



Week 8 of Challenge #4

Week of August 30 – September 3

Chapter 16

- This is the last week of our #4 Prayer Challenge. We will begin again on September 13th. I know..... It's only a week away but for several reasons-too many to describe-we need to begin again on the 13th. Persisting in prayer!!!! That's what prayer warriors do! Grab the same partner, group, or find someone new to join you for the next 40 days! I think we'd all agree there are trails on every hand and prayer is the key to break every stronghold. We will continue to use Ann Spangler's book *Praying the Names of Jesus*. The next challenge will cover chapters 17-24 from September 13 – November 5, 2021.

Friend

They say there are four core types of friendship: acquaintance, friend, close friend, and best friend. Levels of friendship deepen as the level of reciprocity and mutual respect and affection grow. Aristotle said there were three kinds of friendship: 1. Friendships of utility: Friendships where you're on friendly terms due to benefits the friendship may bring. Business friendships, colleagues, schoolmates, etc. 2. Friendships of pleasure: Friendships that bring enjoyment. People hang out together because they have common interests, hobbies, experiences, etc. 3. Friendships of the good: Friendships that are most important because they are built on respect, trust, appreciation, and a strong will to aid and assist the other person because each is recognized for their greatness.

I am a friend of God; He calls me friend. Are you his friend? And as the lyrics of the popular Disney movie TOY STORY read, "You've got a friend in me." I can hear Jesus saying, "You've got a friend in me." We've got a friend in Jesus but it's a friendship that we must discover and yearn for. It's a friendship that requires maintenance, taking care to invest time, energy and enjoyment in. It's not a friendship that we have to work for or be good enough to deserve like some of the friendships of this world. But it's a friendship we must invest in. It's not a friendship of the good, it's the friendship of the best kind because it's a forever friendship that will not fade. Psalm 25:14 says that "Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of promises." Being a friend of God is of highest honor and great privilege. Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share? What a friend we have in JESUS!

Jesus walked among many whiles here on earth but there were few that he called friends. Throughout scripture we can read of the different relationship levels that people have had with Jesus. A person can

go to church all their life and never really know God. God wants a relationship with us that is close, intimate, built on trust, respect, appreciation, a strong will to aid and assist each of us because He recognizes our greatness. That's not a friendship of the good, that's a friendship of the best kind.

Additional daily reflections as we consider our FRIEND:

Monday: Read John 15:14-15. Two characteristics are mentioned in this passage for being Jesus' friends: 1. They hear and know the voice of the Father. 2. They do as He commands them. Is being a friend of God a priority in your life?

Tuesday: Read Romans 5:6-11. God demonstrated the most ultimate love of all by laying his life down for all. Because He first loved us, how can we demonstrate great love for others?

Wednesday: Read Proverbs 17:17: What does it really mean to be a friend? Are you a friend that loves at all times?

Thursday: Read Proverbs 27:9-10: This passage encourages us to stay committed to the process of being faithful in the lives of others. Ask God to help you in that process.

Friday: Read 1 Samuel 18:1-4: An extraordinary friendship is noted in this Scripture between Jonathan and David. This is a beautiful example of the 3 stranded friendship we read about in Ecclesiastes 4:9-12. Friendships grounded in the love of God are friendships worth praising God for and cherishing. Invest in your Godly friendships but more importantly invest in your friendship with God.

**EE Prayer Network
Weekly Prayer Requests
August 30, 2021**



A *Adoration: we worship You for Your all powerful and majestic ways!*

FRIEND: A Prayer of Adoration

Being your friend, Jesus, is the greatest privilege and highest honor. What a privilege it is to carry everything to you in prayer. We have sins and grief you bear for us. Your friendship is built on complete trust, humility, transparency, and loyalty. You have chosen to call us your friend. What an honor to know that you aid and assist us and have recognized us and love us. When you made us you said "it is

good.” You love us with the greatest love in all of heaven and earth. You were obedient to death—even death on the cross so that we could go free. We’re forever grateful to You and we praise Your wonderful name. We praise your omnipotence, the one to whom belong ‘the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. You have set your affection on us have chosen us. We’re overwhelmed by your love for us. You, oh LORD are great and greatly to be praised.

Confession: *we now humbly admit our failures as a people, as a church, and as a nation!*

FRIEND: A Prayer of Confession

Dear LORD, Forgive me for my judgmental spirit. I look at others when I need to look at myself. Help me to fall in repentance before You. You are a loving God, faithful to forgive when I confess my sins. Jesus, help me to be the one you are calling to freely and graciously offer grace to others. Thank you for extending grace to me. Forgive me for being critical of others when I’m far from perfect myself. Help me to hold back from my thoughts and my tongue. Instead of voicing those things, help me to bring them to You in honest, sincere and heartfelt prayer.

As Your Word proclaims, help me to walk as a child of the light. May the fruit of Your light consist in all goodness, righteousness and truth being evident in and through me. I invite You to create opportunities for me to live out Your love daily. May Your words of love and acts of love ooze out of me so that the world will see You and not me.

