

Jesus' first message was to the point: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near" (Matthew 4:17).

He had just overcome Satan's temptations during 40 days in the wilderness. And now it was time to preach hope to the lost. It was time for an awakening to the truth of Jesus' prophetic fulfillment:

"Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned" (Matthew 4:15-16).

As that dawning light, Jesus preached repentance throughout the synagogues in Galilee. He healed every disease and sickness. The demonically possessed, the paralyzed, and those in severe pain flocked to Him—and He healed them all. His name became famous throughout the land.

Now is the time for the awakening of the lost to their day of salvation. Let's pray that the name and power of Jesus revives our nation!

1 Pray that those "living in darkness" will see "a great light." Pray that the light of Jesus Christ will shine brilliantly over the lost who desperately need salvation (Matthew 4:16a).

2 Pray for the lost in our nation who are "living in the land of the shadow of death." Ask God for a spiritual awakening across this country, causing people to see that the light has dawned in Jesus (Matthew 4:16b).

3 Pray for the Holy Spirit to move in the hearts of your loved ones, that they might embrace Jesus' message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." Pray that they are awakened to their need to turn from sin and follow Jesus (Matthew 4:17).

4 Jesus offered hope as He "went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people." Pray that lost people will seek out believers who can pray for them, share the gospel, and point them to hope in Christ (Matthew 4:23).

5 As the news about Jesus and His healing power spread throughout the region, people flocked to receive Jesus' touch. Pray that the Church is known as a place of healing and restoration, and that lost people are drawn to experience the power of Christ (Matthew 4:24-25).

6 Jesus was anointed "with the Holy Spirit and power, and ... he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him." Pray that followers of Jesus will be empowered by the Spirit to pray for and point people to Jesus for freedom, deliverance, and salvation (Acts 10:38).

7 When Jesus healed a man who could not hear or speak, the "people were overwhelmed with amazement." They proclaimed that "He has done everything well." Pray that the power and grace of Jesus will be revealed to the lost in ways that cause them to be filled with wonder and hope in Him (Mark 7:37).

8 Even though Jesus withdrew from the crowds to find some solitude, when He saw them "he had compassion on them and healed their sick." Pray that God stirs hearts of compassion in believers to minister to the lost and point them to Christ (Matthew 14:14).

9 The crowds were compelled to bring their sick to Jesus. Some people "begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak"—and He healed them all. Ask God to compel the lost to seek healing and restoring from Jesus. Pray that their longing for restoration will be met with the power of Christ (Matthew 14:36).

10 Great crowds were amazed when Jesus healed the sick. They "praised the God of Israel" when they witnessed people suddenly speaking, walking, and seeing for the first time! Pray for an awakening among the lost to the glorious power of Jesus to transform their lives (Matthew 15:30-31).

11 Praise Jesus that He "came to seek and save the lost." Ask God to create within you that same heart of compassion for those in need of salvation. Pray that as you seek to follow Jesus, you will encounter those ready to hear the gospel (Luke 19:10).

12 Pray that believers will not be ashamed of the gospel but will embrace it as "the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes." Ask God for boldness in your own sharing of the gospel with the lost (Romans 1:16).

13 Pray for unbelievers to awaken to the mercy of God, who doesn't want "anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." Pray that they will repent of their sin and embrace God's grace (2 Peter 3:9).

14 Pray that now is the time that your loved ones are confronted with the truth that "the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Ask God to awaken them to the seriousness of their sin and a new awareness that their only hope is in Jesus (Romans 6:23).

15 Pray that believers will be known for "speaking the truth in love" and that the lost will not be deceived by false teachings that lead them away from Jesus (Ephesians 4:14-15).

16 Our nation is inundated with false religions and lies about true salvation. Pray that the lost are awakened to the gospel as proclaimed by Jesus: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

17 Although "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing," pray that the lost in your community are awakened to truth of the power of God to rescue them from sin and death (1 Corinthians 1:18).

18 Ask God to reveal to unbelievers the reality that they are powerless without Christ and that He "died for the ungodly." Pray that they will have the humility to admit their sin and cry out to Jesus as their only hope (Romans 5:6).

19 Pray that believers will "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks [them] for the reason for the hope that [they] have." Pray that the Church will engage in gentle, respectful, and compelling ways with the lost (1 Peter 3:15).

20 Pray that unbelievers are awakened with urgency that "now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." Ask God to soften resistant hearts and compel people to surrender to Christ without delay (2 Corinthians 6:2).

21 Pray that Satan can no longer blind "the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ..." Intercede for your loved ones to be free from deception and enlightened with clarity about the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4).

22 Satan deceives the lost and will use "all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie." Pray that his schemes and strategies will be overpowered by the truth of the gospel and the hope of Christ (2 Thessalonians 2:9).

23 The enemy of the soul "deceives those who are perishing," enticing them to refuse "to love the truth and so be saved." Pray that strongholds are broken and lies are replaced with gospel truth in the hearts and minds of the lost in this nation (2 Thessalonians 2:10).

24 In a culture full of confusion and chaos, "Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light ... and his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness." Pray that evil is exposed and our nation is awakened to truth and the power of the gospel (2 Corinthians 11:14-15).

25 Satan was hurled to the earth and now "leads the whole world astray." But we do not despair because "now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah." Pray with urgency that the lost are compelled to turn from evil and seek Jesus (Revelation 12:9-10).

26 Ask God to awaken the lost, that they might be rescued "from the domain of darkness" and "brought ... into the kingdom of the Son he loves." Ask God to fuel your church with passion to be on a rescue mission in your community (Colossians 1:13).

27 Pray that unbelievers in this nation will turn "from darkness to light" so that "they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith" in Jesus. Ask God for a powerful move of His Spirit throughout this land (Acts 26:18).

28 Pray that unbelievers will encounter God's "alive and active" Word in compelling ways that will judge "the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Ask the Spirit to use the power of Scripture to reveal the truth of Jesus (Hebrews 4:12).

29 Pray that God revives His Church to "rejoice always, pray continually [and] give thanks in all circumstances" on behalf of the lost. Pray for renewed urgency among believers to pray for and seek out those who need Jesus (1 Thessalonians 5:17-18).

30 As a result of Jesus' teaching, "the people were all so amazed that they asked each other, 'What is this? A new teaching—and with authority!'" Pray that the lost will encounter Jesus and be amazed at His power and authority to forgive and redeem them (Mark 1:27a).

31 When unbelievers witnessed Jesus as One who "gives orders to impure spirits and they obey him," they were astonished and His fame spread quickly. Pray for such an awakening in our day—that the lost are amazed and recognize Jesus as the One who reigns and rules over all (Mark 1:27b-28).