



## MEN'S MINISTRY

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# The Garden of Gethsemane Prayer Newsletter

December, 2022



## RUNNING THE RACE

The Apostle Paul recognized athletes exhibiting discipline (Corinthians 9:24). But he also saw that no matter how much they trained, their glory faded, in contrast, we have an opportunity to live for Jesus in a way that effects eternity. If athletes striving for glory for just a moment can work so hard, how much more should those living for the “eternal prize” work for? We don’t train to earn salvation. Rather just the opposite, as we realize how truly wonderful is salvation, it reshapes our priorities, our perspective, and very the things we live for as each of us faithfully leads and runs our own race of faith in God’s strength.

**Bryon Gould, Northeastern Jurisdiction Prayer Advocate President**

## Scriptures of the Month for Staying in the race

Therefore since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the Race marked out for us— **Hebrews 12:1**

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith —**2 Timothy 4:7**

You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? **Galatians 5:7**

But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint **Isaiah 40:31**

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord promised to those who love him. **James 1:12**



If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? If you stumble in safe country, how will you manage in the thickest by the Jordan? **Jeremiah 12:5**

But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.  
**Matthew 24:13**

I run in the path of your commands, for you have broadened my understanding - **Psalms 119:32**

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance: perseverance, character, and hope, **Romans 5:3-4**

## Praying that we stand firm & be courageous

**James 1:4 - 8** - Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lack wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double minded and unstable in all they do.

## **“ DO NOT RUN AHEAD OF GOD “**

There was a man named Moses who had three sons. Isaac the oldest Jacob the second oldest, and Joshua the youngest. Moses had a task for his sons to do when they turned 18 years old. He would call them out on the front lawn where he had a boulder sitting on the lawn with some tools nearby. He challenged the youngest to move the large rock off the lawn while Moses and his two brothers stood and watched Joshua try to move the large rock.

Joshua the youngest of his brothers did what he thought his father had asked him to do. He worked so hard to prove that he could do the job. When we look at John 15:16– it says” You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you, so that you may go and bear fruit that will last– and so whatever you ask in my name the father will give to you”

How many of us have mountains in our life that are trying to move? How many of us have giants that we are trying to slay?

**Matthew 17:20-21** Jesus tells us” Truly, I tell you if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to that mountain move from here to there; and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you”

Have you ever seen the size of a mustard seed?

**Bryon Gould, Northeastern Jurisdiction Prayer Advocate**

When we speak of moving mountains or slaying giants in our lives we are saying if someone's beliefs and confidence are strong enough, they can achieve something that is difficult.

Joshua literally ran ahead of God, instead of running behind God. Running ahead of God we do not give God the opportunity to pave way for us. We sometimes think we can do it without him, but we can't.

This reminds me when **Psalm 121:1-3- I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip - he watches over you will no slumber.**

The youngest brother did not realize the help was right there, but he did not ask. He had his father and two brothers to help and he did not ask. Just like when we are in trouble who should we call on?

**Isaiah 41:10 says to us” So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand”**

Too many times our challenges are bigger than us. Sickness, Temptations, disobedience, Lust, Greed, Envy, and Lying, these sins attack us everyday. But God is much greater, bigger and wider than all our problems.

**2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us” If my people who are called by my name, humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and I will forgive their sin and heal their land”**

As I close so many of us going through something right now and we can't seem to get it together. The Devil is twisting our minds. He's got some of us going down a one way street with no brakes. He's been lying and stealing from us for long time. He's got us turning on one another everyday. But the good news is he is not winning, because the war was already won by Christ Jesus. So arm up my brothers and sisters because he is going to keep coming.

