



KINGDOM COME PRAYER

An invitation from Alpha to pray for
the church and the world.





3 days of prayer

January 8-10, you are joining thousands of people across the country to pray around the clock for each other, the Church, and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit.

We long to see more people than ever before discover and develop a relationship with Jesus. This year, churches, organizations and individuals all around the country will be launching Alpha and Alpha Youth, inviting their communities to explore faith. For three days, we want to concentrate our prayers together and pray for God's Kingdom to come. We are praying for depth in three areas: The love of God, unity in our Kingdom diversity, and a renewed urgency to share our faith.

We are excited to pray with you! If you'd like to invite others to pray, simply share: alphausa.org/kingdomcome

Invite God's Presence

Worship

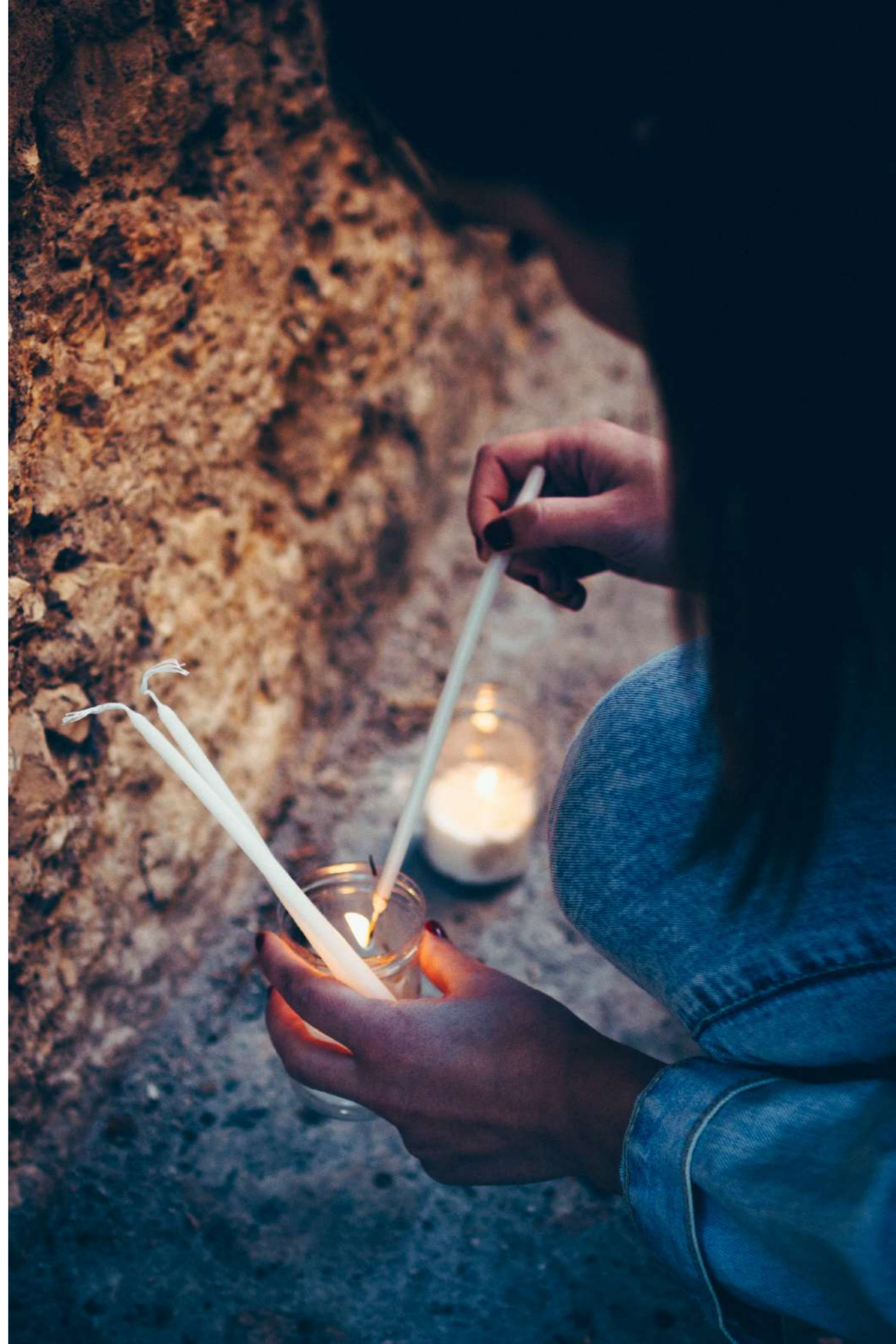
Enjoy a great simple worship song or two. Here are two great suggestions: Passion - God, You're So Good; or for Alpha Youth, BUILD MY LIFE by Housefires.

