

# Prayer Focus for January 4<sup>th</sup>

## We pray to grow in understanding of who we are and our ability to demonstrate that day to day

Pray that we be people who make wise life-decisions based on the guidance, wisdom and truth of God contained in His Scriptures:

- Isaiah 8:19 (The Message): When people tell you, "Try out the fortunetellers. Consult the spiritualists. Why not tap into the spirit-world, get in touch with the dead?" Tell them, "No, we're going to study the Scriptures." People who try the other ways get nowhere—a dead end! Frustrated and famished, they try one thing after another. When nothing works out they get angry, cursing first this god and then that one, Looking this way and that, up, down, and sideways—and seeing nothing, A blank wall, an empty hole. They end up in the dark with nothing.
- Matthew 22:29 (New Living Translation): Jesus replied, "Your mistake is that you don't know the Scriptures, and you don't know the power of God."

Pray that we be people who are intentional about telling our stories:

- Mark 4:30 (New Living Translation) Jesus said, "How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it?"
- Mark 5:18 (The Message) As Jesus was getting into the boat, the demon-delivered man begged to go along, but he wouldn't let him. Jesus said, "Go home to your own people. Tell them your story—what the Master did, how he had mercy on you." The man went back and began to preach in the Ten Towns area about what Jesus had done for him. He was the talk of the town.

Pray that we be people who are devoted servants of God:

- Psalm 86:2 (New International Version) Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you.
- Psalm 123:2 (Amplified Bible) Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, and as the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, until He has mercy and loving-kindness for us
- 1 Peter 2:16 (New International Version) Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God.

Pray that we be people who live a life under authority:

- Ephesians 1:22 (New Living Translation) God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church.
- Colossians 2:10 (Amplified Bible) And you are in Him, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ you too are filled with the Godhead--Father, Son and Holy Spirit--and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rule and authority [of every angelic principality and power].

Pray that we be generous givers of our time, talent and treasure

- Psalm 37:21 (New Living Translation) The wicked borrow and never repay, but the godly are generous givers.

Pray that we be worshippers focused only on the One true God:

- Deuteronomy 6:13 (New American Standard Bible) You shall fear only the LORD your God; and you shall worship Him and swear by His name.