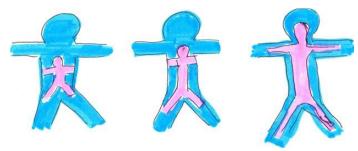
40 Days of Becoming More like Jesus



The Tulsa Chinese Christian Church Feb. 14-March 23, 2024

(Lent – with Sunday rest)
Theme VERSE: Ephesians 4:15

Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. (NIV)

Pastor Martin Stidham stidmart@outlook.com

Here is our **40 Days** booklet which I pray will be a blessing to you. We will not count Sundays – they are days of celebration, so they are to be treated like a normal Sunday. Read each verse/passage of Scripture prayerfully and make it a matter of prayer to God. There will be a **hyperlink** to click on in the pdf version for the song/hymn each day that will take you to YouTube. You can also make up your own melody or sing something entirely different. You can also just meditate on the words. This guide is meant to be an **AID** in seeking the Lord during the 40 days **not** something to constrain you in your seeking. The main task in the 40 days is to spend time in prayer seeking God. Perhaps this guide will help you but make your aim to have intimate time with the Lord each day. We will also praying each day for some specific need within our TCCC family. If you do nothing else with the guide, please join in by praying for the daily request!

During the 40 Days of Becoming more like Jesus, I commit myself, with the help of the Holy Spirit to:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

These may be things from which you will fast (for example – I commit to FASTING every Thursday or fasting lunch and dinner on Monday – or I will abstain from watching entertainment/surfing the internet on Mondays and Fridays during the 40 days and spend that time in prayer or Bible study) or THINGS THAT YOU ARE COMMITTED TO DO (I commit to go through this guide each day during the 40 days – or I commit to getting up each day at _____ a.m. so that I can spend 30 minutes in prayer). You can include some personal discipline areas such as exercise and diet if you want. If you miss a day or fail to keep something you committed to doing, just start up again the next day! We want to enjoy this time of focusing on growing to be more like Jesus not be self-condemned during it. It is important, however, to ask the Holy Spirit's help in keeping your commitments because Satan will not be pleased as we seek to draw near to God. (James 4:7-10). A great promise for seeking the LORD: Isaiah 66:2 But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.

May the Lord of life bless you abundantly over these 40 days of seeking Him afresh!!

Day 0 – A day of Preparation <u>before</u> the 40 days begin. You may ask, why 40 days? It is a common period of a special passing of time in Scripture: Noah's Ark – Rained for 40 days & nights, Moses' fasting time alone on the mountain with the LORD, the Spying the Promised Land, Elijah alone with the Lord on Mt. Horeb, Nineveh given 40 days to repent by the LORD through Jonah, Jesus fasting in the wilderness & faced the temptation of the devil, Jesus' time with the disciples after the Resurrection until the ascension. The 40 days of Lent have been a part of church history for hundreds of years. During these 40 days, we want to set aside (extra) time and attention in seeking our Lord so that we can hear His voice afresh, lay our prayer needs before Him, and watch Him work. Just a small offering of 20 or 30 minutes each day may bring great rewards in your life! It will also be helpful to pick out verses within the guide to commit to memory.

My regular time of day or night in which I will aim to seek the Lord during these 40 days will be:

Make a commitment to the Lord to set aside this time. Keep this page before you and refer to it frequently so that you continue to seek the Lord about the things that you write down. These may be specific needs in your life (God's provision, guidance/direction), needs in someone else's life, changes that you would ask God to make in your life, etc. These may be very simple requests but try to make them fairly specific so that you might be able to see just how God answers.

My key prayer requests during the 40 Days are:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

God's answers to my requests thus far: (write down during and after the 40 days):

Day 1 Wed. Feb. 14 Read Eph. 4:1-16

Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

There are many verses that tell us that we are to come to maturity and Jesus is THE model, example, and picture of what that maturity is to look like. We are to GROW UP from what we are or have been and be transformed into Christ's likeness. MANY different areas should come to mind as to what we are to be. Jesus says in Matt. 11:29 - 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. What better command is there but to become more like Jesus – to LEARN from Him? When we think about all that He is – how wonderful, loving. truthful, etc. what else should we desire but to be like Him? Others in our life would surely be glad for us to be more like Him! Imagine the blessings they will experience as we become more and more like Jesus! I can hear them say: "You've become so much kinder, loving, truthful, holy, giving, etc." IF we belong to Christ, THEN we should DESIRE to be like Him since He is our Master, Lord, Savior, Friend, Example, and Model. What's wrong with us when we don't desire to be like Him? Perhaps we're looking at the wrong examples. Maybe our values are not God's eternal ones. Or, our focus is in the wrong place. During these 40 days we want to focus on the right place. on Christ Himself. As we think about His character, His behavior, His attitudes, and His word to us, I'm hoping that we will all grow up into Him. As we begin, list a few areas of needed growth (areas that need to become more like Him) that come to your mind and write them down here:

Now, ask in prayer that the Lord will work in these areas of needed growth. QUOTE: "The fact that we do not hear God does not mean that God is not speaking to us." Dallas Willard

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: Richard, Lily, Luke, Jacob, Ruth, & Abel are visiting family in CH. Pray for them as they seek to be the light of Christ (Matt. 5:13-16). Pray especially for Lily's father, brother, & sister-in-law. Pray for boldness and wisdom. Pray for protection as they travel.

