In Luke 9:51-56, the physician tells how the disciples entered a Samaritan village where they had intended to make arrangements to spend the night. When the residents refused to provide them with shelter, the disciples asked Jesus whether they should command fire from heaven to consume the inhabitants. Jesus responded, “You do not know what kind of spirit you are of; for the Son of Man did not come to destroy men’s lives, but to save them.”  

When you are faced with resistance to the presence and goodness of Jesus, what is your response? Is it destructive or lifegiving? Allow the Spirit to guide your response.

**MEDITATION**

**MONDAY**

Sovereign God, we thank you for Tony and Jen Gregory answering your call to serve in the Columbus congregation. We ask for your provision, wisdom, and direction as they enter this new season of ministry.

**GRACE COMMUNION**

**COLUMBUS, OH**

Holy Spirit we ask that you guide our Superintendents form Asia, Australasia, and North America as they gather on a group video call. Grant them wisdom as they serve their regions.

**GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL**

Father we thank you for the gift of life and for the children you have placed in our church family. We rejoice over the blessing of Selah Vrijmoeth and Ezra den Hartog commemorated in our church services. May you continue to reveal your heart to Selah and Ezra, as you guide and protect them throughout their lives.

**GRACE COMMUNION TIEL, NETHERLANDS**

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever. Psalm 30:11-12

**GRACE COMMUNION SAN DIEGO, CA**

Ever Present God, You are with us wherever we go and send us to do fun, important, and life changing things with you. Today, we are celebrating and asking for your blessing over our SEP SoCal campers and staff as they return home. Seal in their hearts and minds the closeness they felt with you and one another this week.

**GRACE COMMUNION MANDEVILLE, LA**

Lord we thank you for the campers and staff you have gather at YES Camp this week. We pray for the relationships that will be developed. May all who enter camp come to know you in deeper ways and grow as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**GRACE COMMUNION KANSAS CITY, KS**

Gracious God, in perfect assurance of Your presence among us. We pray your blessings upon Barbara Letterman, as we celebrate her ordination. As she serves as Assistant Pastor, may she honor you as she joyfully joins with you the ministry you prepared for her.
8 MEDITATION MONDAY
Naaman was an Aramean army captain who was a leper. He had no hope of a cure, but a little captive girl believed he would be healed by God if he would go see the prophet Elisha. This Israelite servant could have safely kept silent, but she courageously spoke up, leading to Naaman seeking out the prophet and being healed. Reflect today on the people in your life who need God’s healing of body and soul, his grace and renewal. Is there something you could say today that might bring life to a broken situation? What is keeping you from doing so?

11 GCI-USA
Pastors from across the country are gathering at the Home Office for a time of learning and fellowship. Pray that our pastors will be encouraged and equipped as the Spirit brings clarity to all in the direction that he is leading.

12 GRACE COMMUNION GLENORA, CA
We rejoice that as a congregation Grace Life has 5 small groups. Please join us in praying that that these will become an entry point for people to get to know Jesus more and build connections with our members.

13 GRACE COMMUNION LANESBORO, MN
We thank you for the memories that were made this week at Northern Lights Camp. May they continue to seek and experience you as they return home.

14 GRACE COMMUNION CHARLOTTE, NC
Let’s give thanks for our members in Charlotte who commemorated the 50th anniversary of their congregation. Founding members who still attend and serve locally were honored. Join us in asking God’s continued blessing over our GCI family in Charlotte.

15 MEDITATION MONDAY
The apostle Paul met and prayed for a lot of people, yet he was able to honestly tell the believers at Colossae that he always gave thanks for them and prayed for them. He affirmed their faith and love and their ongoing response to the gospel message. In his letter, he reminded them of the work God was doing by his Spirit in and through them. Today, whose shortcomings and failures have you been so focused on that you forgot to thank God and pray for them daily? How can you proactively affirm those things God is doing in and through them right now?

16 GRACE COMMUNION WALTHAM, MA
We are rejoicing over another successful Kaleidoscope Festival. The annual event celebrates the beautiful diversity of our community and creates spaces to talk across man-made divisions. We set out to create a “bubble” of the Kingdom where participants can experience the unity we have in Christ. We are so thankful for what the Lord did during the festival and look forward to continuing the connections that were developed.

