way of the cross. We pray to continually die to ourselves and live for Christ! **Please pray for FCFI to be opened to many more venues and for workers to spread the Gospel in many places.**

17. *It was now about the sixth hour (12 noon), and darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour (3P.M.), because the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn from the tops to the bottom. Jesus called out in a loud voice, Father into Your hands I commit My spirit. When He had said this, He breathed His last, (Luke 23:44-46).* Jesus forgave His enemies, forgave a sinner, took care of His mother and GAVE up His life. He died. He

was not unconscious. He had not passed out. He was dead. The Roman soldiers thrust a spear in His side to be sure. Everyone around Him knew Jesus' death meant something significant had happened. We pray for the world to see Jesus in our lives. **Susquehanna County Farm and Home Day Show, Doc Devoe**

18. *Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilot for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. With Pilate's permission, he took the body away. He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with the Jewish burial customs. At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation (the day before the Sabbath which began at Sundown on Friday. A person could only walk a limited number of steps on the Sabbath.) and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there, (John 19:38-42).* Joseph went boldly to Pilate. His love for Jesus overcame his fear of the Jews. We pray to know we can't be neutral like Pilate tried, or secretive like Joseph tried. We pray for a crazy, bold love to shine through us. **Good Friday! Please pray for our pastors and those involved in spreading the Gospel. Pray that many will have an opportunity to reach people this Easter season.**

19. *The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and how His body was laid in it. Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment, (Luke 23:55-56).* God used many women in the Old Testament to further His kingdom work. Jesus honored women in the New Testament. Some of the women He had healed and other who believed Him to be the Messiah followed Him and His disciples and took care of them. They had witnessed the whole day and had to be worn out physically and emotionally. Say prayer of praise! **18-19 Ocean City Home, Condo, Outdoor Arts and Craft Show, Michael Steele. 19 Mohawk Valley Chapter, Dinner Meeting, Marcy, NY, Bill Brown**

20. *And when the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, Who will roll the stone away from the tomb. But when they looked, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side and they were alarmed. Don't be alarmed, he said. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen!!! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. Go tell His disciples and Peter, (Mark 16:1-7).* The women did what they could. They stayed at the cross, followed Jesus' body to the tomb, and prepared