

And the prophets we've been reading were His hunting dogs. He sent them on ahead to turn His people back to Himself. The name, "Zechariah" means, "God remembers." Miraculously, Israel returned from exile after seventy years of captivity, just as Jeremiah predicted.

While God remembered how much He loved His people and wanted a place to dwell with them, they forgot their God. Zechariah and Haggai preached persistently, until God's people put less money into their new homes and dedicated enough of their earnings to rebuild the temple.

Through Malachi, the last of the Old Testament prophets, God reached out to Israel again. They wearied quickly of following His laws. Malachi helped them reconnect the blessings they experienced to the God who gave it to them.

Both Malachi and Zechariah predicted the coming Messiah, whom Israel would reject once again. *He came unto His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him* (John 1:11). Still His pursuit goes on, reaching and blessing all the peoples of the earth.

In the past twenty centuries, God has pursued a people from Jerusalem to Corona and beyond, following the sun from East to West. Today, the Gospel is leaping the oceans, lighting fires of faith in Korea, China, other Asian nations, and the great continent of Africa. Islam cannot stop God's pursuit. He will have His own. Hinduism, Buddhism, communism, secularism—no religion or philosophy on earth—will stand in the way of the Pursuer.

Read about His final triumph in God's Revelation to John. The incarnate Lord and risen Savior will win a people for Himself and rule from His throne in Jerusalem. With Christ there is no standoff. In the end, God wins. And His victory is sweet for all who are His.

Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to send us into our portion of His world to win souls for Christ.
- **Local Outreach:** Christmas in Corona, brining Christmas and Christ to those in need
- **Missions:** Church growth and support in Tuba City, Arizona

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 THREE) December 2019

The Lord is not slow about His promises, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. —2 Peter 3:9

The Pursuit

Goldberry and I are at a standoff. Don't get me wrong, she's a sweet dog, but we just can't find a way to play together. She won't fetch, and I refuse to chase her around the yard. She loves to grab her favorite toy (today it was a dead rat) and challenge me to try to take it from her. Sorry. Not happening!

God's not like me. Praise His name! God is a pursuer. Back in the garden, after we disobeyed His command, we turned our relationship with Him into a game of keep away. He came to the garden for a visit, and we took off. Ever since then, we've been clinging to our sin (much more odious than a dead rat!), really preferring that He leave us alone.

But He won't. Thank God! He's pursued us from day one and won't stop until He saves every human soul that turns to Him.

Before Cain became a murderer, God sought him out and warned him of sin's controlling power. When "every intent of the thoughts of man's heart was only evil continually" (Genesis 6:5), God did not destroy humanity, until He found Noah and extended His grace to him.

God pursued Abraham, so He could bless every nation on earth through him. Jacob ran to Haran. God found and blessed him there. When Israel went down to Egypt, they left the Promised Land but couldn't escape the God who promised it to them.

The history of Israel is the story of God on the hunt. From Othniel to Samson, David to Ahab, and Hezekiah to Zedekiah, God pursued His people, while they played keep away.

The Babe in the manger was many things. Savior. Son of Man. Son of God. God the Son. But that sweet, pure little baby was quintessentially God the Hunter. The Baby Jesus came to get us and make us His own.

Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year THREE)

