



UNITED CITY CHURCH

SEEKIDSTP

We believe that the Bible speaks. It is unique among all other literature. As the Word of God, it is entirely true, trustworthy, and free from any error (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It is God's special revelation of Himself to mankind. The Bible has no equal - not only does it contain historical accounts, thrilling prophecy, touching stories, and timeless wisdom, but most importantly, it has the power to save souls.

This year, we are embarking upon a journey of reading the Bible in its entirety together. Whether you're new to the Scriptures or you've gone from cover to cover several times before, this intentional cadence of reading, praying, and walking through Scripture will prove life-changing in ways we can not even imagine.

Included are monthly prayer prompts to focus on as a church family to turn our hearts to Heaven. We have also left space for you to write in the margins and on pages throughout this book. Don't be afraid to dive in, scribble down your thoughts, and write verses that stand out to you. As you look back, you'll be able to see how you have grown and the things you have learned.

There is no better way to move through this year than with the Bible at the forefront of every day, decision, and moment.

We will Seek First.

JANUARY

FIRST THINGS FIRST

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." -Matthew 6:33 (ESV)

As we begin a new year, the calendar presents an opportunity for a fresh start. Many of us set goals—plans to improve, grow, or change in different areas of life. Yet, the most important resolution we can make is to prioritize God above all else.

In Matthew 6:33, Jesus gives us a simple but profound directive: seek first the kingdom of God. Before we chase after success, achievements, or personal happiness, we are called to seek God's presence and His will. This means starting each day with Him, bringing our plans to Him, and aligning our hearts with His purpose. When we seek God first, we invite His wisdom and peace to guide our lives.

This is our invitation to you at the start of 2025: Our annual church-wide fast will begin on January 22nd. Commit to join us in aligning our hearts as a church, to Seek First His kingdom, to set aside our flesh and allow the Holy Spirit to transform our lives.

Make it a priority to **Seek First** this year.

Prayer: Lord, as I begin this new year, I commit to seeking You above all else. Help me to put first things first—your kingdom, your righteousness. May Your will guide my steps, and may Your peace fill my heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

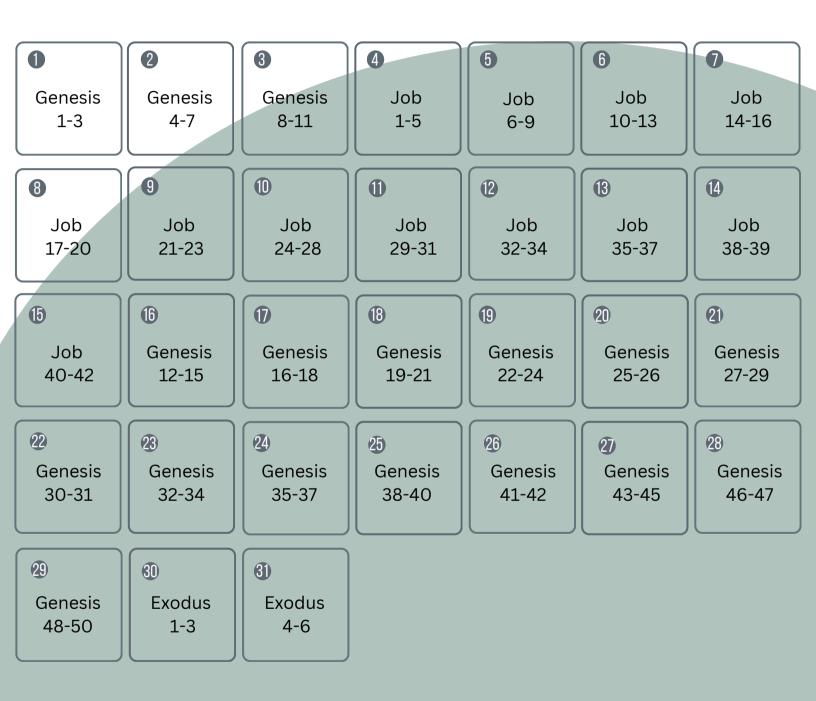
PRAYER PROMPTS

For God to give United City Church, and us as individuals, a fresh perspective and expectation for the great things that God will do this year.

Encounter Weekend (February 21-23). - That God will begin to soften and prepare the hearts of all the students that will attend and we will see lives changed in middle and high school students.

Thankfulness for all the mission opportunities we have this year, and that God would continue to call the people of United City to get out of their comfort zone and go where they are being called to show that Lost People Matter to our church.

JANUARY



FEBRUARY

LOST PEOPLE MATTER

"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." - Luke 19:10

Jesus' mission on Earth was clear: He came to seek and save the lost. Throughout His ministry, He reached out to those who were far from God—sinners, outcasts, and the brokenhearted. In doing so, He demonstrated the heart of God for all people, especially those who do not yet know Him.

