



FIRST SOUTHERN  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
[www.FSBCsalina.com](http://www.FSBCsalina.com)  
2401 S Ohio - 785-823-6828

**40 Days of Prayer and Fasting**  
**March 13 – April 21, 2019**

## Vision

**Why do we exist?** From our corner to every corner with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, for the good of others and the glory of God the Father.

Know CHRIST  
AND TO  
MAKE KNOWN



Begin Here:

Thank you for choosing to walk with God through the next 40 days. I think you will be richly blessed. Here are a few things you will need or need to know:

1. **Journal** – I would encourage everyone to get a journal. It will be an amazing tool. There are many questions you will be asked and would ask you to write down your answers.
2. **“The Final Days of Jesus”** by Kostenberger and Taylor. This is April’s Pastor’s Book Club. I’m asking you to read this during the last week of our 40 Days. I think it will be a very meaningful tool for you.
3. **Fasting** – One element of the 40 Days is fasting. I would ask you to prayerfully consider fasting from one meal a week and using that time in prayer and fellowship to God. You may also want to consider fasting from worldly things during these forty days. Some of you may be worried about having enough time. Could you find the time if you fasted from things like tv, internet, social media, etc.?
4. **“Who’s Your One”** – we are joining Southern Baptist all across America in this evangelistic focus. On day 6, you will begin a 30 Day prayer focus for your one. Prayerfully consider the “one” God has for you.
5. **Easter** – One of my desires is to get you prepared for our Easter weekend. Make plans right now to attend and to bring someone with you. Our Easter Outreach is a big deal and will happen on April 20<sup>th</sup>.
6. **First Southern Baptist Church** – Finally, use these 40 days to ask God what’s next. I’ve will give you a few ideas but would encourage you to pray as well. When you’ve finished the 40 Days, join us on April 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss what we all learned from God during these days.

## Introduction:

Welcome to 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting. I've set apart this time before Easter to focus our attention on the Gospel and the life of our church. I would like to invite you on a journey with me. God is doing some remarkable things in the life of our church. Recently we just paid off our building debt in a miraculous way. Why would God have us do that? Is there a chance He is preparing us for something great?

Join me every day as we read scripture, consider the text, pray for our "one" and consider what God is doing in our church. Let's dream a little. If God could use you to accomplish one thing for His Kingdom and glory, what would you want it to be? Over the next 40 days, I ask you to fervently seek the Father. Spend focused time with Him.

We are going to read the Gospel of Matthew over these days. We will read a chapter a day. I would encourage you to use a journal to help you discern and remember what God says to you. There are questions to ponder and answer on each day. I'll be going live on Facebook on March 13, and then every Monday after that.

We also want God to begin to lead a church in a godly and outwardly direction. What will that look like? I'll communicate with you some of the things on my heart. I invite you to pray through all God is leading you to. We will meet at 5:00 pm on April 28 to discuss what God has revealed.

Pray for our church. An aspect of this study is to prepare your heart for Easter. Pray for our Easter Service. Pray for our Easter Outreach. Ask God to make much of Himself during that weekend. Spend some time during this study to prayer walk your neighborhood. Pray every day.

Prayerfully consider fasting from at least one meal a week during this study. Instead, of feeding on food, feed on the food of prayer and scripture. In those times, fervently seek the face of God. Ask Him to speak to you. Desire Him more than you do food. Tell Him the pains of hunger are nothing as to the pain of longing for Him.

There is nothing you can do to earn God's love and favor. We participate in days like this, not in hopes of God loving us more, but simply because we love God and desire to love Him even more. It's going to be a wonderful 40 days. Thanks for coming along.

## Day 1 of Prayer and Fasting 2019

Wednesday, March 13,

### Reading: Matthew 1

1. Which person in the genealogy do you most resonate with, and why?
2. How does a denial of Jesus's virgin birth affect the Gospel message?
3. How would you explain to an unbeliever that Jesus is both God and man?
4. How should verse 21 shape the way you read Matthew's Gospel?

### Prayer

A large part of our journey together is prayer. I want to encourage you to spend time daily praying. This is a place where a journal may work well for you.

1. Almost two years ago, I asked the church to pray an audacious prayer. What did I ask you to pray? Honestly, when I asked you to pray to be debt free, did you think it was possible?
2. What do you think the next audacious prayer the church should be praying?
3. In your own words, describe why you feel prayer is so vital to a Christians life?
4. Name several key blessings you receive from God through prayer.
5. Make a list of answers to prayer in the last 3 months?
6. What prayer are you praying most for FSBC?

**Day 2 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Thursday, March 14,**

**Reading: Matthew 2**

1. The Magi give us a beautiful picture of how we should worship Jesus. What lessons can we learn about worship from the Magi?
2. Describe the reaction of Jesus' birth by the religious leaders. Why is this a caution for you and me?
3. How does this passage speak to God's desire to reach the nations?
4. How does Jesus fulfill Hosea 11:1?

**Vision and Dreams**

I'm getting older, and one of my prayers is to be involved in a supernatural outworking of the Holy Spirit for the glory of God and the good of others. Wouldn't it be fun to be part of a move of God where there is no other explanation than the move of God's Holy Spirit?

Would you join me in praying for such a move? What would it look like? Take a moment to read Colossians 3:12-17. That is the type of people God is looking for. What could God do through a people wholly devoted to Him?