17 GRACE COMMUNION TASMANIA
Father, thank you for the diversity that enriches our precious fellowship, and for the fact that we have contacts and members in so many countries around the world. Thank you for our churches in Tasmania who celebrated their 50th anniversary last month. Please continue to bless our fellowship in Tasmania. Thank you for the work your Spirit does through them as they witness to your Son, Jesus Christ.

18 GRACE COMMUNION LUZON, PHILIPPINES
We are leaving camp filled with gratitude and assurance! Please join us in praying for our campers and staff as they return home. May they remember that their true home is in Jesus - the real source of identity, authentic joy, and unconditional love.

19 GRACE COMMUNION JACKSON, OH
Jesus we are grateful for the awesome ways campers and staff felt your love this week at Pathways Camp. Continue to help all who attended grow in grace and knowledge of you as they return home to shine your light in their neighborhoods.

20 GRACE COMMUNION WATSONVILLE, CA
God we are grateful for a successful Summer Outreach Barbeque. We had a wonderful time fellowshipping and sharing the good news of Jesus with our neighbors. We look forward to hosting our new friends as guests at our Sunday service. May they be filled with hope as we worship together.

21 GRACE COMMUNION MINISTRY TEAMS
Gracious God it is a joy to join in your ministry. We thank you for all the volunteers who have answered your call to serve in GCI congregations. We ask that you sustain them and may they experience your love in meaningful ways.
Please join us in lifting up our Youth Fundraiser. We will be selling quilts, jewelry and crafts made by our youth at our community fair. May we make connections with neighbors as we support youth of our congregation.

The prophet Hosea experienced being in a covenant relationship with someone who did not return his love. He felt the pain of infidelity, picturing the experience of God in his relationship with his covenant people. Hosea’s wife had to learn that the voice which said, “You are not” wasn’t the voice of truth. God’s faithful love promises that “you are,” that in spite of our rejection of him, God remains the same—our loving, gracious Father, who has adopted us in and through Jesus Christ. Who needs to hear right now that they are God’s very own? How can you show them this is true?

We are praising God for growing our church family. We recently experienced a 20% increase in attendance and resulting addition of a new youth class because of the growth. Please join us in praying that the children will be surrounded by the love of Christ and embrace Jesus as a life-long friend.

Gracious God, in perfect assurance of Your presence among us. We pray your blessings upon Elisha St. Louis as we celebrate his installation as pastor. May he honor you as he joyfully joins with you the ministry you prepared for him.

This month we plan ahead for our 2020 fiscal year. We thank God for his faithful provision and care for our fellowship. Join us in praying for wisdom as we steward the gifts, he has given us to join him in building his kingdom.

We have many members and leaders in our fellowship going through difficult times – let us intentional lift one another up, today!

One day Martha welcomed Jesus into her home, but she soon became preoccupied with the details of hosting an important guest. Her sister Mary, happy to see Jesus, got caught up in his teaching and soon Martha was complaining about Mary’s failure to help. Both these ladies were dear friends, so Jesus straightforwardly addressed Martha’s complaint. He gently redirected Martha back to the essentials while affirming Mary’s desire to learn and grow. Think about the people you work or live with. Are there any words of truth that need to be said today? How can you say them in a direct, yet gracious and affirming way?

We are praising God for a successful Vacation Bible School where we discipled 50 youth from our congregation and community. May all who attended continue to commune with Jesus, our Prince of Peace.

This weekend, leaders from around the area will be gathering for a conference. Please pray for our time together, for discernment for our next steps in ministry and faith.

We are praising God for a vibrant Missional heartbeat to permeate GCI congregations. We are blessed help us to be a blessing to the world.

We are praising God for a successful Vacation Bible School where we discipled 50 youth from our congregation and community. May all who attended continue to commune with Jesus, our Prince of Peace.

Does your congregation have an event, congregational prayer request, or praise report you would like included in next month’s prayer guide?

Please email info@gci.org with details and photos.