

Battle Plan, week 3

This is our fourth weekend of gathering “on-line”. Each week has seen increasing disruption of our routines, growth of the viral infection, and deepening economic instability.

We are also witnesses to a dramatic increase in prayer, much greater openness to Jesus in the public square, and an entirely new valuation of “gathering in Jesus’ name.”

Additionally, we see God’s involvement in many ways. The spread of the disease is less than projected, science & medicine are making strides in understanding, and our view of globalization is being tempered with truth. All of these are the result of God’s involvement on our behalves.

God is disciplining His people in the midst of this crisis. Let us respond in humility and openness to His direction.

Weekly Reading Assignment: Acts of the Apostles

Prayers: (Weeks 1 & 2 Battle Plans are included in this document.)

Let’s return to our hourly prayers. I will add some new prayers along with the “daily video updates.” You may interchange them with the original list of 7, or leave the list intact—your choice.

Build two Lists: (It will help if you listen to Sat. 4 pm sermon.)

- 1) of all that God has done for you . . .
- 2) of all that God has done for our nation . . .

Do not list your “favorite things” --- You gave me a corvette or my favorite shoes. Spend some time, and think about what a Sovereign God has done on your behalf:

A List of 10 – 20 divine interventions

Galatians 6:9 (NIV®)

“⁹ Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

Battle Plan, week 1

We are in a battle, and we need a plan to respond to the aggression of our adversary. Let us commit ourselves to seek the Lord and ask Him to look upon us in mercy and kindness.

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV®)

“⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God ... he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”

1) Prayer Every Hour, On the Hour

- ❖ Seven prayers included: If you are awake for 14 hours, they can be repeated twice each day.
- ❖ New prayers will be added as opportunities emerge.

2) Read the Gospels this Week (each week until Easter)

- ❖ An expression of humility
- ❖ A demonstration of a desire to learn
- ❖ Ask the Holy Spirit to help you.
- ❖ Get out a note pad.
- ❖ Stand in the crowd and listen to Jesus --- how would you have responded????

Hourly Prayers

Prayer #1 ---The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed by your name,

Your Kingdom come,

Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever, amen.

Prayer #2 ---prayer for those in authority

Heavenly Father, we pray for our leaders---for all those in authority---our president, our governors,

the leaders of our cities and towns---give them wisdom and understanding from You. Direct their

decisions that we might live peaceful lives in godliness and holiness. Grant us a spirit of unity and

cooperation. Silence the voices of division and hate. We are a land in need of healing. We have

accepted your great blessings and enjoyed your protection but in our pride we have declared

ourselves the source of these divine gifts. Forgive us of our pride, our arrogance and our idolatry. As

your people we know you are a God of justice but also a God of great mercy and forgiveness. We

come today in humility to acknowledge our sin and to repent before You. May your name be exalted

and your Word honored across our nation --- in the churches, in our homes, in our classrooms, in our

courtrooms and throughout our government. In Jesus' name, amen.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NIV)

¹ I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- ² for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. ³ This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

Psalms 33:12 (NIV)

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance.

Prayer #3 ---Daniel's Prayer

O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey

his commands, we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have

turned away from your commands and laws. We have not listened to your direction. Now, O Lord our

God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servants. For your sake, O Lord, look with favor on your

people. Give ear and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of our day. We do not make

requests because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive!

O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, do not delay, because your people bear your name, amen.

Prayer #4 ----Blessing not Curse

Almighty God, you are right in all your judgments and in your great love you discipline. We acknowledge your sovereignty and authority over our lives. Forgive us for our disrespect and indifference. You are our Creator and the One who gives us breath. Look once again upon us in mercy and deliver us from this virus and all that has arrived with it. Give us the wisdom and perseverance to see this pestilence turned back. Do not forsake us, let us once again see the blessings of God upon our lives and our land, in Jesus name, amen.

Deuteronomy 28:2-3 (NASB)

² "All these blessings will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the LORD your God: ³ "Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.

2 Samuel 24:15-16 (NASB)

¹⁵ So the LORD sent a pestilence upon Israel from the morning until the appointed time, and seventy thousand men of the people from Dan to Beersheba died. ¹⁶ When the angel stretched out his hand toward Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD relented from the calamity and said to the angel who destroyed the people, "It is enough! Now relax your hand!"

Psalm 91:3, 5-6, 7, 9-10 (NIV)

³ Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence.

⁵ You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, ⁶ nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness, nor the plague that destroys at midday.