1. What traits does Paul list as characterizing God's people?
2. What traits are evident in your life? What traits are evident in the life of our church?
3. How does verse 17 tie into our Purpose statement of "To Know Christ and Make Him Known?"

This begins 30 Days of Prayer for the person or persons God has laid on your heart. Who's your one?

**Day 3 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Friday, March 15,**

**Reading: Matthew 3**

1. Why is it significant that John's first command had to do with repentance?
2. How are all three members of the Trinity present in verses 13-17?
3. Have you been baptized by immersion? If no, would you prayerfully consider following the model of Christ?

**Goals:**

My heart is rather simple. I want to see us raise people up so we can send them out. We want to be a church that is continually looking outwardly and sending missionaries from our church to Salina and beyond. My goal this year is to baptize 30. I also pray we can regularly hit 300 in worship attendance and continue to grow.

1. Why do most churches become inwardly focused?
2. What would an outwardly focused church look like?
3. Now that we are debt free, is God asking us to become even more outwardly focused?
4. What are some changes that would be needed to become more outwardly focused?

**Worship Pastor**

I am praying for a worship pastor. My prayer is to see someone in our church by the Fall of 2019. Fred has served our church remarkably. As you work through these 40 days, the only question that is viable is this: Do you feel God is leading our church to hire a fulltime worship pastor? Be earnestly asking for God's direction. Fred has asked us to begin looking. Will you join me in seeking God?

**Day 4 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Saturday, March 16,**

**Reading: John 2:1-11**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Role of Hospitality**

Read 1 Peter 4:9 and Hebrews 13:2

By this time, I hope you have picked out your “one.” What role might hospitality play in helping you reach your “one.” How could you open up your home to your “one” or others? Could your home be used as a tool to advance the Kingdom of God?

**Key Questions:**

As you journey with me, begin to ask yourself these questions:  
(Take time to consider these important questions)

1. What drives you?
2. What things spiritually has God put on your heart that you long to see come to fruition in your lifetime?
3. Change in a church is inevitable. What are some changes needed in our church?
4. What do you hope never changes?
5. If God could use you to accomplish one thing for His Kingdom and glory, what would you want it to be?

Consider these questions. We will ask them on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Day 5 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Sunday, March 17,**

**Reading: None – Attend Church**

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Future** There are a few things on my heart for our church.

**To grow large enough to plant.** Could you imagine God allowing our church to grow and then plant a new church?

**To begin a Hispanic work.** I continue to pray about this exciting development. God is already bringing us Spanish speaking people who could help in this process. The State Office is already talking with us about partnering with them in a Hispanic plant. Be praying about his.

**To raise up and send out** – I want our church to be a training ground where we are working with men and women to send them out into Kingdom work. This summer we will have a Summer Intern who will be leading worship and working with our youth. This is one example of being a training ground for men and women to impact the world for Christ. I’m very excited about the work our Mission Development Team is doing and know they are looking at exciting things in the future.

**Impact Salina** – We are drawing a mile radius around our church to impact the area closer to our church. The Outreach Team is meeting and working on things to help us do just that.

I look forward to hearing what God lays upon your heart during these 40 Days.



**Day 8 of Prayer and Fasting      Wednesday, March 20, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 6**

1. What is Jesus point when He says, “when you give (2) when you pray (5) and “when you fast?”(16) Are you obedient in these three areas of discipleship?
2. Restate verses 33 in your words. What is the promise God is giving you? What does it look like to you to “seek first His kingdom?”

**Day 3 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take up my yoke and learn from me, because I am lowly and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. MATTHEW 11:28–30, CSB*

Lord, this world is filled with burdens. I know \_\_\_\_\_ experiences the reality of suffering in a broken, sinful world. People look to everything but Jesus to find hope and peace, and I know \_\_\_\_\_ is no exception. He/she runs to things other than You to relieve the pain of life and achieve some sense of comfort. Father, I know You are the only one who can provide true rest. Cause \_\_\_\_\_ to recognize the futility of looking to anything in this world for the rest he/she seeks, and let this reality to drive him/her to You in repentance and saving faith.

**Day 9 of Prayer and Fasting      Thursday, March 21, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 7**

1. Does your life pass the “fruit inspection” test? Does your life bear fruit?
2. What does the story of the wise and foolish builders teach you about the teachings of Jesus?
3. In what areas of your life are you failing to manifest righteousness that differs from the world?

**Day 4 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*A God-fearing woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, was listening. The Lord opened her heart to respond to what Paul was saying. ACTS 16:14, CSB*

God, Lydia’s story gives me hope for the salvation of \_\_\_\_\_. Give me the boldness of Paul. Make me courageous to share the gospel message with \_\_\_\_\_ in a way that is clear and compelling. Help me reject the fear that causes me to shy away from speaking the Truth in love. Do for \_\_\_\_\_ what You did for Lydia. Open his/her heart to believe the gospel. Align the circumstances of life to soften his/her heart to the truth of the gospel, and cause him/her to listen intently and respond humbly to Jesus’ offer of salvation.

**Day 10 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Friday, March 22, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 8**

1. This is a chapter about faith. As you read chapter 8, what lessons can you learn about faith?
2. In what ways do you see our church stepping out in faith?
3. When was the last time you were amazed by Jesus? (27) What has He done in your or through you that should cause you amazement?

