

Raising the Mark
March 2005

“Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless His holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget none of His benefits.” Ps 103:1-2

Thank the Lord for all the great things He has done in the first years of our church.

Praise Him for the provisions, the people and the passion He has placed in the core of our church.

Praise Him that He has been faithful in providing places for us to gather as a body, individuals to provide leadership for our body and creative energies to accomplish His purposes.

Praise Him for the change in your life and in other lives. Ask the Lord to give you boldness to declare your joy and growth to others, later tonite and throughout the week.

Humble yourself before the One *“Who pardons all your iniquities; Who heals all you diseases; Who redeems your life from the pit; Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;” Ps 103:3-4.*

Confess any area of individual hardheartedness. Ask the Lord to reveal to you areas of insensitivity and disobedience to His Spirit’s leading. Confess where you have *“honored Him with your lips but your heart has been far from Him” Matthew 15:8*

Pray that we all would be convicted of ways that we have not been faithful in our commitment to the Lord and with each other as expressed in our membership covenant.

Pray that we would never become individuals who *“love with word or with tongue but not in deed and in truth” 1 John 3.18*

Pray that we would each do our part to reach out to those who do not yet BELIEVE.

... by developing relationships with and inviting the unchurched to attend. Pray that we *“..... ‘Go out on the roads and country lanes, and urge the people there to come so (the Lord’s) my house will be full” (Luke 14:23).* Pray for the individuals on you top 10 list...praise the Lord for any deepening of these relationships or softening in their hearts you have seen take place these last 3 months. Pray that the Lord would give them ears to hear and that He would soften the soil of their hearts to His word. Ask God to show you next steps with your friends who are not walking with Him.

... by praying for individuals that are given cds or podcasts of our services by others. Pray that they would listen to the messages and that the Holy Spirit would work in their life as a result of what they hear. Thank the Lord for the team who works each week making our media available to others.

... by praying for the upcoming series “The Most”. Pray that all of us would be intentional about inviting others to join us as we as we look at the most important, quoted, awful, misunderstood, comforting, etc...verses in the bible.

Pray that we would all zealously protect the unity of Watermark where we BELONG.

... by warmly welcoming those who visit and committing ourselves to community with those who attend.

... by praying that we would all *“...warmly welcome each other into the church, just as Christ has warmly welcomed you; then God will be glorified” (Rom. 15:7).* Pray for our ongoing effort to involve everyone in solid shepherding relationships.

... by acting in grace and love toward other members. Pray that we would be diligent *“to pursue the things which make for peace and the building up of one another” (Rom. 14:19).*

... by dealing biblically with conflict and refusing to gossip. Pray that we *“do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs” (Eph. 4:29).*

... by following leadership and by submitting ourselves to the care and correction of each other. (Heb. 13:17). Pray for members struggling with accountability and being known.

Pray that we would all faithfully avail ourselves to *BE TRAINED* and to train others

- ...by being equipped to serve by leaders and teachers. Pray that many more would take advantage of the many equipping and leadership development opportunities provided for us... “[God] gave . . . some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up” (Eph. 4:11-12).
- ... by intentionally growing and seeking to reproduce my devotion to Christ in others. Pray that “... *the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.*” (2 Tim 2:2)
- ... pray for the men in *The Summit*, and the women involved in our Wed. and Thurs. groups.
- ... pray that every one in our body and specifically those in positions of leading ministry teams would be committed to multiplying themselves and shepherding well.

Pray that we would all *BE STRONG*, passionately doing our part to make Christ more famous

- ... by praying for Watermark’s health and impact. “*To the church . . . We always thank God for it (you) and pray for it (you) constantly*” (1 Thess. 1:1-2).
 - ... by discovering your gifts and talents. Pray that upon discovering how the Lord has crafted you that you would... “*Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you*”(1 Peter 4:10). Pray for your specific area of ministry involvement.
 - ... by developing a servant’s heart. Pray that increasingly we all would “... *look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who . . . [took on] the very nature of a servant*” (Phil. 2:3-4, 7).
 - ... by attending faithfully. Pray that we would “... *not give up meeting together... but let us encourage one another*” (Heb. 10:25).
 - ... by living life as a fully devoted follower of Christ. Pray that “*Whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ*” (Phil. 1:27).
 - ... by giving graciously as God has graciously given to you. “*Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver*” (2 Cor. 9:7). Pray that the Lord would continually move all members and increasing numbers of His people to eagerly and joyously invest in the work God is doing through this body. Ask God to lead us all as we *continually* ask Him to stir our hearts to share His resources until the is “*more than enough*” to build on our site. Thank the Lord for the facility we are in tonite. Pray for the facility teams’ wisdom, excellence and diligence as they lead us in developing our site.
 - ... by praying for those within our body with special needs right now... pray for individuals you know who are struggling with obedience before Christ. Specifically pray for marriages that are in crisis because of a lack of Godly leadership or response to leadership. Pray for singles that are choosing to wander away from God’s revealed will as it relates to their relationships. Ask the Lord to show you your need to appeal to the body for prayer in your struggle against sin.
 - ... by praying that our “raise the mark” services would increasingly be seen as the cornerstone of our ministry and that they would be eagerly attended. Pray that every member of our body signs up and participates as a part of the “click and pray” team.
 - ... by sharing your story of life change. Ask the Lord to lead you in your availability tonite to share with the body the story of His goodness, presence, renewal, redemption, strength in your life.
- Pray for all serving and in leadership at Watermark and particularly for our elders (Scott Coy, Dean Macfarlan, Kyle Thompson, Brett Johnston, Todd Wagner).