Presence

Lead with the most ancient of prayers by simply saying the words, "Come Holy Spirit" and then waiting for a couple minutes with expectation and anticipation of how God is going to use this time.

Adoration

On the next page, read aloud these verses from Revelation 4 and 5, a dramatic scene of worship. As we pray for God's Kingdom to come, let us begin with an awareness of the worship taking place in heaven.





Grateful Praise

“Day after day and night after night they keep on saying, ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come...’”

Rev 4:8

And they lay their crowns before the throne and say, 11 “You are worthy, O Lord our God to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things and they exist because you created what you pleased.”

Rev 4:11

Then I looked again, and I heard the voices of thousands and millions of angels around the throne and of the living beings and the elders. 12 And they sang in a mighty chorus: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered—to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.”

Rev 5:11,12

13 And then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea. They sang: “Blessing and honor and glory and power belong to the one sitting on the throne and to the Lamb forever and ever.”

Rev 5:13



Confession

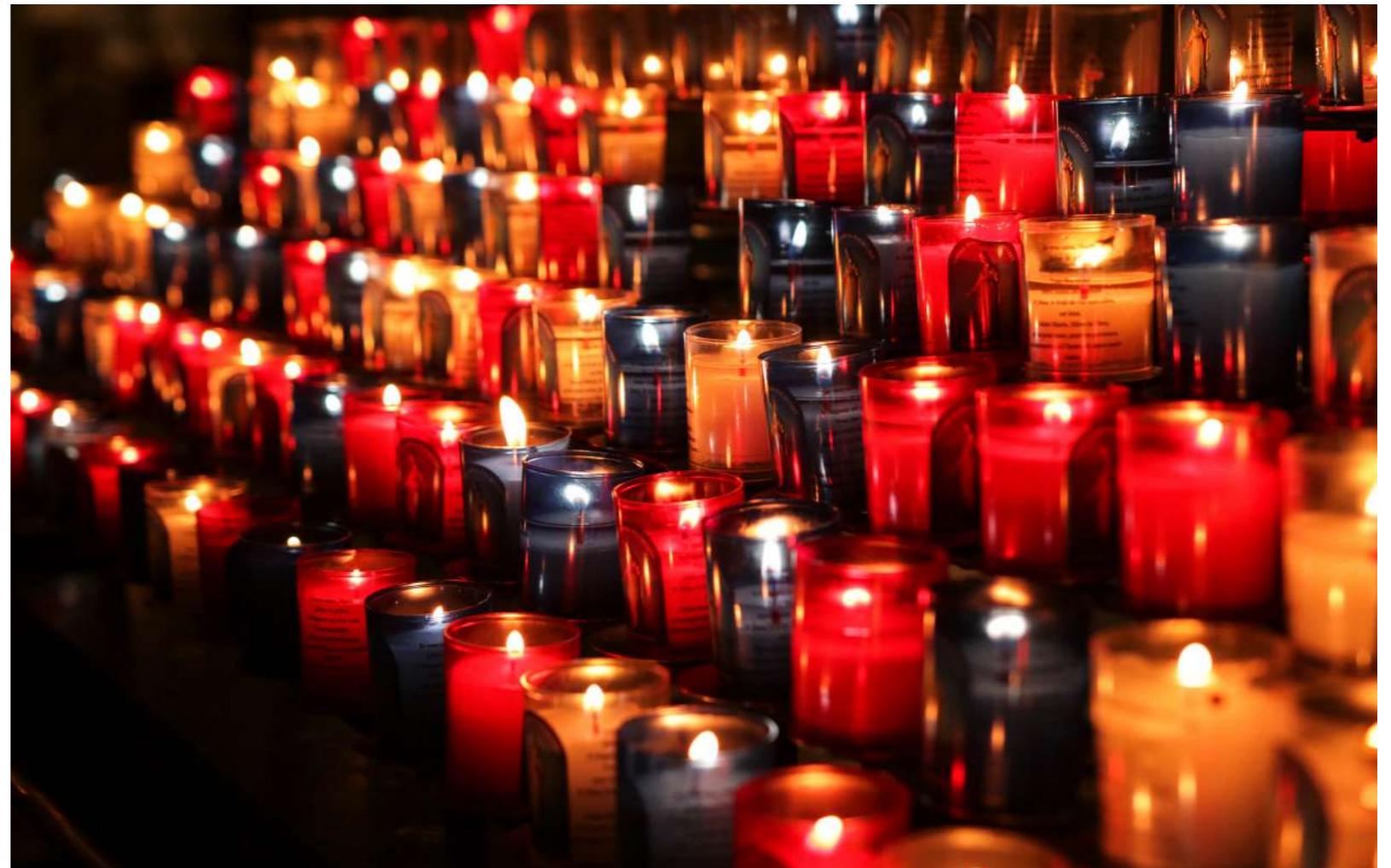
Take a moment to get your heart right with God by confessing anything that has come between you and God and/or an area of your life where you are not living out God's best for you.

