PRAYER GUIDE

A Time of Guided Prayer – Winter/Spring 2022

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Speaker / Author / Professor

- **For preparation** – Josh Bales
  - *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High* – Thomas a Kempis

- **Key points to remember**
  - Just the fact they (his parents) had been so dramatically transformed in coming to faith, they radiated Jesus. That alone was offensive to him.
  - Instead of focusing on the apparent hopelessness of his "lostness," his parents instead focused on the promises of God.

- In desperate situations, we're tempted to pray "Lord, do whatever it takes EXCEPT…" Rather, we must pray "do whatever it takes PERIOD.
- Like Chuck Colson, I thank God for my time in prison.
- I'd mistakenly put my identity solely in my sexuality – but rather solely in Christ.
- His mom prayed for "just enough time" in prison to make Christ known.
- By God's grace – through her own personal renewal – her prayers and fasting were effective.
- "I didn't know the depths to which she was praying and fasting – and that she'd enlisted so many people to pray for me. She was relentless – not about his sinfulness – but in remaining connected with him ("Love you forever…").
- Be consistent, relentless, and loving as we pray for others – and utilize the spiritual gift of presence.
- I knew she was praying – but didn't know the depths to which she'd been praying.
- "I'll stand in the gap every day – and there, I'll fervently pray." – his mom's prayer for him.

- **Here's how you can pray this week**
  - Our prayer needs to be grounded in our daily ritual. If our love for the Lord is "with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength" – we cannot help but want to talk with Him.
  - Pray out of our gratefulness and joy in loving Him.
  - It shouldn't be IF we fast, but WHEN we fast.
  - Deny ourselves, pick up our cross, and follow Him.
  - Keep in mind that this world is not our home. Pray with that in mind.
  - Don't give up in prayer. It's not what we see – but what we don't see: hope.
  - Pray for those who've yet to believe – that God would draw them to Himself.
  - Make this a lifestyle of prayer – in a posture of prayer at all times.
  - "Help us, Father, to love You more than life."

- **Closing worship**
  - *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded* – Paul Gerhardt (1656)

- **Additional resources**
  - Here are several related resources you may find valuable:

WEBSITES:

- www.ChristopherYuan.com
- www.HolySexuality.com

- Colson Center's Pray for Me: A Time of Guided Prayer
- Colson Center's *Pray for Me* initiative
- The Colson Center for Christian Worldview
- BreakPoint
- Wilberforce Weekend '22
- *Pray for Me* Campaign
- Josh Bales

True prayer is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that. It is spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth. - Charles Spurgeon