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

⁹ If you make the Most High your dwelling-- even the LORD, who is my refuge-- ¹⁰ then no harm will befall you, no disaster will come near your tent.

Prayer #5 ---healing prayer

Heavenly Father, you are rich in mercy and delight in showing grace. Look upon us now in kindness and pour healing upon our land. Restore health to those who are suffering and heal our wounds. May the spirit of death and destruction be turned back. Give strength, protection and wisdom to those who are caring for the sick. Awaken us once again the awareness of Your presence and provision --- for it is only in You that we have security and wholeness. It is you who saves and heals, we rejoice in the God of our salvation, in Jesus' name, amen.

Psalm 103:2-3 (NIV)

² Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-- ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

Jeremiah 30:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD, 'because you are called an outcast, Zion for whom no one cares.'

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions--it is by grace you have been saved.

Prayer #6 ---Unity

Heavenly Father, deliver us from the curse of confusion and division. We repent of our sin of independence and rebellion. May all those who seek to divide and agitate be silenced. We humbly submit to your authority and Lordship. By your Spirit unite us again in faith, in purpose and in love. Forgive us for our selfish ambition and relentless pursuit of pleasure. Teach us again to stand together in the power and love of the truth of Jesus Christ. May His name be exalted throughout our land, in Jesus' name, amen.

John 17:20-21 (NASB)

²⁰ "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; ²¹ that they may all be one;

Philippians 2:1-4 (NIV)

¹ If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then **make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.** ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Deuteronomy 28:20 (NIV)

²⁰ The LORD will send on you curses, confusion and rebuke in everything you put your hand to, until you are destroyed and come to sudden ruin because of the evil you have done in forsaking him.

Prayer #7 ---Thanksgiving & Praise

Heavenly Father, we give praise to you today for you are worthy. You created the earth and all that is in it. You give us life and set our feet on paths of righteousness. We give thanks to you because you have chosen us and called us out of the darkness. You have forgiven our sins and restored our souls. You and you alone deserve glory and honor and praise. Let all the earth be filled with the praises of our God. Let the Name of Jesus be lifted up once again across our land ---on campuses, in courtrooms, throughout the halls of government, within our homes, from our pulpits ---may the praises of God break forth, amen.

Psalms 7:17 (NIV)

¹⁷ I will give thanks to the LORD because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

Revelation 11:17 (NIV)

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign.

1 Chronicles 16:8-12 (NIV)

⁸ Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. ⁹ Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. ¹⁰ Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice. ¹¹ Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always. ¹² Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

2 Samuel 22:47-50 (NIV)

⁴⁷ "The LORD lives! Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God, the Rock, my Savior! ⁴⁸ He is the God who avenges me, who puts the nations under me, ⁴⁹ who sets me free from my enemies. You exalted me above my foes; from violent men you rescued me. ⁵⁰ Therefore I will praise you, O LORD, among the nations; I will sing praises to your name.

Battle Plan, week 2

Every good plan must be adjusted in response to opportunities which present. Your faithfulness last week has prepared us to take another step of faith. United in prayer and heart, we will see God's response.

1. Begin our day with a Proclamation of Faith
2. Conclude our day with a Commitment to Truth
3. Read this week: Daniel, Esther, Nehemiah
(taking extra time in the Word of God will add strength)
4. Pray as the Lord reminds you, we will revisit our hourly prayers in the weeks ahead. The change of pace will expand our tool kit.

thank you for your diligence
aj

A Proclamation of Faith

Stanza #1 --- A Sovereign God & His People

God has uniquely blessed us --- the best is yet to come.

The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

He is the sovereign creator of all things.

Nothing is too difficult for Him, His love sustains us.

Jesus, His only son, is our savior, Lord & King.

We live in a season of shaking. God is shaking the earth.

He is restoring the Jewish people and purifying His Church.

If we look at the things which can be shaken we will be filled with terror.

If we look at the eternal Kingdom of our Lord, we will be filled with anticipation.

Our determination as we gather today is to declare before one another & Almighty God

WE WILL NOT STOP.

Isaiah 59:1 (NIV)

¹ Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.

Nehemiah 9:5-6 (NIV)

"Stand up and praise the LORD your God, who is from everlasting to everlasting." "Blessed be your glorious name, and may it be exalted above all blessing and praise. ⁶ You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.

Stanza #2 --- Faith & Perseverance

We are not satisfied.

We are not distracted.

We are not weary in doing good.

We are not discouraged.

We have our eyes on the cross and our hearts set on the prize.

We believe the One who has promised is Faithful.

We believe the Holy Spirit is our Helper.

We believe that what we ask in Jesus' name our Father provides.