"Lord, we need your forgiveness. As we gather to worship and praise you, it would not be right for us to acknowledge your holiness and ignore our sinfulness. We confess in the words of the prophet Isaiah that we are a sinful people and we live amongst sinful people. We confess that we need you."

We confess the ways that we have not loved others. We confess that we haven't treated others the way we want to be treated, and we haven't forgiven others the way you have forgiven us. Lord forgive us.

We confess that we have fought to be understood over trying to understand others in the Church for our selfish desire of being right. Lord forgive us.

We confess that we have not trusted you with every aspect of our lives; our friendships, our future, and/or our family. Lord forgive us.



"6 If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

1 John 1: 6-9



1. More Love

“Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.”

Colossians 3:12-14

“We know what real love is because Jesus gave up His life for us. So we also ought to give up our lives for our brothers and sisters. If someone has enough money to live well and sees a brother or sister in need but shows no compassion, how can God’s love be in that person? Dear children, let’s not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God.”

1 John 3:16-19

“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself. ‘All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:36-40

What stood out to you from these passages?

What would you like to do differently because of what stood out to you from these passages?

The word for hospitality in the Greek is a combination of two words: philo, which means love, and xenos, which means stranger; literally, philoxenos means to love the stranger. That is the opposite of xenophobia (fear of the stranger).

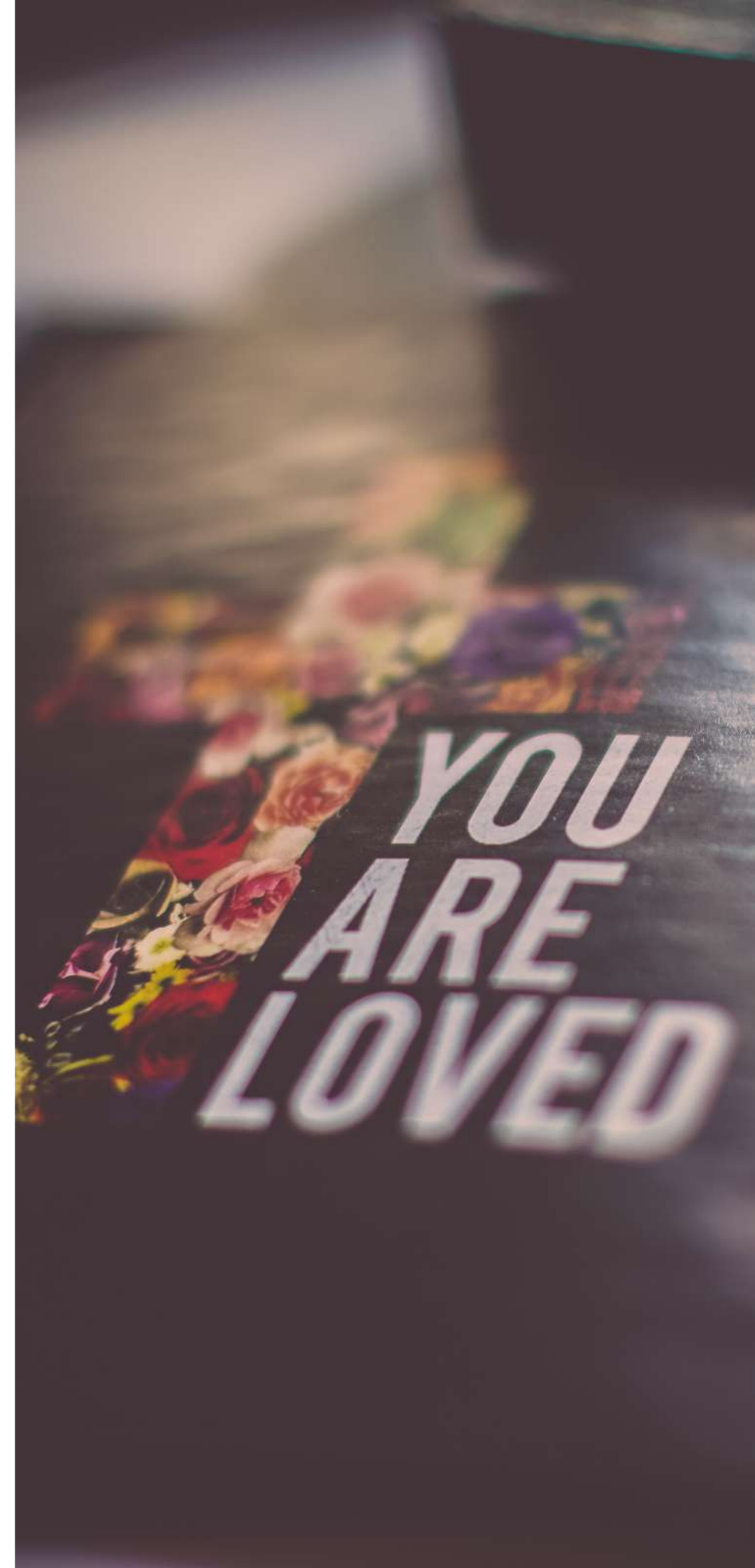
Pray that we would be defined by philoxenos, not xenophobia.