December 2019

Sunday: Church & Ministry	Monday: Home & Family	Tuesday: School or Job	Wednesday: Neighbors & Community	Thursday: Nation	Friday: World & Kingdom	Saturday: Praise for God's Blessings
1) Read: Zechariah 1 Pray for ... Our worship leaders to genuinely worship God in spirit and in truth, so they can lead us to do the same.	2) Read: Zechariah 2 Pray for ... Your parents. Thank God for using them to give you life and to shape your life.	3) Read: Zechariah 3-4 Pray for ... Christ to shine the light of His love and character through your words and actions.	4) Read: Zechariah 5-6 Pray for ... God to burden our hearts to reach the lost in our community, just as He reached out to us by sending Jesus.	5) Read: Zechariah 7 Pray for ... Confess our sin as a nation that has rejected God's rule over us (Luke 19:14). Ask God to exalt Christ this Christmas,	6) Read: Zechariah 8 Pray for ... The liberation of North Korea & the conversion of its people to Christ. Pray for protection & strength for the persecuted Church.	7) Read: Zechariah 9-10 Give God Praise ... For the abundance we enjoy in America. Rejoice in God's provision of all the good in your life.
8) Read: Zechariah 11 Pray for ... Taylor Mendoza, Student Ministries Pastor: Ask God to equip him for service and use him to add members to His Church and build them up in Christ.	9) Read: Zechariah 12-13 Pray for ... Your siblings. Ask God to keep them in His care and lead them in His will.	10) Read: Zechariah 14 Pray for ... The integrity and success of your school or place of work.	11) Read: Malachi 1 Pray for ... God to accomplish His purposes through our city government. Pray that those who know Christ will share and show His love to others.	12) Read: Malachi 2 Pray for ... Revival in the Church in the United States, driven by God's love, guided by His Word, empowered by prayer, and expressed through evangelism.	13) Read: Malachi 3-4 Pray for ... The triumph of the Gospel in the hearts of people throughout Latin America, bringing peace to troubled regions.	14) Read: Revelation 1 Pray for ... Praise God for the Light that shines in the darkness. Rejoice that the darkness cannot ever overcome it. —John 1:5
15) Read: Revelation 2 Pray for ... Corie Saunders, Administrator & Finance: Ask God to use her to enable our church to honor Christ with our resources.	16) Read: Revelation 3 Pray for ... Your aunts and uncles. Ask God to draw them to Himself and provide all they need.	17) Read: Revelation 4-5 Pray for ... The movement of God's Spirit in the lives of those you work with, so they will be filled with joy this Christmas.	18) Read: Revelation 6-7 Pray for ... The incarnate and resurrected Christ to reveal Himself to your neighbors through you.	19) Read: Revelation 8-9 Pray for ... God to turn America's heart to seek Jesus, like the Magi of old, to obey His Word, and honor His will.	20) Read: Revelation 10-11 Pray for ... Jesus Christ to be exalted to first place in all denominations of the Church worldwide. May we worship Him as did the shepherds & wise men.	21) Read: Revelation 12 Praise God for ... His perfect and eternal gift. Rejoice in "God with us" and the "grace upon grace" we receive in Jesus.
22) Read: Revelation 13 Pray for ... Teri Vaughn, Ministry Assistant, Missions & Community: Pray for the grace of the Child Christ to flow from her & spread Christmas joy to all she meets.	23) Read: Revelation 14 Pray for ... Ask the Lord to create a deep bond between you & your family that reveals and exalts Christ.	24) Read: Revelation 15 Pray for ... The joy of Christ to flow through you to everyone around you, so they come to know Him and His love.	25) Read: Revelation 16 Pray for ... The growing Muslim population in our area. Ask God to reveal the risen Christ and His love to them through us, His people.	26) Read: Revelation 17 Pray for ... God to revive the Church in the New Year, so that His Church will grow, as hearts that oppose Christ come to bow before Him and rejoice in His reign.	27) Read: Revelation 18 Pray for ... God to establish His rule in our country, by filling the Church with His Spirit, & giving us strong Godly leaders, who identify first with Jesus Christ.	28) Read: Revelation 19 Return Thanks for ... God's constant faithfulness in giving us a New Year of life, liberty, & blessing even in difficult times. Every good gift comes through Christ.
29) Read: Revelation 20 Pray for ... Mark Norland, Ministry Support, Facilities, to glorify God by his Christ-like spirit & the excellence of His work.	30) Read: Revelation 21 Pray for ... Your family in Christ. Ask God to spread the love of Christ throughout your circle of Christian friends, so you can share it with others.	31) Read: Revelation 22 Pray for ... The peace of God that passes all understanding to fill you to overflowing, so Christ shines through you to others.	<p><i>Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! —2nd Corinthians 9:15</i></p> <p><i>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end. —Isaiah 9:6-7a</i></p>			