

7-Day Prayer Guide

April 10-16, 2018, for

Andrew Brunson

Trial Date: April 16
9:00 a.m. local time (2:00 a.m. EST)



Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.



How to Use this Prayer Guide

Pray through the Scriptures and items associated with each day.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

—Romans 8:26

You Are Worthy

Andrew's song written from a Turkish prison, 2017

You are worthy, worthy of my all My tears and pain I lift up as an offering Teach me to share in the fellowship of your suffering Lamb of God you are worthy of my all.

You are worthy, worthy of my all Adopted as a son, a brother to my King Indeed I will share in your glory if I share your suffering Jesus, you are worthy of my all.

You are worthy, worthy of my all But my heart faints, drowned in sorrow, overwhelmed Make me like you, Cross-bearer, persevering, faithful to the end To stand the trial and receive the crown of life.

You are worthy, worthy of my all **This is my declaration in the darkest hour**Jesus, the <u>Faithful One</u> who <u>loves me</u>, always <u>good</u> and <u>true</u>

You made me yours, you are worthy of my all.

I want to be found worthy to stand before you on that day
With no regrets from cowardice, things left undone
To hear you say "Well done, my faithful friend, now enter your reward"
Jesus, my Joy, you are the prize I'm running for
Jesus, my Joy, you are the prize I'm running for

You are worthy, worthy of my all You are worthy, worthy of my all What can I give to the Son of God, who gave himself for me Here I am, you are worthy of my all.



Day One—Tuesday, April 10

Theme: God's Glory

Scripture Reflections:

Psalm 2 (read all of it, but especially v. 8) *Ask of me and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.*

Malachi 1:11 My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.

Job 42:1-2 I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

Philippians 2:9-11 God has highly exalted Him (Jesus), and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Isaiah 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'

Psalm 33:10-11The LORD foils the plans of the nations; He thwarts the purposes of the peoples. But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations.

- May God get glory during all of these proceedings. Remind yourself of who God is and
 His promises to make Jesus known to the nations. Praise Him for being our God and
 Savior. Make much of His glory and goodness. Ask that His glory be made known to all
 during this trial in ways we cannot even ask or imagine.
- Celebrate that God is all-powerful in Andrew's situation. His plans stand firm for Andrew's good, and the good of His people in Turkey. God's plans cannot be thwarted.
- Call upon the Lord to fight for His purposes in Turkey and to defend His servant. Ask for the manifestation of Christ's glory.
- Cast all fears on the Lord; give him any "what if" worries you have about Andrew. Be joyful in the Lord who loves and cares for His people.



Day Two—Wednesday, April 11

Theme: Strength and Courage

Scripture Reflections:

Proverbs 10:18 The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous run into it and are safe.

Exodus 14:13-14 Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Lord will fight for you; you need only be still.

2 Chronicles 20:15 *Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the battle is not yours, but God's.*

Hebrews 13:5-6 *I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may say with confidence: The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?*

Psalm 3 But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory and the lifter of my head...I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me. I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.... Salvation belongs to the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:17-18 But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. To Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

- Ask for the presence of Jesus to be Andrew's strong tower in these days of waiting and wondering.
- Ask Jesus to make His presence known to Andrew that he may know that he is not alone. May the Lord give Andrew the clear vision of faith to see and trust the one who is Lord over all this.
- Pray for the Lord to drive away all worry and fear, and to establish deep peace in Andrew during these days of waiting before the trial. Pray for Andrew to be able to keep his mind stayed on the Lord.
- Pray for Andrew's sleep and physical stamina.
- Pray for Andrew using his song (on page 2).
- Pray for God to be glorified.



Day Three—Thursday, April 12

Theme: Andrew's Family

Scripture Reflections:

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, Whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

Hebrews 13:5-6 *I will never leave you nor forsake you. So we may say with confidence: The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?*

Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.

Isaiah 40:10-11 Behold, the Lord God shall come with a strong hand, and His arm shall rule for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His work before Him. He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those who are with young.

Joel 2:25 *So I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten.*

Isaiah 33:5-6 The Lord is exalted, for He dwells on high; He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness. He will be the stability foundation of your times, abundance of salvation, wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the Lord is the key to this treasure.

- Pray for Norine, Jordan, Jacqueline, and Blaise that they would know the peace of Christ in their wait. Pray for the Lord to be the stability of their lives in these times, and for Blaise as he is struggling with his faith.
- Pray for the healing of the losses and the restoring of what has been taken from them with their husband and father being in prison for 18 months.
- Pray for the presence of Jesus to be a source of true joy and deep comfort.
- Pray for the communities around them, in Turkey and the U.S., that the family would be encouraged by fellow believers and that the family would be a testimony to others of faithfulness to the Lord in the midst of injustice.
- Pray for God to be glorified.