<u>Hymn: More like Jesus would I be – Fanny Crosby</u>

- 1. More like Jesus would I be, Let my Savior dwell with me; Fill my soul with peace and love, Make me gentle as a dove; More like Jesus, while I go, Pilgrim in this world below; Poor in spirit would I be; Let my Savior dwell in me.
- 2. If He hears the raven's cry, If His ever watchful eye Marks the sparrows when they fall, Surely He will hear my call: He will teach me how to live, All my sinful thoughts forgive;

Pure in heart I still would be; Let my Savior dwell in me.

3. More like Jesus when I pray, More like Jesus day by day;

3. More like Jesus when I pray, More like Jesus day by day; May I rest me by His side, Where the tranquil waters glide: Born of Him, through grace renewed, By His love my will subdued, Rich in faith I still would be; Let my Savior dwell in me.

Day 2 - Thursday Feb. 15 - Phil. 2:5-8 - Attitude

Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: 6 Who. being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped. 7 but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! A good place to start as we think about becoming more like Jesus is with our attitude. Attitude is such an important factor in our daily lives. Depending on one's attitude, doors may open, or close. Close relationships may be built up or torn down. We may sit around and feel sorry for ourselves or go out and make a difference in the world. Sometimes we describe someone as having a "bad attitude" which means they aren't thinking about themselves or others in a helpful way but rather in a way that makes them difficult to be around. The verb here is a present tense verb so that we are to continually keep on having a Christ-like attitude. What was that? He saw Himself as a humble servant – that was His attitude as He approached life. He did not have to see Himself this way since He was God in the flesh, but He CHOSE this attitude. We're to see ourselves as the humble servant of others continually, not just when we feel like it or when we're around people who are easy to serve. As God's humble servants, we are to keep this attitude even to the point of giving our life for another. Jesus set aside His rights, privileges, & position as the exalted Son of God so that we might be made right with God. But when we have a proud. "I deserve to be in charge of things." attitude we will likely butt heads with others who are vying for first place. When I think it's my right to be comfortable, happy, and have a full bank account then I'll have a hard time when God tells me to do things that are uncomfortable, difficult, and sacrificial. We are to think: I am not here to be served but to serve. I am to see myself as NOT above others but the servant of all. How has your attitude been lately? Like Jesus' or not? Pray on this and ask the Holy Spirit to show you the truth today, tomorrow, and in the coming days. QUOTE: "God's choice acquaintances are humble people." Robert Leighton TCCC Prayer: Our dear elders, Wen-dyi, Sugin, and Fang Xiang need our prayers as they serve among us and provide spiritual direction for the church. They each have a wonderful wife, Louise, Ling, & Jenny who also need our prayers as they are really ministering together. Pray for God's protection upon these couples and for their effective leadership in our church family.

SONG: MAKE ME A SERVANT Chinese version

Make me a servant, humble and meek, Lord, let me lift up, those who are weak. And may the prayer of my heart always be;
Make me a servant, make me a servant, Make me a servant, today.
By Kelly Willard ©1982 Maranatha! Music/Willing Heart Music used by permission CCLI #1041342

Day 3 – Friday Feb. 16 – Phil. 2:5-8 – Obedience

Continuing on from the passage yesterday, another mark of Jesus' attitude was that He always chose to be OBEDIENT to the Father. His attitude of what the Father wanted Him to do was always: 'I will do whatever You say!' He never drew a line in the sand, never had exceptions, and He never had a defiant – "I know better than you" attitude. Obedience means my time is not my own to do with it what I want but rather, the attitude of Christ says -"I'm here to do Your will, O God!" It's a constant fight between what we in our pride think we deserve to be able to do and what the Spirit says to our hearts to submit ourselves to God's will and enjoy a life of great adventure and purpose. When we are trying to preserve our lives, preserve our fun. preserve our comfort – we think we will enjoy it all so much, but we so often find when we get what WE want it's empty & unfulfilling. That's because we are "created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Eph. 2:10). We are to surrender ourselves to doing God's will which means we are the servants of all, and we choose to live for His purposes which brings satisfaction deep inside since we are fulfilling our God-given calling. Obedience starts with small things. Hearing God's word and doing it. Listening to the Spirit's promptings and taking action. John 14:21 is good to keep in mind: "The person who has my commandments and obeys them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and will reveal myself to him." Jesus will disclose more and more of who He is to us as we choose to obey His word. The choice is ours, but it starts with obedience. Ask the Lord to show you today some areas of obedience that need work in your life. Ask for His help in following through with what He shows you. Come back later this evening and write down some reflections here:

QUOTE: "God never hurries. There are no deadlines against which He must work. Only to know this is to quiet our spirits and relax our nerves." AW Tozer TCCC Prayer: Pray for the parents of younger children in our church who are busy with training up their children in the LORD'S way. Pray for several by name and for their children. Ask for God's grace and wisdom to be upon them. SONG: TRUST AND OBEY Chinese version

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word, What a glory He sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He abides with us still, & with all who will trust & obey

Trust and obey, for there's no other way, To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

- 2. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, But our toil He doth richly repay; Not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross, But is blessed if we trust and obey.

 3. But we never can prove the delights of His love, Until all on the altar we lay; For the favor He shows, for the joy He bestows, Are for them who will trust and obey.
- 4. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His side in the way; What He says we will do, where He sends we will go; Never fear, only trust and obey.