The role of the Church is not just to gather believers, it is to be a light in a dark world, a place where the lost can encounter the saving love of Jesus Christ. This is why one of our core values is *Lost People Matter*. We believe the Church doesn't exist for us, but that we are the Church and we exist to reach the world. It's our heart to bring the hope of the gospel not just into our community, but our city, our country, and around the world by crossing every divide to live united in Christ. We welcome the lost with open arms, share the Gospel boldly, and demonstrate the love of God in tangible ways. We desire to see people who are lost, hurting and in sin find salvation, freedom, and life-change in Christ Jesus.

Lost people matter deeply to God and therefore they matter deeply to us.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for coming to seek and save the lost. Give me Your heart for those who are far from You, and help me to reflect Your love and grace in my words and actions. May United City Church be a source of hope to our community, and may I be faithful and bold in sharing the Gospel with those around me. In Jesus' name, Amen.

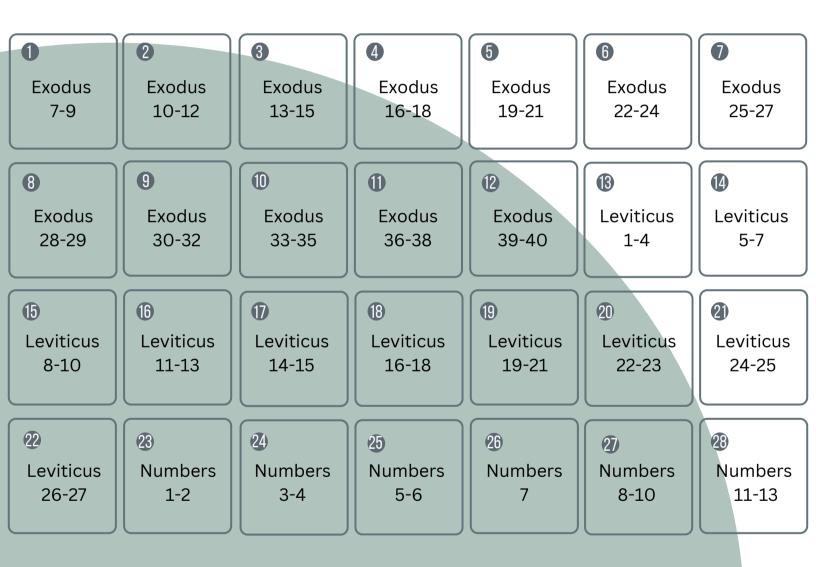
PRAYER PROMPTS

For God to call and equip the right leaders to help serve for Encounter Weekend. That all logistics run smoothly and the Gospel message is clear and kids are saved.

That we would have continued favor in the prisons; for more salvations, baptisms and life-change through our prison ministries and our services streaming on the Pando app in the prisons.

For the kids, families and teachers of the Children's Learning Center - that God would guide and protect them, and that a foundation of faith would be laid in the hearts of these little ones.

FEBRUARY



MARCH

TRUE WORSHIP

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him." -John 4:23

When we gather for our worship services, it's easy to get distracted by the external aspects—the music, the sermon, the atmosphere, or even the comfort of our seats. But true worship goes far beyond these things. As Jesus tells us in John 4:23, true worshipers worship the Father in spirit and truth. It's not about what we receive from it or how it makes us feel, but about responding with our whole hearts to the love, grace, and salvation God has already given us.

At its core, worship is about cultivating a heart of thankfulness before God. When we focus on His goodness and faithfulness, our perspective shifts. We begin to realize that worship isn't about getting something from God, but about responding to all He has done for us. It's a posture of humility, recognizing that He is worthy of all honor and praise.

Thankfulness is the key to softening our hearts, counteracting the pride and selfishness that our human hearts tend toward. As we reflect on God's blessings, we are reminded of His sovereignty and goodness, which frees us from our own ambitions and desires and allows us to surrender to His will. This is where true freedom lies—living in alignment with God's perfect plan rather than our own.

When we approach God with awe and our hearts full of gratitude, our worship becomes authentic, we open ourselves up to experience His presence more deeply, and we are transformed.

