



prayer *life!*

Weekly Prayer Focus

April 19, 2020

Praise the Son!

“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.” –Daniel 7:13-14

Human. If you believe Wikipedia or the “Worldometer,” nearly 7.8 billion humans fill the earth. I agree with C. S. Lewis. Being human is enough to lift the head of the lowest beggar and bow the head of the mightiest king. Each human is as common as one 7.8 billionth of everyone on earth. So, what’s one or two million humans more or less? But then again, each human is one person individually and uniquely crafted in the image of God, with His infinite value ascribed to each one.

The jaw-dropping truth about Jesus is that He’s as human as you or me. That’s what “Son of Man,” His favorite term to describe Himself, means—*bar enosh*—in His native Aramaic. Every time He used the phrase, He identified Himself with us. Yet He also used the term to allude to the words in Daniel 7. In his vision, Daniel saw *one like a son of man*—a human—walk directly up to the throne of the Ancient of Days (what an awesome description of God Almighty!) to receive kingship, so *that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him* (7:14).

This human stood out.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. –1st Corinthians 15:20-26

Jesus stood out. He stands out to this day, as the Man who brings hope to every human there is or has ever been. Jesus is the human who rose from the dead—as the whole world just celebrated. But a look at Jesus’ resurrection is a look into the future of everyone who trusts in Him. Jesus died knowing He would rise again.

Jesus died on the cross so He could put death to death. As a sacrifice for sin, He removed death—the sting of sin—and destroyed our most dreaded enemy. Decades ago, a group known as The Second Chapter of Acts sang it this way, “It is finished! He has done it. Life conquered death. Jesus Christ has won it!”

That’s why we praise the Son of Man.

And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”
–Revelation 5:9-10

So now, as we praise and worship Jesus, He is seated at the right hand of God the Father. As a “son of man,” Jesus could die for humanity. As the Son of God, His sacrifice was sufficient to pay for all the sins of all humans on earth. Christ’s obedience unto death made Him worthy to sit down next to the Majesty on High.

The Risen Son is the Lamb who was slain and *ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation* (Revelation 5:10). He alone is worthy to unseal and unroll the scroll of history yet to be, and to usher in God’s eternal kingdom, where the redeemed of the Lord will come and forever sing of this Human—the Son of Man and Son of God—To the praise of His Glory

Prayer for the Week

Clearly, if there is going to be a turn in our circumstance and a return to normalcy, God’s people need to be in prayer. If anyone is called to point the world to Christ and make people aware of His hand in world events, it’s God’s people. As we pray for our leaders so we can *lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way* (1st Timothy 2:2b), we need to ask God to open our eyes to see His hand at work.

Pray especially that God’s people will stand up for Christ and make Him known—His work in the past to secure our redemption and His present work to bring salvation to the world. Ask God to awaken us and send His Spirit into His Church afresh to proclaim hope through Jesus Christ. Pray for a great awakening from God to move inside His people to proclaim Christ with boldness and power.

Sunday (Church): Pray that God will continue to move among our leaders to make prayer a priority at Northpoint, so that our ministry is clearly driven by the wisdom and power of God and not man.

Monday (Home and Family): Pray for Christian character to develop in everyone in your home (Galatians 5:22-23)

Tuesday (Job/School): Pray for the colleague at work you have the most difficulty with. May they see the love of Christ in you and hear of His love from you.

Wednesday (Neighborhood and Community): Ask God to reveal His love to the families of our community, especially those who are broken and dysfunctional (1 Corinthians 1:26-29).

Thursday (Our Nation): Ask God to give His people faith and unity in prayer, *So that with one mind and one voice [we] may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.* Pray for revival and renewal.

Friday (The World): Pray for protection for those undergoing persecution for their faith. Pray for strength to remain faithful. Pray for Christ-like love for their persecutors.

Saturday (Praise and Rejoicing): The King of Creation came to be with us. Our rejection did not stop Him and death could not defeat Him. Jesus Christ is Lord!

Prayer for Our Leaders

Pray for wisdom for our church leaders to receive God’s direction as they lead our congregation.

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Terilyn Brown, and Marti Wiegman.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Tim East, Steve Flood, Mark Kiker, Vinoj Zechariah, and new elders who will soon come onto the board.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, Steve Dalgren, Carolee Jefferson, Amber McEwen, Tamene Menna, Mark Norland, Corie Saunders, Karen Sherwood, and Dani Tiqui.

Prayer Record

Record specific prayers you have below. Note when and how God answers your prayers. It will help you to see that He really is paying attention.

Date	Request	Date	Answer

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD! –Psalm 117