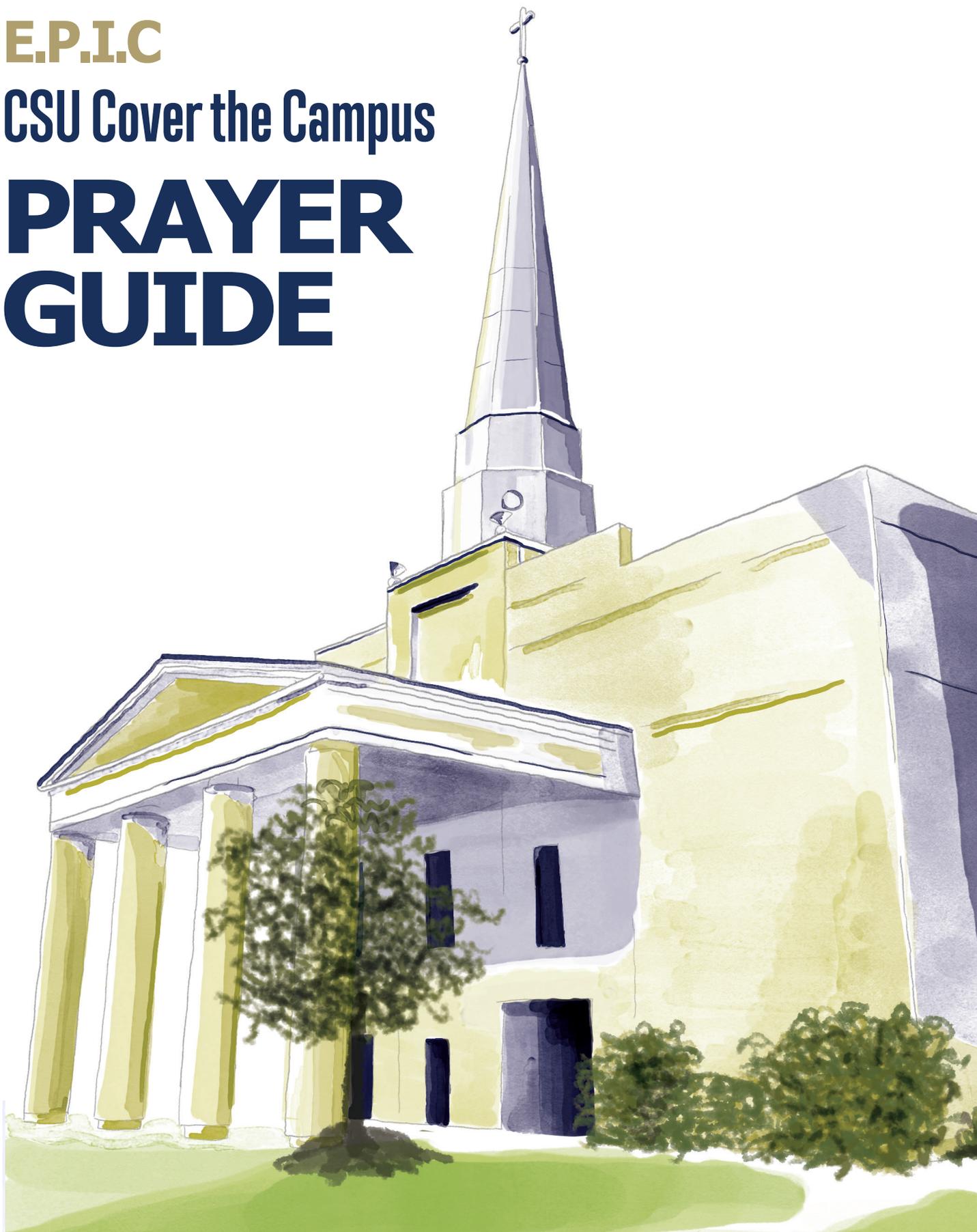


E.P.I.C

CSU Cover the Campus

PRAYER GUIDE



Faculty and Staff Edition 2022-2023



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Opening Prayer

Professor Raines

Dear Heavenly Father,

We thank You today, for bringing us to the start of another academic year. Whether we approach You today from behind the lecture podium, facing the lecture podium, or praying for our children as they embark upon this journey, please fill us with Your love, your peace and your eagerness to grow in our role as servants in Your love.