PRAYER: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unfailing love, grace, and mercy. I come to You with a thankful heart, eager to worship You in spirit and in truth. Help me to remember that true worship is not about what I receive, but about responding to the incredible gift of salvation You have already given me. May my heart remain humble and full of gratitude, and may my worship be a reflection of my love and devotion to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

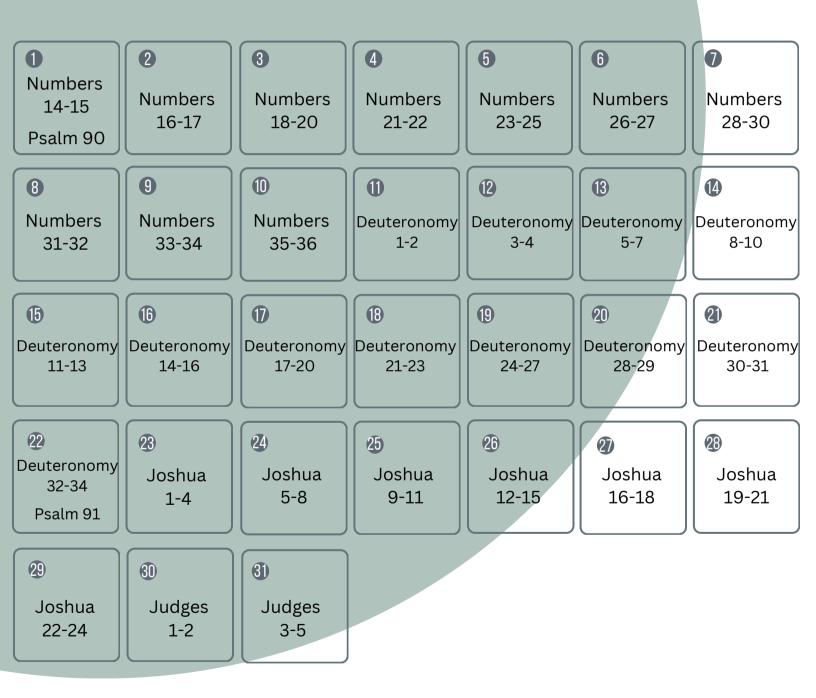
PRAYER PROMPTS

That God would prepare our hearts and minds as we approach Easter - that He would begin drawing people toward United City even now, so they will be ready to receive the Word that will be preached Easter weekend.

For God to keep working in our Young Adult ministry - that we would see a generation of young adults rising up and leading with passion and in obedience to the Lord.

For the UC Kids Serve Team to see the impact they make on the lives of our children - that they would be encouraged and refreshed and that even more leaders would see the vision and be inspired to serve in our kid's ministry.

MARCH



APRIL

REMEMBER THE RESURRECTION

"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus." — Luke 24:1-3

As Easter approaches, let's make sure we are aware of the depth and significance of the holiday we are so familiar with. We are preparing to celebrate the most powerful and meaningful event in human history—the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In the early hours of that first Easter morning, the women who came to the tomb were at first filled with grief and confusion. They expected to find the crucified, lifeless body of Jesus, but instead, they encountered an incredible, life changing miracle: the stone had been rolled from the tomb, and Jesus was alive!

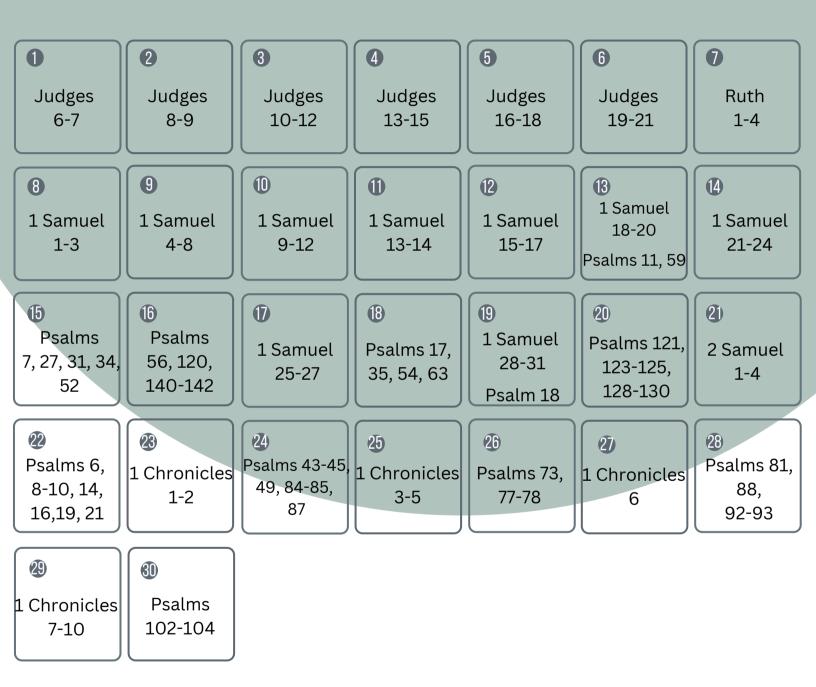
The resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. It is the victory over sin, death, and the grave. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we are offered new life—an eternal hope that nothing in this world can take away. His resurrection assures us that we, too, will rise with Him, and it empowers us to live with boldness, joy, and purpose.