**Day 5 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Don’t you know that if you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of that one you obey—either of sin leading to death or of obedience leading to righteousness? But thank God that, although you used to be slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that pattern of teaching to which you were handed over, and having been set free from sin, you became enslaved to righteousness.*

ROMANS 6:16–18, CSB

Father, I know what it is like to live enslaved to sin. The inability to stop. The crushing guilt and shame. The longing for something more. It breaks my heart to consider \_\_\_\_\_ experiences life apart from You. I know all people are enslaved to sin and live in willing defiance to Your good and perfect Word. Help understand that he/she is actually enslaved to sin. Use the pain and consequences of sin to cause \_\_\_\_\_ to sense a need for something more. Cause him/her to obey from the heart and submit to You as a far greater Master.

**Day 11 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Saturday, March 23, 2019**

**Reading: John 6:16-21**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 6 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*In their case, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we are not proclaiming ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’s sake. For God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:4–6, CSB*

Lord, cause the light of Your glory to shine in the life of . I know the clearest reflection of that glory is seen in Jesus Christ. Help see Jesus clearly. For this to happen, I ask for boldness to speak of Jesus and help him/her understand who Jesus is and what He came to do. Bring to my mind Scripture and stories of Jesus that will help me talk about Him in a way that puts Your glory on display. Remove the blinders Satan has created to blind him/her to the beauty of Jesus. Use other people and circumstances to cause to consider the truth of Jesus. I trust that You will cause light to shine into his/her darkness as a result.

**Day 12 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Sunday, March 24,**

Reading: None –

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

Attend Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10:30 am

**Day 7 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Perhaps God will grant them repentance leading them to the knowledge of the truth. Then they may come to their senses and escape the trap of the devil, who has taken them captive to do his will.* 2 TIMOTHY 2:25–26, CSB

Father, Your opponents can only know You when they experience true repentance. I know most people do not consider themselves opponents, or even enemies, of God. But that’s exactly what they are. They are held captive by Satan to do his will rather than Yours. \_\_\_\_\_ is a classic example of this reality. He/she will only recognize that captivity when he/she repents of his/her sin. Cause \_\_\_\_\_ to see his/her sin for what it is—rebellion against his/her Creator and disobedience to Your perfect law. Grant him/her true repentance, not just sorrow for sin’s consequences. Help \_\_\_\_\_ to admit his/her sin and turn from it toward You.

**Day 13 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Monday, March 25, 2019**

Reading: Matthew 9

1. How did the Pharisees feel about Jesus hanging out with “Many tax collectors and ‘sinners?’” (10-11). How did Jesus respond? How would you respond?
2. How might Jesus’ calling of Matthew give us hope for unbelievers we know who seem unreachable with the gospel?
3. How did Jesus respond to the crowd? (36) Do you think the church may have lost her compassion for the “crowd?” Would you pray for God to give you compassion?

**Day 8 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*He told them, “The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.* LUKE 10:2, CSB

God, raise up other Christians who have a relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ who can partner with me in sharing the gospel with him/her. In particular, cause his/her believing friends, family or coworkers to take every opportunity to speak Truth into his/her life. Allow the words we all share to reinforce the truth of the gospel to \_\_\_\_\_ and prompt him/her to consider the claims we are all making. Save \_\_\_\_\_, and turn him/her into another laborer who will share the gospel to his/her circle of relationships as well.

**Day 14 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 10**

1. Why does Jesus send us out “like sheep among wolves?”
2. Do the massive spiritual needs of the world compel you to action or make you feel helpless?
3. How will you practically apply Jesus’ summons to pray and go in this chapter?
4. How does God’s promised reward help fuel your faith and spur you to action?

**Day 9 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*

MATTHEW 5:16, CSB

Father, give me the faith to obey You in all things, so \_\_\_\_\_ can experience firsthand a life that has been transformed by Your Spirit. I pray for humility, so I will not merely do what is right to feel good about myself or in order to flaunt my morality in front of others. Give me wisdom to know how to leverage the obedience that You’ve called me to pursue in order to have opportunities to speak about why my life is different. Use the distinctive life Your Spirit produces in me and the good works You lead me to perform to cause \_\_\_\_\_ to long for the hope, peace, joy, and meaning that only comes to those who have experienced Your salvation.

**Day 15 of Prayer and Fasting**    **Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 11**

1. How can difficulties, disappointments and suffering feed into your doubts? How did this play out in John the Baptist’s life?
2. What difficulties, disappointments or sufferings are you currently dealing with?
3. How might Matthew 11:25-30 bring comfort?
4. Are your difficulties, disappointments, and suffering keeping you from obeying God?

**Day 10 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Brothers and sisters, my heart’s desire and prayer to God concerning them is for their salvation. I can testify about them that they have zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. Since they are ignorant of the righteousness of God and attempted to establish their own righteousness, they have not submitted to God’s righteousness. ROMANS 10:1–3, CSB*

Lord, I know it is possible for people to pursue meaningful things in this life in the vain hope that their zeal for what is perceived as good will somehow work to their eternal benefit. Far too often, those who are far from You assume things will work out in the end because they have been fairly good people in this life and given their time and energy to do what they consider good. Sadly, many are like those Paul prays for in this passage. They have zeal but lack knowledge of God’s righteousness seen in Jesus Christ. Awaken \_\_\_\_\_ to Your offer of salvation, and help him/her see the futility of anything other than You as a hope for eternal salvation.

