

Weekly Prayer Letter

Week of 14 February 2021

Not My Will But Yours Be Done

Matthew 16: 21-24

It was shocking news when Jesus foretold His death to His disciples and that He would be raised again on the third day – an anti-climax to their conviction because they had acknowledged through Peter that Jesus was their long-awaited Messiah. If Jesus could not save Himself, how could He save others? Furthermore, who could return from death? And why must Jesus die? Like the other disciples, Peter had his own understanding of what a Messiah should be like, one who exemplifies power, establishing His rule in Israel, definitely not as a defeated servant to accomplish the purpose of God. Jesus had to rebuke Peter for discouraging Him to go to the cross; an opposition to God's plan.

Jesus's suffering and death was a necessity because the wages of sin is death and His willingness to die is an expression of the amazing love of God toward man. Jesus was submissive to the will of God – to be pierced for man's transgressions and crushed for his iniquities. Jesus was obedient to the will of God – taking up His cross and He was willing to follow God's agenda and not His own. Verse 21 says, "From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised" and this was what Isaiah 53:3-12 predicted. Jesus endured the cross, disregarding its shame because of the joy set before Him (Heb. 12:2). This proves that Jesus is indeed the Messiah who can save the world from the wrath of God. Henceforth, go and tell others about it because whoever believes in Him will be saved.

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Prayer Pointers

1. Pray that Faith members will be united in the Spirit to stand together during this time of the pandemic and avail ourselves at every given opportunity to be the "voice" of the Good News so that the hearers will have the salvation of God and the hope to face the challenging times.
2. Pray that the Name of Jesus Christ will be lifted high at the **Mandarin Ministry's evangelistic service** on Sunday 14 Feb. Pray for an overflowing of the God's love and outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all present that there will be a bountiful harvest of souls into the kingdom of Light.
3. Pray for the nations:
 - **Myanmar** - The Lord Almighty is in control of the current situation in Myanmar; pray that the people will not react with hostility and violence, that the people will put the nation before self for reconciliation and pray that there will be a united spirit among the people to work for the betterment of the country.
 - **Hong Kong** - Compulsory testing for COVID-19 has been carried out in restricted areas as part of the government's strategy for the containment of the transmission and it is causing inconveniences to the people. Pray for a smooth execution of this exercise, the co-operation of the people affected and the protection of the health and law enforcement workers.
 - **Malaysia** - Pray that the Lord will put a stop to the resurgence of the COVID-19 cases in Malaysia and grant wisdom to the relevant authorities to handle this sudden spike in cases and to carry out their vaccination programme systematically.
 - **Israel** - Pray that the Lord will grant tenacity to the government to execute the enforcement of safety measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus and that the citizens will be co-operative to abide by the rules.

4. Pray the Lord will remind the Christians in Singapore of the urgency of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ within the nation and beyond to reap a great harvest of souls into the kingdom of Light as the day of the Lord draws nearer.
5. Pray that Christians around the world will work together to accelerate proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to reach every tribe, every nation and every peoples group and that the spread of the Gospel will go without hindrances and with speed for the glory of God.

We Are Here For You!

- Perhaps you are going through a challenging time, and you need someone to pray with you, our pastoral team is here and ready to journey with you.
- Even though we may not be able to be with you in person, we can still reach you via telephone and other means.
- You may submit any Prayer Requests online via our church website at <https://www.faithmc.sg/care-help/prayer-requests/>.