Day Four—Friday, April 13

Theme: Spiritual Strongholds

Scripture Reflections:

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Prayers:

In any struggle with others it is easy to demonize people. We must reject that and focus our prayers against the real enemy. 2 Corinthians speaks of demolishing strongholds of the enemy. Strongholds are systems of attitudes, beliefs, expectations, and actions that oppose God's rule seeking to block the message of biblical truth and grace, to remove Christ from view, and to rob people of God's blessings. Pray for the demolishing of strongholds:

- **Stronghold of lies**: This trial takes place in Izmir (ancient Smyrna), a city that has a stronghold of lies attached to it (Revelation 2:8-11). Lies advance the man-centered kingdoms. Lies control and manipulate people and situations. Pray for the exposure and defeat of lies surrounding Andrew's case. Pray for truth encounters, for truth to be revealed and to prevail.
- **Stronghold of Accusation**: Where Andrew has been falsely accused, pray for his protection. Ask that confusion mar the testimonies of witnesses who make false accusations. Pray for honor and blessing to be bestowed on Andrew.
- **Stronghold of Prejudice**: Pray for the casting down of all attitudes of superiority. Reject prejudice against Andrew (because he a Christian and an American). Pray for humility and blessing to be poured out upon him and other Christians in Turkey.
- **Stronghold of Fear**: Fear blocks faith. Confess any fears associated with Andrew's trial: fear of loss, fear of the future. Pray for faith that dispels fear. Rejoice in the hope we have in the Lord. God is Andrew's treasure, hope, defender, and protection. Pray for the manifestation of God's presence.

Are there any other strongholds the Holy Spirit is revealing to you? Proclaim Jesus as Lord over these. Declare again that God is all-powerful in this situation; His plans stand firm for Andrew's good; they cannot be thwarted.

Rejoice in the Lord who loves and cares for His people. Pray for God to be glorified.



Day Five—Saturday, April 14

Theme: Forgiveness

Scripture Reflections:

Luke 6:27-28 But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

1 Peter 3:9 Not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.

Luke 23:34 Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Mark 11:25 *And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.*

Ephesians 4:31-32 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

- Andrew has asked us to pray that he represent Jesus Christ well, with peace, love, and forgiveness. Pray for supernatural love to fill Andrew and that his captors and opponents experience God's love through him.
- Where Andrew and his family have lost so much in time and life together, pray against any spirit of bitterness that could harden them.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill Andrew and help him see any opportunities from the Lord to bless those who curse him.
- Do you need to forgive anyone? Remember, we are not fighting against flesh and blood, but spiritual forces of evil. May God keep us all compassionate toward the lost and toward those who oppose us.
- Pray for God to be glorified.



Day Six—Sunday, April 15

Theme: Gospel Advance

Scripture Reflections:

Acts 4:29-30 Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

Isaiah 60:2-3 (Pray with respect to Jesus' statement that His people are the light of the world, Matthew 5:14) *Darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and His glory will be seen upon you. And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.*

Ephesians 6:18-20 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

- Pray for Andrew that in prison and during this trial he would have opportunities by the hand of God to boldly speak for Jesus.
- Ask God to open doors for the gospel by granting signs and wonders (giving dreams and visitations of Jesus to unbelievers).
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to grant repentance to unbelievers, especially Andrew's accusers.
- Pray that Andrew's hope remains in Jesus and His purposes for the gospel in Turkey.
- Ask the Lord to empower the church in Turkey that believers may live and speak boldly for Jesus. May the Lord so fill His people that others ask the reason for the hope that is in them.
- Pray for God to be glorified.



Day Seven—Monday, April 16

Theme: Trial Day

Scripture Reflections:

Luke 21:12-15,18 They will lay hands on you and persecute you...you will be brought before kings and governors for My names' sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate before hand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. Not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.

2 Timothy 4:17 But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might heart it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth.

Isaiah 34:11 *He shall stretch the line of confusion over it, and the plumb line of emptiness.*

Exodus 14:13-14 Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.

Psalm 44:3 It was not by their sword that they won the land, nor did their arm bring them victory, it was your right hand, your arm, and the light of your face, for you loved them.

2 Chronicles 20:15 *Do not be afraid or discouraged for the battle is not yours, but God's.*

Philippians 2:13 For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purposes.

Psalm 146 (The Lord) executes justice for the oppressed...The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down. The Lord loves the righteous.

Isaiah 54:17 "No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.

- Pray that Andrew be strengthened by the Lord, guarded by the peace of God, and be given words to speak. Pray for him through his song.
- Pray that false allegations articulated against him become confused before the court, and that Andrew's accusers become those who testify to his innocence.
- Pray that Jesus becomes the surprise witness who causes truth to prevail.
- Pray for Andrew's vindication and release.
- Pray for God to be glorified.



A Prayer for Andrew

Gracious Father, Lord of the nations, You are the only wise and good sovereign of our times. We praise you for Your greatness and mercy.

While you have not yet granted what we have asked
—for Andrew's release—
we trust You still, that You are at work in ways
beyond what we can see or understand.

Righteous Father, we bow before Your throne of grace asking that out of Your mercy and grace You would strengthen Andrew. Root and establish him in love, that he may grasp how wide and long and high and deep the love of Christ is for him.

Let Your Word be a spring of living hope, the presence of Jesus an oasis of joy, and the power of the Holy Spirit Andrew's constant source of wisdom and comfort.

Grant him words to speak and the boldness and peace to speak them.

Sustain Andrew in body and mind.
Expose and confuse all the lies that stand against him.
Break the power of evil and cause truth to prevail.
Let accusers become advocates.
Set our brother free.

Cause your gospel to spread widely.
Grant endurance and comfort to Andrew and his family.
Glorify the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom we pray.

Amen.