LORD, help me to believe in You. Help me to love You with all of my heart, soul, mind and strength. In You, LORD, help me to work hard, boasting of Your greatness. May faithfulness remain strong in me as I hope in You. I rejoice that I am one of Your children and I delight in knowing You. Give me strength to stand firm and courageous till the end. Amen.

Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.

Thanksgiving: *for being LORD of all!*

FRIEND: A Prayer of Thanksgiving

LORD, thank you for demonstrating through Your perfect life how to live out the fruits of the Spirit. You love perfectly. Your joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are written throughout scripture. You continue to extend to us these fruits daily. May the fruit in my life be a true reflection of You so that those around me can see Your good work and glorify You.

Praise God For:

- the **SYFW** at St. Tomas Evangelical Church of India in Warminster PA where Shibu Oommen taught 9 people with 5 churches represented and 3 key ministry leaders participating. It was a good connection to Indian community. Please pray for the Indian diaspora churches to catch up with the vision for evangelism.
- the **SYFW** at Destination Church in Fletcher NC, Randall Wood taught 18 people from 3 churches. Praise for the follow-up from the Apr 24 Equip America as Pastor Lee and Johanna attended at Fruitland and two others came over from Dandridge, TN having

participated on 4/24 in Knoxville. This was a very engaged group. Pray as Pastor Lee considers next steps - including HFK training possibilities.

- the 4th EE Prayer Network 40 Day Prayer Challenge ending this week. We pray for Your favor Lord on the next 40 Day Challenge beginning Sept. 13th.
- the Equip Americas where 23 cities, and more than **1,000 pastors and lay leaders** from more than 300 churches have come out to see if evangelism still works. we've shared the Gospel with more than 1,073 people, and 287 have made a profession of faith for the first time.

Supplication: *help us to trust who you are.*

FRIEND: A Prayer of Supplication

LORD, I want others to know Your name and receive Your free gift of eternal life. Your word reminds us that not all who call upon your name will enter the kingdom of heaven. Help me to fervently pray for the unbeliever, for those that have turned away from You, and for Your children to remain steadfast, immovable, strong and courageous.

Ask God For:

- all of the plans and preparations for Congress Of Nations in 2022.
- all of the plans associated with the **Equip America** on Oct 23rd in Austin TX, Jacksonville FL, Memphis TN and Blairsville GA. Pray all four cities in this EA Event will be open to the Gospel message. Pray for the four churches involved to be free from Covid and that each site will be blessed with Your presence.
- many on-site prayer warriors to cover each Equip America training.
- the world has so many competing voices, so many voices trying to direct our thoughts and our actions. May we learn to hear only your voice guiding us forward in the path you want us to walk.
- for the HFK's training at Brookstone Church in Weaverville NC that begins Aug 11 for 13 weeks!
- the tragic situation in Afghanistan, the ongoing pandemic, the fight over election integrity, and the economic uncertainty in the U.S. right now are an array of challenges that face the U.S. Father, strengthen Your people to pray as You lead. Encourage us with the knowledge that You hear and answer our prayers.
- forgive us for not seeking Your direction on how to deal with Afghanistan in the best possible way, making the people on the ground a priority. We ask You to have mercy on Afghanistan and its people. We pray God, You will remind them that they are not alone, but are part of the global body of Christ.
- forgive us; forgive our sins. Please forgive the sins of this nation. Help us seek You with all our hearts and soul. In Jesus name we pray.
- Father, we ask You to protect the people of Tennessee. Bring restoration and healing where there has been destruction. Fill them with Your peace and draw them to You.

(Share Your Faith Workshop, Everyday Evangelism, Hope For Kids, Mentoring for Multiplication)

SYFW	9/3-26/21	Vietnamese Alliance Church	Minneapolis MN
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SYFW	9/11/21	International Bible Christian Fellowship	Lynnwood WA
SYFW	9/11/21	Trinity Lutheran Church	Atchison KS
SYFW	9/11/21	Meadowcroft Presbyterian Church	West Chester PA
SYFW	9/11/21	The Life of Liberty Church	Memphis TN
SYFW	9/11/21	The Life of Liberty Church	Atchison KS
SYFW	9/18/21	First Baptist Church	Clarendon AR
SYFW	9/18/21	Harmony Community Church	Peachland NC
SYFW	9/25/21	First Baptist Church	Rogers AR
SYFW	10/2/21	Hope of Glory Baptist Church	Brownsville TN
SYFW	10/2/21	Shiloh Baptist Church	Brandy Station VA
SYFW	10/16/21	Friendly Hills Church	Jamestown NC
SYFW	11/13/21	First Baptist Church	South Otselic NY
EV2 Launch	10/28-29/21	First Baptist Church	Rogers AR
EV2 Launch	10/15-16/21	Rio Life Community Church	Mercedes TX
XEE	10/14-16/21	CC Palabra de Vida	Raleigh NC