

FOCUSED LIVING PRAYER

Nov - Dec 2021

Exactly half way across the 9,000 foot span of the Golden Gate Bridge, at its highest point of 220 feet above the icy waters of San Francisco Bay, is a bright yellow phone. Many of the 200,000 folks that cross the Golden Gate bridge each day claim to have lost all hope and desire to express their desperation by ending it all. They have lost hope in life, themselves, marriage, family, finances, health, government, future or church. But there is a large sign above the phone declaring **"There is hope"**. It invites demoralized, discouraged people without hope in this world to **"Make the call!"**



Perhaps the past couple of years of politics, Covid, riots, corruption, inflation, division, hatred, injustice and scandal has eroded your hope in our culture. GOOD! Christmas is all about our Father strategically placing His Son in our broken world to proclaim, **"I am your hope"** (1Tim 1:1) and I invite you to **"make the call"** to Me and I will rebuild solid hope in your life.

Make the call in prayer to the *"Father who according to His great mercy will cause you to be born again to a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"* (1Pe 1:3).

Make the call to fully *"put your faith in the **hope laid up for you in heaven**, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel"* (Col 1:5).

Make the call to finally let *"the **God of hope** fill you with all joy and peace"* (Rom 15:13) that you can't find anywhere else.

Make the call to *"hold fast the confession of our **hope without wavering**, for He who promised is faithful"* (Heb 10:23).

Make the call for His *"hope is an **anchor of the soul**, a hope both **sure and steadfast**"* (Heb 6:19).

And if you have **made the call** then this Christmas be like the Shepherds who *"told everybody" **'there is hope'** in "the Child!"* (Lk 2:17).

Perry Bowers

I'm thankful for...

- The Lord's extreme faithfulness through His many covenant promises in the Scriptures.
- Our Father's design for marriage and family which He has so graciously (not perfectly) reflected in ours because of His faithfulness.
- All that our Savior has done in drawing so many men in FLM to His heart in salvation and in growing them to be more like Jesus this past year.
- the way my Father gives personal attention in listening to the prayers of my heart each day.

David Andes

I'm thankful for...

- the fact that God is reliable, dependable, trustworthy and infinitely, eternally, and unchangeably FAITHFUL. He WILL accomplish His purposes in my life!
- The model and counsel of wise and humble men whom God has sovereignly placed in my life. They encourage and inspire me to keep pressing on.
- how God has provided for the material needs of Focused Living for 28 years as well as for providing for my family.
- the perspective that the Gospel is the one great permanent circumstance in my life and God forces all trials I experience to submit to His Gospel purposes.

German Wright

I'm thankful for...

- The blessings of a wonderful family, a wife and son that loves me, who truly loves God.
- The amazing opportunity to serve in the kingdom of God as a Pastor to His flock and a teacher of men.
- The great grace and mercy God continues to show me as I stumble in the growth process as a believer.
- The awesome people God has allowed me to fellowship with at Daily Living, Focused Living and many other fellowships.

Karl Reed

I'm thankful for...

- The life transforming power of the gospel. For the evidence of its power in my own life and the lives of many of the men who are connected to Focused Living.
- God's faithful provision for me and my family. Not just financially, but in all areas of our lives. One big one this year was His provision of a great house in a great neighborhood where my family can plant some roots and grow.
- The wisdom of our Heavenly Father who gives his wisdom generously to us earthly fathers. Parenting is harder than I imagined, but God faithfully provides all that I need to lead my family well.
- My faithful and supportive wife, Jessica. It is a joy to journey through life with her.