
trust Him for anything. This refining process instilled the faith they needed to take possession of the Promised Land and be used of God to proclaim His goodness. In short, God taught Israel to trust and obey.

God is still in the business of refining His people. Miss this point and you miss His work in your daily life. Work He promises to do. Hebrews 12:6 reminds us: "The Lord disciplines the one he loves and chastises every son whom he receives." He is at work in all things to conform us to the image of His Son (Romans 8:28-29). The fact that our Father is at work to transform us gives hope and purpose to all we experience. Nothing just happens. It is part of God's plan for our good.

Life is a roller coaster of ups and downs, good times and bad, ease and challenge. Perspective comes from the big picture. God's good intention is constant amid the vicissitudes of daily life. Every insecurity draws us closer to the One who will never let us down. Each loss helps us relinquish the temporal and cling to the eternal. A challenge is an opportunity to watch Him work.

All along the way, God is leading us to where He wants us—to His harvest field to do the work of His kingdom. He's equipping us to bear the light of His Word to Corona, a land lost in darkness. He's teaching us to depend on Him to accomplish the great task He has for us. Each day we look to Him, we learn that salvation is from the Lord, and it is Jesus Christ, not we, who will build His Church.

It is essential to rely on God's power, not our ability. We couldn't save ourselves, much less another soul. Jesus alone accomplished our salvation. He alone can save those around us. "Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 4:6).

The Refiner's fire is at work at Northpoint, in your life and mine. God is getting us ready to see what great things He can do in us, around us, and through us. Get ready for a great ride!

Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill Northpoint, so that Christ's presence among us is undeniable and powerful.
- **Local Outreach:** Peppermint Ridge Love Walk
- **Missions:** Dr. Celestin Musekura: Africa

Need to pray with someone?

It is our privilege to pray for you personally. Share your prayer requests

- By email at prayer@northpointcorona.org
- By phone, at 951.734.1335
- On a Response Card in the pew during the worship service

Prayer Team members are available after every worship service.



prayer *life!*

Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

(Year ONE) June 2018

Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed that he does not fall. –1 Corinthians 10:11-12

Refiner's Fire

The Bible reveals truth through history. In God's Word, history is truth lived. The Old Testament demonstrates in life the doctrines the New Testament expounds in words—doctrines fulfilled in Christ.

Israel had the distinction of being chosen by God. God picked them so He could reveal to them and through them His standards of righteousness and just how much He would bless a nation that obeyed Him. In the process, Israel demonstrated the intractable idolatry of the human heart and our need of divine intervention to set us free, not from external bonds, but from our own cherished sin. During Israel's early years, this reality came to a head in the book of Numbers.

After watching the Lord set them free by leveling Egypt—the mightiest empire on earth—and destroying its army, the prospect of trusting God to provide in the wilderness made Israel want to go back. They preferred Egypt's tasty food to their newfound freedom.

In their idolatrous hearts, Israel viewed every waterless stretch in the road as evidence of the Lord's inadequacy. They discounted the miraculous flow of water from a rock that daily quenched their thirst. Tired of the miraculous bread God gave them every morning, they coveted their cravings and refused to trust their Creator.

Finally, when God offered to lead Israel into the "land flowing with milk and honey," their blindness to His provision made them dig in their heels. They refused to believe that the God who conquered Egypt could handle the Canaanites. Lack of faith resulted in refusal to obey.

Clearly God had some teaching to do, and Numbers recounts His lesson plans. He showed Israel the link between obedience and faith, when they suffered defeat, trying to take on Canaan after God had told them not to. They learned the consequences of immorality, when 24,000 died for taking Moabite women for themselves.

Most importantly, Israel learned God's faithfulness by feeding from His hand and following His lead for 40 years, until they were ready to

Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year ONE)