We believe that the King of Kings is returning to the earth in all of His glory ---
and we intend to be about His business until that moment in time.

WE WILL NOT STOP.

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Hebrews 6:12 (NIV)

¹² We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

1 Timothy 6:12 (NIV)

¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called . . .

Philippians 3:12 (NIV)

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Hebrews 12:2-3 (NIV)

² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Stanza #3 --- Jesus our Savior, Lord & King

We have cast our lot with the Prince of Peace,
We have yielded our will to the Lord of Lords,
We are servants of the King,
We reflect the beauty of the Lily of the Valley,
We stand in the strength of the Lion of Judah,
We live in health through the Great Physician,
Our needs are met because He is Our Abundance.
We know our path because we follow the Great Shepherd,
We are participants in the Kingdom of God because we found THE Door,
We are righteous because of His Sacrifice,
We have taken hold of true life because He is risen.
His name is Jesus of Nazareth, He is Christ, our Lord & our King.

WE WILL NOT STOP.

Psalms 23:1 (NIV)

¹ The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

John 10:9 (NKJV)

⁹ I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

Revelation 5:12-13 (NIV)

"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!" ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Psalms 103:2-3 (NIV)

² Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits-- ³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

Stanza #4 --- The Church

We believe The Church is His Body.
Our presence on planet earth is ordained by Almighty God.
We are empowered by Spirit of the Living Christ.
The angels are ministering Spirits sent forth on our behalf.
Our reward is sure.
Our inheritance is unfading.
Our treasure is secure ---it will not diminish.
Our role is pivotal.
Our faithfulness is required.
Together we stand, united in heart and purpose to accomplish the purposes of God in our generation.

WE WILL NOT STOP.

Matthew 16:18 (NIV)

I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Revelation 1:20 (NIV)

²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.

Matthew 6:20 (NIV)

²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

Hebrews 11:26 (NIV)

²⁶ He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

Hebrews 6:12 (NIV)

¹² We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Stanza #5 --- The Faithfulness of God

We know not all will go with us; the journey is long, there is a price to pay.

We are aware of an adversary.

We wrestle with the inconsistency of our own hearts.

We weep for the pain and suffering around us.

Our plans are made, our course is charted & our heart is fixed.

The one who promised is Faithful.

The author of our faith is also the completer of our story.

His strength is sufficient.

His wisdom is unassailable.

His presence is permanent.

His joy is our strength.

WE WILL NOT STOP.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV)

⁶ Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Hebrews 10:23 (NIV)

²³ Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Habakkuk 3:19 (NIV)

¹⁹ The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to go on the heights.

Nehemiah 8:10 (NIV)

This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

I Choose the Truth . . .

My choice is to be a disciple of Jesus Christ, to live for His honor. Father, I pray that I may know the truth. I choose your freedom in my life, for my family and in my home.

John 8:31-32

To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. [32] Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Lord, guide me in your truth. May my entire family be led by your truth.

Psalm 25:5

guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

May I continually walk in your truth – in my marriage, in my business, in all of my relationships, throughout my entire life.

Psalm 26:3

for your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in your truth.

Psalm 43:3

Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me;

Father, wherever I may have strayed from your truth, teach me. My desire is to walk before you in truth. Wherever my heart is divided, teach me to fear your name.

Psalm 86:11

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Psalm 119:30

I have chosen the way of truth; I have set my heart on your laws.

I thank you that you hear my prayers, that you are attentive to my life, that I am not alone.

Psalm 145:18

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

I choose to invest my life, my resources, my energy – all that I am, in the pursuit of your truth. Father, bring wisdom, discipline and understanding to my life.

Proverbs 23:23

Buy the truth and do not sell it; get wisdom, discipline and understanding.

Father, I choose to be led by your Spirit of Truth. Help me to recognize His leading, to discern His voice, to understand His direction. My desire is to honor the Spirit of Truth in my life.

John 14:17

the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 15:26

"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

John 16:13

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

I pray that I would in no way suppress the truth. In my home and life may your truth have free reign – in Jesus' name may godlessness and wickedness be cast out and truth be triumphant.

Romans 1:18

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness

May your truth find full expression in my life, my home and my family. Direct my steps that I may obey your truth and grow up into all you created me for. I choose to stand firmly with the belt of truth in place in my life. Thank you for your truth and the freedom it is bringing into my life.

1 Cor. 13:6

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

Galatians 5:7

You were running a good race. Who cut in on you and kept you from obeying the truth?

Ephes. 4:15

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

Ephes. 6:14

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,