



# On Your Mark!

Connecting in prayer at the AVC

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

May 2005

## Connect

Every Sunday, 9:30am & 5:30pm —  
Pre-service prayer (Prayer Room)

3rd Sunday of each month, 9:15—  
10:15am—Pray for Central Asia  
(upstairs classroom)

Every Monday, 1:00pm — Prayer  
for the Atlanta Vineyard (Prayer  
Room)

Every Tuesday, 7:00am — Father's  
Heart men's prayer (Café)

Every Tuesday, 6:00—8:00pm —  
Prayer Ministry Team at Norcross  
Co-op, 2275 Mitchell Rd, Norcross

Every Wednesday, 9:00pm — Pray  
with Frank & Sandra, 678-957-1519  
(Duluth)

3rd Wednesday of each month,  
8:00-10:00pm — Pray at IHOP-  
Atlanta, 750 Indian Trail Rd,  
Lilburn

1st & 3rd Friday of each month,  
7:30pm — Unveiled (Auditorium)

Every Saturday, 10:00am—12:00pm  
— Prayer Ministry Team at Norcross  
Co-op, 2275 Mitchell Rd, Norcross

## Whose fool are you?

"We are fools for Christ" (1  
Corinthians 4:10)

## Website

Visit us on the web at  
[www.atlantavineyard.com/prayer](http://www.atlantavineyard.com/prayer)

## Foolish & weak

The Lord highlighted a passage from Zechariah for me recently that I'd like to share with you, knowing that God is preparing you for works of service, to build up the body of Christ. Whatever circumstances we find ourselves in today, I want to encourage each of us to remember that God can and wants to use us, foolish and weak as we are, to accomplish great things for Him!

*"The angel . . . wakened me, as a man is wakened from his sleep." (Zechariah 4:1)* Like Zechariah, our spirits are willing but our flesh is weak. We need God to awaken us, as our carnal tendency is to slumber, to drift off, to stagnate. Whenever He speaks to us, we can ask God to fully awaken us. The sons of Korah asked themselves, *"Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God."* (Psalm 42:5) We, too, can stir up ourselves and one another, through God's word, encouragement, prayer, and gentle prodding. *"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."* (Hebrews 10:24)

*"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the LORD Almighty. 'What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground.'"* (Zechariah 4: 6–7) When God has work to do, the mountains that stand in the way of it dwindle into mole-hills. What mountain that appears so looming, so threatening, so fearful, could stand in God's way and stop the progress of His kingdom? Jesus Christ is our Zerubbabel—all mountains that stand in His way are leveled, all burdens are lightened, all opposition is overcome. Jesus said, *"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."* (Matthew 17:20) *"My yoke is easy and my burden is light."* (Matthew 11:30) *"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* (John 16:33) There is nothing that is too hard for Him!

*"Who despises the day of small things? Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel."* (Zechariah 4:10) A plumb line is a humble tool used by carpenters to establish a vertical line. Let's place ourselves in the hands of our Master carpenter and allow Him to vertically align us with His purposes as He builds His church. God often chooses weak and unlikely instruments to bring about great things. We should never despise small beginnings, whether in ourselves or others, because God can bring great increase; even a tiny grain of mustard-seed may become a great tree. Let us fix our faith on Jesus Christ—He is accomplishing His work according to His own glorious plan. Each day brings His spiritual building nearer to completion.

*"Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise . . . influential . . . of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong"* (1 Corinthians 1:26–27) It's tempting to run after well-known authors, teachers, preachers, evangelists, worship leaders, etc. We're attracted by fame, by popularity, by influence, by success. But what we really need is to stop and listen to the Holy Spirit in us, knowing that He is more than able to tell us whatever we need to know through His word, using foolish & weak people like you and me. Are we foolish enough to believe that any of us can be used mightily of God? Then, hearing, we simply do what He's said. Having lots of children to frequently explain the mysteries of life to has helped me enormously to realize how very simple God's plan really is. It's all about Him & His great love for us.

*Wake us up, O God, to be fully alive in You. Help us to stir ourselves and one another up, knowing that time is short and the day of Your return is near. Forgive us for hiding behind mountains that we've accepted as part of the landscape. Forgive us for being afraid, for looking at our weaknesses instead of You. Forgive us for not calling out to You. We declare that You are mighty, You are willing, You are able to level every difficulty, to replace our heavy burdens with Your rest and peace, to make the paths smooth beneath our feet. We rejoice in You, Lord! Speak to us, God—we want to hear Your voice clearly. Have Your way in us! Move us so our faith will be accompanied by action. Come quickly, Lord Jesus. We love you.*

By Karen Sculley (AVC prayer ministry  
leader, [karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com](mailto:karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com))

## Global Day of Prayer

This is a 3-part worldwide prayer event that 200,000,000 people from 175 nations are expected to participate in! The purpose is to ask God to reveal His glory and bless the nations of the earth.

**Part 1** — 10 days of prayer, May 5th-14th, leading up to Pentecost Sunday. Prayer guides are available in the lobby May 8th & 15th.

**Part 2** — Gather at Phillips Arena for a time of prayer for the world (3:00-6:00pm). Free tickets are available in the lobby May 8th & 15th.

**Part 3** — 90 days of blessing. Our church will join with many others in serving the community we have been praying for!

Contact: [Karen Sculley](mailto:karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com), 770-279-9379, [karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com](mailto:karen.sculley@atlantavineyard.com)

## Adopt-a-youth

Adopt-a-youth is about praying for the youth in our midst. If you feel a burden for youth, why not adopt a youth in prayer? You will be assigned a youth to pray for regularly for 1 month. This will be done anonymously, though you will be given their first names. You will be praying for, but not with, the youth you adopt (no personal contact).

You can begin any time. This is a way you can connect in prayer wherever you are. Our youth need our prayers!

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## Pre-service prayer

Every Sunday, 9:30am & 5:30pm, Prayer Room

Pre-service prayer is a crucial part of each Sunday service at the AVC. We have two times of pre-service prayer: 9:30am for the morning service; 5:30pm for VSN. Both are held in the Prayer Room, which is across the hallway from the Great Room. We pray for all aspects of Sunday services and ministries, and lay hands on those who will be leading services. Everyone is welcome!

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*If you want to grow in the prophetic, come join us at the Prophetic Community Roundtable on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 8:30 to 10:00am in the youth room! [May 8th, June 12th, . . .]*

*Please go to the prayer section of the AVC website ([www.atlantavineyard.com](http://www.atlantavineyard.com)) to submit prophetic words, dreams, visions, pictures, or Scriptures that you believe are for the Atlanta Vineyard.*

## A Little Inspiration . . .

"I can worry myself into a state of spiritual ennui over questions like, 'What good does it do to pray if God already knows everything?' Jesus silences such questions. He prayed; so should we."

**Philip Yancey**  
*The Jesus I Never Knew*