Pray against whatever exists that causes us to be unloving. List them out here:

Pray that our churches and communities would be defined by love for the stranger.

Ask God to give you deeper reservoirs of love to help and serve a broken world.

Pray that God would “clothe” you and your church with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.





2. Unity in our Kingdom Diversity

The Kingdom of God is inspiringly diverse, yet the Church is disturbingly divided. As we pray for God's Kingdom to come, let us pray specifically for the strength of the diversity of the Kingdom of God to be present. We must pray against the spiritual forces of racism that have scarred the body of Christ in our country. We must pray that God would fill His Church with visible love so that she can inspire the world as to what the diverse unity of the Kingdom of God looks like. Lord may your Kingdom come!

Give thanks to God for the diversity of His Church that represents so many different tribes, tongues and nations.

List out the different things that divide God's church: spend a few minutes and write out a lament for how racism has divided so many communities and does not reflect the Kingdom of God.



Pray for...

Unity within the Church. Pray specifically for the end to any divisions or conflicts within the Church. Pray for your church leaders to have hearts set on the fruit of unity that comes from the Holy Spirit.

Pray that God would remove any walls of division from your church, whether by attitude, systemic ignorance, or willfulness.

Think of churches by name in your community that you can pray for and ask God to revitalize them and make them fruitful beyond measure.

Pray for the Church across our country with all of its divisions. Pray that we would begin to experience the unity that God desires for His church.

Lord, we lament how your church is divided against herself. Would you please bring health, healing, and humility to restore the unity that comes from your Kingdom. Would you pour the oil of harmony on her head to anoint her and unify her to a world that longs to see you! Lord, we pray that our churches would look here on earth, just as they do in heaven; places of belonging for people from every tongue, tribe and nation.





3. A Renewed Passion to Share our Faith

“You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can **you** make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world-like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead a lamp is placed on a stand where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your Heavenly Father.”

Matthew 5: 13-16

“For **we must all** stand before Christ to be judged. We will each receive whatever we deserve for the good or evil we have done in this earthly body. Because we understand our fearful responsibility to the Lord, we work hard to persuade others. God knows we are sincere, and I hope you know this, too.”

2 Corinthians 5:10,11

“I **urge** you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants **everyone** to be saved and to understand the truth.”

1 Timothy 2:1-4

Spend a few minutes to pray...

Give thanks for the person or people who helped you discover and develop a relationship with Jesus.

Ask God to give you His heart for people. Ask Him specifically to increase your personal sense of urgency to share the hope you have with others.

Who are some of your friends and family who don't yet know Jesus?

Pray opportunities for faith to be shared with them either from us or others.

For invitations to Alpha to be accepted and for guests to explore questions of faith.

