Wall of Prayer



Dear Faithful Prayer Warriors,

It may be with a quiet phone call to relatives or an elaborate Facebook announcement, but what joy it is to let others know that a child has been born. After the long wait, "he's here!" In the dead of night, with the glory of the Lord all around, an angel announced Jesus's birth to lowly shepherds, and a massive angelic choir sang His praises. A brilliant star shining brightly led wise men from the east to the little King whom they showered with gifts as they bowed down and worshiped him. Later in the temple, cradling Jesus in his arms, devout Simeon declared that his eyes had seen God's salvation—a light to the gentiles and the glory of Israel. There too, the prophetess Anna recognized Him as the Redeemer.

Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man, being completely obedient to His parents and astounding the Jewish leaders with His questions when He was twelve years old. Later John the Baptist would recognize Him as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" and the Father Himself would boast, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased." Jesus soon declared, "The time has come...the Kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

In His death, Jesus became the slaughtered Lamb Who took away sin and, in His resurrection, secured eternal life for all those who believe. He assured His followers that He would send a Helper, His Holy Spirit. Unseen, yet more powerful than the wind, His Spirit moves in hearts and lives to convict and convert the lost, to bring comfort, and to illumine the Scriptures for spiritual growth. Filled with the Holy Spirit, believers reflect the very light of Christ in this dark world. Like the glory of God surrounding the shepherds and the brilliant light beckoning the wise men, Jesus identified His followers as "a city on a hill," one which can never be hidden, for it was made to be seen. This beacon was not to call attention to self, but to reflect the light of Christ, to draw the lost to the wonder of the Savior. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

It is through loving kindness, self-control, gentleness and compassion that believers stand out like a city on a hill that is made to be seen. And, by reflecting Jesus, the Light of the world, we shine light into this present darkness, bringing warmth and direction for the lost. Like never before, we must fervently pray that believing students, teachers, coaches, and youth leaders will be the salt of the earth, stopping moral decay and preserving our society by being honest in all things, living lives of sexual integrity, forgiving, becoming peacemakers, and being willing to tear down walls that divide. And we pray that, when given the opportunity, these believers will courageously "be ready to give a defense to those who ask the reason for the hope that is in them," and boldly "proclaim the excellencies of the One who called them out of darkness into His marvelous light. "Heavenly Father, may Your name be held above all names, Your kingdom come and Your will be done in the lives of our students each day." God listens to and answers the fervent prayers of His people! Never give up!

In Him,

Susan Admire

 1 John 1:29; 2 Matthew 3:17; 3 Mark 1:15; 4 Matthew 5:16; 5 1 Peter 3:15; 6 1 Peter 2:9