**Day 16 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Thursday, March 28,**

**Reading: Matthew 12**

1. Why is Jesus so antagonist to a legalistic heart?
2. How do legalism and a desire to earn your standing before God manifest itself in your own life?
3. How might the portrait of Jesus' power in this chapter impact your view of spiritual warfare?

**Day 11 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. For this I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I might be bold enough to speak about it as I should. EPHESIANS 6:19–20, CSB*

God, I need boldness in order to share the gospel with \_\_\_\_\_. I know the message of the gospel is a mystery to those who are lost in their trespasses and sins. At one time, the gospel was a mystery to me as well. Your plan is that people would see and hear of Jesus through the witness of those who have experienced His grace and now see the gospel for the treasure it is. Grant me boldness to speak to \_\_\_\_\_ of the hope of the gospel. I need unwavering confidence that You will use my frail words to speak of You as I should.

**Day 17 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Friday, March 29,**

**Reading: Matthew 13**

1. How did Jesus' parables both reveal and conceal the truth?
2. How can the kingdom be both present and future?
3. How would you sum up the parable of the Sower? How might this parable help us to avoid forcing the issue with our one?
4. There are 7 parables and possibly 8 that teach of the Kingdom of heaven. What do they teach you about the importance of reaching your one?

**Day 12 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. 2 PETER 3:9, CSB*

Father, You have been patient with \_\_\_\_\_ up to this point in his/her life. Every day he/she lives is a testimony to the fact that You long for all people to hear the gospel and come to saving faith. Continue to show mercy and extend \_\_\_\_\_'s life. In Your kindness, allow him/her to experience the beautiful things You've created and that display Your glory. Protect him/her from the full extent of the consequences of his/her sin, and allow the consequences that he/she does experience to point him/her to the need for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Day 18 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Saturday, March 30, 2019**

**Reading: John 9:1-41**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 13 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*The Lord said to Abram: Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make you into a great nation, I will bless you, I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, I will curse anyone who treats you with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you. GENESIS 12:1–3, CSB*

Father, when I read the story of the call of Abram, I’m reminded that Your heart has always been for all the people and nations of the earth. You blessed Abram and gave him Your great promises so he could serve as a blessing to the nations. The same is true for all those who are heirs of these promises through salvation in Christ Jesus. We are all blessed to be a blessing to others—most importantly, to bless them by pointing them to their only hope in life and death. Make me a blessing to \_\_\_\_\_. Cause me to make Your name great as I declare and demonstrate the blessing of salvation in such a way that \_\_\_\_\_ will see Your glory.

**Day 19 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Sunday, March 31, 2019**

**No Reading – Attend Church**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 14 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One.”**

*The Lord—the Lord is a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger and abounding in faithful love and truth, maintaining faithful love to a thousand generations, forgiving iniquity, rebellion, and sin. EXODUS 34:6–7, CSB*

God, I know You as One who is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You have shown these characteristics to me time and time again. My heart breaks for the countless number of men and women who haven’t experienced Your character as I have. In particular, I pray for \_\_\_\_\_. I know he/she has some concepts of who You are—many of them probably inadequate or altogether faulty. I want him/her to know You as You truly are. Cause \_\_\_\_\_ to see You as the great God You are, and use me to reflect Your attributes.

**Day 20 of Prayer and Fasting****Monday, April 1, 2019****Reading: Matthew 14**

1. John the Baptist – Take a moment to read John 3:30.
  - a. What did John ask for?
  - b. Matthew 11 and 14 tells us how God granted John’s request. What happened to John? Look at Matthew 14:1-12. What was the final earthly end of John?
  - c. Why does it take so much faith and courage to pray “He must become greater; I must become less?”
  - d. Are you willing to pray that prayer today?
2. What are two lessons you can learn from Jesus’ feeding of the five thousand?
3. What evidence do you see in your life and in the life of the church that we are relying on God’s power to meet our needs?

**Day 15 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

Sing a new song to the Lord; let the whole earth sing to the Lord. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; proclaim his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his wondrous works among all peoples. PSALM 96:1–3, CSB

God, the psalmist calls me to sing to the Lord and declare His salvation among all people. Cause my life to overflowing with Your joy. Make me sing Your praises day-to-day. Bring to mind consistent evidence of Your grace in my life. As You do, make these realities spill over into the words I speak to \_\_\_\_\_. Allow me to testify to the wondrous works You’ve performed in my life. When I experience Your blessings, compel me to testify to the fact that God alone is the source of my joy and the only basis for my hope.

**Day 21 of Prayer and Fasting****Tuesday, April 2, 2019****Reading: Matthew 15**

1. What contemporary trends are putting pressure on believers to compromised faithfulness to God?
2. How can Christians respond to these trends with truth and grace? Why do you think so many Christians become outraged at these trends?
3. Describe a modern-day Pharisee.
4. Do you ever find yourself playing the part of a Pharisee?

