

FOCUSED LIVING PRAYER Feb - Mar 2018



I (Perry) confess that while attending the University of Maryland I was somewhat embarrassed to graduate from a school that chose a terrapin as their mascot. Whose brilliant idea was it anyway that a turtle could ever *intimidate* opponents in sports, *instill* confidence to achieve great heights or *inspire* to pursue worthy goals? But my attitude forever changed after hearing, “**Behold, the turtle moves forward only by sticking out its neck!**” Now, forty six years later I am making the same daily decision I did back in 1972 as a young follower of Christ at U of Md. Will I stick my neck out trusting God to faithfully abide, guide and provide or will I retreat to the comfort and selfishness of my shell? Will I bask in the ease of the shallow kiddies' pool or risk leaping into my Father's arms at the deep end to live out His call on my

life by faith? Will I gamble the costly sacrifice of going all in for my Jesus Who gave His all for me at the Cross or will I give just enough to get by, settling for the stagnation of the status quo? **In what specific way is the Lord asking you to stick your neck out to move forward in faith?**

The apostles said to the Lord, “**Increase our faith!**” Luke 17:5

“Immediately they **dropped their nets** and followed Him.” Mark 1:18

“**Without faith** it is impossible to please Him...” Heb 11:6

“I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live **by faith in the Son of God**, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.” Gal 2:20

“I know the One in whom I **trust**, and I am sure that **He is able** to guard what I have **entrusted** to Him until the day of His return.” II Tim 1:12

Ministry Prayer & Praise

25 YEAR CELEBRATION This one year experiment called Focused Living is celebrating 25 years! Join us in celebrating the fruit that He has born and is bearing in the lives of men in Columbia and beyond. If you'd like to celebrate in person, see the details of our anniversary event scheduled for **Saturday, April 14th 6-8:30pm. www.focusedliving.com**

FORUMS As we continue our theme of ‘spiritual warfare’ please pray that Christ's men would stand firm in the faith, put on the full armor of God and learn how to use the sword of the Spirit (God's truth) as they fight the invisible war by faith.

GRIP DISCIPLESHIP Pray especially for our ‘Shepherds’ (table leaders) as they lead 6-8 men in this spring season of discipleship. We have 112 spiritually hungry men actively building one another up in Christ. Pray as they hold each other accountable to specific areas of life.

DAYBREAK Our hearts are broken weekly but we continue to pray that starting with God's men they would be severely convicted to value life in a culture of death with abortion on demand. Only 50% of God's men disagree with abortion!

FINANCES *You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing (Ps 145:16).* God has opened His hand and provided ALL of our needs in 2017! We gratefully acknowledge His abundant provision as we end another ministry year in the black.

You Are Invited
**SATURDAY
14TH APRIL, 2018**

>> focusedliving

**GREAT IS
THY
FAITHFULNESS!**

**25TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION**

The Core Brothers of Focused Living Ministries invite you to join us for an evening celebrating God's awesome faithfulness.

Columbia Conference Center
169 Laurelhurst Ave. Columbia, SC 29210
6:00-8:30pm

Your Spouse or Date is Welcome
Dinner Provided. Corporate Casual.
RSVP Required by March 23rd
www.focusedliving.com

Recommended \$10 per person to help to defray costs.
This is not a fundraising event.

CORE Praise for the sweet fellowship during our February Core Couples retreat. We had 12 couples attend! And praise for the unity of Spirit that pervades our discussions and deliberations as a board of this ministry.

CALENDAR

Sundays German Wright preaches at Daily Living Ministries (DLM).

March 25 Perry preaches at Columbia's Chinese Church with Kunming Su.

April 14 FLM celebrates 25 years of God's faithfulness. Come join us.

April 27-30 Perry and Robby Buck speak at Village 7's men's discipleship conference in Colorado Springs.

GRIP Discipleship season Feb 29-May 7. Pray for the 112 men involved.

Bowers' Family Prayer

Perry – Pray that I would be faithful to obediently live out the Grip Action points God has put on my heart for which I am being held accountable. Ask that I learn (again) to put others (family and friends) first so that the idol of selfishness could be destroyed. Praise for joy and peace during stress filled ministry opportunities.

Janet – Regardless of failures and lapses, I want to journal in my time with Jesus. Sooo....Perseverance is my request Thankful I've remained well thus far through this flu season. May that continue. A focus on "lifting Jesus" in all plans for FLM 25th anniversary banquet.

Joy & Eddie Centurion - discerning and grace-filled parenting for Lulu (11), Ezra (9), Zeq (7) & Elenor (5). Energy to persevere in that role.

Megan & Marc Hunsaker - Grace filled parenting with Hannah (7) & Logan (4). Perseverance for Marc as writing his dissertation ensues.

Andes' Family Prayer

David and Katherine– Pray that our parenting efforts would be fueled from Jesus living in us. Discernment in how to help David's dad who has not be home since Nov 13 due to health issues.

Austin(19) – We rejoice that Austin has pretty much been restored to his normal self after the raging and hallucinations and broken hand from this past fall.

Cameron(15) – We continue to pray that Cameron would come to value meaningful and positive friendships as he navigates the High School years.

Wright Family Prayer

Requests:

Church growth

Leadership Development

Personal Getaway time

Son Caleb- full time employment

Praises:

Our church is growing.

Our faith is growing.

German's smile is growing!

Stice Family Prayer

Praises: I got a part time job cleaning windows to help with income/paying for school. Wife started school to be a nurse practitioner and is doing well! Taking new men through GRIP who are going through Bible for first time in their lives and growing! Hosting a community group with our church and building a good friend-base there.

Prayer requests: Managing both of our schedules with so much going on. Continuing to share the Gospel with our neighbor. Managing finances. Continuing to develop good communication habits in our marriage.

Reed Family Prayer

God's continued wisdom and grace as we disciple others and lead our family.