

# 21-Day Reimagine Prayer Initiative

21-DAY REIMAGINE PRAYER INITIATIVE







## From the beginning,

Jesus laid out a grand vision for his disciples. After the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Gospels describe a final conversation between Jesus and his disciples. It is much more than a simple conversation; it is this great commissioning Jesus lays before his disciples.

*In Matthew 28:19, he commands them:  
“Go therefore and make  
disciples of all nations, baptizing  
them in the name of the Father, and of  
the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”*

*In Luke 24:47, he puts it this way:  
“Repentance for the forgiveness of sins  
should be proclaimed in his name  
to all nations, beginning from  
Jerusalem.”*



# We will divide the 21 days into three weeks:

- WEEK 1** Reimagine everyone in a 10-mile radius with a Christ-following friend.
- WEEK 2** Reimagine every community in Northeast Ohio with a Gospel-preaching church
- WEEK 3** Reimagine everywhere with a Jesus-centered witness

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Our genuine hope is these 21 days reshape the future of our church and reimagine the very life of people in a 10-mile radius, Northeast Ohio, and beyond all because of Jesus and with him.

WEEK 1

Everyone in a  
10-mile radius with  
a Christ-following  
friend.



## **God has placed you in your family, neighborhood, and community for a reason.**

There is a uniqueness to you – your story, your relationships, and your experiences – that God has given to you to be on mission for him. This means you have been divinely situated to reach certain people right here and right now for Jesus. Together, we are praying for 10,000 more followers of Jesus within 10 miles by 2050.

### DAY 1

Revived Affections  
Philippians 3:7-8

There is simply nothing like knowing Jesus. There is simply nothing as sweet as his presence, as powerful as his grace, and as satisfying as his love. There is nothing else that compares. That was the testimony of Paul, and may that be ours as well. As we start to share Jesus, may we ask God to revive our affections for Jesus. He was the one who counted everything a loss compared to the surpassing worth of saving us. So now, let us pray to know Jesus in such a way that we, too, count everything as loss compared to the surpassing worth of knowing him.

### DAY 2

Soft Hearts  
Matthew 9:36

Let us be honest: It can be hard to have compassion for others. It can be easy for our hearts to grow cold and even become embittered to others. Their personalities annoy us. Their lifestyle choices perplex us. Their political views may irritate us. And their words and actions may even hurt us. But it was not hard for Jesus. When he sees others, his heart fills with compassion, for he knows their need and recognizes they are simply sheep without a shepherd. Let us pray for soft hearts like Jesus. Let us ask God to forgive us for our hard hearts and help us truly have compassion for others, just as Jesus had compassion for us.

### DAY 3

Open Doors  
Colossians 4:3

There is not a moment where God is not working. There is not a time when God is not on the move. And there is not a person who comes to know Jesus without the moving, drawing, and opening work of God. In fact, every Christian in the world today, including you, can trace their faith back to a door God opened. This conviction drove the very prayers of Paul. May it drive our prayers as well. Let us reflect on the door God opened for our faith. Let us plead with God to open doors right here and right now with our friends, our neighbors, and even our family. And let us walk through, declaring the wonderfully good news of Christ.

**DAY 4**

Prepared Lips  
1 Peter 3:15

It is not a matter of if but when you are asked about your faith. There will come a moment, a conversation, or a text when someone will ask you for the reason for your hope. They will ask you about Jesus. Reflect for a moment. What do you think you would say? And more so, how will you say it?

Let us pray to be a prepared people.

May we not be surprised but ready.

May we not be anxious but eager.

May we not be afraid of anyone, but honoring to Jesus. Let us pray to be a prepared people, who gently and respectfully, point people to Jesus.

**DAY 5**

Obedient Feet  
Acts 8:29-30

Would it not be nice to be Philip? He has this obvious, divinely situated moment to share the gospel with the Ethiopian eunuch. God tells him exactly what to do, when to do it, and where to go. Philip listens, runs to the Ethiopian eunuch, and leads him to Jesus. So, let us pray for more moments like those. God is still in the business of creating those moments, and may we pray to be obedient in those moments. May God help us discern what to do, when to do it, and where to go. And may we discover the joy of leading someone to Jesus too.

**DAY 6**

Bold Spirits  
Acts 4:19-20

They just could not help it. The good news of Jesus was that good to them. The love of Jesus was that real to them. The hope of Jesus was that powerful to them. Peter and John simply could not help themselves. More than wanting to share Jesus, they had to share Jesus. Even in the face of opposition and the threat of arrest, they continued to tell everyone about Jesus. Let us pray for that sense of compulsion and that spirit of boldness to share Jesus with others. Even in the face of rejection, failure, or mockery, let us pray to be a people and a church who cannot help but speak about Jesus.