We are grateful, Father, for another year to learn and grow together as Christians in this beautiful Charleston Southern University. Please hear our prayers united in You, to not only bless our teaching and learning but to Cover our Campus in security as we work to serve as Your hands and feet in our community.

Guide us with Your wisdom as we support and become the next generation of servant leaders. Tune our ears to Your will as we move through our classes, our labs and our lives, so that all we do may be done to glorify Your name.

Lord, may this academic year be fruitful in the exchange of ideas but more importantly in the recognition of Your blessings through the gifts of one another.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen

August 2022

A New Beginning

Dr. Jonathan Denton - Christian Studies

✝ Ezra 7:10

“Now Ezra had determined in his heart to study the law of the LORD, obey it, and teach its statutes and ordinances in Israel.”

(CSB)

New beginnings are always exciting - new job, new school year, new school, newly wed, new city, new car, etc. Walking back (or for the first time!) onto campus in August always brings such joy to us all. If you are like me, you might even take a selfie by the reflection pond with the chapel in the background and caption “start of # year teaching at CSU!” The start of the year also brings a renewed interest to grow, to be better than the previous year, and to be faithful to our calling. In Ezra 7, Ezra was excited to return to Israel after the exile and begin anew. Ezra 7:10 tells us that Ezra first “determined in his heart to study the law of the LORD.” Take a moment and pray that God would stir your heart both for His Word and for your subject/work area. Second, Ezra 7:10 tells us that Ezra “obeyed it.” Pray that God would help you to obey Him faithfully this year in your calling. Third, Ezra taught the Word of God to others. Pray that God would work through your teaching/work this year to both grow you and your students.



September 2022

Look to the Source

Dr. John Kuykendall - College of Humanities and Social Sciences;
Dept of History and Political Science

✝ I Chronicles 29:11

“Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head over all.”

(NKJV)

What does victory look like for our students? Is it the wild celebrations after winning a championship game? The joy of graduation day? Or the simple satisfaction of a hard-earned grade? There are many places they find victories, large and small, in their lives, but seldom do we help them remember the source of the success any of us experience. David, the King of Israel, was an old man when he gathered his people together to remind them that the LORD, the everlasting God, deserved all the credit, thanks, and praise for the prosperity they enjoyed. Like the ancient Israelites, we all have received God’s abundant blessing, especially in the victory over sin and death that Jesus won on the cross. There is no better reason to celebrate today!

Let’s join King David in his inspired prayer to the source of all our victories:

“Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and the glory, the victory, and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. Now therefore, our God, we thank You and praise Your glorious name.” Amen!

Guidance

Dr. Michael Bryant - Whitfield Center for Christian Leadership

✝ Psalm 32:8

“I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.”

(NIV)

In Psalm 32:8, God promises to guide His people. Believers need His guidance for many areas of life including, relationships, decisions, work, overcoming temptation, and living with purpose.

Christian faculty and staff play a vital role in helping students understand how to seek God’s guidance. But they also need guidance for their own life. The three most reliable sources are the Bible, prayer, and godly counsel.

The Bible is the most reliable source for obtaining God’s guidance. It provides light in our darkness (Psalm 119:105). We hear God’s voice when we read the Bible regularly and carefully, meditating thoughtfully on its truth. As we read the Bible over time, we come to

know what pleases Him, how He thinks about various situations, and what is important to Him.

Prayer is simply engaging in a conversation with God and can include praise, confession of personal sin, requesting that God meet a need, or pursuing His guidance. The Bible encourages believers to seek God's wisdom (James 1:5-6; see also Matt 7:7-11). He is not annoyed by our requests for guidance, for He truly desires to provide direction.

The Bible also instructs believers needing guidance to seek the counsel of others (e.g., Prov 11:14; 15:22). Though many people might be willing to give advice when we need it, it is best to seek the counsel of wise, mature believers who have walked with God for many years.

When you need God's guidance, do not rely upon your own knowledge. Instead, seek His guidance in the Bible, through prayer, and in godly counsel.



October 2022

Daily Reading of His Word

Dr. Lindsay Egli - College of Health Sciences; Public Health

✝ 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God[a] may be complete, equipped for every good work.”
(ESV)

Daily Reading of His Word

When I was growing up, I traveled all over the country playing in major fastpitch softball tournaments. I cannot count the number of hours I spent practicing and preparing for softball competitions. Not only did I prepare defensively, but I prepared offensively. Notice the difference between offense and defense:

Offense – also known as attack...is the action of attacking or engaging an opposing team.

