

DEVOTIONAL | WEEK 6

unleashed  prayer

As we heard Sunday, an *Unleashed* church is a praying church. So, this week's devotional will look a little different.

1. No Empty to be Filled exercise.
2. No memory verse.
3. No Digging Deeper.

We will join the *Take 10* prayer gatherings. Every day at 8 AM, noon, and 5 PM you are invited to join your NMC family for 10 minutes of prayer. You can do that by:

- Live streaming: Visit nmc.church and click on the **Live Stream button** in the top right corner.
- Listening through a phone call: Call **1-888-285-0307**. When asked for a participant code, type **41772** followed by the **#** sign.

Each day, we will focus our prayer around a different theme or group. Our devotional journey will involve a Scripture reading on that theme/group and some reflection questions to help us focus our prayer throughout the day.

read

Read Nehemiah 4:13-14.

Some context

This passage comes at a point in Israel's history when people who are rebuilding the Jerusalem wall are facing opposition. Nehemiah makes the strategic move to divide the work among families and places the responsibility of defending the efforts on family units. Nehemiah doesn't call the people to pray in this moment, but what we see is very transferrable to our prayer lives. Prayer has a lot of aspects to it, but one is spiritual battle.

Read Ephesians 6:12, 18.

reflect

Where are spiritual battles happening in your family and with whom?

Who else in your family do you need to focus your prayer on today, and why?

read

Read Matthew 22:37-40.

Did you ever think about how Jesus basically summed up every word of Scripture in these verses? He even says this in verse 40, "All the law and the prophets hang on these two commands."

Today, we will focus our prayer on our neighbors. Jesus defined our neighbors in the broadest sense possible. It includes anyone we come in contact with. For today, let's focus on non-family members we interact with on a regular basis.

reflect

Who are your co-workers, fellow students and/or neighbors who face tough circumstances or setbacks?

Who are your co-workers, fellow students, and/or neighbors not listed above who need prayer today, and how do you sense you should pray for them?

read

Read 2 Chronicles 7:14.

A missionary once shared this story:

I'll often go and talk at churches in the U.S. about the work I am doing in another country. I will invite them to join in on our work through visiting on a short-term team, supporting our efforts financially, and praying. One time, a man came to me after and said, "Well, I have health restrictions that do not allow me to go. I'm very limited financially, so I can't help financially. I guess all I can do is pray."

I looked at that man and said, "Sir, all you can do is pray? That is like a soldier saying, 'Well, I don't have a knife. I don't have a gun. All I have is this nuclear bomb. I guess I'll use it.'"

Never underestimate the power of prayer in our world. As 2 Chronicles reminds us, our prayer has the power to bring healing and forgiveness to this world.

reflect

NMC has many local, regional and global partners. Which do you feel especially drawn to pray for today? If you can't remember our partnerships, visit nmc.org. [church/ministries/partnerships](#) to see a list and learn more about each.

What are some outlandish, audacious, God-sized prayers you can ask God to do in and through the partners you've selected?

read

Today, visit tinyurl.com/NMCPray1 to read a blog post from Cherie Wagner on *10 Scriptures to Pray for the Church*.

reflect

Of the 10 Scriptures to pray for the Church, which two or three especially resonated with you? Why?

Take time to read those Scriptures and write any impressions below.

Write out your prayers for NMC in line with the two or three Scriptures you selected.

read

Read Colossians 4:2-6.

Were you around NMC in 2014 for our *Show & Tell* series? We saturated ourselves in Colossians 4:2-6 with a goal to show and tell our lost world about Jesus. If you weren't a part of it or want a refresher, you can watch a review of this study by visiting nmc.church/sermon/review.

reflect

In the instructions laid out in this passage, which strikes you the most and why?

In your life, who are you greatly burdened for because he or she does not follow Jesus? Name these specific people.

How can you specifically pray for these individuals?

pre-read

Take some time to prepare for week seven of our study by reading and reflecting on the Scripture we will cover.

Read Acts 4:32-36.

reflect

! How do you see our *Unleashed* theme being carried out in this part of the story?

“ ” What is one verse or section that especially resonates with you?

? What is one question that comes up for you in this Scripture?

app

You can work through this devotional week-by-week on our app! Each day will save to your phone, even after you close the app. Just tap on **Sermon Resources** on the home page, and you'll find this devotional, each week's verse, and the *NMC Digging Deeper* podcast.



The Nappanee Missionary Church App

Available in App Stores



weekly verses

Each week, we will focus on one verse that reinforces that week's theme. These verses will be posted on our social media pages (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) and on our app. Physical copies will also be available at the Ministry Center. Take one for yourself, a family member, and a friend, and let's be the Church *Unleashed* together!

Digging Deeper: Unleashed Stories

Digging Deeper is a NMC podcast that explores this series on a deeper level. Every week, we will talk with different people in the NMC family who have experienced or are experiencing their own journey of being the Church *Unleashed*.

This podcast will be released every Thursday and can be accessed on the following platforms:

- **App:** Tap "Sermon Resources" on the homepage
- **iTunes:** Subscribe to the *NMC Digging Deeper* podcast
- **NMC Website:** Visit nmc.church/media/sermon-resources
- **Facebook:** Visit facebook.com/nmconline