**Day 16 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*For when there are many words, they increase futility. What is the advantage for mankind? For who knows what is good for anyone in life, in the few days of his futile life that he spends like a shadow? Who can tell anyone what will happen after him under the sun? ECCLESIASTES 6:11–12, CSB*

Lord, the wisdom of Ecclesiastes points out consistently that life in this world is futile apart from You. No wisdom, wealth or pleasure will satisfy. People like \_\_\_\_\_ pursue these very things with their lives, only to find that they overpromise and under-deliver. Nothing on this earth provides lasting meaning. Only You can do that. In Your mercy, allow \_\_\_\_\_ to see the futility of life without You. When he/she does, don’t allow him/her to despair, but cause him/her to direct his/her desperation to You. Make the futility of this life cause him/her to see that the only hope is You. Your salvation and the hope that comes from Jesus is the only thing that will never let him/her down.

**Day 22 of Prayer and Fasting  
2019**

**Wednesday, April 3,**

**Reading: Matthew 16**

1. In the stillness of the moment, who do you say Jesus is?
2. How would your “one” answer that question? How can you help them see the truth?
3. What do verses 24-25 teach you about Christ’s expectation of a life willingly following Him?
4. What does it mean to “take up his cross?”
5. How does verse 27 make everything worthwhile? How does an eternal perspective help us to lose our lives for His sake?

**Day 17 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*So the Lord said, “You cared about the plant, which you did not labor over and did not grow. It appeared in a night and perished in a night. But may I not care about the great city of Nineveh, which has more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot distinguish between their right and their left, as well as many animals?” JONAH 4:10–11, CSB*

Father, I know You are a kind God who cares about the lost and those destined for destruction. Like Nineveh of old, our world is filled with people who don’t know their right from their left. People like \_\_\_\_\_ live in sinful rebellion to You. You’ve appointed men and women to be Your mouthpiece to a dying world, just as Jonah was. Spare \_\_\_\_\_ from destruction, and use my words as a tool to call him/her to repentance. Allow me to speak clearly and boldly about the realities of hell and Your eternal wrath and call \_\_\_\_\_ to repent before it is too late.

**Day 23 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Thursday, April 4, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 17**

1. List five attributes of Jesus from Matthew 17?
2. How can these help you as you prayerfully reach your one?
3. Read verses 22-23. How do these verses show us that Jesus was not a victim of circumstances? Meditate on these verses for a few moments. What is God teaching you and showing you this morning?

**Day 18 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord’s glory, as the water covers the sea. HABAKKUK 2:14, CSB*

God, You have promised there will be a day when Your glory is seen and known throughout the earth. Right now, \_\_\_\_\_ does not have knowledge of Your glory. He/she is lost. I know Your glory already fills the earth. It’s seen in amazing sunrises, powerful thunderstorms and the laughter of children. Everywhere I look, I see things that cause me to praise You! \_\_\_\_\_ is blind to Your glory. He/she sees beauty and does not attribute it to You. He/she experiences joy and fails to understand You created it. Change his/her heart so he/she can know the Source of all that is great in this life.

**Day 24 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Friday, April 5, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 18**

1. What's the difference between having childlike faith and being immature in your faith?
2. What does Matthew 18 teach us about church discipline?
3. Is there anyone in the church you need to seek out forgiveness from?
4. What is the primary teaching of the parable of the Unmerciful Servant? How does it make you feel to realize how much God has forgiven you? How can you use that knowledge to help your one see their great need for forgiveness?
5. Is there anyone in your life God is asking you to forgive?

**Day 19 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*So he got into a boat, crossed over, and came to his own town. Just then some men brought to him a paralytic lying on a stretcher. Seeing their faith, Jesus told the paralytic, "Have courage, son, your sins are forgiven." MATTHEW 9:1-2, CSB*

Father, the Bible tells many stories of unnamed men and women who brought their friends to Jesus. I long to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to You as well. Like the paralytic in this story, I know You are capable of doing far more than merely addressing his/her external needs. You know his/her heart, and You are the only One who is able to forgive his/her sins. \_\_\_\_\_ may not even sense his/her need for forgiveness at this time, but I understand all people are dead in their sins and are hopeless and helpless apart from the forgiveness You offer. As I strive to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to You, do what only You are capable of doing and save him/her.

**Day 25 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Saturday, April 6, 2019**

**Reading: John 11:17-44**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 20 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*He has rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. In him we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. COLOSSIANS 1:13-14, CSB*

Lord, it is amazing to think of the great work You have done in my life. As Paul says, You have rescued me from the domain of darkness and transferred me into the kingdom of Your Son. I did not deserve this type of grace. No one does. You have done for Your people what they could not do for themselves, and now I boldly ask You to do the same for \_\_\_\_\_. Right now, he/she is in the domain of darkness, though he/she may not recognize it. Because of Your great love, grant \_\_\_\_\_ salvation and transfer him/her into Your kingdom of light.

**Day 26 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Sunday, April 7, 2019**

**No Reading:**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 21 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his faithful love endures forever.* 1 CHRONICLES 16:34, CSB

Father, I give thanks to You for Your goodness in my life. I know Your faithful love endures forever. You have never abandoned me, and You continue to demonstrate grace in my life, though I’m so prone to forget Your kindness or rebel against Your authority. \_\_\_\_\_ needs to know Your love. He/she needs more than an intellectual understanding of Your existence; rather he/she needs to experience the love You have demonstrated in my life. Break through his/her hard heart, and cause him/her to truly experience Your life-transforming love and to be able to join with me in giving You thanks for all You are and all You have done.