Defense – being under attack and making efforts to prevent the opposing team from scoring to achieve the win.

Any given player's or team's success is based on preparation. There is a major difference in the preparation and mindset in offense compared to defense. A large majority of professing Christians are currently living their Christian walk solely on defense and losing the battle. As believers in Christ, we must get off defense and begin playing offense. There is only one way to offensively prepare for spiritual battle,

that is prayer and the daily reading of the Word of God. We will face trials and battles, but by playing offense we can walk through those trials with a peace that can only come from Jesus Christ.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

Lord, thank you for your Word. I pray you give our students discipline to read the Bible each day and begin to take a stance of spiritual offense. They will face trials, but by playing offense, they are equipping themselves to walk in victory with the Sword of the Spirit as their weapon. Amen!

Assurance: Assurance Made Simple

Dr. John Kuykendall - College of Humanities and Social Sciences; Dept of History and Political Science

✝ Lamentations 3:21-24

“This I recall to my mind, therefore I have hope. Through the LORD’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. “The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I hope in Him!”

(NKJV)

Sometimes it is hard to feel certain about anything in this life. For our college students, it is very easy for them to dwell on things they don’t know or on what has gone wrong instead of focusing on comforting truths. The prophet Jeremiah knew just how they feel. It was easy for Jeremiah to despair over the conditions of his homeland and of his personal life—so easy that he wrote an entire book crying out to God in his sorrow. But in the very center of that book, Jeremiah suddenly realizes that there is something in the mess that he can be sure of: the unfailing, merciful love of God. When our students are feeling beaten down by the semester (or by life itself), now is a good time for us to help them find assurance in the One who gave hope to Jeremiah’s soul!

That very same God of hope is known to us in a way Jeremiah could only imagine. Jesus, God the Son, experienced this uncertain life with full assurance of His Father’s love. He invited people to come to Him, put down their burdens, and find rest for their souls [Matthew 11:29]. Pray that our students will respond to His call, in the assurance that they will be welcomed, loved and sustained by the God of All Comfort.

November 2022

✝ Psalm 121

✝ Psalm 31:15-15a

“My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.”

(NIV)

Encouragement: A Prayer of Encouragement

Prof. Julie Henderson - College of Science and Mathematics; Computer Science

This week, we will pray scripture-based prayers for encouragement. Dear Heavenly Father,

When my students lift their eyes to the hills and wonder where does their help come from, please help them to know that their help comes from You, the One who made heaven and earth.

Lord, please let my students not falter from your will for their lives, for You have promised that you watch over them at all times, without even sleeping.

Indeed, You watch over my students and me and neither slumber nor sleep.

Thank You, Lord, for that promise. Thank You that you will be my students’ shade at their right hand; the sun will not harm them by day nor the moon by night.

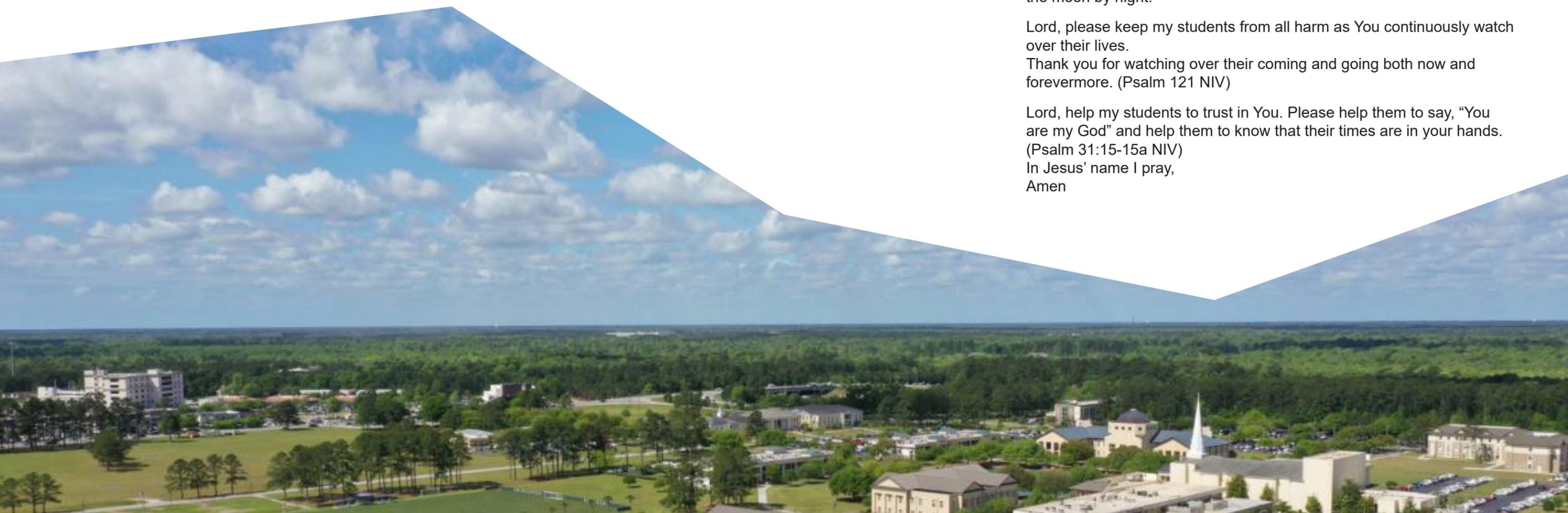
Lord, please keep my students from all harm as You continuously watch over their lives.

