

PRAYER CALENDAR

WEEK
SIX

WEEK SIX: VICTORY OVER DARKNESS (DELIVER US FROM EVIL)

APRIL 21-28

2025

MONDAY APRIL 21 LOCAL CHURCH

INTRO: It's not uncommon to be confronted by the narrative of a darkening world; one becoming more evil with each passing day. Stories of churches closing and others overcome by scandal can cause us to retreat behind the safety of the four walls of our church buildings. But this is not to be the position of the church. We are called to be a people who stand firm, shining the light of the One who has definitively overcome evil in the community around us. Today, let us pray that we are reminded of this call, looking for ways to bear light in a dark world.

PRAYER: Father, there are days when, as churches, we feel like the odds are stacked against us. There are days when we admit that we feel that we are fighting a losing battle. Remind us today, O Lord, of the reality that in You, we are light, light that shines brightly, overcoming the evil of our world. Help us as churches to move beyond the four walls of our buildings, refusing to place our lamp under a bowl. Instead, inspire us to let our light – which is but a reflection of Your light, Jesus – shine brilliantly in our communities. Deliver us, Spirit of God, from evil. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)

TUESDAY APRIL 22 PERSONAL

INTRO: As churches, we can feel deepening darkness in the world, but it is also something that can be experienced on a personal level. The experience of darkness can have a debilitating effect on us; we can feel immobile and overwhelmed. But today, let us recall the simple truth that, by faith in Jesus, we are more than conquerors, capable of overcoming the evil of our world because Jesus has already overcome it on our behalf. Let us remember that individually, as co-heirs with Christ, we have overcome!

PRAYER: Father, help me to trust in Your unfailing love so that no matter what darkness I face – death, demons, height or depth – I might remember that by faith in You, I am more than a conqueror. Help me to live victoriously, in humility claiming the victory You won, Jesus, over sin, death and all that is evil. Assist me, Spirit, to live in victory. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:37-39)

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WEDNESDAY APRIL 23 NATIONAL

INTRO: It could be said that very little tends to change in our world. As was the case in ancient Israel and Christ's day too, we live in a world where nation vies against nation for supremacy. In this pursuit of national supremacy, it is important that we acknowledge that God states that among all nations, He will be exalted; among all peoples, Christ's victory over evil will be acknowledged. Let us pray then that our national leaders might for a time "be still" and recognize the incredible glory of God in Christ Jesus.

PRAYER: Father, You have overcome and to You belongs all glory, honour and power. Help our national leaders to recognize Your supremacy, that they might be still before you, acknowledging your great victory. Would you deliver them from the evil that confuses them of this reality, convincing them that by their striving they might overcome? Help them, O Lord to trust in You, and might the fruit of such righteousness flood our nation. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." (Psalm 46:10)

THURSDAY APRIL 24 GLOBAL

INTRO: As those serving Christ globally, many of our global workers have a different perspective on the evil in our world than we here in Canada. By learning to share in ministry together – by forming gospel partnerships – we can equip one another to more fully live in victory over the evil of our world. Today, let us pray for our global workers, asking for their deliverance from evil, but let us also pray that we might with open hearts learn from their experiences where evil has been overcome in the name of Jesus.

PRAYER: Father, help those who serve us globally to trust in the promise of Revelation 7:9-10, that one day, people from every nation, tribe, people and language will proclaim your victory over sin, death and evil. For those times when this vision seems fleeting, would you strengthen the resolve of our global workers? For moments when this vision plays out nearly in real-time, help us to celebrate well with our global workers, learning from them as gospel partners. Might your victory over evil, O Lord, multiply globally through the work and prayers of your people. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: After this, I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." (Revelation 7:9-10)

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FRIDAY APRIL 25 YOUNG PEOPLE

INTRO: In a world where it's often easy to repay hurt with hurt, we're seeing more and more that responding to evil with evil isn't the way of Jesus. Our younger generation faces a culture where fighting back is seen as a victory, but as followers of Jesus, we're called to something different. We're called to respond to hate with love, to show kindness even when it's not deserved, and to pray for those who hurt us. We are called to be the best neighbours, those who love even their enemies. Let us love our young people well, showing them what true goodness looks like, and helping them when they do the same for their communities. This is how we can truly build the Kingdom of God here and now — with hearts full of grace, courage, and hope

PRAYER: Father, today we reflect on the call to overcome evil with good. In a world where it's so easy to fight back with more hurt, help all of us to be the ones who break the cycle with love and prayer. Flood our communities with goodness, and give extra kindness and courage to the next generation, as your Kingdom comes to earth. Help young people rise up to respond with grace — to love those who hate them, and to pray for those who persecute them. May their actions point others to the saving power of Jesus Christ and the hope He offers.

SCRIPTURE: "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." (Romans 12:21)
"But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:44-45)

SATURDAY APRIL 26 LEADERS

INTRO: Leadership challenges abound in a world where evil is considered good. Living in victory as a leader requires we tread the paths of righteousness that those who follow us might also walk in the way of the Lord. At times, our light seems too dim to reveal the path to walk, but You, O Lord, have given us the incredible light of Your word to guide and direct. Today, we pray that our leaders might be those firmly anchored in Your word, that their path might be brightly lit so that we might follow in security.

PRAYER: Father, today we lift our leaders to You, asking that You might cause them to be men and women firmly entrenched in Your word. We ask that the light of Your word might truly reveal to them the path ahead, that their leadership might be faithful and true, guiding others to safety and security in You, Jesus. Open their eyes to the light of Your Word and empower them to share with those who follow the paths You have revealed. As our leaders are delivered from evil, might we too who follow experience the same deliverance. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path. (Psalm 119:105)

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SUNDAY APRIL 27 THE LEAST OF THESE

INTRO: Sometimes, victory over evil feels pretty far off. When the most vulnerable among us still face scorn and oppression, it can seem like declaring victory doesn't make much sense. But no matter how things look, Christ's victory on the cross is never meaningless. As we think back to Easter Sunday, let's remember this: when we were at our weakest — when our spiritual poverty and the weight of oppression were most obvious — Jesus gave us the most incredible victory in the most unexpected way. Who would've thought that through His willing submission to death, the door to eternal life would be opened? Not many of us ... but God sure did!

PRAYER: Father, thank you that there is no one beyond you! Your victory over evil extends to all creation! Your victory over sin, death and evil is applied equally from top to bottom, from those in positions of power and influence to the least among us. The victory, however, is the same. Regardless of status or standing, we can equally declare that "death has been swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:54). When this truth feels vague among those on the margins, help me to declare Christ's victory in word and deed on their behalf, expressing faithful thanksgiving to Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:57) But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)