

True Love Speaks



Jesus Christ is good news for society and the light of the world. As Christians, we're called to be ambassadors who live and speak for him, carrying his message of hope to our workplaces, our homes, our neighbourhoods, and our nation. As we approach Easter, will you join us in praying that the truth would shine forth and that our nation would be transformed by Jesus Christ?

In this guide, you'll find a prayer prompt for each day of Lent. And then, at the end of every week, you'll find an action to help you share Jesus. Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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Wed 2 MAR Thank God that he has called us to be ambassadors for Jesus. Pray that he would give you boldness and opportunities to speak for Jesus in the coming weeks.

Thu 3 MAR Pray that God would give Christian Concern wisdom and effectiveness as we seek to communicate the truth of Jesus in public, especially in the media, politics and law.

Fri 4 MAR Ephesians 4:15 calls us to "speak the truth in love." Pray that Christians in the UK would speak the truth of Jesus with compassion, clarity and confidence.

Sat 5 MAR Thank God for the 82 people who attended the Wilberforce Academy in 2021. Pray that God would raise up a generation of young adults who live and speak for Jesus in every area of society.

Sun 6 MAR Write down the names of three non-Christian friends. Pray for opportunities to speak to them about Jesus, and pray that they would hear and respond to the message of the gospel.

1.

2.

3.



Write a letter or comment to your local newspaper showing how the hope of Jesus speaks to a local issue.

Education

Mon 7 MAR Pray for Nigel and Sally Rowe, who are seeking to challenge school policies that affirm transgenderism and suggest that 'misgendering' a child is a form of bullying.

Tue 8 MAR Ask God to give Christian teachers wisdom as they navigate the curriculum and boldness to communicate Biblical truth as they teach their students.

Wed 9 MAR Thank God for the Christian schools across the UK that are faithfully seeking to teach the next generation in God's good ways. Please pray for 19 proposed new schools that Christian Concern has connected with.

Thu 10 MAR Pray for the government's plans to ban conversion therapy would be dropped so that teachers and parents remain free to give appropriate support to children struggling with sexuality or gender confusion, helping them to live in line with their Christian beliefs

Fri 11 MAR

Thank God for the success of our *Further Up, Further In* conference that took place last year, where we gathered with over 300 educators seeking to bring a distinctively Christian vision and practice to their work in education.

Sat **12 MAR**

Pray for Christian Concern's ongoing work supporting Christians in education, which includes helping parents and teachers to shape children's lives with the truth, hope and love of Jesus.

Sun 13 MAR Thank God for the wonderful gift of children. Pray that God would give parents wisdom and courage as they seek to raise their children with a Biblical worldview.



It can be difficult to be a Christian in education. Text or write to a Christian teacher you know. Share an encouragement with them, and tell them that you are praying for them.

Christian Freedoms

Mon 14 MAR Thank God for his provision in the case of Mary Onuoha, the Christian nurse who won her case after being forced out of her job for wearing a small cross on a chain at work.

Tue **15 MAR** Pray for freedom and protection for street preachers across the UK, who are courageously carrying the hope of the gospel out into their communities.

Wed 16 MAR

Ask God to bring justice for Bernard Randall, the school chaplain who was sacked for giving a sermon on 'identity politics' during a chapel service.

Thu **17 MAR** Pray that God would bring about justice in the case of Brian Walker, an electrician who was forced out of his job at an NHS trust for expressing his Christian beliefs on Islam and same-sex 'marriage'. Brian is being supported by the Christian Legal Centre as he challenges what happened to him.

Fri 18 MAR "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters..." (Colossians 3:23). Pray that God would help Christians honour him and serve others in their places of work.

Sat **19 MAR** Give thanks to God for his provision in Harry Miller's case, after the former police officer won a landmark victory for freedom of speech in December last year.

Sun **20 MAR**

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). Praise God that he has revealed his truth to us, and given us real freedom in Christ!



Write to your MP to let them know you're praying for them and share about an issue that's important to you.

Sexuality & Gender

Mon **21 MAR** Seyi Omooba, a Christian actress, was dismissed for posting her views on sexuality on Facebook. Pray that God would strengthen, encourage and bring about justice for her.

Tue **22 MAR** Ask God to bring about justice for Keith Waters, the pastor who was thrown out of his caretaker job over a tweet that said LGBTQ pride events should not be attended or supported by Christians and children.

Wed 23 MAR The government's proposals for a conversion therapy ban could see church leaders fined for 'hate prayer'. Pray that these proposals would be abandoned so that people struggling with their sexuality can receive appropriate support.

Thน **24 MAR** Pray for all those struggling with unwanted sexual attraction. Ask that God would empower them to live out God's good design for sexuality, and experience true freedom as they seek Jesus.