Thank you for watching over their coming and going both now and forevermore. (Psalm 121 NIV)

Lord, help my students to trust in You. Please help them to say, “You are my God” and help them to know that their times are in your hands.

(Psalm 31:15-15a NIV)

In Jesus’ name I pray,
Amen



Faithfulness

Dr. Kerri Nelson - College of Nursing

✝ Psalm 91:4

“He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.”

(Version)

It's imperative that we recognize that our faithfulness in God must never end. At this point in the semester my students may have earned a grade that they are not satisfied with, missed a deadline, or felt merely overwhelmed with the expectations in their courses and beyond. It is at this moment when our trust and faithfulness, that God will continue to guide my students in the right direction must be stronger than ever. I will let Him in and allow Him to guide the way as my students embark on the end of the semester.

Lord, I trust that you have been in front of, next to, and behind my students during their CSU journey thus far. Please continue to use Your faithfulness and shield my students in the last few weeks of the semester, as finals approach. They have worked hard over the last few months to make it to this point in the semester. Please watch over my students as they continue their academic journey here at CSU. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

December 2022

Friendship: Being There for Others

Prof. Lori Tisdale - College of Nursing

✝ Proverbs 17:17

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.”

(NIV)

I can honestly say, I wouldn't be where I am today – a wife, a mom, a nurse, or a professor, if it weren't for my closest of friends – those who loved me when I was at my best but also when I was at my worst. Our friends could have run off when my husband and I faced the worst of circumstances – it wasn't an easy time to be around us. But several friends, like God, stuck by us through all those times of sadness and despair. Even now, almost 20 years later, we are so grateful for the friends that God placed in our lives who loved us, fed us, and guided us. God calls us all to love our friends and serve them “at all times” as this verse reminds us. Do you know of any students going through a rough time?

Can you encourage your students to share His love with each other, whether via a text, a phone call, or a coffee break and remind them to check on their friends so they know they aren't alone?

Father, Thank you for blessing me with those around me who have lifted me up in my time of need, and rejoiced with me when I wanted to rejoice. I pray that my students also have those friends that lift and rejoice with them, and they are reminded to share your love and grace with those in need.

Peacefulness: A Time for Rest

Dr. Jacquelynn Pleis - Assistant Professor of Education

✝ Matthew 11:28

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

(NIV)

The end of a school year brings so many commitments for our students: projects and finals in classes, perhaps tournaments for sports, or final club meetings. There are award ceremonies to take part in, celebrations to attend, and graduation to prepare for. During this very busy time, who has time to rest?

Jesus offers those who are weary the rest they need. The Pharisees of Jesus's day had many rules to follow, making religion burdensome. We have a full calendar to follow, giving so much of our time to our commitments. Instead of pushing time with the Lord to the back of our commitment list during busy times, what would it look like to

put this time first? When we rest with the Lord, we can find peace and joy in our commitments, rather than the temptation to the “try harder, do more” philosophy society tries to sell us.

Are you weary and burdened? Encourage students to try spending a few quiet moments walking around the pond contemplating God's creation or find a seat in the Chapel for a quiet moment of prayer. Not a bad idea for us as faculty and staff as well. A moment of rest may be just what we all need.



