

Prayer for Illumination: Heavenly Father, the one true God, please instruct us from Your trustworthy, Spirit-given word. Transform our lives by the renewing of our minds, for the blessing of many, for our joy, and the glory of Jesus, in whose name we ask. Amen.

Testimony about Our Surpassingly Great God

The prophets' huge gift keeps on giving.

"More Birth Announcements"

They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet: – Matthew 2.5

1. God grows His Kingdom by our T _____; the prophets are His E _____ W _____.
 2. They provide E _____ about Jesus' L _____.
 3. He could not arrange the E _____ of His C _____, but they happened as had been P _____:
 - A. The T _____ & P _____ of His birth;
 - 1) The R _____ (B _____, *Micah 5.2*),
 - 2) The M _____ (the S _____, *Numbers 24.27*);
 - B. The short-term T _____ E _____ of His birth, (Slaughter of the B _____, *Jeremiah 11.15*);
 - C. The C _____ of His C _____, (Egypt & Nazareth, *Matthew 2.13-23*).
- Q: Which of these events do you think some of your FRANEs may find the most P _____ or I _____.

For May 21 & 24, please read Luke 24 & Acts 1

Prayer of Petition: Thank you, heavenly Father, for speaking to us by the Spirit through the Scriptures. In the name of Jesus, please give us the wisdom we need to put into practice what you have shown us today. For the rest of our earthly lives and for all eternity, may our lives be spoken and demonstrated testimonies to Your abundant grace.

Confession of Faith and Sins: Lord God, I confess that Jesus is Lord of all; I confess that He died to pay the penalty I deserve for my sins; and I confess that He rose from the dead conquering sin and death. In that faith, I confess that I am a sinner in desperate need of Your forgiveness and transformation.

(silent, personal confession)

Help me, Father, to humble myself and to let the Holy Spirit work in me through Your word and Your people, to change me from the inside out.

All these things we ask for Your honor and glory, for the blessing of the world, and for our joy in Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness & Response of Praise:

[Acts 4.12; Ephesians 1.7]

"Man of Sorrows!" what a name

For the Son of God, who came,

Ruined sinners to reclaim!

Hallelujah, what a Savior!

Prayers of Intercession (worship leaders)