Over the next few weeks, reflect on the sacrifice Jesus endured for you as the ultimate act of love, and let gratitude fill your heart. Celebrate the fact that the resurrection is not just an event to remember, but is the power that changes and transforms our lives. Understand that because He lives, we have hope, even in the midst of struggle and trials. Jesus' victory is not just something that happened in the past or only a future promise, but a present reality we can walk in daily.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank Jesus for his sacrifice and praise Him for the power of the resurrection. Thank God for his love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness in your life. Praise Him for his power to overcome sin, death and the grave, and ask Him to help you walk in the freedom He has won for you.

APRIL



MAY

UNSEEN

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." -2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

It's easy to focus on what we can see—the challenges, struggles, victories, and circumstances in front of us. We measure success through the lens of what is visible - tangible results, social media views, productivity, status, popularity, or monetary gain. But Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 4:18 that we should focus on the eternal realities of God and His Kingdom.

It feels difficult to "fix our eyes" on the unseen, for obvious reasons, so we have to be intentional in doing so. Committing to the continued reading of His Word, like we are doing in this plan, helps us to keep the eternal realities in front of us. Spending time in prayer and asking God to help us remember what matters is a great practice, too. Gathering with other believers and worshiping God, encouraging one another, and sharing what He is doing in our lives also keeps our focus where it needs to be.

When Jesus walked on Earth, He spoke of the "unseen" spiritual truths of God's Kingdom. He taught that the Kingdom of God is not just a future promise, but a present reality we can have through faith. By trusting in Him and looking to Him, we can start to see beyond the visible, to the eternal work He is doing in us and around us. God's promises, presence, peace, the hope of salvation, and knowing He is always working things for our good and His glory. Even when we can't see it - these are the things of eternity.

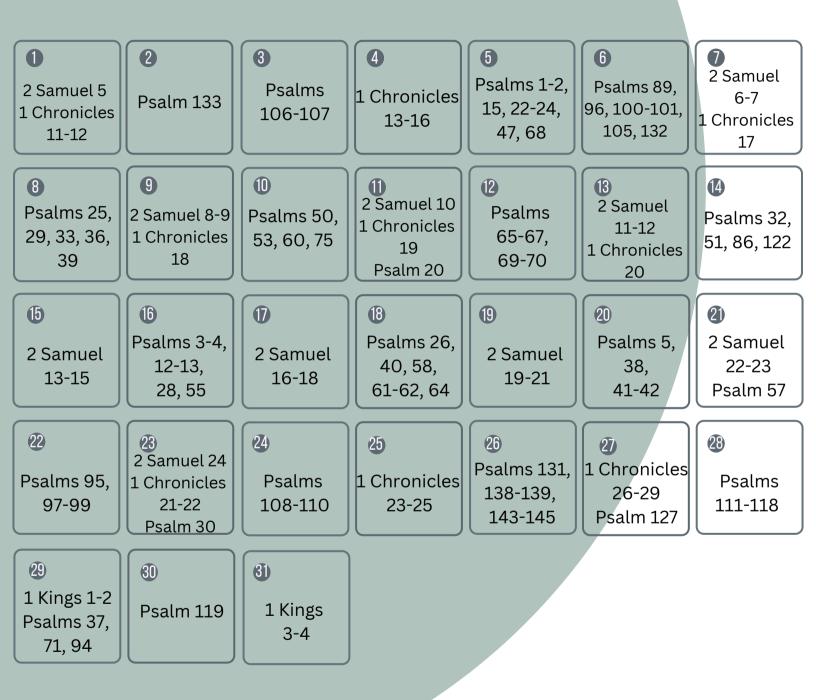
Prayer: Lord, help me to see beyond the temporary things of this world and fix my eyes on what is eternal. Remind me that You are working in the unseen, even when I can't understand or see it. Strengthen my faith and my hope in You, knowing that Your promises are sure. Thank You for the eternal hope I have in Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYER PROMPTS

For all our High School seniors for 2025 - that God would call them to great things for His kingdom and that they would be bold in thier obedience.

That God would continue to guide and convict the leadership of United City Church. That they would be humble and sensitive to the leading of the Spirit.

MAY



JUNE

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." -2 Timothy 3:16-17

You have heard us say repeatedly at United City that we believe the **Bible Speaks**. It is one of our core values. The Bible is not just an old piece of literature or history or a self-help book we can turn to for advice in certain situations. 2 Timothy tells us that it is *God-breathed*.

Let that sink in for a moment.

You have unlimited, convenient access to words breathed out by the God of the universe, the Creator of all things, who knows all things... and He wants you to read it! He intended for you to read it, to learn from it, and to let it change and develop you. He designed His Word to reveal Himself to us, to teach and nourish us daily, to draw us in and whisper truths into our souls, and speak conviction and salvation to our hearts ("it's profitable for teaching, reproof, correction and training in righteousness").

