

# FOCUSED LIVING PRAYER March-April 2016



“The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”

Psalm 34:18

“The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.”

Psalm 51:17

**Kintsugi!** No, it's not the Japanese word used after someone sneezes. It is a powerful word meaning **"to patch with gold"** and is an art which involves restoring broken vessels. The end product is far more beautiful and valuable than the original. We live in a

broken world. Ruined relationships. Destroyed dreams. Disintegrating bodies. Failed promises. Corrupt governments. Shattered lives. Fragmented futures (Gen 3:6-24; Rom 1:18-25; 3:10-23). Men will go to great lengths to hide, ignore, deny, conceal, lie about, medicate or run from their brokenness. But our great God is the King of Kintsugi! He is the Master of restoring, redeeming, reconciling, reuniting, rebuilding, recovering and repairing that which is broken. And He does it all not with gold but with grace. Peter must've taken a few Kintsugi classes in his day for he confessed his brokenness and understood that only Jesus could patch his life with grace “not with perishable things such as silver or gold...but with the precious blood of Christ” (1 Pt 1:18-19). Men, by His grace, **our Father can restore anything that is broken provided He has all the pieces and parts!** Bring your brokenness to the Master and wait for Him in faith.



*A special thanks to Perry's life-long friend, Toby Lyons, who has this kintsugi vase on his business card as a constant reminder of his brokenness and desperate need for Christ!*

## Ministry Prayer & Praise

**NEW STAFF** German Wright (Sandra), an active member of the Thursday AM forum and pastor of Daily Living Ministries Christian Fellowship, is partnering with Focused Living to help us expand our outreach to men in Columbia! Pray that this partnership would make Jesus' name great in the City. (Look for a bio on German next month!)

**FORUMS** Pray for us as we teach and preach the Kintsugi message of our King Jesus to every man who will listen throughout our city, state and nation. **ALL IN** would become the heartbeat of each man's life with God. Young men!

**OUTREACH** Pray for the men who will attend the **Advance 2** on **March 10-11**. Pray that many churchgoing men would be converted to genuine followers of Jesus. Pray for continued follow-up with flood victims. Pray that God would have His way in the formation of the mission teams for this summer: Belize (**5/29 – 6/2**) and Guatemala (**7/9 – 7/16**).

**DISCIPLESHIP** Pray for Perry, David and German as they seek God's direction for this next season. Specifically, what couple of ministry vehicles will help men become 5-finger men reproducing others. (see Hand)

**DAYBREAK** Still praying that God would raise up men to close the “coverage gaps” in our calendar. Pray as we follow up the young men to whom we have already shared/proclaimed the Gospel.

**FINANCES** We continue to praise God for his faithful provision. We start the year on a solid financial foundation!

## CALENDAR

**March 20** – Core Meeting

**April 10** – Andes preaching communion service at Crossroads

**April 3** - Perry preaching along with communion at Grace Point.

**Every Sunday** German Wright preaches at Daily Living Ministries which is a church the Lord started through him.



## Bowers' Family Prayer

**Perry** – He would continue to live out his Focus Word for 2016 - "praise" - so that he would focus more on Christ and less on himself. Way too much 'Perry' in his life! Continue to build relationship in his new 'fishing holes' of men who desperately need Christ. i.e. mountain biking!

**Janet** - Janet - daily communion in prayer. Many hurting to pray for BUT I don't want to forget to praise God and listen to Him in the midst.

**Joy & Eddie** – Consistency in parenting as the children grow so rapidly. Eddie's travels with work. Joy adding a small part time job to her plate. Wisdom in their need to be generous.

**Megan & Marc** – Praise for good health thus far through winter. Consistency in parenting. Clarity as Marc and co-worker present a paper for MSU in Indiana March 11-12.

## Andes' Family Prayer

**David** – Desiring to be more aware of when I am living out of my new heart (2Core 5:17; John 3:and when I am living out of my flesh. Also, continue to pray that God would lead me to just the right F.A.T. guys to invest in this year and direct me how to spend time with them.

**Katherine** – Pray for wisdom and energy in walking the path of all that is involved with the maze of helping a child with special needs transition to life after high school. Desire to embrace this and not dread it. Daily embrace and claim God's promises as I focus on His character.

**Austin(17)** – Prayer for wisdom on the right medicine (and dosage) for Austin's attention. Pray for wisdom as we partner with Austin to plan the final year(s) of high school. Also, two special Olympic Tennis Tournaments and Two proms in 2 months!

**Cameron(13)** – Pray that Cameron would finish his 7<sup>th</sup> grade year well, taking to heart the life lessons about responsibility. Also, one of his best friends since he was 2 years old is moving out of our neighborhood in April.