

40 DAYS OF *prayer*



THE ALLIANCE

40 DAYS
OF *prayer*

40 DAYS OF prayer

WEEK 2

THE ETERNALITY AND UNCHANGABLENESS OF GOD

Isaiah 40:28

This week, we journey into the timeless nature of our Almighty Creator who exists beyond the constraints of time. His character remains steadfast and unwavering throughout eternity. We are reminded that every good and perfect gift originates from God, and His faithfulness endures forever. Jesus Christ, the Alpha and Omega, stands as a constant presence throughout time, unchanged from yesterday to today and into eternity. As we meditate on these foundational truths, our prayers are rooted in the unchanging character of our eternal God. Draw comfort, confidence, and hope from His immutable nature as we lift our hearts to Him in prayer.

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FOREVER FAITHFUL

PSALM 41:13

I have an impossible question today. What lasts longer—*forever* or *everlasting*?

I assume that this question might not have surprised you as much as it did me when my brain mustered it up, but truthfully, I think of this question every single time I read Psalm 41, Galatians 6, Romans 6, or the infamous John 3:16.

I assume this question is impossible because both words indicate no ending.

I remember sitting in my AP physics class and thinking “Man, this class is going to last . . . forever,” when in fact it was approximately 45 minutes long and would end as soon as the school bell rang. I also remember playing dodgeball in physical education. It felt like it only lasted two and a half seconds, but it actually lasted the exact same amount of time my AP physics class (though if I had it my way, phys-ed class would be . . . everlasting).

I have now come to realize this: my current mindset dictates the appropriateness in applying the choice between “forever” or “everlasting.” As we look at David’s words in Psalm 41:13, he illustrates to readers that God will be blessed from “everlasting to everlasting.” In other words, God will be *forever* or *infinitely* blessed. This seems to indicate that if *everlasting* did somehow end, God would still be blessed. Reading the 12 verses prior to Psalm 41 will tell us that God’s eternal faithfulness to the reader is why He makes this declaration.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Dear God, I praise You because, unlike the trials and tribulations in my life, You will remain. This gives me the peace of mind I need to go through my everyday life. I thank You because Your love is everlasting, and You have and will lavish that love upon me in abundance. God, I repent from the times my earthly mindset altered my understanding of who You are and what You are capable of doing through and for me. I thank You that no matter what my mindset is, You keep Your promise to be forever faithful to me. Amen.

ETERNAL FOUNDATION

PSALM 90:2

My mom was rushed to the emergency room a week ago at the time of this writing. She suffered a massive hemorrhagic stroke. Our family was given two options—both shattering. One, let mom go. Two, opt for immediate brain surgery and give her a fighting chance to live. We chose the latter, and the ICU has been our home ever since.

Family and friends, life is but a vapor. We're here one day; we could be gone the next. Intensive care units have an acute way of reminding you of that. Only two things in this world are constant: God and His presence. In this moment of great despair, both have been a source of strength.

The psalmist declares in Psalm 90:2 that the God we worship, the God who's sovereign, is everlasting to everlasting. In layman's terms, creation has never been void of its King. God is and has always been.

Doctors have not given our family any assurances. It's possible mom could make a full recovery; it's what we've been in deep prayer for. But it's also possible that heaven could be her home soon. Whatever the future holds, our family is at peace. For in Christ, we have surety; not only will we see our beautiful and irreplaceable mom again, but the same God who would openly welcome her into eternity is the same God whose presence will remain with us and every person left behind.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Father, this life is hard. When it rains, it often pours. But thank You. Thank You for always being present. Thank You for always being there. And thank You for never abandoning Your sheep. To You be all the praise and glory! Amen.

IN THE BEGINNING, JESUS

JOHN 1:1

As we continue to reflect on the steadfast and unwavering character of Jesus Christ, John begins his gospel wanting us to know that Christ Jesus has always existed.

“In the beginning was the Word” takes us to the very start of all things, reminding us that before creation, before time itself, He existed. “The Word was with God,” shows us that Jesus is not a distant deity, but one who is deeply connected to the Father, sharing in the divine essence and purpose. “The Word was God” declares explicitly the divinity of Jesus. He is not merely a prophet or a teacher, but God Himself, who has come to reveal the Father to us. This truth is foundational for our faith. It reassures us that when we encounter Jesus, we encounter God in His fullness.

Reflecting on this verse, I invite us to consider the significance of Jesus in our lives. He is the Eternal Word who spoke creation into existence, the Living Word who came to dwell among us, and the Final Word who reveals God’s love and redemption. As we meditate on John 1:1, let us be reminded of the power, presence, and preeminence of Christ. May these truths deepen our faith, strengthen our hope, and inspire us to truly live and love like Jesus. In every beginning, in every moment, through every difficulty, may we recognize Jesus as the Word who is always with us and is always God.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Lord, when the troubles and sorrows of this world come knocking at our door, may we take comfort knowing that when we pray in Jesus’ name, we are praying to the One who has full authority over every situation. The One who has full power to intercede on our behalf. The One who has and will always exist and be with us. The One who has promised to never leave nor forsake us. Amen.

ALPHA AND OMEGA

REVELATION 1:8

The God that we serve was present, is present, and will be present to come. I am not sure which of those three have most affected your spiritual journey, but I want to encourage you that God is in the business of redemption through His presence.