June 2018

| Sunday: Church & Ministry | Monday: Home & Family | Tuesday: School or Job | Wednesday: Neighbors & Community | Thursday: Nation | Friday: World & Kingdom | Saturday: Praise for God's Blessings |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p><i>Hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. –Romans 5:5</i></p> | | | | | <p>1) Read: Acts 7 <i>Pray for ...</i> The peace of Jerusalem. May Israel honor Jesus Christ, their Messiah, as LORD.</p> | <p>2) Read: Acts 8 <i>Thank God for ...</i> Christ's death on the cross for your sin. You have no greater good than this historical fact.</p> |
| <p>3) Read: Acts 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> Taylor Mendoza, Interim Director of Student Ministries: Ask Christ to use Taylor to reveal Jesus Christ to our students, so they know and love Him more.</p> | <p>4) Read: Acts 10 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your church family (friends at Northpoint). May God deepen your bond of unity with old and new friends at our church.</p> | <p>5) Read: Acts 11 <i>Pray for ...</i> A chance to share Christ with someone at work. Ask the Spirit to speak the eternal Truth of the Gospel through you.</p> | <p>6) Read: Acts 12 <i>Pray for ...</i> The Holy Spirit to fill and revive the churches of our community. May Christians proclaim and live the Gospel in clarity and power.</p> | <p>7) Read: Acts 13 <i>Pray for ...</i> Godly leaders in the Legislative Branch of government. May the laws they make honor the law of Christ.</p> | <p>8) Read: Acts 14 <i>Pray for ...</i> Northpoint's summer ministry teams. Ask God to equip them to minister by the power of the Spirit & to prepare hearts to receive the Gospel.</p> | <p>9) Read: Acts 15 <i>Give thanks for ...</i> The Holy Spirit living inside each believer, giving us His love, direction, and power for life and ministry.</p> |
| <p>10) Read: Acts 16 <i>Pray for ...</i> Our search for a Lead Pastor. Ask God for wisdom & clear direction to a man who walks with Christ, as revealed in Scripture, & will lead us to do the same.</p> | <p>11) Read: Acts 17 <i>Pray for ...</i> The reputation of your family. Ask God to make true Christian love increasingly evident in your home.</p> | <p>12) Read: Acts 18 <i>Pray for ...</i> A spirit of cooperation and mutual support among your colleagues. Pray that it will exalt Christ.</p> | <p>13) Read: Acts 19 <i>Pray for ...</i> Corona Life Services: May God redeem the souls of unwed mothers and their children.</p> | <p>14) Read: Acts 20 <i>Pray for ...</i> Divine guidance for our president and the Executive Branch. "The mind of man plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps" (Prov. 16:9).</p> | <p>15) Read: Acts 21 <i>Pray for ...</i> North Korea. Ask God to liberate its people and lead masses of individuals to Christ as Lord and Savior.</p> | <p>16) Read: Acts 22 <i>Express your eternal gratitude for ...</i> God's provision of your daily needs & answering your every prayer with all His wisdom, love, & power.</p> |
| <p>17) Read: Acts 23 <i>Pray for ...</i> Brent Whitefield: Pastor, Missions & Outreach. Ask God to use him during the remainder of his tenure at Northpoint to equip us to share Christ effectively with others.</p> | <p>18) Read: Acts 24 <i>Pray for ...</i> Future generations of your family: May they love the LORD with all their heart, soul, & strength & their neighbor as themselves.</p> | <p>19) Read: Acts 25 <i>Pray for ...</i> God's blessing on those in authority over you. May they know God's blessing and the One from whom all blessings flow.</p> | <p>20) Read: Acts 26 <i>Pray for ...</i> The homeless of Corona: May they come to know Christ's love & provision through the love & ministry of God's people to them.</p> | <p>21) Read: Acts 27 <i>Pray for ...</i> The heart of American society. Pray that Christ will be proclaimed and embraced as Savior and Lord, so we honor Him as a people.</p> | <p>22) Read: Acts 28 <i>Pray for ...</i> The island nations of the Pacific Ocean. Ask God to strengthen & expand the many churches He has planted over this vast area.</p> | <p>23) Read: Numbers 1 <i>Praise God for ...</i> The freedoms we enjoy in America. Rejoice in the Lord. Ask God to enable us as a nation to honor His will & follow His ways.</p> |
| <p>24) Read: Numbers 2 <i>Pray for ...</i> Scott Williams: Pastor, Adults & Families. Pray for him to be strong in Christ & able to build others up in Him. May God use him to strengthen lives & marriages at Northpoint.</p> | <p>25) Read: Numbers 3 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ-like character to develop in everyone in your home (Galatians 5:22-23). Ask God to help you model His character and love to others.</p> | <p>26) Read: Numbers 4 <i>Pray for ...</i> Opportunities to express God's love for those you serve at your job. Pray for sensitivity to God's Spirit and boldness to share the Gospel.</p> | <p>27) Read: Numbers 5 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to burden our hearts to reach the lost of our community. Pray for faith to believe that God will lead & use you to reach them for Christ.</p> | <p>28) Read: Numbers 6 <i>Pray for ...</i> The Church in America to be strong and to influence our country's culture for Christ, by spreading the Gospel.</p> | <p>29) Read: Numbers 7 <i>Pray for ...</i> Moral transformation and physical healing for those suffering in the AIDS epidemics that threaten so many nations.</p> | <p>30) Read: Numbers 8 <i>Thank God ...</i> For our country and the freedom we enjoy. Confess our sin of national pride. Rejoice! You are a citizen of heaven forever, through faith in Christ.</p> |