Day 4 Saturday Feb. 17 - Compassionate

Matt. 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Many times, in the gospels, we read that Jesus had compassion on people. Out of His compassion, He healed people, fed large crowds, taught them the truth, and raised a widow's son from the dead. He told a story about the Good Samaritan who had compassion on a man who was robbed, beaten, and left for dead. Another story told about the Prodigal's father - when he saw his lost son from a distance, he felt compassion toward him, so he ran to meet him and then gave him a loving embrace. Clearly, compassion for people in need moved Jesus to action. The stories He told were meant to help us see that, out of compassion, we are to care for people and accept even those who are great sinners. To become more like Jesus is to share His heart of compassion for people. As we are being transformed into His likeness certainly compassion will be a big part of our lives. There are all sorts of people around us in need of compassion – especially those who are without THE shepherd in their lives. That is why they do some of the nasty things that they do. Others are facing huge trials and difficulties. They're looking to see if God will have mercy on them and bring help. WE are often the answer to their prayers but like the priest and the Levite (Luke 10:31-32), we may pretend not to see the man lying in the road in great need. Ask that the Lord's heart of compassion will be a bigger and bigger part of your life. Ask Him to show you those who are in need of compassion for which He wants you to take action. Confess to Him, if you need to, that your heart is not where He wants it to be in this area.

<u>QUOTE</u>: "If we could read the secret history of our enemies, we would find in each one's life sorrow & suffering enough to disarm all hostility." Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

<u>TCCC Prayer</u> – Paula has been involved in a ministry of compassion for many years. She is wrapping up her time in her city. Her adopted daughter can return to the U.S. with her but we are praying that her foster daughter can also come. Pray as Paula hands over work to co-workers, packs up her belongings after more than 20 years, and seeks a good and affordable place to live in our area. Praise the Lord for the compassionate work that has touched many.

SONG: CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD CHINESE VERSION
Change my heart, O God, make it ever true, Change my heart, O
God, may I be like You. You are the potter, I am the clay
Mold me and make me, this is what I pray. By Eddie Espinosa 1982 Mercy
Publishing/Thankyou Music used by permission CCLI #1041342

Sunday Feb. 18

February often is associated with	th Valentine's Day. This is a day
traditionally focused upon love.	Today is then a good opportunity to
express your love for our Lord.	Write down some statements like: "I
love You, Lord, because	" and then fill in the blank
Lots of reasons should come to mind!	

Suggested Song: ILOVE YOU, LORD Chinese Version

I love You, Lord; And I lift my voice
To worship You, O my soul, rejoice.
Take joy my King, in what You hear
May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.
By Laurie Klein 1978 Maranatha! Music. Used by permission CCLI # 1041342

QUOTE: Sam Allberry: "A sign of spiritual maturity: deep awareness of how much you still have to learn. A sign of spiritual immaturity: a constant focus on how much you know."

HYMN: O HOW I LOVE JESUS Chinese Version

There is a Name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth; It sounds like music in my ear. The sweetest Name on earth.

Chorus: O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,

O how I love Jesus, Because He first loved me!

2. It tells me of a Savior's love, Who died to set me free; It tells me of His precious blood. The sinner's perfect plea.

3. It tells me of a Father's smile Beaming upon His child;

It cheers me through this little while, Through desert, waste, and wild.

4.It tells me what my Father hath In store for every day,

And though I tread a darksome path, Yields sunshine all the way.

5. It tells of One whose loving heart Can feel my deepest woe; Who in each sorrow bears A part that none can bear below.

6. It bids my trembling heart rejoice. It dries each rising tear.

It tells me, in a still small voice, "To trust and never fear."

7. Jesus, the Name I love so well, The Name I love to hear: No saint on earth its worth can tell. No heart conceive how dear.

8. This Name shall shed its fragrance still Along this thorny road, Shall sweetly smooth the rugged hill That leads me up to God.

9.And there with all the blood-bought throng, From sin and sorrow free, I'll sing the new eternal song Of Jesus' love for me.

Remember our theme today, 40 Days of Becoming more like Jesus – pray for this in your life.

Day 5 Monday Feb. 19 - PATIENT

Matt. 8:26 And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?" Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there On a number of occasions, the disciples was a great calm. were rebuked by our Lord because of their lack of faith. Other times, they simply didn't understand what He was saying like when He talked about His death. They chased some children away from Him only to be told not to hinder them from coming. At His hour of greatest need, they all forsook Him. Anyone else would have fired them all and started over with a new bunch but Jesus was VERY patient with them as He is with us. We have the whole Bible at our fingertips, two thousand years of church history for us to learn from, the same Holy Spirit who filled up the church in Acts, modern technology & conveniences, a relatively easy existence compared to previous generations and yet we still struggle to remain faithful. We often become impatient with those who don't perform up to our expectations and let them have it by a scowl, a harsh word, or a roll of the eyes. If our Lord treated us like we often treat others – where would we be??? Let's remember: "The fruit of the Spirit is...patience! (Gal. 5:22). "...with patience, bearing with one another in love." Eph. 4:2 Give thanks today for all of the ways in which our Lord has shown patience in working with you. Write down a few instances that come to mind:

Now ask Him to help you see others as He sees them – with eyes of loving patience. Ask for the Spirit's fruit to be displayed in your life and notice today what opportunities for the growth of patience He brings. Lastly, confess some recent times of impatience you've shown toward others.