Our past—where we have been—shapes who we are today. It is just the reality of our human life. Some of us have had amazing pasts full of great parents, a solid faith, and lots of ice cream. Others of us have had pasts we would have rather fast-forwarded through—marked by divorce, confusing spiritual grounding, and lactose intolerance. Regardless of how you started, Jesus can redeem your past by His presence. His love is bigger than who you used to be.

Our present—some of us read this today needing answers for the now. The answers won't be in the questions we are asking but in the person we are pursuing. Jesus redeems our present.

Our future—the unknown is a scary thing. We don't know what our life will look like or what God's plans are for you and me. But I promise you something—Jesus can redeem where you're headed with His presence.

Make today a day where you allow Jesus to show you His presence and that your pursuit of Him would take top priority. We serve a big God whose presence is transformative. May we allow Him to be the life change in us!



REFLECTION PRAYER

God, thank You for not being limited by the clock or the calendar. You are a God that does redemptive work that transcends time. I ask that You meet us today on the journey to know You more. You are the God who was, who is, and is to come! Thank You for Your life-changing presence. May Your greatness shine all the more as You redeem our Alliance family for greater Kingdom work. Amen.

UNCHANGING NATURE

1 SAMUEL 15:29

Consistency is crucial in the art of baking. It is comparable to a science in producing the perfect pastry. A small oversight can lead to disastrous results—leftover water in a bowl can prevent cream from whipping, and over-mixing can render a cookie as dense as a puck. Nobody desires that outcome! Yet, despite our best efforts, the world often throws unexpected challenges our way, disrupting our plans. Life's constant fluctuations are the consequence of the imperfections and uncertainties caused by sin. We become disillusioned by the expectations that we place on ourselves. Our thoughts may become clouded in the lies of the enemy. However, amidst this uncertainty, we find solace in the unchanging nature of God.

God, in His essence, remains unaffected by fluctuations and change. He is already perfection personified. His plans are steadfast, His promises and covenant unwavering. While we may not fully comprehend His divine intentions, we can trust that He is faithful and true.

During seasons of vulnerability and change, let us remind ourselves that true consistency is discovered in the unwavering nature of our God.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us the opportunity to commune with You and be in Your presence. Lord, we are burdened by the inconsistencies of life, and we become discouraged by the unexpected challenges that we face. Would You remind us of Your truth—that no matter the fluctuations we face, Your unchanging nature remains the same? Your promises and plans have never changed. You have remained faithful to us. May we continue to hold on to Your unwavering love in the waves of life. Amen.

UNCHANGING PROMISE

MALACHI 3:6

Malachi the prophet is delivering a message from the Lord to the Israelites. They were not living in a way that God was pleased with. In the verses preceding verse six, he calls out their behavior but then encourages them that He has not changed. He is calling them to return to Him. The same God that has been merciful and compassionate to the generations before them will do the same for them.

The cycle of sinful behavior, repentance, worship, then repeat is found throughout the accounts of the Israelites. Yet, God never changed. He remained faithful to His people even when they disobeyed, dishonored, and devalued Him. He was patient with them to return to Him, repent of their ways, and worship Him.

In Lamentations 3:22-23, it says that “the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.” This was true for the Israelites then as well as for us today.

As a parent, I have noticed that when my kids disobey, they hide from me. Their shame, fear of disappointing, or the consequence creates a painful distance between us. I still love them, but when we deal with the issue, they experience the faithful love of their mom no matter what.

God the Father desires the same thing. No matter the situation, no matter the mistake, no matter the shame, deal with the situation. Experience His unchanging character of compassion, mercy, love, and faithfulness today.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Lord, You never change. You are a God of compassion and faithfulness. Help me not forget who You are. Forgive me for the things I have done that were not pleasing to You. Forgive me for allowing sin to bring distance between us. Today, I come close to You to experience Your love, Your mercy, and Your faithfulness in my life in new ways. Today I am so grateful for Your character that never changes and is always ready to restore me and bring me fullness of Your presence. Amen.

JESUS, UNCHANGING SAVIOR

HEBREWS 13:8

How often have you heard the phrase, “People never change”? This phrase has often confused me because change is inevitable. The aches and pains of growing older, the changing seasons from winter to spring, transitions in one career to the next or relocating from city to city exact a toll on a person’s soul. The process of learning who you are and who God made you to be can often feel like a void. This crisis can feel confusing and empty. Yet, it is a part of growth that every person will experience at least once in their lifetime. God has created change with multiple purposes. There are beautiful aspects of change that are valuable for learning about ourselves and God.

Hebrews 13:8 says, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” How wonderful it is that we have a God who is never changing, a God who is patient with us in our growing. Have you ever thought about God and how He has never had to grow because He is always the same, all-knowing? A God who allows us the time, space, and freedom to wrestle with the difficulty of changes we encounter day in and day out. From the heartache we feel when we experience a loss of a loved one to the joys of seeing our children walk for the first time—our God is incredibly patient, and He waits for us to learn about His unchanging character.



REFLECTION PRAYER

Jesus, we thank You for Your steadiness that continues to ground us. Thank You for being stable even when our faith in You is unstable. Thank You that You are the solid ground that we can depend on in the storms. Thank You for Your patience in pursuing us so that we could know You more. Amen.