

# THE prayer network

Prayer for the Vision and Ministries of The Crossing

September 2021

## FOCUS: "Who do you say that I am?"

*"And He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter replied, 'The Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed) of God!'"*

*"Then Jesus said to them, 'I assure you and most solemnly say to you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread out of heaven, but it is My Father who gives you the true bread out of heaven. For the Bread of God is He who comes down out of heaven, and gives life to the world.' Then they said to Him, 'Lord, always give us this bread.' Jesus replied to them, 'I am the Bread of Life. The one who comes to Me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in Me [as Savior] will never be thirsty [for that one will be sustained spiritually].'"*

*"Once more Jesus addressed the crowd. He said, 'I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.'"*

*"Your father Abraham [greatly] rejoiced to see My day (My incarnation). He saw it and was delighted." Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not even fifty years old, and You [claim to] have seen Abraham?" Jesus replied, "I assure you and most solemnly say to you, before Abraham was born, I Am.""*

*"So Jesus said again, 'I assure you and most solemnly say to you, I am the Door for the sheep [leading to life]. All who came before Me [as false messiahs and self-appointed leaders] are thieves and robbers, but the [true] sheep did not hear them. I am the Door; anyone who enters through Me will be saved [and will live forever], and will go in and out [freely], and find pasture (spiritual security). The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance [to the full, till it overflows]. I am the Good*

*Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down His [own] life for the sheep."*

*"Jesus said to her, 'I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever believes in (adheres to, trusts in, relies on) Me [as Savior] will live even if he dies; and everyone who lives and believes in Me [as Savior] will never die. Do you believe this?'"*

*"Thomas said to Him, 'Lord, we do not know where You are going; so how can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the [only] Way [to God] and the [real] Truth and the [real] Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.'"*

*"I am the true Vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that continues to bear fruit, He [repeatedly] prunes, so that it will bear more fruit [even richer and finer fruit]."*

*"Then Moses said to God, 'Behold, when I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers (ancestors) has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I Am Who I Am'; and He said, 'You shall say this to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you.' Then God also said to Moses, 'This is what you shall say to the Israelites, 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob (Israel), has sent me to you.' This is My Name forever, and this is My memorial [name] to all generations.'"*

Luke 9:20; John 6:32-35; John 8:12; John 8:56-58; John 10:7-11; John 11:25-26; John 14:5-6; John 15:1-2; Exodus 3:13-15 (Amplified)

- The question – "Who do you say that I am?" is stunning. Growing in our faith and understanding of the gospel takes us through more and more layered answers to the question – almost like a pot being formed out of a lump of clay by a potter. Soak in the above scriptures, like dry clay soaks up water, and allow the potter to continue to mold your heart and mind with growing understanding of what it means to live in the Kingdom of God, while serving a very needy world.
- The Fall semester is here and many ministries are starting up again - a wonderful time of regathering across The Crossing community to learn more about 'Jesus is more'. Pray for many to renew their hope in the LORD, after many months of very challenging circumstances, many, but not only, due to the pandemic. Pray for the leaders / facilitators / volunteers of these ministries as they express love for the LORD and their neighbor, while persevering in their ministry service.
- Pray too for the many Small Groups (SG) that are also starting up again. Pray for their leaders as they shepherd these groups, while working hard to provide safe meeting environments. Pray too for the many participants, that their thirst for friendship, community, and the truths of the Gospel, will be well met, along with much growth in understanding the counter-intuitive truths of the gospel.
- The Crossing's reach to spiritually thirsty people, far and wide, via streaming, social media, podcasts, has expanded considerably due to the pandemic. Pray for The Crossing's leadership as they seek to be responsive to this virtual community, while also serving the many gathering in-person. The challenges of serving the 'two communities' while similar in some respects, are also somewhat very different. The goal remains the same – helping people to deepen their understanding of the multifaceted statement that Jesus is more.

Your prayers nurture your faith and trust in God and support The Crossing's ministries in Columbia and far beyond. Communicate prayer needs via [prayer@thecrossingchurch.com](mailto:prayer@thecrossingchurch.com), or the [prayer requests form](#), or text "Pray" to 65201, or use a Talk Back Card (chair backs, Auditorium), or contact The Crossing's Office (contact info. below) - Leszek & Muriel Vincent coordinate The Crossing's Prayer Network.