QUOTE: "While we can't choose what criticism comes at us, we can choose not to compound criticism and instead respond with a gentle, God-honoring response." Lysa Terkeurst

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: Our church building had a lot of damage when the pipes froze and burst. Some walls and ceiling areas have been torn out. We also discovered older mold areas that need to be addressed. Pray as we work with the adjuster, insurance, & the repair company. Pray for our brother, Hank, as he is the main one dealing with all this. Song: MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOR

May the mind of Christ, my Savior, Live in me from day to day,

By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

- 2. May the Word of God dwell richly, in my heart from hour to hour, So that all may see I triumph only through His power.
- 3. May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything, That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing. 4. May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea; Him exalting, self-abasing, this is victory.
- 5. May I run the race before me, Strong and brave to face the foe, Looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.
- 6. May His beauty rest upon me, as I seek the lost to win, And may they forget the channel, seeing only Him.

Day 6 Tuesday Feb. 20 - WISE

Matt. 22:15-22 Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

In every situation, Jesus displayed the wisdom of God in dealing with both friends and foes. Many times, His opponents tried to trap Him but they were unable to do so because of His great wisdom. One time the Pharisees sent officers to arrest Him, but they returned without Him and their excuse: "No one ever spoke like this man!" (John 7:46). We need the wisdom of our Lord everyday of our lives. Wisdom in making decisions, wisdom in dealing with people, wisdom to answer difficult questions, wisdom know how to honor God. One way we can find it is by seeing how Jesus lived His life as we read the Gospels. God's word promises this: If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. As we think about becoming more like Jesus, we must admit that we do "lack wisdom" so let's ask Him for it! Let's pray that we can become wise like He is - NOT so that we can amaze people but that we can glorify God with our wise words and wise living. We have access to Jesus, the "wisdom from God" (1 Cor. 1:30). Write down some things for which you need God's wisdom and then ask Him to bring you wisdom in dealing with them:

<u>QUOTE</u>: "Church is designed for people who disagree to live together and learn to love one another." Dallas Willard

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: We have two new deacons, Ma Xiaomin and Shan Yongwei! Thank the Lord for their willingness to serve. Ask that they will find their best place to serve on the deacon board and will serve with the Lord's energy, strength, and JOY! Ask the Lord to bless their wives, Ziping and Xin.

SONG: SHOUT TO THE LORD Chinese Version

My Jesus, my Savior; Lord there is none like You. All of my days, I want to praise, The wonders of Your mighty love.
My comfort, My shelter, Tower of refuge and strength.
Let every breath, all that I am, Never cease to worship You.
Shout to the Lord all the earth let us sing, Power and majesty praise to the King; Mountains bow down and the seas will roar.
At the sound of Your name; I sing for joy at the work of Your hands;

At the sound of Your name; I sing for joy at the work of Your hands Forever I'll love You forever I'll stand.

Nothing compares to the promise I have in You

By Darlene Zshech 1993 Hillsongs Australia – Integrity's Hosanna! Music Used by permission CCLI #1041342

Day 7 Wed. Feb. 21 RADIANT Rev. 1:12-18

I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw...someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last; I was dead & behold I am alive forever and ever!

This is the same disciple, John, writing who called himself "the one Jesus loved." In the presence of Jesus' glory, John was overwhelmed and filled with great fear. As we read the Gospels, we sometimes forget that Jesus laid aside His glory while on earth but is the risen, exalted, and glorious Lord of heaven. To be in His presence now would be very different from walking with Him before His ascension. His face shines like the sun shining in all its brilliance! That's bright! What does such glory have to do with us? 2 Cor. 3:18 And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. In 2 Cor. 3, Paul compares the fading glory that Moses had on his face after he came from spending time in God's presence with the glorious ministry of the Spirit in which we participate. When we spend time with our radiant Lord Jesus, surely we will reflect some of His glory to others. Just as the moon has no light of its own to shine but reflects the sun, so we also should reflect the light of the Son of God. In this way we can be like Him. Phil. 2:15 NLT Live clean, innocent lives as children of God. shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. As you spend time in His presence today, remember His glorious description above and anticipate reflecting His glory to those around you.

<u>TCCC Prayer:</u> This Saturday we will have our Lantern Festival – a time of celebration and outreach. Pray that many who do not yet know the Lord will come and that they will see His glory in us.

HYMN: O THAT WILL BE GLORY CHINESE VERSION

When all my labors and trials are o'er, And I am safe on that beautiful shore, Just to be near the dear Lord I adore, Will through the ages be glory for me.

O that will be glory for me, Glory for me, glory for me, When by His grace I shall look on His face, That will be glory, be glory for me.

2. When, by the gift of His infinite grace, I am accorded in Heaven a place, Just to be there and to look on His face, Will through the ages be glory for me.

3. Friends will be there I have loved long ago; Joy like a river around me will flow; Yet just a smile from my Savior, I know. Will through the ages be glory for me.