We also read that the scripture is "a lamp to our feet and a light to our path" (Psalm 119:105). For a lamp to light your path, you have to be holding it. It must be near to you. It's not a floodlight or streetlight; a lamp is personal. Let the truth and grace of the Word of God illuminate your heart and mind. Spend time reading, thinking about, studying, and putting into practice what God is speaking to you through the scriptures. Yes, the Bible is meant for everyone, but it is also intended for you personally and intimately. Don't miss that or take it for granted.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for giving me Your Word and speaking to me through Scripture. Help me honor Your Word, listen to its teaching, and allow it to transform my life. Open my heart to receive Your guidance, correction, and comfort. Let Your Word be a lamp to my feet and a light to my path and transform me more into the likeness of Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PRAYER PROMPTS

For all the 45 and UCY students going to camp this month - for safety and health and that God would change lives and even entire families through the students who are impacted.

That our senior adults would continue to be encouraged and strengthened to pour into the next generation with wisdom and experience.

JUNE



JULY

WE'RE BETTER TOGETHER

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (ESV)

Our day-to-day experience is becoming more personally tailored to us with better algorithms, feeds, ads, and overall content designed to identify the things we like and then serve us more of them. Honestly, it's a fascinating and terrifying thing to see how dialed into us these things can become. If we're not careful we can be tricked into thinking that this world exists solely for our personal enjoyment and fulfillment. The truth is, this kind of thinking works until it doesn't.

Ecclesiastes reminds us that hardship is not optional and will find us. We will fall, but those who stumble alongside trusted friends have an incredible advantage. This is one of the reasons why *We're Better Together* is one of our core values at UC, because there is no content, self-help process, or self-tenacity that will do for your soul in crisis what a fellow believer can do. Whether we like it or not, we desperately need each other in hardship and in blessing to remind us of God's goodness and faithfulness.

If you're struggling today, lean on the church and fellow believers to help carry you through. If life is going awesome right now, then chances are that someone you love is struggling at the same time. This life is not solely meant for our personal comfort, so consider the opportunities God has place in your life to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around you. As the old proverb goes "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together".

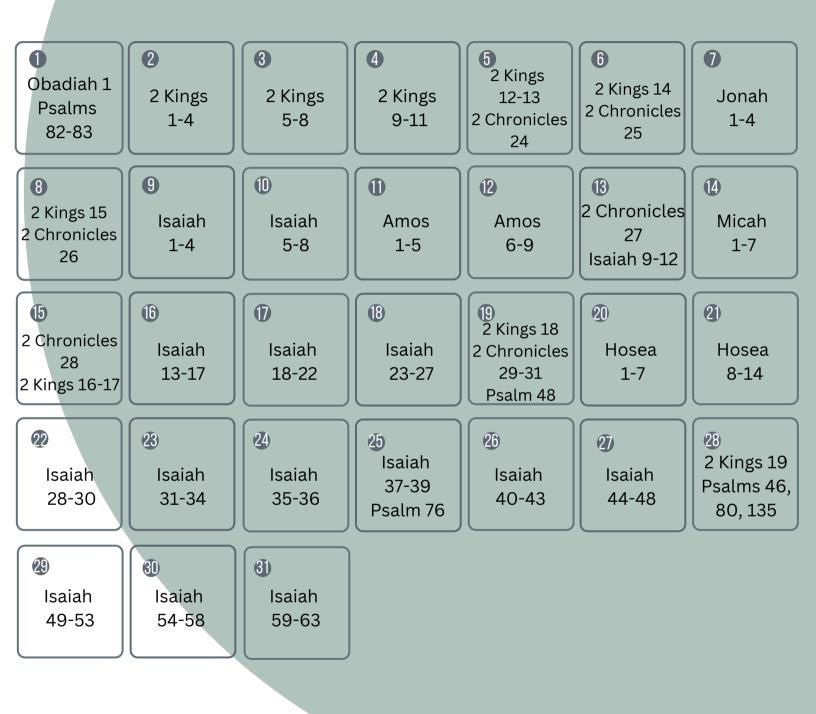
Prayer: Lord, I pray that you strengthen the right relationships in my life. Send me people who will stand with me in the highs and lows of life. Help me to build relationships that will encourage me and point me more to you, and let me do the same for others. Lord, give me an "others focused" perspective so I can recognize and act on the opportunities I have to love those around me that are going through difficult times.

PRAYER PROMPTS

For our local mission's partners: Elijah Rising, Care Net Pregnancy Centers, Mission Centers of Houston, Kid's Hope, LifeLine, and our UC hosted ESL classes - that God would use each of these ministries to reach the lost, lead people to Christ and change lives.

That God would create a culture in our Life Groups where everyone would know Christ in greater depths, know the joy of obedience to His Word, and be known by others who love and encourage them.

