

Prayer Journal



The Father's Love





How to use this Prayer Journal

Thy Kingdom Come is a worldwide prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost. Since its launch by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016, Christians from 172 countries and 65 denominations have taken part in praying for friends and family to come to faith in Jesus Christ. These days have always been full of expectation and anticipation. As the Lord Jesus ascended, He promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to enable the disciples to be witnesses. As they waited for the promise to be fulfilled they devoted themselves constantly to prayer (Acts 1:14). So, the renewed call across the church is to set these days apart to pray, and each individual to pray for 5 people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

Below is space to write the names of five people that you will be praying for throughout Thy Kingdom Come.

Each day there is a passage from the Bible, a short reflection, a prayer, and a suggestion for action. There is also space each day for your own notes. Did a phrase jump out at you? Did God bring something to your mind as you prayed that day? When you tried to take action, how did it go? Make a note so that you can remember what God has been saying to you through your reading, your prayers, and your actions.

Throughout the journal there are images to help you meditate on each daily theme and inspire you as you read through the passages and make your own notes. We are delighted to include on the cover Charlie Mackesy's illustration of the Prodigal Son, an image that so clearly depicts the Father's love for us.



This is love



Reading:

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

1 Corinthians 13.4-7

Reflection:

Love is lived out. Love is not just a declaration. It is commitment in action. That God feels love for us is absolutely amazing. It is humbling. He's always seeking to shape our lives by His love and he's patient and kind with us.

One thing that God can really challenge us on is whether our Christian lives show something different which is worth living for. If there's nothing that looks particularly necessary or attractive about being a Christian, then what's the point? We should go out of our way to try and demonstrate God to as many people as we can, not just in our prayers but in our actions and in our praise to Him. We should be loving people and full of God's goodness, joy and grace. They may not call it 'God' at the time, but there's something special about you which is your relationship with God. The fruit of that relationship is a loving nature.

Prayer:

Loving God, thank You for the way You love us. Please help me by the power of Your Holy Spirit to love as You love, so that my five people may come to know You.

Action:

In the next few weeks, how could you share the joy and love that we can find in Jesus with one of your 5 friends?

Your Notes:

A series of horizontal lines for taking notes, starting below the 'Your Notes:' header and extending down the right side of the page.

Love is an action word



Reading:

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

1 John 3.16-18

Reflection:

When St John says, ‘Dear children’ he’s speaking to everyone, all the children of God. He says we shouldn’t just say we love people if we’re not doing anything to show that love – that if we have material possessions and yet we don’t show any pity for our brother or sister – how is that love? Not to say that that’s the only way to love people, but that’s a very practical way to love people. How generous are we as Christians? How caring are we as Christians? How hospitable are we as Christians, especially when it is not in our self-interest?

If we don’t act, it’s almost as if we think we deserve to be in a better position because it’s only by God’s grace that we’re not in the position of the one in need. Jesus himself says: ‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ Everything that we do to people, we do as if we do it to Christ.

Prayer:

Loving God, thank You for Your costly love. Please may my five friends understand something of the strength of Your love for them. Help us to use our resources well.

Action:

How could you use what you already have to show others how alive and active the love of Jesus is?

Your Notes:

Horizontal lines for writing notes.

Space to write and draw



Join the global wave of prayer:
www.thykingdomcome.global

The Prodigal Son - Charlie Mackesy © Used by permission.
Page 3 Photography - Hole in a Box

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