Day 8 Thur. Feb. 22 FAITHFUL & TRUE Rev. 19:11-16

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called **Faithful and True**. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

John is speaking of the vision he had of Christ's return. On numerous occasions while He was on earth, Jesus made reference to His return (*Parousia*). Will He come through with what He has promised? Of course! He is FAITHFUL & TRUE! Everything Jesus promised He will come through on because that is who He is-Faithful, He cannot do otherwise. He's also True – you never have to worry about any deceit coming from Him. This stands in contrast to the Beast & False Prophet who make empty promises to the people of the earth and with miraculous signs deceives those who receive his mark (19:20). We are to be like Jesus – Faithful & True. Don't trust in the empty promises of the world and its ways. Jesus wants to speak to us one day when He returns: "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' (Matt. 25:21)

What has the Master entrusted to you? Think about your talents, spiritual gifts, financial resources, home, car, relationships, time, health, etc. Tell Him that you want to be a faithful steward (one who is entrusted with people and resources for a time) with all He has given to you. Ask Him to show you how to move forward, step-by-step, in faithful living as His steward. Praise Him for His faithfulness and His true promises that never fail. Picture in a fresh way His return in glory as you <u>listen to the hymn below</u>. Our lives as stewards are to be lived in anticipation of that day!

TCCC Prayer: Remember some of our university students who are away at school. Ask the Lord to help them be faithful stewards and witnesses. Ask that they will be regularly connected with a local church and/or campus ministry. HYMN: LO, HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING — John Cennick Charles Wesley Lo! he comes, with clouds descending, once for our salvation slain; thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train: Alleluia! alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

- 2. Every eye shall now behold him, robed in dreadful majesty; those who set at nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the tree, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing, shall the true Messiah see.
- 3. Now redemption, long expected, see in solemn pomp appear; all his saints, by man rejected, now shall meet him in the air: Alleluia! alleluia! alleluia! See the day of God appear!
- 4. Yea, amen! let all adore Thee, high on Thine eternal throne; Savior, take the power and glory; claim the kingdom for Thine own: O, come quickly, O come quickly, Everlasting God come down.

Day 9 Friday Feb. 23 POWERFUL Matt. 8:23-27

Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. ²⁴ Without warning, a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. ²⁵ The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord, save us! We're going to drown!" ²⁶ He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. ²⁷ The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!"

Our Lord displayed awesome works of power on various occasions. but the disciples had not imagined up to this point that the one they were following could even command the wind and waves. They feared for their lives in vain because Jesus was present with them. The violent storm was no threat to Him. As a matter of fact, He could sleep even while it was going on! How often do we forget that the One who can command the winds and waves is with us? We panic thinking that we're going to drown in our situation, but Jesus is able to rebuke any storm we face and bring His peaceful reign to our hearts. How are we to be like Him in power? We're not powerful. We cannot rebuke a hurricane. But remember Paul's prayer in Eph. 3:16-21 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with **power** through his Spirit in your inner being. ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, 18 may have **power**, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. 19 and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. 20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. according to his **power** that is at work within us. 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Pray this prayer today that His power may be made manifest in your life in these ways. Praise Him that He's able to do MORE than what we ask or imagine!

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: Seekers – some of the visitors who come our way do not know Christ as their Savior and Lord. We also have the Chinese school meeting in our building. Ask the Lord, in His power, to reveal Himself to them so that they can be born again to a living hope. Pray for more seekers to come our way and that we'll be wise in presenting Christ and His gospel to them.

SONG: MORE LOVE, MORE POWER

More love, more power, more of You in my life More love, more power, more of You in my life And I will worship You, with all of my heart, And I will worship You, with all of my mind, And I will worship You, with all of my strength,

For You are my Lord, You are my Lord. (2nd time And I will seek Your face with all...) By Jude del Hierro 1987 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing Used by permission CCLI #1041342

Day 10 Saturday Feb. 24 JOYFUL Luke 10:21-24

At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. ²² "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and no one knows who the Father is except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him." ²³ Then he turned to his disciples and said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

The occasion for this passage was the return of the 72 who were sent ahead by Jesus to proclaim the Kingdom and minister in His name. They reported: The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name."

The ministry that had taken place through these simple evangelists brought great joy to our Lord. He turned right around and praised His Father for it was for His GOOD PLEASURE. Yes, our Lord finds joy and pleasure in working through us, revealing things to us, and in our obedience. He alone knows the great numbers of those Old Testament saints who had longed to see His day come but had not seen it. Ask the Lord today what would bring joy and pleasure to Him. Try to picture Him laughing and delighting in YOU as you serve Him. Nehemiah 9:10 says that "The joy of the LORD is your strength." We can receive strength as we find the delight of the Lord in our lives. As children bring great joy and pleasure to earthly parents, so we, as God's children, can bring great joy and pleasure to Him. Make this your aim! (2 Cor. 5:9 So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it.)

<u>TCCC Prayer:</u> Worship services – When you show up on Sunday mornings and we begin worship, are you there to bring our Lord joy and pleasure? Let's pray that our times of worship will be times that our Lord delights in as we praise Him in song, seek Him in prayer, honor Him with our tithes & offerings, listen to His word, and fellowship with each other. Pray for those who lead in worship, the presiders, pray for the musicians, singers, and translators as well. Pray that the presence of the Lord will fill the sanctuary every time we worship.