JULY



AUGUST

EVERYONE HAS A NEXT STEP

"The steps of a man are established by the Lord, when he delights in his way." -Psalm 37:23 (ESV)

We serve a God who is not much for standing still. The Bible holds countless stories where God's plans required His followers to take a next step. Abraham's next step was to pack everything and move to a new land. Moses's next step was to deliver God's people out of Egypt. The disciples' next step was to follow Jesus personally and teach others to do the same. In each example above, God provided a next step -- and they said "yes."

Just like these Bible heroes, you are a part of God's story, and He has a plan for you as well. (Jer. 29:11) Psalm 37:23 tells us that He has already established the course for you to follow. When you take a step in the way He has laid out for you, you can be confident that He is there, cheering you on and providing all the support you need. We know this is true because, through their obedient steps, He cleared the land for Abraham, parted the sea for Moses, and revealed Himself as Savior to a dozen simple men so that we, too, could find eternal life.

Maybe, like Abraham, He is asking you to walk by faith in a new direction, to step out like Moses and lead even though you feel inadequate, or like the disciples, lay down your plans and follow Him as your personal Savior, then show someone else how to do the same.

> Will you listen to the still, small voice calling you to your next step? Will you delight in the next step He calls you to take, ready with a YES?

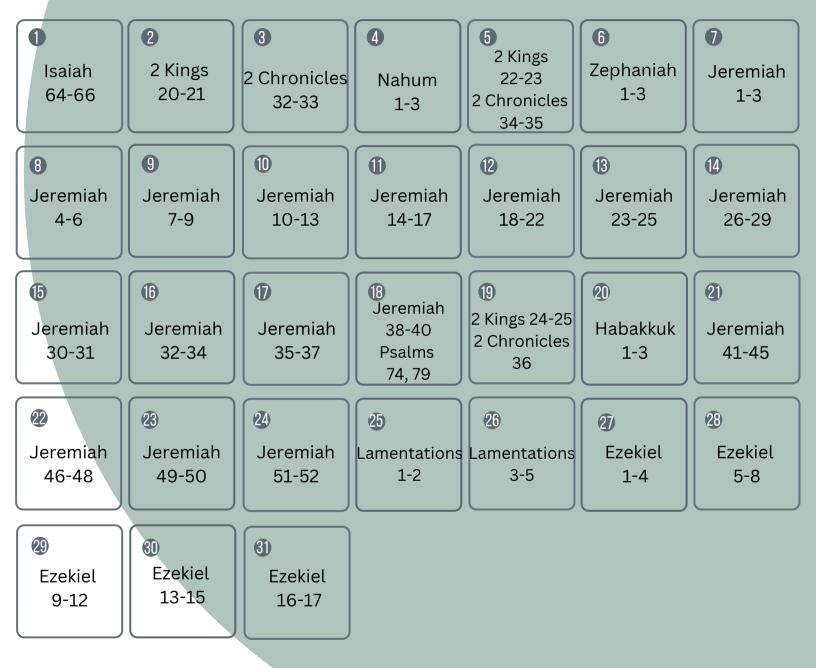
Prayer: Lord, thank you for the promise that you have already set my path. Help me listen closely to the Holy Spirit for the next step you call me to. Give me the confidence to have my "yes" ready and to delight in your ways as I walk in obedience. May you be glorified through my next step and all the ones to follow. In Jesus' name, AMEN.

PRAYER PROMPTS

For all the students, teachers, and school administrators this year - that they would be encouraged to live their convictions, glorify God in their word and deed, and have the boldness to share their faith with those around them.

For those who have not yet taken their next step in serving at United City - that God would clearly convict them and that they would find their place here, serving where they are led, that they would be obedient and blessed to take part in the life and ministry of the church.

AUGUST



SEPTEMBER

TRUST IN EVERY SEASON

"As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today." -Genesis 50:20

Joseph's story in Genesis 37-50 is a powerful example of trusting God's plan, even when life seems uncertain. Sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, falsely accused, and imprisoned, Joseph faced incredible challenges. Yet, through it all, he remained faithful to God.

In Genesis 50:20, Joseph reflects on his journey, saying, "As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive…". This verse reminds us that God is sovereign, even when life appears chaotic. The very events meant to harm Joseph were used by God to place him in a position of influence in Egypt, where he saved countless lives during a famine—including his own family.

Joseph's story teaches us that God's plan is always bigger than ours. When Joseph was suffering, God was working behind the scenes to fulfill his purpose. Through it all, we see Joseph demonstrate a steadfast faith in God. It would have been easy and understandable for Joseph to question or doubt God's goodness when it seemed like he was in such a desperate situation, but he stood firm on the truth he knew, and his faith carried him through.

Whatever season you're in, trust that God is in control and working things for your good and His glory. Like Joseph, hold onto hope, forgive those who hurt you, and remain faithful.

Prayer: God, help me completely trust you regardless of how things seem in my world right now. I know that You are sovereign and You are good. Your ways are perfect. Increase my faith and let my life bring you glory. In Jesus Name. Amen.