**Jesus said to us “ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.**



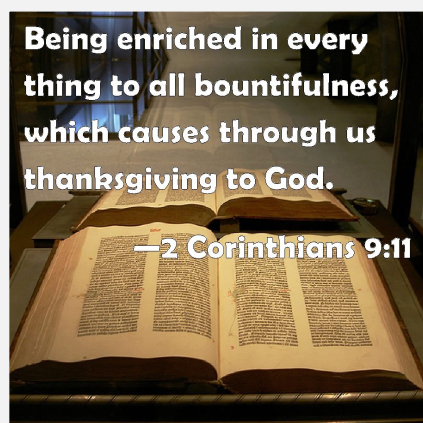
## **“ I WILL LIFT MY EYES UNTO THE HILLS”**

Psalm 121 tells us our help comes from the Lord which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot will not be moved: he that keeps you will not slumber. Behold he that keeps Israel shall neither slumber.

Lift up your eyes and look( **John 4:35** ). This was Christ's request from the disciples as a commandment requiring obedience. Looking does not simply mean seeing, but opening up to a truth and gaining it. Lifting up the eyes means two levels of enlightenment, one inferior to the other and is cloudy in comparison.

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## **GENEROUS GIVING**



Through you, God is providing for the need of the hungry and caring for the poor. But it's not just about that. The gift of seed will always produce more and bless others. But this passage says it will produce a harvest of righteousness.

Christians have the privileged opportunity to participate in God's work simply by generous giving. Paul adds here that God will enrich those believers

who give generously. This is so they may continue to meet the needs of others even more generously.

**Bryon Gould– Northeastern Jurisdiction Prayer Advocate Chair person**



# WHAT THE PEOPLE OF GOD NEED TO PRAY FOR

## ASK GOD FOR HOLY BOLDNESS

Ask God to give you Holy Boldness  
Let you be a strong warrior for the  
God you serve in your life. Push  
you through the fear to the other  
side, to the promise land with your  
name on it.

## PRAY TO STAND FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Pray that righteousness motivates  
all of your actions, and not yourself.  
Pray that God creates in you a clean  
and renew the right spirit in you.

## A PRAYER THAT YOU BEAR THE CROSS

Ask God for the strength to bear  
your own cross and carry through  
life. Give you the faith to preserve it  
so that God gets all the Glory. Thank  
him for the suffering you may en-  
dure and bear it just like Jesus did.

## THANK GOD FOR HEALING YOU

We cry out to God during an illness  
and ask for recovery. However do  
we thank God when we recover.  
While we may not always see his  
hand in our cure, we should realize  
that God is always there and is a  
principal agent in recovery.

## A PRAYER TO STRENGTHEN YOUR MARRIAGE

Ask God to grant you strength to hold  
fast to our vows,. When we got married  
we promised to love, honor and to  
cherish each other as long you both  
shall live, And so we ask that God  
teaches us how to love the way that we  
should, with patience, kindness, for-  
giveness, and grace.





PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD



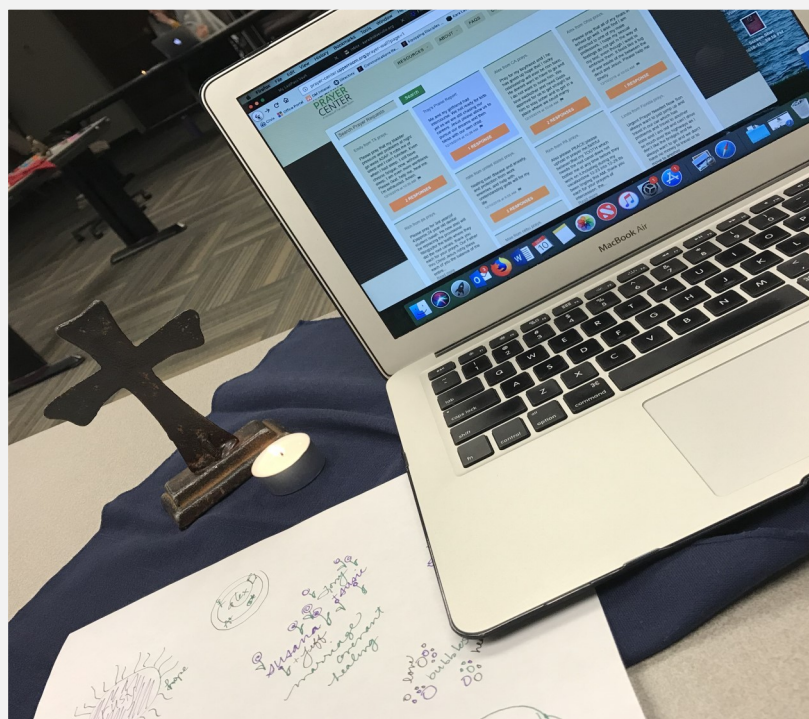
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## Northeastern Jurisdiction