QUOTE: "Are we teaching our kids that Sunday is the day we go to church, or the day we try to squeeze in church?" Matt Smethurst

SONG: I DELIGHT GREATLY IN THE LORD

I delight greatly in the Lord, In Him is all my happiness For He has made me beautiful And bright in robes of righteousness I delight greatly in the Lord; I delight greatly in the Lord

1. Filthy rags He changed for riches Gave me honor for my shame, Dressed me in His strength and splendor I will glorify His name

I delight greatly in the Lord, I delight greatly in the Lord (CHORUS)

2. Hearts so full of celebration, Like a bride upon her wedding day Dressed like priests with His salvation, We will ever sing for joy. (to chorus) By Graham Kendrick © 1991 Make Way Music Used by permission CCLI #1041342

Sunday Feb. 25

Today is a day of thanksgiving and celebration! (as should be ALL Sundays). We worship on Sunday as the early church did calling it the "Lord's Day" – the day He had risen from the dead. That's an event worth altering everything for, isn't it? The Jewish disciples made Sunday their most important gathering time rather than the traditional Sabbath time(Friday evening until Saturday evening) because the resurrection of Jesus from the dead changed EVERYTHING!

Think back today on some of the characteristics of Jesus that we focused upon:

JOYFUL POWERFUL FAITHFUL & TRUE RADIANT WISE

PATIENT

Spend some time in worship of the One who characterizes these qualities and so much more!

HYMN: FAIREST LORD JESUS Chinese version

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy & crown.

2. Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands,

Robed in the blooming garb of spring;

Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,

Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

3. Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,

Fair is the sunshine, Fairer still the moonlight,

And all the twinkling starry host; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels heaven can boast.

4. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!

Son of God and Son of Man!

Glory and honor, praise, adoration,

Now and forever more be Thine

QUOTE: "Don't go to church (worship) to be entertained. Don't go to receive a spiritual jolt. Don't go to meet a quota. Don't go to keep God happy. Don't go because you "feel" like it. Go because you need it. You need your family, and they need you. Go because the Savior you share is worth it." Matt Smethurst

Day 11 Monday Feb.26 SYMPATHETIC - Heb. 4:14-16

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. — (a great passage to memorize!)

Don't you love this passage about our Lord! We can hold firmly to the faith we profess because our loving Savior is also our great high priest! When He intercedes for us. He doesn't do it in a condemning way but in a sympathetic manner because He knows what we go through. He Himself faced all kinds of temptations far beyond what we encounter yet He never failed once. The throne of the whole universe is approachable for us, and it is called the throne of GRACE. Grace and mercy are what we can expect to find from our Lord, so we go to Him with CONFIDENCE because it's Jesus, the Son of God, our Savior & Lord, our great high priest. What's stopping you from receiving the mercy and grace you need today? So, how are we to be like Jesus as we think about this passage? Jesus is willing to give us mercy and grace in our time of need if we approach Him at the throne of grace in faith. We when fail and give in to temptation He sympathizes with us. This doesn't mean we can sin all we want and just say, "Oh well, Jesus understands." But He is patient with us and helps us in our time of need as we call out to Him. Too often, however, we are not so sympathetic with others who fail us or who fall into temptation. If it's an area that we don't struggle with then we can look condemningly at them. But we are to treat others as our Lord treats us. We should seek to understand what they are going through so that we can HELP them rather than put them down. Ask our Lord to give you a fresh vision of His ministry as sympathetic, great high priest. Ask Him to fill you with His grace and mercy so that you can help people with weaknesses who are struggling with temptation.

QUOTE: "To pray is to accept that we are, and always will be, wholly dependent on God for everything." Tim Keller

TCCC Prayer: Other deacons (and wives) who are serving our church family: Cheng Lee & Jenny, Hank Lau and Elaine, Yen-Ting Chen (Meng is in NY), Richard Shoucair and Lily. Sugin & Fang Xiang are still also serving on the Deacon Board though they are now elders and on the Lead Team. Yongwei and Xiaomin (see Feb. 20) are now new to the Deacon Board. Pray for these dear brothers and their wives that they will all serve the Lord with gladness, serve in unity, and serve effectively. Encourage them whenever you can!

SONG: JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES CHINESE VERSION

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord. Immanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

2. Jesus, The Good Shepherd, Vine of the branches, Son of God,

The Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor, Bread of Life, Light of the world. Naida Hearn 1974, 1978 Scripture in Song used by permission, CCLI #1041342

3. Jesus, Faithful Witness, He who loves us, Firstborn from the dead, The Word of God, Alpha -Omega, King of all kings, Lord of lords (MS)

Day 12 Tuesday Feb. 27 Action: HEALING – Matthew 8:14-16

When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. ¹⁵ He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him. ¹⁶ When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick.

Jesus healed many different people in all kinds of situations on many occasions. Peter was one of the 12 disciples, and they came to his house to eat but there was a problem. His wife's mother was sick. A fever caused by bacteria can get out of control and cause death. Fevers can also God's remedy to kill infection in the body. This woman was unable to serve due to her illness not to mention that she might have been contagious! Jesus was never afraid to touch sick people, leprous people, or even demon-possessed people. His touch brought healing and the woman responded by serving! Healed to serve others! But His healing work went on for many hours including the most difficult cases of sick souls inhabited by demons. There is no medicine for those types. Just a word from Jesus healed and set them free. How are we to be like Jesus in this? Some believers do have a spiritual gift of healing (1 Cor. 12:9, 28 & 30). We need not limit this to physical healing. Some need healing from heartache. Others need healing from abuse. Still others suffer with emotional trouble, unforgiveness, or bitterness. The latter two are tough cases! Jesus wants to TOUCH lives through us. He may or may not use us in the work of physical healing but don't be afraid to pray for it! There are hurting lives all around us who need Jesus' healing touch. Don't be afraid to reach out to them in loving care. Ask the Lord of healing to show you how to love them, what to say or do to help, or how to be their caring friend. Ask our Lord to extend His healing ministry through you! Pray for someone you know today in need of some type of healing.

