

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

Praying For Our Nation

Read Philippians 4:7-8, Isaiah 9:6, Psalm 34:15-22

Context: Shar Shalom, Prince of Peace, means “the one who removes all peace-disturbing factors and secures the peace.” God, is the Peace that surpasses all understanding. While we undergo trials and tribulations, while we are brokenhearted, we can experience this peace. We can trust that God knows what’s going on and that He loves us and has the best in mind for us. We just have to remember that His best looks different than what we would choose for ourselves as our best.

Reflection Question: For what are you seeking Shar Shalom’s peace today? How can you offload what is burdening you to the only One who can actually do anything about it? Who are you inviting into your cares and worries today?

Read James 5:13-18 NIV, Mark 10:46-52, 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Romans 12:12

Context: PRAY! Whatever happens, good times and bad, the answer is found in prayer. We cannot fix what’s wrong in the world, but we can speak with the One who can. Our prayers have the ability to move the heart of our good Father. Call out to Him. For all things, let’s call out to our God.

Reflection Question: How can you determine this week that no matter how desperate a situation appears, you will cry out to God? How will you continue to petition Jesus when sometimes it feels like doesn’t hear us, or He’s not answering your prayers? Who can you ask to partner with you to continually come to God in prayer?

Read Exodus 33:3, 15-17, Matthew 6:5, 7

Context: No matter if we’ve been praying for years, or if we’ve only prayed a few times, God wants to hear us. He wants us to talk to Him. He doesn’t require certain, specific church words. There is no preset way to pray to Him. He just wants us to want to spend time with Him and to come to Him with our hurts and our joys, our struggles and our triumphs.

Reflection Question: What is something that you have been dealing with that you haven't yet shared with God? What is holding you back from sharing everything with Him? How can you begin to trust Him enough to bring everything to Him?

Read Genesis 1:27, Revelation 12:10 NLT, John 17:22-23

Context: We are all of us, every person God has ever created, made in the image of God, imago dei. Beyond everything that might separate us, the one thing that unites us, should be the most important. We cannot let the Katēgoros, the accuser, separate us by convincing us that our differences are more important than our similarities. The liar stands before God accusing us, but we stand clean before Him, washed in the blood of Jesus. Jesus wants us to bring those who do not yet know Him to His feet. He wants His children to be united in Him.

Reflection Question: With the people you most disagree, what are some points of similarity that you can focus on this week? How can you draw people into your world who you wouldn't be likely to associate with without the compassion and love of Jesus?

Read Acts 7:57-60, John 11:32-35, Hebrews 4:14-16, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Context: Let's draw closer to those who are hurting and mourning and in pain. Let's triumphantly step into the humanity God created us for. We cannot solve their problems, but we can be there *with* them, we can be there *for* them. And most importantly, we can point them to the One who will comfort them through it all.

Reflection Question: How can you sit with someone's pain this week? How can you point them to Jesus when they cry out for help? What would it look like for you to move toward someone when it gets hard, instead of pulling away from them?

End in prayer. Commit to looking for the commonalities you have with the people around you more than anything that could separate you!