PRAYER PROMPTS

For parents of children at UC - that they would have wisdom and encouragement in parenting, that they would experience peace and be able to live out the truth of the gospel and grace to their children in all situations.

That middle and high school students would continue to grow in faith, invite their friends to UC and live out their faith in ways that effect the world around them.

SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER

SHOW UP

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." -Hebrews 10:23-25

God created us to need each other more with each new day. If we aren't careful, we will tend to drift from the things that matter to whatever is easier. God tells us in His word that we should help each other stay on track by getting together regularly.

You may have heard it said that going to church on Sunday is a Saturday night decision. That's because your body may tell you on Sunday morning that you'd rather get an extra hour of sleep or you'd rather work on your golf game, but there's more at stake than you realize in that moment. In fact, when we say "no" to attending church once, we can actually start drifting toward a habit we will regret.

Gathering regularly with God's people is something we can't afford to neglect, because that's when we give and receive the encouragement that will help us make it through whatever we are facing.

Even though the days are getting darker, we need to constantly remind each other that the Day of Christ's return is actually getting closer. For believers in Christ, the best is always yet to come so keep gathering with God's people, keep encouraging each other and all the more as you see His return approaching.

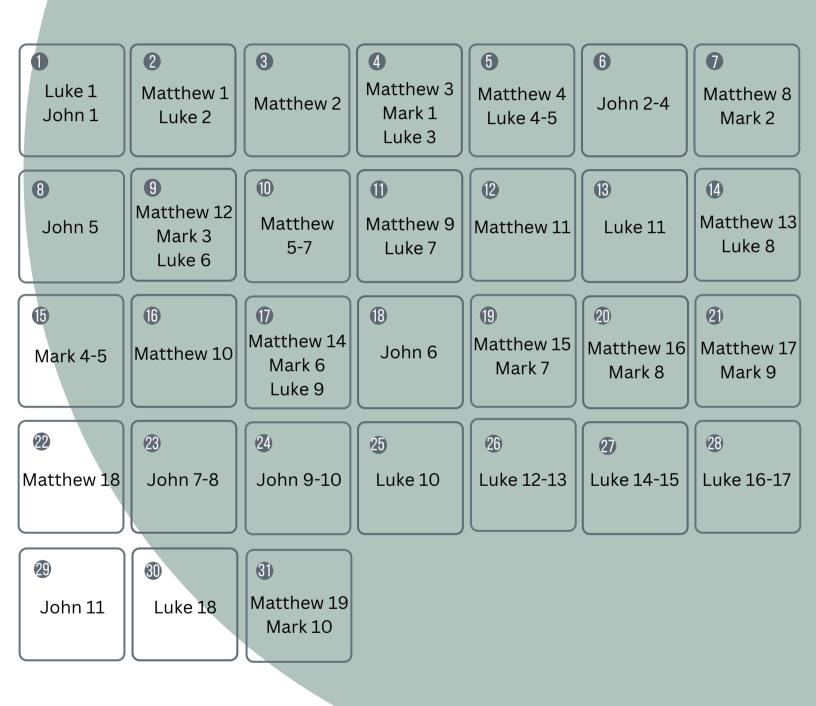
PRAYER PROMPTS

For the UC Fall Festival - that we would have the opportunity to reach our community and share the love of Christ.

For our church plant partners - that they would experience supernatural provision and encouragement. That they would impact their communities, see people come to know Christ and lives changed.

Church plants: Emmaus Church, Mission City Church, Redemption City Church, Trinity River Baptist Church, Walk Church, Favor City Church, Your Church, Connection Church, Royal City Church, City Connect Church, Comunidad de Gracia, Iglesia Bautista Raham Aibonito, Igreja Batista Nova Jerusalem, Igreja Batista Sertaneja, City team

OCTOBER



NOVEMBER

THANKFUL

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." -Philippians 4:6-7

As we come to the close of another year, and move into the holiday season, we can experience a mix of emotions. For some, this time of year brings joy or celebration, gathering with family and friends, but for others, it may bring a sense of heaviness—whether due to the loss of a loved one, financial difficulties, or personal struggles. In moments like these, we can find comfort in the words of Paul.

In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul encourages us to bring everything before the Lord - our needs, our pain, our anxieties, and even our fears - through prayer and petition. Don't miss the important part, though. He tells us to approach God with thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving in uncertainty, anxiousness, or pain, seems difficult, but choose to be thankful anyway. Walking in gratitude is what opens our hearts to peace. Paul shares that when we bring our requests to God with thankfulness, His peace—the kind that surpasses all understanding—will <u>guard</u> our hearts and minds. This means the peace of the Lord will literally watch over and protect our hearts and minds. What an incredible picture!