**Day 27 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Monday, April 8, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 19**

1. Why are people resistance to receiving salvation as a free gift? Does this explain anything about your one?
2. What does it mean to come to Christ as a child?
3. What is Matthew trying to teach us about salvation from the story of the rich young ruler?
4. Jesus accepts the children but rejects the ruler? What is the lesson? How can this lesson help us to win our one?

**Day 22 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*In him you also were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and when you believed.* EPHESIANS 1:13, CSB

God, I know You give Your promised Holy Spirit to all those whom You have saved. Your Spirit is a defining mark of Your people. I pray \_\_\_\_\_ would experience Your salvation and receive the gift of Your Spirit. I know it is Your Spirit who works in the hearts of people like \_\_\_\_\_ to convince them of their sin and their need for Jesus. I ask that Your Spirit do this work in \_\_\_\_\_’s life and that Your Spirit will fill and seal him/her when he/she hears Your Word and believes the truth of Your gospel.

**Day 28 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 20**

1. What does the parable of the workers in a vineyard teach us about God's grace?
2. Read verses 17-19. If Jesus knew going to Jerusalem would assure his death, why did He go? He could have gone anywhere but Jerusalem and be spared crucifixion.
3. Compare and contrast the heart of the blind men to the hearts of the disciples.

**Day 23 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*"Listen! Consider the sower who went out to sow. As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured it. Other seed fell on rocky ground where it didn't have much soil, and it grew up quickly, since the soil wasn't deep. When the sun came up, it was scorched, and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns came up and choked it, and it didn't produce fruit. Still other seed fell on good ground and it grew up, producing fruit that increased thirty, sixty, and a hundred times." Then he said, "Let anyone who has ears to hear listen."*  
MARK 4:3-9, CSB

Father, cause the seed being sown in \_\_\_\_\_'s life to produce fruit. I know the enemy likes nothing more than to see the sun or thorns destroy the seed of the gospel in his/her life. Do the work of tilling the soil in his/her heart, so the message of the gospel is received. I know You are able to transform even the hardest heart, as You demonstrated in the transformation of the apostle Paul. Nothing is impossible for You. I ask You to show Your power once again and cause \_\_\_\_\_ to produce exponential fruit.

**Day 29 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 21**

1. As you begin to read about the Passion week, how do you think the disciples felt during the triumphant entry?
2. What does the story of the fig tree teach us about the importance of bearing fruit as a church and individual?
3. How might Matthew 21:28-32 be an indictment on nominal Christians, that is, those who profess Christ but do not truly know Him?
4. Why would Jesus continue to be so antagonistic against the Pharisees? (see 33-46).

**Day 24 of Focused Prayer for "Who's Your One"**

*Looking at him, Jesus loved him and said to him, "You lack one thing: Go, sell all you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me." But he was dismayed by this demand, and he went away grieving, because he had many possessions.* MARK 10:21-22, CSB

God, there is so much in this world that wars against people coming to faith in You and giving their lives to follow You as a disciple. There is perhaps no greater obstacle than possessions and money. I know You have said it is difficult for the rich to enter Your kingdom. Though \_\_\_\_\_ may not consider himself/ herself rich in this life, I know it is possible for possessions, or the pursuit of those possessions, to cause a person to reject You. Show \_\_\_\_\_ the futility of pursuing things of this world that can be destroyed in a moment, and cause him/her to consider the reality of eternity. As he/she does, show him/her You are a greater treasure than anything this life could provide.

**Day 30 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Thursday, April 11, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 22**

1. How would you summarize the warning in the parable of the Wedding Feast in verses 1-14?
2. What were the underlying motives of those who questioned Jesus in verses 16-40?
3. How would you describe the hearts of the Sadducees and the Pharisees? We must war against our hearts not to have the same type of heart. Why is that so important?

**Day 25 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*When they heard this, they were pierced to the heart and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles: “Brothers, what should we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ACTS 2:37–38, CSB*

Father, I long for \_\_\_\_\_ to ask this question: What must I do to be saved? Right now he/she is content to live apart from Your love, but I know all of that can change in a moment. Awaken him/her to his/her need for the gospel. Give me the courage to call \_\_\_\_\_ to repentance, and grant me the joy of seeing him/her baptized as a public testimony of his/her faith in Jesus Christ. I know You forgive sins and give Your Holy Spirit to all those who are saved. I pray he/she would connect to Your Church and be disciplined to maturity following his/her conversion.

**Day 31 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Friday, April 12, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 23**

1. How would you define hypocrisy? Why do you think even unbelievers despise hypocrisy?
2. Compare Matthew 23 to the teaching about faith and works in James 2:14-26 and the necessity of righteousness in 1 John 3:4-10.
3. What is the correlation of the heart of the Pharisee we saw on day 30 and to hypocrisy?
4. In what ways do you see yourself in Jesus’ indictment of the Pharisees?