January 2023

Regaining Routine: Resetting Your Intentions

Dr. Vicki Ball - College of Nursing

2 Timothy 1:7

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.”
(NLT)

Dear Heavenly Father:

The holidays are over; last semester is in our rearview mirror, and the promise of a new year and a new semester, unmarred by regrets and mistakes, beckons students back into a routine. As they take on the challenges that await them, reset their intentions, renew their commitments, and change their behavior to align with Your plan for their lives. I acknowledge that new beginnings sometimes come with fear and uncertainty. 2 Timothy 1:7 reminds me that your plan for our lives includes rejecting fear and timidity and harnessing Your gift of power, love, and self-discipline. Help my students to fully embrace Your gift of

power so that they may be empowered to establish a routine that helps them balance studying, work, and relationships. Help them to accept Your gift of love so that they find mercy when their routine falters and grace to begin anew each day. Help them to accept the gift of self-discipline, realizing that You are equipping them with everything they need to accomplish the goals You have placed in their hearts. Order their steps, dear Lord, and illuminate the pathway to the life You have planned for my students. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Mental Health Matters

Professor Steele Morris - College of Nursing

Luke 5:16

“But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.”
(NIV)

Having trouble finding time to breathe? Between teaching overload courses, encroaching due dates, intensive research projects, meeting with students, managing your families schedule and needs, and your need for a social life (what is a social life...) you may be experiencing some level of anxiety.

Whether you are afraid of missing an upcoming deadline, missing a family milestone, or anything in between, it is important to remember that there is hope in managing anxiety. Reaching out to a mental health care provider is never discouraged as they are essential to your overall health.

Back to your schedule. Have you made time to pray? Taking a moment to pray will allow you to present your requests and stressors to God. Leave the stress of the stressors to be managed by His incomprehensible power. Maybe you feel as though the mountain ahead of you is insurmountable. To God, that mountain is smaller than a molehill.

Prayer

“God, I pray that You will allow me to leave my stressors at Your mercy. Help me to understand that while I can not simply sit idle for success to occur, that if I put my faith and trust in You overseeing my path, there is less room for anxiety to hold its grip on me. If it is Your will, may it be done.”

“FOR God HAS NOT GIVEN US A SPIRIT OF FEAR AND TIMIDITY, BUT OF power, Love, AND Self-Discipline”

2 Timothy 1:7

February 2023

Self Care

Prof. Lori Tisdale - College of Nursing

† Luke 5:16

“But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.”
(NIV)

As a nurse, I’m taught to look at Maslow’s hierarchy when I prioritize patient care (food and water come first; then safety and shelter; then love and belonging, followed by esteem, and finally, self-actualization where we can optimally use our God-given talents and abilities). But how does this overlap with taking care of myself? And how does my faith fit in? Self-care has become a buzzword – but it truly is important and it’s mentioned throughout the scripture. Why? If we can take care of ourselves, we are not only honoring God, but we can also

follow His guidance and share His love with others, including our students! Self-care starts with being nourished like Maslow says – nutrients for our body (like the loaves of bread and fish), but also faith for our souls (the Bible). Self-care is not selfish. God Himself created our flesh, and thus, we honor Him by eating quality food, resting our tired bodies, and feeding our soul with his Word. We need those moments of quiet like Luke 5:16 describes our Lord taking. As a faculty or staff member serving a group of students, particularly in times of stress when it feels the weight of the world may be on their shoulders, we too must remember to fully nourish our bodies and souls, so that we can better support them and remind them of self care too.

Prayer for Mid-Terms

Ms. Sabrina McIntyre - Pre-Nursing Advisor

Joshua 1:5

“Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave or forsake you.”
(ESV)

Dear Heavenly Father,

You see us, and I am so thankful for your constant nature. I pray that as these students go through midterms and the remainder of this semester that You make Yourself known to them either for the first time ever for those who do not yet know You or in new ways for those who have walked with you for awhile now. We cannot ignore Your desire to have relationship with us; You did not even withhold Your Son, Jesus, from us! He who knew no sin, became sin for us and what a gift that was; it changed the course of history forever, and we have the opportunity to cling to that hope, not just now but for the rest of our lives!