<u>TCCC Prayer:</u> Susan Kao and another person have been battling cancer for some time now. Susan has been using a newer treatment that has helped so far along with chemotherapy which is VERY harsh on one's body. Pray for strength, endurance, and for HEALING! Pray for Susan's husband, Kao Lin, as he cares for her and as they drive back and forth to Houston.

SONG: HE TOUCHED ME

- 1. Shackled by a heavy burden, 'Neath a load of guilt and shame. Then the hand of Jesus touched me, And now I am no longer the same. -He touched me, Oh He touched me, And oh the joy that floods my soul!
- Something happened and now I know, He touched me and made me whole.
- 2. Since I met this blessed Savior, Since He cleansed and made me whole, I will never cease to praise Him, I'll shout it while eternity rolls.

 © 1963 William J. Gaither Inc. Used by permission CCLI #1041342

Day 13 Wed. Feb. 28 - FEARLESS - Luke 8:26-39

They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. ²⁷ When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. 28 When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" ²⁹ For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. ³⁰ Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "Legion," he replied, because many demons had gone into him. 31 And they begged him repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss. 32 A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into them, and he gave them permission. ³³ When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned...³⁵ and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out. sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. 36 Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured...³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

Can you imagine meeting a man like this? Able to break chains, shouting out at the top of his lungs, naked, and out of his mind due to the "legion" of demons that had hold of him? The townspeople wanted nothing to do with him, so he lived out among the tombs. Their attempts to control him - Chains! Jesus wasn't afraid of such encounters. They happened often. The evil spirits would try to keep their hosts away from Jesus but the person within longed to be set free. There is no situation that scares Jesus and if we belong to Him then we are not to be afraid either. That is easy to say but harder to practice. Why do we become afraid? Some frightening situation? A close brush with danger or disaster? Meeting a frightening or threatening person? Our Lord wants us to trust Him and know that He is Lord over everything, even over demons. Nothing can enter our lives without His permission unless we open ourselves up to evil through disobedience. Jesus says He is with us even to the end of the age. The next time you are tempted to give into fear, turn instead to our Lord and give your fear to Him in prayer.

QUOTE: "We are all missionaries. Wherever we go we either bring people nearer to Christ, or we repel them from Christ." - Eric Liddell

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: We are planning to resume a visitation night on a regular basis. We want to get out and get into homes of visitors and members alike. Pray for our elder/deacon Fang Xiang as he leads and plans this. Pray for people to gladly volunteer to be part of the Visitation Team. Pray that visitors and members will be glad to welcome us in. Pray that effective ministry will take place and that we'll see God's kingdom grow.

SONG: STRONGER CHINESE VERSION

There is love that came for us; Humbled to a sinner's cross You broke my shame and sinfulness; You rose again victorious

2. Faithfulness none can deny through the storm and through the fire

There is truth that sets me free, Jesus Christ who lives in me

You are stronger, You are stronger; Sin is broken, You have saved me It is written Christ is risen; Jesus you are Lord of all

3. No beginning and no end You're my hope and my defense You came to seek and save the lost, You paid it all upon the cross (to chorus) By Reuben Morgan & Ben Fielding 2007 Reuben Morgan, Ben Fielding / Hillsong Publishing Used by Permission CCLI #1041342

Day 14 Thursday Feb. 29 - NOT IN A RUSH - John 11:1-14

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha...So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick." 4 When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." 5 Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. 6 Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days...After he had said this, he went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up." His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of his death, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Mary & Martha hoped Jesus would rush to them and save Lazarus before he died. If they had been with Him, they would have likely pushed Him to hurry but we never read of Jesus being in a hurry. He trusted His Father and lived life at a pace of faith rather than panic, worry, or hurry. He knew that God was in control and sometimes slowing down the pace was exactly what the Father wanted. Our Lord didn't have a watch, a calendar app, or a text reminder but He always had time to pray and spend time with people. When I hurry and get impatient with others who are moving slower than I want it's usually because I haven't disciplined myself in the use of time. So, a deadline is approaching or something is starting soon so I try to go as fast as possible, even speeding on the highway. It would be so much better to work ahead of time, leave early, be prayed up, and travel safely without worry or hurry. Other times I probably rush right pass someone that the Lord would have me speak with or meet. Things do come up that are beyond our control (the weather, an accident, a broken tool, etc.) but the things that we can control should be approached under the Spirit's fruit of self-control. Let's pray to be like our Lord and prioritize our lives with prayer in the morning with the Father and then rest in Him as He directs us throughout the day. Let's see people that He brings across our paths not as interruptions but rather as divine appointments.

QUOTE: "Ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life." Dallas Willard TCCC Prayer: Vivi attends our church regularly and leads a very challenging life. She has two young children of her own and is also raising her husband's three younger siblings (orphans). Her husband also has three adult brothers who have some mental health challenges. Now, her husband is deployed with the Army reserve, so Vivi is doing all of this on her own. Pray!