Take time to reflect on all that God has done, all the ways He has been faithful, both in your life and in the world around you. Peace isn't based on our circumstances, whatever they may be, but on the trust we place in God's faithfulness, goodness, and provision. Thank Him and allow His peace to settle over you throughout this month.

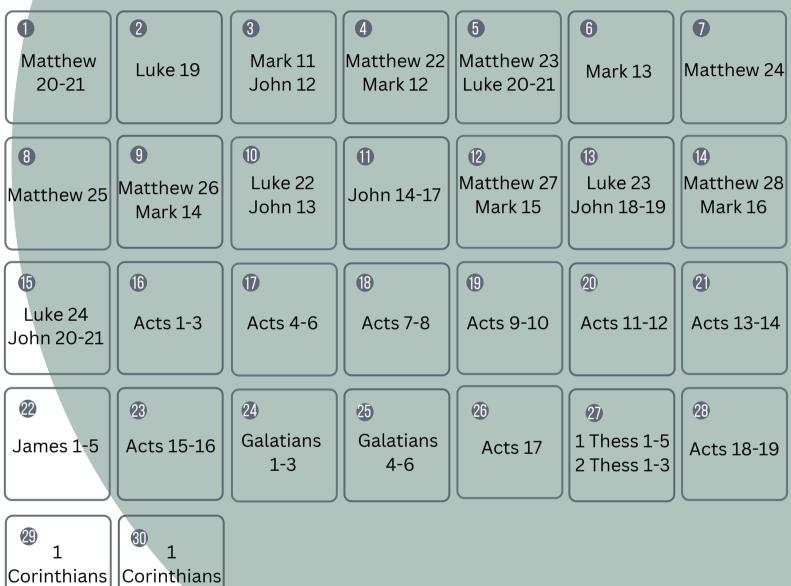
Prayer: Father, thank You for Your unfailing love and faithfulness. I am grateful for Your grace, Your presence, and the peace that comes when I surrender my worries to You. Help me to take every anxious thought captive and replace it with thanksgiving for all that You've done and all that You are. I trust that You will care for me, and I rest in the peace that You are with me always. Amen.

PRAYER PROMPTS

That God would continue to use UC Español to reach the Spanish speaking community in NE Houston - that we would see testimonies of families coming to know the Lord, being baptized, and becoming a part of the life of the church.

For gratitude to be a defining characteristic of the people of United City - that our worship services would be genuine and overflowing from a place of incredible thankfulness and awe of the Lord, not just for all he has done, but for who He is.

NOVEMBER



1-4

5-8

DECEMBER

IMMANUEL

"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel (which means 'God is with us')" -Isaiah 7:10-14

Christmas songs, family memories, wrapping and unwrapping gifts...seemingly everything this month is going to point you to the Birth of Jesus Christ.

What a powerful thought to have, that God sent down His one and only Son (Luke 1:32, John 3:16) to rescue the world from sin (Matthew 1:21). This changes everything for us! This is an eternity-altering event, but isn't it amazing how the promise of the coming Messiah is made personal to us through His very name? "Immanuel- God with us". He is with you!

Romans 8 teaches us that He is so committed to being WITH you that there is nothing that can separate us from his love. Philippians chapter 4 tells us that we don't have to live a life defined by fear, anxiety, or worry because the King of Kings Himself, Immanuel, is WITH us.

Whether this month is a time of overwhelming joy or heavy with burden and heartache - the truth of the message from heaven rings throughout the month- Jesus is WITH you! His presence is near! His love is in constant pursuit of your heart!

This month, allow the Promised Messiah to comfort you when you are stressed or overwhelmed, lonely or hurting. And even when you are joyful and celebrating, remember He is there in those moments too. Stop and take a moment to express gratitude and awe. Let His presence always lead you to love more fully, and empower you to live more confidently. THIS is Immanuel!

PRAYER PROMPTS

That the hearts of United City would be turned to the Lord throughout this season. That we would remember HE is the reason we celebrate and HE is present when we are hurting.

For people to be drawn to attend our Christmas services, that the gospel would be preached and fall on hearts willing to receive it, that we can celebrate new life with families as we again move into a new year.

DECEMBER





Thank you for joining us in reading the Bible this year. What a beautiful journey it has been, and we trust that you have grown deeper in your knowledge and love for the Lord.

But remember, as we come to a close, this is just the beginning. The truths you've encountered don't end here—they are to be lived out each day, continually shaping your heart and mind.

We hope this year has established patterns that you will continue as we move into 2026. God's Word is a constant source of strength, wisdom and encouragement that we need to pursue daily. Continue to **Seek First**, trusting that He will lead you with His truth and grace.

Prayer: Lord, thank You for walking with me through this year of reading Your Word. I am grateful for the wisdom and revelation You've given me. May I continue to grow in my love for You and remain rooted in Your truth. Lead me in the next steps of my faith, and may Your Word continue to transform my heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.