You are with us when we weep; You are with us when we rejoice, and You are with us every moment in between. Let all the preparation they have done so far in this semester be fruitful and show in their grades while also having the grace and comfort of knowing that grades do not define us, only You alone can give identity. You have called us chosen, a royal priesthood, set apart for Your glory. So with this comfort, just like the comfort You gave Your servant, Joshua, we can go forward knowing that we can be courageous because You are with us always. I pray confidence and boldness and peace over each and every Buccaneer, those in the body of Christ and the ones to come! In Your Son’s holy Name, Amen.

March 2023

Grace: A Prayer for God’s Grace

Prof. Julie Henderson - College of Science and Mathematics; Computer Science

This week, we will pray scripture-based prayers about God’s grace.

† Romans 11:6 NKJV

† Psalm 84:11 NKJV

† 2 Corinthians 9:8 NKJV

† James 4:6 NIV

† 2 Corinthians 13:14 NIV

† Romans 1:7 NKJV

Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for the gift of salvation by Your grace. Thank You that it is by Your grace and not by the work of our hands that we are saved. For You, Lord God, are a sun and shield; You give grace and glory; There is no good thing that You will withhold from those who walk uprightly.

Lord, help my students to know and remember that You are able to make all grace abound toward them. You have promised that they will have all sufficiency in all things so that they may have an abundance for every good work.

Please help my students to remember that You are always ready to give them more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

Please let my students know and remember that as a child of God, the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will be with them in all they say and do.

I ask that my students’ lives be filled with grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

In Jesus’ name I pray,
Amen



Let Us Run with Endurance

Dr. Michael Bryant - Whitfield Center for Christian Leadership

† Hebrews 12:1

“As for us, we have all of these great witnesses who encircle us like clouds. So we must let go of every wound that has pierced us and the sin we so easily fall into. Then we will be able to run life’s marathon race with passion and determination, for the path has been already marked out before us.”
(NIV)

The prayer below is for believers who are struggling to endure. Faculty and staff may pray it for themselves or others (e.g., students). They may also read the following passages for encouragement: Hebrews 11:1-12:17; 1 Peter 2:21-25; Luke 23:46; John 19:30.

“Father, help me to understand that the Christian life is like a race—a marathon of many miles (Heb 12:1). The course’s terrain is at times punishing, and there are many who are disqualified. Nevertheless, to receive the prize, I cannot take shortcuts, and I must follow the rules.

Father, help me run with endurance, to pursue with faithfulness and determination the Christian life. When I feel like giving up or surrendering to sin, let me remember how believers in the past endured their trials and temptations (Heb 11:1-40). They trusted You and sought to obey Your Word, regardless of the circumstances. Even when they did not know what would happen, they displayed faith in Your sovereign care (Heb 11:1). Let me demonstrate the same faith and determination.

Father, help me also to run with endurance by looking to Christ Jesus (Heb 12:2). Let His example on the cross serve as my ultimate model (Luke 23:46; John 19:30). May I seek to walk in His steps carefully (1 Pet 2:21-25).

Christ Jesus alone is the author and perfecter of my faith (Heb 12:2). I am confident that regardless of the trials and temptations I face, He will complete His good work in me (Phil 1:6).”

April 2023

Selflessness

Prof. Andrea Raines - College of Nursing

† 1 Corinthians 10:24

“No one should seek his own advantage, but that of his neighbor.”
(NASB)

As Christians, we are called to serve our fellow man, this isn’t new information. While some bright, shiny opportunities to serve are easy, and actually bring us a level of self-service, we are called to so much more.

There will be times, in their walk with Christ, that students are called not to step, but to leap, out of their comfort zone, toward the need of a fellow man. Gracious, can this be a difficult path to trod!

Lord, I pray for our students, that You would grant them the presence of mind to call upon Your help to bring pause; to call upon Your wisdom to assist with discernment; and to rely upon Your divine providence to rest with confidence in their decisions to choose service over self.