HYMN: SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER

CHINESE VERSION

1. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care, And bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief And oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

2. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! The joys I feel, the bliss I share, Of those whose anxious spirits burn with strong desires for thy return! With such I hasten to the place where God my Savior shows His face, And gladly take my station there, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

3. Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! Thy wings shall my petition bear, To Him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless. And since He bids me seek His face, Believe His Word and trust His grace, I'll cast on Him my every care, And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Day 15 Friday March 1 – GENTLE – Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me. all vou who are weary and burdened. and I will give you rest. 29 Take my voke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is liaht." There is no better invitation than this! Our jobs, our lives, our activities, and our relationships can leave us feeling "weary & burdened." Jesus' cure? Come to Him and find rest! Get in the yoke with Him and learn how to navigate life with Him. A yoke is what would harness two oxen together so they would work together rather than pull independently in different directions. How will you find Jesus when you come to Him in faith? "Gentle and humble in heart!" He is our Lord and Master but at the same time He loved us to the point of laving down His life for us. He will not vell & scream at you though you may deserve it. He works gently with us. We CAN find rest for our souls IF we will regularly come to Him and spend time listening to Him teach us. Rest is so important physically and spiritually. Jesus was able to rest in His Father and that's another reason why He wasn't in a rush. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who knows how to gently lead His sheep who listen to His voice and follow Him (John 10: 27). He isn't the Good Cattle Driver who uses a whip and drives his cows. Take Jesus up on His invitation today and every day. Get into the voke with Him and learn all He has to teach you. Your weary & burdened soul will be glad for the rest. How are we to be like Him? We are to treat people as Jesus treats us. We should be gentle toward those who are around us. Maybe they deserve to be slapped up on the side of their head but so do we. Ask for the fruit of the Spirit – Gentleness today. Ask the Lord to show you anyone that you haven't been gentle with lately. Yes, there are times for firmness but done with the Master's touch of gentleness.

QUOTE: "Jesus Christ lived the perfect life that I could never live, and at the cross He paid the perfect price that I could never pay, all to secure my perfect salvation." Steven Lawson

TCCC Prayer: Pray for the Pastoral Search Committee: Paul Song (chairman), Sugin Tiong, Fang Xiang, Yung Cheng, and Tim Liu. Pray for suitable candidates to know about our opening. Pray for unity in the committee, wisdom, & discernment as they investigate candidates. Pray for the Lord's preparation work in the life of our next Chinese pastor. Pray for the Lord's timing in our church family life and also in the life of the next pastor. Pray that we will find a wonderful, humble, gifted man of God who handles the Word accurately and is a godly husband and father. Pray that he'd do the work of an evangelist and would be a servant leader. Thank God for our former Pastor Jeff Cheng!

SONG: GOOD TO ME

I cry out for Your hand of mercy to heal me. I am weak, I need Your love to free me. O Lord, my Rock, my strength in weakness, Come rescue me, O Lord.

You are my hope, Your promise never fails me.

And my desire is to follow You forever. For You are good, for You are good, For You are good to me.

For you are good, For You are good for You are good to me. By Craig Musseau, 1990 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing by permission CCLI#1041342

Day 16 Saturday Mar. 2 - APPROACHABLE - Matt. 9:18-26

While he was saying this, a ruler came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples. ²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. ²¹ She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed." ²² Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed from that moment. ²³ When Jesus entered the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the noisy crowd, ²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. ²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. ²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.

Think for a moment about the dozens of people who sought out Jesus. Here a synagogue leader and a desperate woman. Others: a Roman soldier, wealthy people, poor people, fishermen, hated taxcollectors, leprous people, lawyers, Gentiles, disabled people, demon-possessed people, parents of sick or dying children, inquisitive people, hateful people... Our Lord not only made Himself available but all felt like they could approach Him and so they did. He turned no one away. His words did sometimes cause people to stop following Him because their hearts were not ready to receive the truth, but those who truly wanted to approach the very Son of God did! How amazing that is! Would those you work with say that you are approachable? How about children you know? Do you give off the sense to others that you are concerned about their lives and are someone who is there to help & care? Tell the Lord you want to be like Him in this area of approachableness today. Ask Him to bring people into your life that you can bless.

<u>TCCC Prayer</u>: We hold weekly prayer meetings on Wednesdays. The first one of the month is in person while the others are on Zoom. Pray that our times of prayer will be powerfully effective as we seek the LORD together. Prayer also goes on during our cell groups. Pray for prayer times there to be visited by the Spirit's touch.

QUOTE: "Because of the Savior, your sin can be forgiven. And because of the Spirit, your sin can be fought." Trevin Wax

HYMN: ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME Chinese V.

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall. Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's chosen race now ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

3. Let every kindred and every tribe on this terrestrial ball; to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all. To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

4. Oh, that with all the sacred throng, we at his feet may fall!

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

SUNDAY March 3

How has the Lord spoken to you during the past week?

What character qualities or actions of Jesus have been most challenging to you?

What answers to prayer have you seen? (review what you wrote in the beginning)

What Bible verses have spoken to you most?

QUOTE: "We are all starved for the glory of God, not self. No one goes to the Grand Canyon to increase self-esteem. Why do we go? Because there is greater healing for the soul in beholding splendor than there is in beholding self." – John Piper

Song: TO GOD BE THE GLORY CHINESE VERSION

To God be the glory, great things He has done; So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory, great things He has done.

- 2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
- 3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.