United **Men's Ministry**

*"Praying like Jesus"*



We have unlimited openings for motivated prayer warriors to meet the need of God's people. Start immediately. Responsibilities include performing random acts of kindness, serving, and pleasing God, and doing what He commissions you to do. No experience is needed, God will equip you with on job training, Benefits will include growth opportunities leading to one incredible raise at the end of your service. You will need to:

- (1) Recognize God's voice-Discover God's plan for our lives
- (2) To discern God's will-Understand how to apply God's word
- (3) To make wise decisions- Everyday is filled with decisions
- (4) Be humble and have compassion for those who are hurting
- (5) To distinguish good from best- We need to thrive for greatness

### **PRAYER WARRIORS WANTED PLEASE CONTACT**

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# **LET US JOIN TOGETHER IN PRAYER**

**The Power of Prayer**

**The NYAC UMC/UMM NY/CT District**

**Hosted by Paul Wheatley**

**Zoom ID 964 845 3714 Every Sunday from 2 to 4pm**

**Pass code: 121500**

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**Annapolis District UMM**

**Hosted by Richard Campbell and Morgan Smith**

**Zoom ID 862 4489 7410 pass code 768838**

**Every Thursday Evening 7pm –8 pm**

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**Northeastern Jurisdiction UMM Prayer Meeting**

**Hosted by Bryon Gould**

**Zoom ID 318 690 0495**

**Every Saturday Morning 10 am – 11:30 am**

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**Binghamton District UMM**

**Hosted by John Conklin**

**Zoom ID 863 6352 7822**

**Every Monday evening at 7 pm**

# THE UNITED MEN FOR CHRIST CREED



**I am a United Man for Christ** I am a man as human and as sinful as any other man. However, I have been changed forever by the merciful grace of GOD, grounded in his word, and attempting, with his help, to live out my faith in the world. I feel especially called to a ministry to men and desire to see that every man reach the fullness of God and experience the wonderful saving grace of our Lord and Savior whom I am privileged to know.

**I am a United Man for Christ** I belong to community of men within the Global United church who share my call to ministry and who are moved action by the whispers of the holy Spirit. Together, we are committed to serving God through the word and deed and strive to live out our faith as we take up our cross and follow him.

**I am a United Man for Christ** I struggle with demons of the flesh as I live in the world even though I am not of this world. I strive to spend with him daily in prayer and meditation and look to the word for guidance and inspiration. I believe in his power working through me as I seek to bring other men to him.

**I am a United Man for Christ** I take seriously Jesus' words "Come follow me" I have a special concern for the sick, the marginalized, and the needy. I assist the young through the scouting ministry of my church, honor the military and first responders with copies of Strength for Service, and help the hungry through participating in events led by Stop Hunger Now and the Society of St. Andrew. I want to respond in a healing way to the brokenness of the world in which I live.

**I am a United Man for Christ** I will honor and uphold the traditions, polity and structure of the Global United Church. We can accomplish more together than we can as individuals I believe our Wesleyan heritage makes us unique and well equipped to witness our faith to a dying and sinful world. Our connectedness gives us strength to respond to God's call to love others as we would love him. I encourage my local fellowship to charter annually in order to support ministries beyond the local church.

**I am a United Man for Christ** God's call on my life and my obedience to him makes me a radiating power. Through the faithfulness of my commitment to him. I become a living symbol, the hands and feet of Jesus, a sign of his Kingdom here on earth.