

40 DAYS OF *prayer*

YOUTH DEVOTIONAL



THE ALLIANCE



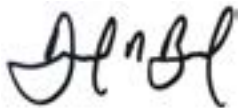
ALLIANCE YOUTH

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INTRO

Prayer is the primary work of God's people. This long-standing Alliance mantra elevates the importance of prayer in accomplishing the work of God on earth. Prayer is an opportunity for God's children, you and I, to speak often, deliberately, and plainly with our Heavenly Father. It is the method through which the child of God experiences communion with God and with other believers. As we pray privately or together, we are affirming our dependence on God, much like children are dependent on their parents. I hope you find these intentional and deliberate prayer primers a helpful addition in your student ministry during the next 40 days.

Sincerely,



Dan Boal
Director for Alliance Youth



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RESOURCES

40 Days of Prayer is an initiative of The Christian and Missionary Alliance to increase the overall prayer life and therefore the effectiveness of believers who attend an Alliance church. We hope that each generation within The Alliance engages with reading Scripture and communing with their Heavenly Father in daily prayer to experience a transformed heart and mind that will help unleash a movement of God here on earth.

We have provided the following resources for you to share with the youth in your church to enhance their participation in this denomination-wide prayer movement.

1. 40 Days of Prayer Experience

This can be used as a supplement to your weekly teaching curriculum. It is designed to take 10 minutes of your youth program.

- Video Prayer Primers led by Dan Boal
- PDF Prayer Guide for youth to pray as a class or in smaller groups

2. 40 Days of Prayer Devotional

This five-day devotional is intended to help youth pray specifically for the filling of the Holy Spirit in sharing the gospel. It will be delivered to their inbox in the *AY Newsletter*. You can print the PDF for distribution or have youth sign up for the newsletter. This is the first in a 12-month series of 5-day devotionals brought to you by Envision, the C&MA's short-term missions office.

- Go to allianceyouth.com/connect/
- Scroll to the bottom of the page and subscribe to receive this monthly devotional.

3. On Our Knees: A Youth Worker Time of Prayer

We will be hosting and broadcasting a 30-minute virtual prayer event for Alliance Youth workers. The emphasis will be on praying for the next generation to have boldness, to cling to truth, and to be open to hear and receive that truth.

- January 28, 12 p.m. EST
- RSVP at facebook.com/cmallianceyouth/events
- Join Zoom meeting:
 - **Link:** zoom.us/j/97452075894?pwd=aEJ3YktpYzJFWU9VUzZaNFNMK01jQT09
 - **Meeting ID:** 974 5207 5894 **Passcode:** 544435
 - **One tap mobile:** +12532158782,,97452075894# US (Tacoma)
+13462487799,,97452075894# US (Houston)

WEEK 5: MARGINALIZED PEOPLE

KEY TEXT

Matthew 25:39–40

SET-UP

Take some time to research the demographics of your community and local church. What countries predominantly make up the immigrant population of your community? What is the primary language spoken, aside from English? How many people with special needs are in local schools or care facilities? How many single parents are in your church? How many people are living in poverty according to federal and state guidelines?

The church is not just a place where “like attracts like.” Ideally, it is one that facilitates healing, serving, blessing, helping, and loving people from differing demographics. Unfortunately, many churches miss out on amazing opportunities to be the hands and feet of Jesus because they don’t take time open their eyes and hearts to the often overlooked and underserved people within their communities. Here are a few ideas you can try to get familiar with some overlooked people groups in your community.

1. Go to joshuaproject.net/countries/US. Explore the red, yellow, and light green dots that indicate people groups in the United States who are unreached or under-reached. Which of them are near you?
2. Make a list of organizations in your community that support people in poverty, immigrants and refugees, single-parent families, those with special needs and their families, efforts to promote racial reconciliation, and service members. How you can pray for and/or partner with these groups?

VIDEO

Marginalized People

PRAYER PROMPTS

Intercession is praying for a specific demographic or person. This is praying to God on their behalf or for their benefit. Jesus shows us examples of intercession in John 17 and Luke 23:34. After identifying marginalized people within your community or organizations that serve them, intercede for these people and organizations. Pray that these individuals may be open to hearing and embracing the gospel. Also, ask God to meet their tangible needs.