**DAY 7**  
Big Dreams  
Acts 2:41

Peter's sermon on Pentecost ends with a bang: 3,000 people who heard it received the word and truth about Jesus and were baptized immediately. It is an extraordinary story. A story of following the commission of Jesus in a serious way and seeing the power of Jesus on display in a spectacular way. May we pray for that sort of bang in the next 30 years. May we dream and pray big. And as we continue to follow the same commission, serve the same God, and preach the same gospel, may God use us to add many more than 3,000 to our number.

## Notes

WEEK 2

Every community  
with a gospel-  
preaching church.

**God has designed the church,  
loved the church, and even  
commissioned the church unlike  
anything else.**

As stars fill the night sky, so the church is meant to fill and shine in this world. She has this God-ordained privilege to share, protect, and magnify the gospel of Jesus Christ. This is our time to seize our God-given responsibility to make sure every community in NEO has a church preaching the gospel of Jesus. Together, we are praying for 60 more gospel-preaching churches in NEO.

## 21 DAY PRAYER INITIATIVE

### DAY 1

A Clear  
Conviction  
1 Timothy 3:15

There is a high responsibility for the church. God has designed the church to be a pillar to proclaim the truth and a buttress to uphold the truth of Jesus. If a city lacks a church, more than just a building, it also lacks the truth of Jesus. For if churches do not proclaim and protect the truth of Jesus, who will? This conviction mobilized Paul to plant and strengthen churches in every city he could. May we develop a similar conviction today. Let us pray for a movement of churches in every community in NEO through Orchard NEO. Let us pray for these churches, and our church, to continue to proclaim and uphold the truth of Jesus.

### DAY 2

A Precious  
Appraisal  
Ephesians 5:29

Every church has its flaws, does it not? There is no perfect church, much like there is no perfect person. And yet, in the eyes of Jesus, the church is beautiful. He loves the church. He nourishes the church. He cherishes the church. In the eyes of Jesus, the church was worth giving himself up for her. May we pray to see the church in a similar way. Let us pray to have the same precious appraisal of the church. Let us reflect on the reasons this church is valuable to us. May God stir within us a desire to truly nourish and cherish this church and the 60 churches to come.

### DAY 3

A Sincere Hope  
Isaiah 52:7

On September 20, 2020, Wingfoot Church in Goodyear Heights held its first public service. Led by Jon Ashley, this is one of the first two church plants of Orchard NEO. Today, let us pray for him, the church, and this verse to ring true for years to come. They will be bringing the good news of Jesus. Let us pray that people receive it. They will be publishing the peace, happiness, and salvation found in Jesus. Let us pray that people believe it. They will be announcing that God reigns – and no one else. Let us pray that people will celebrate it.



**DAY 4**

A Confident  
Anticipation  
Matthew 9:37-38

On September 20, 2020, Story Church in Mayfield Heights also held its first public service. Led by Jeremy King, this is also one of the first two church plants of Orchard NEO. Let us pray for him, the church, and for the reality of this verse to prove true. Let us pray they would be filled with compassion for the people of Mayfield Heights. May they constantly see their need for Jesus and be compelled by the very love of Jesus to reach them. Let us pray they would proclaim the gospel clearly and persuasively. Let us pray they will embody the gospel powerfully. Let us pray that God would grant them a harvest for years to come.

**DAY 5**

An Encouraging  
Plea  
1 Timothy 4:15-16

As two church plants launch, there are two new church planters here at CCC. They are starting a year-long residency with Orchard NEO. The first is a pastor named Ray Byrne. He, his wife Nicole, and five kids moved here from Illinois. Let us pray for them today. Let us pray this year Ray will embody this verse. Let us pray God will watch over Ray, his character, his heart, and his family well. And he will watch over the teaching and the truth of God carefully. Let us pray this is a year of great preparation. So great, in fact, that in 2021 God would use him to save his hearers through the gospel of Jesus.

**DAY 6**

An Urgent Charge  
2 Timothy 2:15-16

The second church planter is Josh Hibbard. He and his wife Michelle, along with their three kids, moved here from Indiana to plant a church through Orchard NEO. Let us pray for him and his family today. In the midst of this year-long training, let us pray that Josh will emerge as a poster child for this verse. Of the many things he will be learning and implementing, let us pray, more than anything else, he rightly handles the word of the truth and the gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us pray he becomes a worker who is approved in his gifts, unashamed in his passion, and unapologetically sharp in his focus on preaching the word, the truth, and the good news found in Jesus.

**DAY 7**

An Exceeded

Expectation

Ephesians 3:20-21

In the last 2,000 years, the gospel has stretched from a church in Jerusalem to a church in Hudson, OH. It is an amazing reality that reminds us of something we need to be reminded of: God is able. If Jerusalem to Hudson can happen, why not Hudson to Goodyear Heights? If Jerusalem to Hudson can happen, why not Hudson to Mayfield Heights? God is able and capable. Let us pray for a renewed confidence in our God. Let us pray that more than meets our expectations, he can exceed them. Let us pray that he does far more abundantly than we ask or think or dream. Let us pray that 60 churches in NEO turn out to be the beginning, rather than the end, of the power of God.