**Day 26 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*When this corruptible body is clothed with incorruptibility, and this mortal body is clothed with immortality, then the saying that is written will take place: Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, death, is your victory? Where, death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! 1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-57, CSB*

God, the resurrection is my hope. I believe Jesus rose victorious over Satan, sin and death, and His resurrection was the first fruits of all those who have faith in His work. We, too, will rise again one day! \_\_\_\_\_ does not know this same hope. Remind him/her of his/her own mortality, and create an awareness of his/her need for eternal hope. Use the reality of the brokenness of this life and the reality of death to jar \_\_\_\_\_ from his/her complacency, and position those who know You to testify to the hope of the resurrection.

**Day 32 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**

**Reading: None**

**Pray for the adult choir as they present the Easter Cantata.**

Weekend questions: .

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 27 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Therefore, we don’t need to say anything, for they themselves report what kind of reception we had from you: how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.* 1 THESSALONIANS 1:8–10, CSB

Lord, Paul gives thanks for those in the Church who turned from idols to serve You, the true and living God. This is exactly what \_\_\_\_\_ needs to do. Though he/she would likely not admit he/she is serving idols, that’s exactly what’s happening. Money. Power. Possessions. Fame. Anything other than You! Cause \_\_\_\_\_ to see these things for what they are— frail and flimsy sources of hope and ultimately not worthy of worship. I pray for a time when I will be able to look back on \_\_\_\_\_ ’s life and testify that he/she turned from idols to trust in You—the only true God.

**Day 33 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Sunday, April 14, 2019**

**Reading: None**

Weekend questions:

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What did you learn about yourself this week?
3. Did God impress anything on your heart concerning FSBC?
4. What is God asking of you this coming week?

**Day 28 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*Dear friends, don’t overlook this one fact: With the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.* 2 PETER 3:8–9, CSB

Father, thank You for being patient with \_\_\_\_\_. I know every day You extend his/her life is testimony to Your longsuffering and desire for all people to know and personally experience the hope that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. I also understand You could return at any moment and, when You do, it will be too late for those who have never repented of their sins and trusted You. I pray this reality will create a sense of urgency in my life and cause me to share with boldness. I ask that Your kindness will lead \_\_\_\_\_ to repent of his/her sins and experience life with You now and forever.

**Day 34 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Monday, April 15, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 24; Pages 35-38 in “The Final Days”**

1. Summarize the overarching point of Matthew 24:1-36 in one or two sentences? What does Jesus want you to learn about the last days?
2. How should we respond to those who take a different view of prophecies in scripture?
3. What does it look like for you to be early watching and waiting for Christ’s return?
4. How should the second coming of Christ inform and fuel our gospel witness to Salina and the world?

**Day 29 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”**

*And they sang a new song: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slaughtered, and you purchased people for God by your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation. REVELATION 5:9, CSB*

God, You are worthy of the worship of all people. You created all things for Your glory and made every person who has ever lived to proclaim Your excellence. This is true of \_\_\_\_\_, as well. When I read John’s picture of the worship of every tribe, tongue and nation in heaven, I picture \_\_\_\_\_ among that group. Save him/her, so he/she would join in the chorus of those who praise You as worthy. As I seek to share with \_\_\_\_\_, burden my heart for all people around the world who do not know You. Save \_\_\_\_\_, and use him/her to declare Your glory among the nations as well.

**Day 35 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 25; Pages 39-46 in “The Final Days”**

1. Do you ever doubt that Christ’s second coming will actually happen?
2. From this chapter, what are some pieces of evidence that are true of followers of Christ? Do you see these in your own life?
3. How would you reply to someone who asks, “What does the Bible say about the destiny of those who genuinely followed Christ and those who lived in unbelief?”

**Day 30 of Focused Prayer for “Who’s Your One”***Then I heard a loud voice from the throne: Look, God’s dwelling is with humanity, and he will live with them. They will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and will be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; grief, crying, and pain will be no more, because the previous things have passed away. Then the one seated on the throne said, “Look, I am making everything new.” He also said, “Write, because these words are faithful and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will freely give to the thirsty from the spring of the water of life. REVELATION 21:3–6, CSB*

Lord, I long for the day when You will make all things new. This world is broken, and I know You will come and recreate all things. I know You have set a day when Christ will return and do just that. I ask You to save \_\_\_\_\_ before that great day. Make him/her thirsty for the water of life You freely give. Use the witness of Your people to point him/her to salvation through Jesus Christ. I know You are the Beginning and the End—the only hope for salvation for all people. So, I ask You to give \_\_\_\_\_ new life in Christ.

**Day 36 of Prayer and Fasting****Wednesday, April 17, 2019****Reading: Matthew 26; Pages 47-50 in “The Final Days”**

1. Explain why Matthew 26-27 is so crucial to our understanding of God, the world, sin, and salvation?
2. What impact should the cross have on our reading of the previous chapters in Matthew?
3. Why do you think Peter was so confident he would not deny Christ? Do we have the same confidence? How role does humility play?
4. What do you think is the cup Christ asked to be taken away?
5. (62-64) Who did Jesus say he was? Who do you say Jesus is?

**Things to consider:**

You have prayed for your “one” for 30 days. What is God asking you to do next? Is it time to interact more with your “one?” Is God asking you to invite him/her to our Easter Worship service on Sunday? Prayerfully consider your next step. Ask the Father what He wants from you concerning your “one.”

