

St. Mark Church

Youth Prayer Requests

And Vision for 2024



2024 Prayer Requests for St. Mark Youth Ministry

Please pray what is on your heart. Here are ideas of prayer requests to use:

Close your eyes for a few minutes, 'Be Still' (Ps. 46:10). Simply sit in silence, perhaps close your eyes, and listen to what God speaks to you. When a person, friend or enemy, suddenly comes to mind, take it as a sign to lift them up in prayer. Saying their name aloud to God is a prayer in itself, because God knows their needs, even if we do not.

Now imagine St. Mark and its Youth Ministry as God would have it to be - NOT as it is now. What do you see? How is that church, that youth ministry, different from the one we have today?

Now imagine yourself as part of that new vision, helping to make it all become a reality. What are you doing? What are you feeling? How is God calling you to be part of bringing that vision to reality? What difference can you make? What difference do you already make? Close by thanking God for the gift of today and ask for guidance in being more open to God's presence in your daily life.

Why? To bring youth at St. Mark into a personal relationship with God through our Lord Jesus Christ because they are the future of not just our church but of the next generation of believers.

How?

- Help them to know Jesus by sharing your personal story on how you came to know Him.
- Show your love for the Bible by modeling daily prayer and study and encouraging the same. (provide quiet time materials, and accountability journals; ask for their prayer requests as well as asking them to pray for you).
- Apply faith and the Bible's teachings to daily choices, as well as seeing today's culture with a Biblical worldview. (In Sunday School, Bible discussion, mentorship)
- Equip and motivate kids to contribute effectively to St. Mark and the community. (Participate in Christian missions, special projects, spiritual gifts inventory, teaching early elementary Sunday School students, VBS, sharing their culinary skills, rummage sale, etc....)
- Teach kids how to have difficult discussions in today's culture especially when communicating their faith. (evangelism training, inviting others, defending their faith - apologetics).
- Encourage in personal relationships with one another in Christ.
- Provide opportunities for Christian fellowship. (full church activities, clique busting, serving, working with the home-bound...)
- Experience worship.
- Train them as Christian leaders. (involvement of youth in church activity)
- Assist and encourage families in the Christian training of their kids - come alongside families.
- Stewardship of money, time and ability.
- Enlist and equip adult leaders who will work effectively toward the objectives for youth ministry.

For Mike Mol, current and future volunteer youth leaders and St. Mark:

- For seeking the Lord's direction and will in creating effective and intentional discipleship efforts which will help youth grow in Christ and conform to His image.
- Safety - spiritual protection from the evil one 24/7 (Ephesians 6:10-18) as well as in buildings, parking lots, on fellowship excursions and mission trips.
- For adult leaders and chaperones, sufficient volunteers for all activities.
- That God would give leaders words to share with our youth.
- To be responsive to the needs of each individual and group as a whole, in active listening and relationships as well as in planning activity.
- For strength, health, rest and protection over them and their families.

For our youth:

- To love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul and mind and strength. (Mark 12:30)
- To know (have a relationship with) Jesus, not just knowledge of Him.
- For youth to choose to believe that what God says about them is true.

- For freedom to conform to the image of Jesus against the world's pressure to define who they are from one day to the next.
- Pray against all evil influences and messages dwelling in social media, mass media, education, multimedia, video games, cliques, medical "experts."
- For youth to understand that seeing themselves correctly comes by setting aside time for daily devotions and studying scripture affirming their identity as God's child.
- To learn to know Him is to love Him, to love Him is to Trust, to trust Him is to Obey Him, to Obey Him is to Abide in Him, to Abide in Him is to Bear Fruit, and to Bear Fruit is to Glorify the Father. Boa, Ken. July 2021. Reflections *Teaching Letter*
- To love Him completely, to love themselves correctly (as Jesus sees them) and to love others compassionately. Thanksgiving for those that do!
- To learn, to know and to embrace their true Identity as one of God's children. ¹
- For God to help them to seek God's call and discover His purpose for their lives.
- To be drawn to salvation by grace through faith in Jesus.
- For the Holy Spirit's presence and movement among the youth at St. Mark and our community.
- For the Spirit to move them to be bold witnesses on their school campuses and all they meet; as well as friends and family.
- For development of youth leaders in St. Mark.
- For true fellowship to be experienced by the group through prayer and service to one another.
- For unity, harmony and lasting friendships among the young people.
- That as others join the group, they will come to know and grow in Christ themselves.
- For openness and joy to serve God.
- For God to give them strength and endurance for their Christian life.
- For God to fill them with his joy and thankfulness for new life in Christ.
- For spiritual protection by faithful practice of keeping the shoes of peace, the breastplate of righteousness, and belt of truth on 24/7 and using the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Word and prayer when called to stand for Christ.²
- For each to immediately seek the Holy Spirit through prayer, fellow Christians, the Word when any anxious thoughts and worries are becoming overwhelming, so His peace would enter their hearts and minds. Ephesians 6:10-18

For Adults and Families

- To pray for their kids daily to know God personally and deepen their knowledge about Him at St. Mark.
- To interact with their kids regularly to discuss, process and apply the Bible.
- For restoration, unity and spiritual growth as a family.

¹ See link showing an inspiring video with biblical affirmations about our identity in Christ. These affirmations come from New Testament passages, which teach about who we have become through faith in God's Son. April 2020. <https://kenboa.org/spiritual-formation/identity/> (5:18). List of verses with beautiful photos.

²Tony Evans, *Weapons of Authority*, December 8, 2022 https://tonyevans.org/podcast_sermons/the-weapons-of-authority/