



On Your Mark!

Connecting in prayer at the AVC

"Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us" (Hebrews 12:1)

April 2006

Connect

1st & 3rd *Sundays*, 6:00–7:30pm—
Unveiled (Auditorium)

2nd *Sundays*, 8:30–10:00am—
Prophetic Roundtable (youth room)

Every *Sunday*, 9:30–10:15am—Pre-
service prayer (Prayer Room)

Every *Monday*, 1:00–2:00pm—
Prayer for the Atlanta Vineyard
(Prayer Room) 770-925-8823

Every *Tuesday*, 7:00–8:00am—
Father's Heart prayer (Café) [men
only]

1st *Tuesdays*, 6:00–8:00pm— Pray
with clients at Norcross Co-op (2275
Mitchell Rd, Norcross), 770-274-
1010 ext. 23

Every *Wednesday*, 7:00–8:30pm—
Prayer classes (see website for class
titles & teachers)

Every *Wednesday*, 9:00pm—Pray
with Frank & Sandra (Duluth), 770-
935-8098

Every *Thursday*, 11:15am—Prayer
for Families (Higher Ground Coffee
House, Duluth) 770-886-5644
[women only]

Every *Thursday*, 7:00–7:30pm—
Prayer for re:vision (Prayer Room)
404-275-0927

Most days (call for times)—Pray w/
patients at Good Samaritan Health
Center (Duluth) 404-512-4340

Dwell and Rest

"He who dwells in the shelter of the
Most High will rest in the shadow of
the Almighty." (Psalm 91:1)

See, the Lion has Triumphed!

By Karen Sculley

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Revelation 5:5 - "*Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah . . . has triumphed.*"

The Lord strongly impressed this verse on me at Unveiled the other night. Those who know me well know I often practice the ministry of weeping - since I basically didn't cry at all until the Lord took me into deep brokenness about 10 years ago, I guess I have a lot of catching up to do! There's good weeping and bad weeping—the bad kind is the kind that makes you feel worse afterwards, and the thing you see most clearly is your own navel; the good kind is the kind that produces repentance or intercessory burden-bearing kind of weeping and results in more of the fullness of Christ in you. Webster's defines "weep" as "to express deep sorrow for, usually by shedding tears". We all carry deep sorrows in our heart, sometimes for ourselves, sometimes for others, sometimes for the future, sometimes for the past. Thankfully, the Lord has given us a precious remedy for all our sorrows - to "*see the Lion of the tribe of Judah.*" Jesus is the sum of all our tears!

We need to look at Jesus. Like Aslan, the King of the Beasts in Narnia, Jesus is definitely not a tame lion—He's the overcoming, conquering, triumphant Lion. On the cross, He purchased us with His blood. He has won. He doesn't promise us that He will remove all sorrow until the day when we see Him face to face and He wipes away every tear from our eyes, but He does promise us comfort in the fact that He's already won! Our job is only to look at Him (and tell others what we've seen). If it's so simple, why are we not always able to see Him?

Firstly, have faith in God. God always brings us to a place where we have to trust in Him. "*Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.*" (Hebrews 11:6)

Next, we need to open our spiritual eyes. Actually, we need to ask God to open them. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus did not realize they were seeing Jesus until "*their eyes were opened and they recognized him.*" Ask the Lord to open the eyes of your heart so you can see Him, and *know the hope to which He has called us, and His incomparably great power for us who believe* (Ephesians 1:18). We'll know these things when we see Him as He is.

Finally, we need to make sure we're looking in the right direction. A friend once told me about his father's experience in applying to join the military. When told to read the eye chart on the wall, he responded with, "What wall?" Obviously his eyesight was so dismal, he didn't even realize he was looking in completely the wrong direction. I think we can get spiritually disoriented like that. Look away from the myriads of things that keep you so easily distracted and busy, and keep your focus on Jesus.

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His Glory and Grace.*

Even though King Solomon was "*greater in riches and wisdom than all the other kings of the earth,*" when the Queen of Sheba came to check him out, she said, "*I did not believe these things until I came and saw with my own eyes. Indeed, not even half was told me; in wisdom and wealth you have far exceeded the report I heard.*" If that was true of Solomon, a mere man (who was exceedingly blessed by God), how much more so is that true of Jesus, the conquering Lion! His wisdom and wealth far exceeds anything anyone could ever describe - words are not enough - He invites us to see Him with our own eyes. He is "*worthy to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and glory and honor and praise!*" (Revelation 5:12) He far exceeds anything we could ever imagine or guess or request in our wildest dreams (Ephesians 3:20, The Message).

Do not weep! See Jesus. He has triumphed!

Pre-service prayer

Every Sunday, 9:30 - 10:15am, Prayer Room

Pre-service prayer is a crucial part of each Sunday service at the AVC. The focus of our pre-service prayer meetings is prayer for Sunday services [in the auditorium, preschool, kids' church, Crossover, Nexus]. When our prayers are focused, they are more effective. We also like to lay hands on those who will be leading services. Everyone is welcome!

Contact: Karen Sculley, 404-388-0518,
karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com

The body of Christ needs you!

Regardless of your:

- Gifts
- Talents
- Schedule
- Experience

there is a place for you to serve in the prayer & prophetic ministries of the Atlanta Vineyard. All you need is a heart for God and a heart to serve.

Let me know if you're interested!

Contact: Karen Sculley, 404-388-0518,
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Unveiled

1st & 3rd Sundays, 6:00pm, Great Room

Unveiled is our twice a month Sunday evening service, and is basically 90 minutes of extended worship . . . in other words, musical prayers expressing our love to God. We welcome the Lord through worship and He responds to us through stirring our hearts to pray and through Scripture, prophetic words, visions, and songs. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom! If we seek His hand--what He can do for us--we miss out on the intimacy that He so desires us to have with Him. But if we seek His face, He blesses us with His presence, and delights to open His hand to us as well. Unveiled is an intentional time set aside to seek the Lord for no other reason than He is worthy to be sought. Everyone is welcome, and childcare is available.

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Prayer classes – Wednesday nights, 7:00–8:30pm

Please join us for some great teaching, discussion, and prayer time at our midweek prayer classes.

Apr 12th – “Lest We Forget: Journaling Prayer” (Lu Allison)

Apr 19th – “It Takes a Village: Hearing God’s Will in Community” (Andy Blacknell)

Apr 26th – “Never Give Up: Praying the Way to Christ for Lost Loved Ones” (Karen Sculley)

May 3rd – “Mission Impossible: Praying With Faith” (Lynn Elam)

A Little Inspiration . . .

“Pray so that there is a real continuity between your prayer and your whole actual life.”

P. T. Forsyth
The Soul of Prayer