Easter is just a few days away. This may be a good day to fast from one meal. Consider fasting from a meal and spending that time in focused prayer for our Easter Outreach event on Saturday. We believe God wants us to engage the community of Salina with the Gospel. This event is one of the ways we see God using First Southern Baptist Church. Ask God to help us as we plan and implement this event. Ask Him to continue to draw people to Himself. Pray the unchurched come to a place where they can respond to the Holy Spirit’s convicting power. Pray all goes smoothly and the church can display the love of Christ to our guest.

**Day 37 of Prayer and Fasting****Thursday, April 18, 2019****Reading: Matthew 27; Pages 51-94 in “The Final Days”**

1. Discuss how the following attributes are displayed in the cross: sovereignty, righteousness, wrath, and love?
2. How does the cross expose our sin? What does it say about the seriousness of our sin?
3. Explain the terms substitution, propitiation (atonement). How would you explain these terms to an unbeliever?
4. How does the truth of Christ’s substitutionary death impact our daily pursuit of holiness?
5. How does the cross rule out the possibility of works-based righteousness?

Our journey is quickly coming to an end. It is my prayer you have found these days very helpful in your spiritual transformation. Thursday is one of my big “study” days. As you walk through your Thursday, please pray for me. Our text for Easter Sunday is John 20:1-9 and 1 Corinthians 15:12-58.

1. Pray that the Spirit will grant me wisdom to discern the text and to divide the Word correctly.
2. Pray that I might have wisdom to apply the text in a way that both challenges and convicts the people.
3. Pray the message will bring glory to God, joy to the church, and salvation to the lost.

Before getting on with your day, pray for your pastor. Pray for your church and Easter weekend. We are moving our hearts outwardly. Salina will be coming to our church on Saturday. How is God asking you to help Him in our Easter outreach?

**Day 38 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Friday, April 19, 2019**

**Reading: Matthew 28; Pages 95-168 in “The Final Days”**

1. Jesus is dead. But the story is not over. God had a different plan for His Son. What does the resurrection personally mean to you?
2. Explain why the Christian faith stands or falls based on Christ’s resurrection.
3. How does the truth of the resurrection fit into a presentation of the Gospel?
4. How should the resurrection inform your reading of the entirety of Matthew’s Gospel?
5. Verses 18-20 are known as the Great Commission. In your own words, what does it say for you? What does it say for our church? How are these words a call to urgency?

It’s Friday but Sunday’s coming. Every Good Friday Heidi and I say this phrase to each other multiple times. It is a phrase of hope, assurance and confidence. Too often we get stuck between the events of Friday and the glorious events on Sunday. I hope you are planning on joining us for our Good Friday Service this evening at 6:00 pm. This is a very holy and somber service. Before celebrating Sunday, we grieve the death of our Savior. Attending the Good Friday service is a wonderful way of setting your heart right before God and preparing you for the celebration of Easter.

1. Our Easter Outreach is a few hours away. Spend time praying for the outreach. Pray that many people will come and pray our people will be able to interact and love on each one. Ask God to bring them back on Sunday morning.
2. Ask the Father what your role should be on Saturday.
3. Have you invited your “one” to our Easter Service?

**Day 39 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Saturday, April 20, 2019**

**Reading: Page 169-171 in “The Final Days”**

This is a day of work, rest, and reflection. If you are able, please join us at the church around 10:30 am to help with our Easter Outreach event. You may already have job duties. If not, simply come. We need everyone to interact with those who come. Salina is coming to us. Let’s be ready.

Spend the rest of the day in reflection. This would be a great day to go for a long walk. As you walk, pray. Ask the Spirit to guide your thoughts and prayers. Pray for our Easter Service. Pray fervently for me.

This has been an amazing day. God has richly blessed us by bringing Salina to our church. Thank Him for his grace toward us. Tomorrow will be a great day. I hope you are planning on coming and you have invited someone.

**Day 40 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Sunday, April 21, 2019**

**Reading: Page 173-193 in “The Final Days”**

He is risen! Let those words ring in our ears. “He is not here: He has risen” (Matthew 28:6). What do these words mean to you? What do these words mean to your eternity? Join us this morning as we celebrate the resurrection. We will have a sunrise service under the tower on Markley Street at 6:45 am. Our Easter Worship Celebration begins at 10:30 am.

This is a day of worship. Tomorrow morning, we will conclude our journey together and wrap up some important loose ends.

See you at the church in a few minutes. Say one final prayer for me as I enter the pulpit.

**Day 41 of Prayer and Fasting**

**Monday, April 22, 2019**

**Reading: Pages 195-204**

You have completed the journey. Thank you for coming along with me. Take just a moment to consider the following questions. If you remember, they were part of your day three.

1. What drives you?
2. What things spiritually has God put on your heart that you long to see come to fruition in your lifetime?
3. What do you think the next audacious prayer the church should be praying?
4. Change in a church is inevitable. What are some changes needed in our church?
5. What do you hope never changes?
6. If God could use you to accomplish one thing for His Kingdom and glory, what would you want it to be?
7. After spending 40 days with God, what do you sense Him wanting to do in and through FSBC?

I’d love to hear your answers. Would you be willing to share with me? Join us Sunday at 5:00 pm to discuss what God did for you as you walked with Him these past 40 days.

What do I do next?

Continue to daily seek God in His Word and through Prayer. Continue to pray for and reach your “one.” If your “one” comes to faith, find a different “one.”

Come talk about your 40 days this Sunday, April 28 at 5:00 pm.