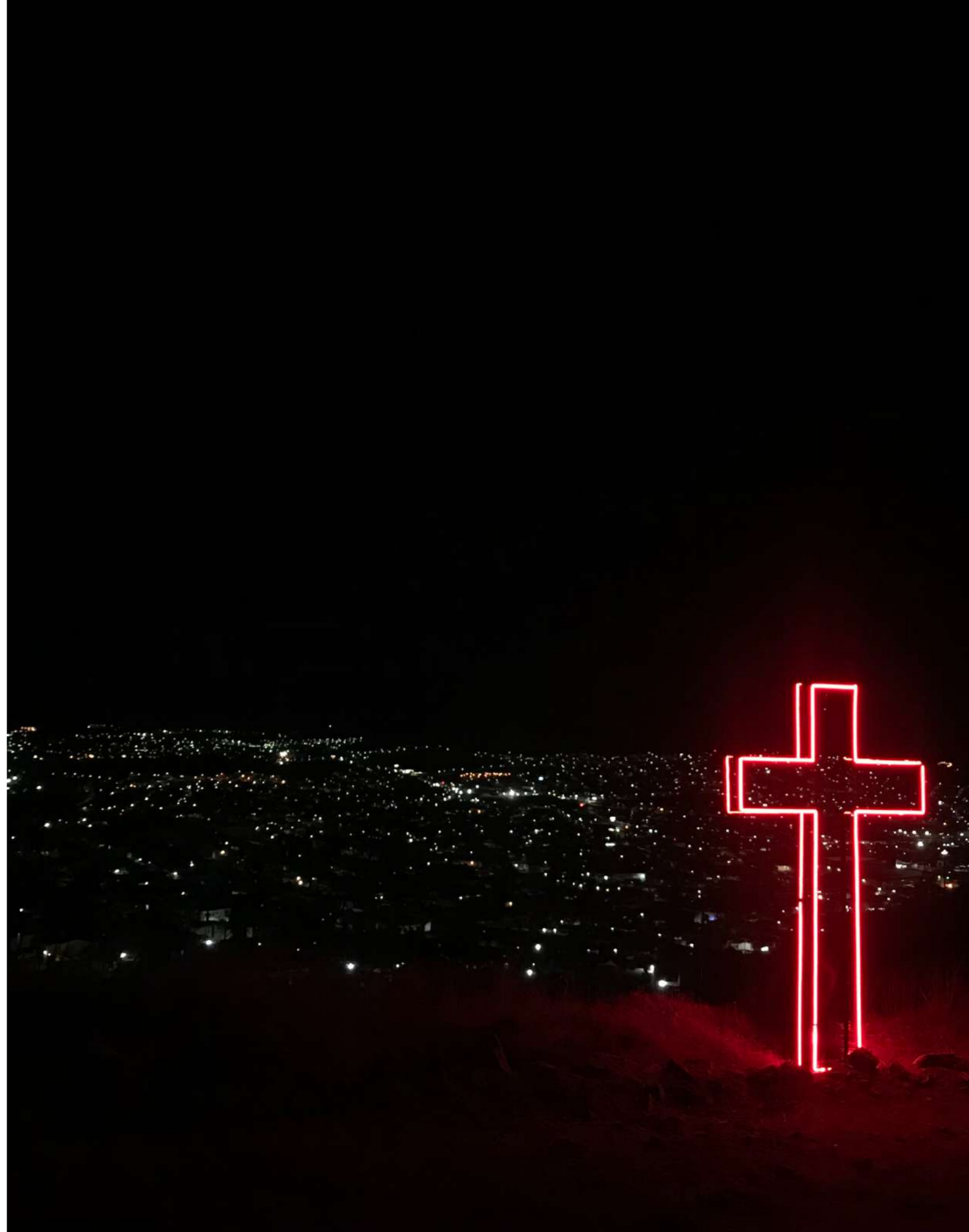
A renewed passion to love those who are far from God and need His grace.





Lord, as we think about the places we live, work, study, travel, shop, eat and play, would you show us the people that we already encounter every day and reveal to us where you are at work in their lives? Would you help us to see them with your eyes, love them with your heart and give us bold, fearless urgency to love them just as you would? Lord, we pray that wherever we go, your Kingdom would come. May your will be done here on earth as it is in heaven.

As you finish your time praying, are there other things that you would like to intercede for? Think of issues in your community or in our country that need prayer. Consider global issues that do not reflect the heart of God and do not look like the Kingdom of God. Invite God's Kingdom to Come into those situations.





Prayer for Alpha

Thank you for joining us in prayer for God's Church. Would you kindly pray these things for Alpha USA as well?

Pray for God's love to be manifest in all that we do as we serve the Church.

Pray that we are able to serve the entirety of God's church, from every ethnic and denominational background.

Pray for an increased urgency and passion for Alpha as we serve the Church in their mission to help people discover and develop a relationship with Jesus.

Also, would you pray that:

God would raise up 100 hub churches to help other churches run Alpha.

God would provide everything that is needed to increase and sustain healthy momentum for Alpha.

God would protect everyone involved with Alpha in any way.

Ultimately that God would get all glory, honor, and praise as we serve him.

Is there more to life than this? 

Our Father who art in heaven, holy is your name.
May your Kingdom come,
May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the Kingdom, the power and the glory
forever.

Amen.