## Notes

WEEK 3

Everywhere with  
a Jesus-centered  
witness.

## **From the first book of the Bible to the last, God shows no favoritism.**

It is the desire, and even promise, of our God to bless every nation and ransom people from every nation, tribe, and tongue. Jesus himself commissioned his disciples to make disciples of all nations. This week, let us grab hold to the vision of our God, trust in the power of our God, and leverage our resources for the gospel of God throughout the whole world. Together, we are praying to give away \$30 million to missions.

## 21 DAY PRAYER INITIATIVE

### **DAY 1**

Catch the Vision  
Acts 1:8

Jesus has a vision for the entire world to have witnesses to him. From his standpoint, there should not be one state, one county, one city, one neighborhood that does not have at least one witness. Jerusalem is not enough. Judea is not enough. Samaria is not enough. Hudson is not enough. Aurora is not enough. Goodyear Heights and Mayfield Heights are not enough. NEO is not enough. The vision is not just for here but for there. Not just this place but every place. Let us pray to catch the vision of Jesus. Let us ask God on an exponential level to use us to reach the very ends of the earth.

### **DAY 2**

Develop the Ambition  
Romans 15:20

It is not enough. We cannot stop yet. This was the mindset of Paul. From Antioch to Ephesus to Corinth to Rome and beyond. There was always another city to visit. Another people to reach, another church to plan, another place to preach the gospel. He was filled with a holy dissatisfaction and a righteous ambition to reach the unreached. He knew that there were people who had never heard about Jesus. That was true then and is true now, even among refugees right here in Akron. May we pray for that same dissatisfaction and ambition. May we never forget there are still people in our world who have never heard of Jesus. Let us pray that God would use us to reach them. On this day, let us pray for Crossings, our ministry led by Bena Paisley among the refugees in Akron. May God use them to reach the nations that have become our neighbors.

### **DAY 3**

Give with Joy  
2 Corinthians 9:7

When it comes to money, every Christian has a decision. Quite frankly, this goal is a lot of money. More than thoughts and prayers, this goal takes dollars – from all of us. Each of us has a decision to make on the amount of money to give. Let us pray to make wise, generous decisions that please God. May God free us from giving out of guilt or duty and instead grant us a cheerfulness, a joy, and a delight to give and to give and to give—all because of Jesus.

**DAY 4**

Trust our Father  
Matthew 6:26

Let us be honest: When we start talking about money, anxiety easily creeps in, and questions begin to mount. It seems like the future is filled with endless financial questions, concerns, and worries. We wonder about paying mortgages, bills, tuitions, student loans, and retirement to name a few. As we sort through those questions and concerns, let us pray to always have the same answers. Let us pray to have a renewed faith and confidence in our value before God, our Father. For the one who gave his own Son, will he not graciously give us all things? Let us pray for a certain faith in his goodness, faithfulness, and provision for us as we seek first the kingdom together.

**DAY 5**

Meet their Need  
2 Corinthians 8:1-4

More than a saying, it is actually true: Giving is better than receiving. To know of a need, meet that need, and see the impact of meeting that need is extraordinary, especially when it furthers the gospel of Jesus. The churches of Macedonia understood this when their fellow brothers and sisters in Jerusalem needed their help. May we pray to understand this as well. We have a partnership with churches in Quito, Ecuador through a ministry called Church Ministries International. The gospel is on the move in the city, as six large churches have been planted in the last ten years, and yet they need our help. May we pray for them today, and may we have the favor of taking part in their relief.

**DAY 6**

See the Spread  
Acts 11:19-21

Even in the face of hard times, the church often flourishes. This has always been true, and it is still true today. One of CCC's longest and strongest global partnerships is with India Gospel League (IGL). Right now, with COVID aside, times are hard in India, and many Christians even face persecution. And yet, the church is flourishing as the hand of the Lord is with them. There are great numbers believing right now in the rural parts of India. In fact, your giving has helped start 158 churches in the last three years in India. Let us continue to pray for IGL. Let us pray for the hand of the Lord to sustain, renew, and expand the church, and may many more people believe in the name of Jesus.

**DAY 7**

Anticipate the  
Gathering  
Revelation 7:9-10

One day, the vision of Jesus will be realized, and the commission of Jesus will be fulfilled. There will be people from Jerusalem and Hudson, India and Goodyear Heights, Ephesus and Ecuador, Samaria and Aurora gathered around the throne in worship. There will be an eternal gathering of people from all nations, and all languages, and everyone will be crying out with a loud voice, *“Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”* What a day that will be, and what an eternity awaits us. Let us praise God for the certainty of that day and yearn with anticipation for the realization of that day. May we pray for that day to fuel and motivate our mission on this day.







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