Fri **25 MAR** Thank God for Sam Salter and others at X-Out-Loud, who have found faith and received support to help them with unwanted sexual desires or gender confusion. Pray for Sam as he continues to share his testimony and experience of what others label 'conversion therapy'.

Sat **26 MAR** Pray for Dr David Mackereth, who was pushed out of his employment as an assessor at the Department for Work and Pensions after saying he wouldn't use transgender pronouns. The Christian Legal Centre is supporting David as he seeks justice against his former employer.

Sun **27 MAR**

"That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh." (Genesis 2:24). Thank God for his beautiful gift of marriage and his "purpose in creating humans as male and female".



Do you know any local police officers? Ask them about the challenges your community faces, pray for them and consider if you and your church could help.

Church

Mon **28 MAR**

During the pandemic, churches had to face bans on gathered worship, police interrupting services, and even fines brought against Christian ministries. Thank God that he has enabled his Church to endure and even flourish throughout the past two years.

Tue **29 MAR**

Thank God for church leaders across the UK who are faithfully following him, serving his people, and reaching their communities with the hope, truth and love of Jesus. Pray that God would empower them to serve with integrity, humility and joy.

Wed 30 MAR

Thank God for bringing victory for Pastor Chez Dyer, who saw her case thrown out of court after she was fined £16,000 for holding a church service during lockdown for the homeless.

Thu **31 APR**

In March last year, church leaders in Scotland successfully challenged the government's ban on gathered worship. Thank God that churches are once more able to meet and worship freely across the UK.

Fri 1 **APR**

Write down the names of three local churches in your area. Pray that God would strengthen them with his Holy Spirit, and empower them to keep standing and speaking for Jesus in your community.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Sat **2 APR**

Thank God for local churches across the UK who are faithfully reaching their communities with the gospel. Pray for faithfulness, creativity and boldness as they share Jesus with those around them.

Sun 3 APR

Pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted for their faith. Ask God to give them strength, hope and joy in the midst of suffering.



Make contact with your local councillors to let them know you're praying for them and that they'd be welcome to come to your church.



Mon 4 APR Since the 1967 Abortion Act was passed, nearly 10 million lives have been lost in the UK alone. Please pray for the effectiveness of pro-life groups campaigning to prevent policies that would see more lives lost.

Tue 5 APR Praise God for the work of the NHS, and particularly for Christian medical professionals who are working to preserve and protect life. Pray that they would be salt and light in their workplaces.

Wed

Pray for Dermot Kearney who was banned from giving treatment to mothers who regretted taking the first abortion pill that could save their unborn babies. Pray that he and others will be able to provide this life-saving service.

Thu 7 APR Pray that attempts to legalise assisted suicide would be halted, and that politicians would understand the damage this policy would cause.

Fri 8 APR Pray for the pro-life society at Exeter University, which has faced severe attacks for its beliefs. Ask that God would protect them and their right to equip pro-life students to advocate for unborn lives.

Sat 9 APR Thank God for Heidi Crowter, a woman who has Downs Syndrome and is campaigning against the law that allows babies with Downs Syndrome to be aborted up until birth.

Sun **10 APR**

"So God created mankind in his own image..." (Genesis 1:27). Thank God for the immense dignity, value and miracle of every human life.

WEEK 6 ACTION Does your church provide help for women considering abortion to keep their baby? Take the next step towards you or your church starting or supporting a crisis pregnancy ministry.

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Mon **11 APR** "Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few"" (Matthew 9:37). Pray for the effective and faithful witness of Christians across the UK. Ask God that we'd be a people known for speaking the truth with compassion and love.

Tue **12 APR** Pray for the leaders and decision makers of our country. Ask God that they would act justly and speak truthfully, and come to know, honour and speak the truth of Jesus.

Wed **13 APR** "...And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20). Ask God to fill you with confidence today to go and share his good news with those around you.

Thu 14 APR Pray for Christians in government and the civil service. Ask God to give them courage and wisdom to live faithfully and speak truthfully in their roles, even when they face opposition.

Good Friday

Fri 15 APR

"Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God" (1 Peter 3:18). Today, on Good Friday, thank God that he sent his Son to die in our place so that we could be forgiven of our sins and have eternal life.

Easter Saturday

Sat **16 APR**

Read Hebrews 12:22–24. Thank God that he sent his Son, Jesus, to be the mediator of a new covenant, meaning that we can know God and be right with him again.

Easter Sunday

Sun **17 APR** "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said" (Matthew 28:6). Give thanks that Jesus rose from the dead, conquering sin and death forever. Pray that today, many would respond to the offer of eternal life in him!

"For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive in the Spirit."