Amen

Prayer for Finals

Ms. Sabrina McIntyre - Pre-Nursing Advisor

† Romans 5:2-5

“...we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope”
(ESV)

Father,

To the student on the other side of our exams, fill them with Your peace. Only You know what they have gone through this semester in detail, only You know the hours spent studying, the tears that may have been shed, the questions asked in the late hours of the night, the frustrations that riddled their hearts and minds, and the times where they may have doubted the plan You have laid out for them. You have plans to help and not harm them! I am calling on our Savior and Friend, Jesus, right now to do what only He can do and be the Prince of Peace in the midst of it all. We have been given a holy invitation to walk in freedom and light beside Him, only through Him do we have access to You, Father. By grace through faith, we have been invited into relationship with the Lamb of God, and I am asking that anyone who calls Him their Lord to remember the gift given to them and live in the confidence afforded to those who can call themselves Children of God. To those who do not yet know Him, Father, I am asking Your Holy Spirit to nudge their heart through the good news of the Gospel and bring them to repentance so that they may live in this freedom as a member of the body of Christ.



I am praying joy over the student on the other side of our exams, Lord. Not because of the end of the semester, but because of the hope we have in You! A joy that surpasses all understanding and circumstance. This is our inheritance as children and Father, what an inheritance You have given us! I do not know what You have planned for them Lord, but thank You for allowing us to be a small part of Your plan for them. Thank You for extending Your grace to us through them, Lord, as we take part in bringing another class of future servant leaders to do Your will. May their time here at CSU be blessed and highly favored. May their finals go well to conclude the semester here at the Bucland. It is in Your name we pray, Amen!

How Do I Become a Christian?

The story of the Bible is simple: We were created “in the image of God” and made for a relationship with HIM! That relationship was ruined by sin, that is, any action, deed, thought that goes against GOD. The effects of sin are felt with “shame,” confusion, emptiness, etc. The world around us demonstrates the effects of sin. But the good news is that GOD, by his “love,” has provided a way for us to forever be in a relationship with Him through Jesus.

How do I become a Christian? God’s Word gives us two responses to JESUS’ sacrifice for our sins—trust and repentance. If you want to be saved and experience eternal forgiveness of sins, have the righteousness of JESUS given to you, and live daily in a relationship with GOD through JESUS, then you must “believe” that you have sinned against a perfect and holy God. Through prayer, “confess” that you are a sinner and ask for forgiveness of your sins. Scripture teaches us to “confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9, ESV). Call out to God now and place your trust in Him!

Second, repent of your sins. This means a 180 degree turnaround. Instead of living life your own way now you live it God’s way. Start by reading a chapter in 1 John each day and praying. Next, join a Bible study with believers who are excited about Jesus so you can be discipled. Third, join a church that believes in the infallible, inerrant word of God and that Jesus is the only way to be saved. Lastly, contact us as soon as possible so we can give you more information and celebrate with you on the best decision of your life (jdavis@csuniv.edu or 843.863.7218).

If you just experienced salvation through Jesus the Christ, you made the greatest response to the greatest news you could ever make! We, like all of heaven, are rejoicing with you! Remember, your walk with JESUS is a journey. Jesus calls us, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men” (Matthew 4:19 KJV) We cannot wait to rejoice with you. We look forward to hearing from you. Your “new” life will never be the same!

— Associate VP for Spiritual Life Jon Davis

May 2023

Free at Last!

Dr. Dondi Costin - University President

John 8:36

“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

(NIV)

“Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we’re free at last!” roared Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in what many have described as among the greatest speeches in American history. The sentiment he shared that day of a more perfect Union still rings loudly in the ears of those who long to live Dr. King’s dream in all its fullness. So we hold onto that dream like nobody’s business.

As a Baptist preacher, however, Dr. King understood better than most that the spectacular freedom of his dreams was a mere shadow of the eternal freedom we can have in Christ. We were born to experience everything Dr. King described on this side of heaven, but we were made for freedom in Christ.

Whether your students’ hard-earned cries of “Free at last!” refer to the beginning of their professional lives with a new diploma in hand, or just the start of summer as they gear up for next year, help them remember this most important life lesson: “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

Then and only then can they finish the flourish: “Thank God Almighty, we’re free at last!”



Ending Prayer

Dr. Jackie Fish

Oh, Great Teacher,

We honor You today. And we come to You asking for the wisdom, patience, and loving kindness You showed to those You taught. Thank You for allowing us the opportunity to serve You in the roles we fill as students, parents, faculty, and staff dedicated to fulfilling Your will to serve others. And thank You, Lord for the privilege of being with every member of the Charleston Southern family.

As students, help us to continue to grow in wisdom as we learn from and are mentored by those You have placed in our lives. Teach us how to grow in grace while we work tirelessly to fulfill our career goals, support fellow students, and grow in You.

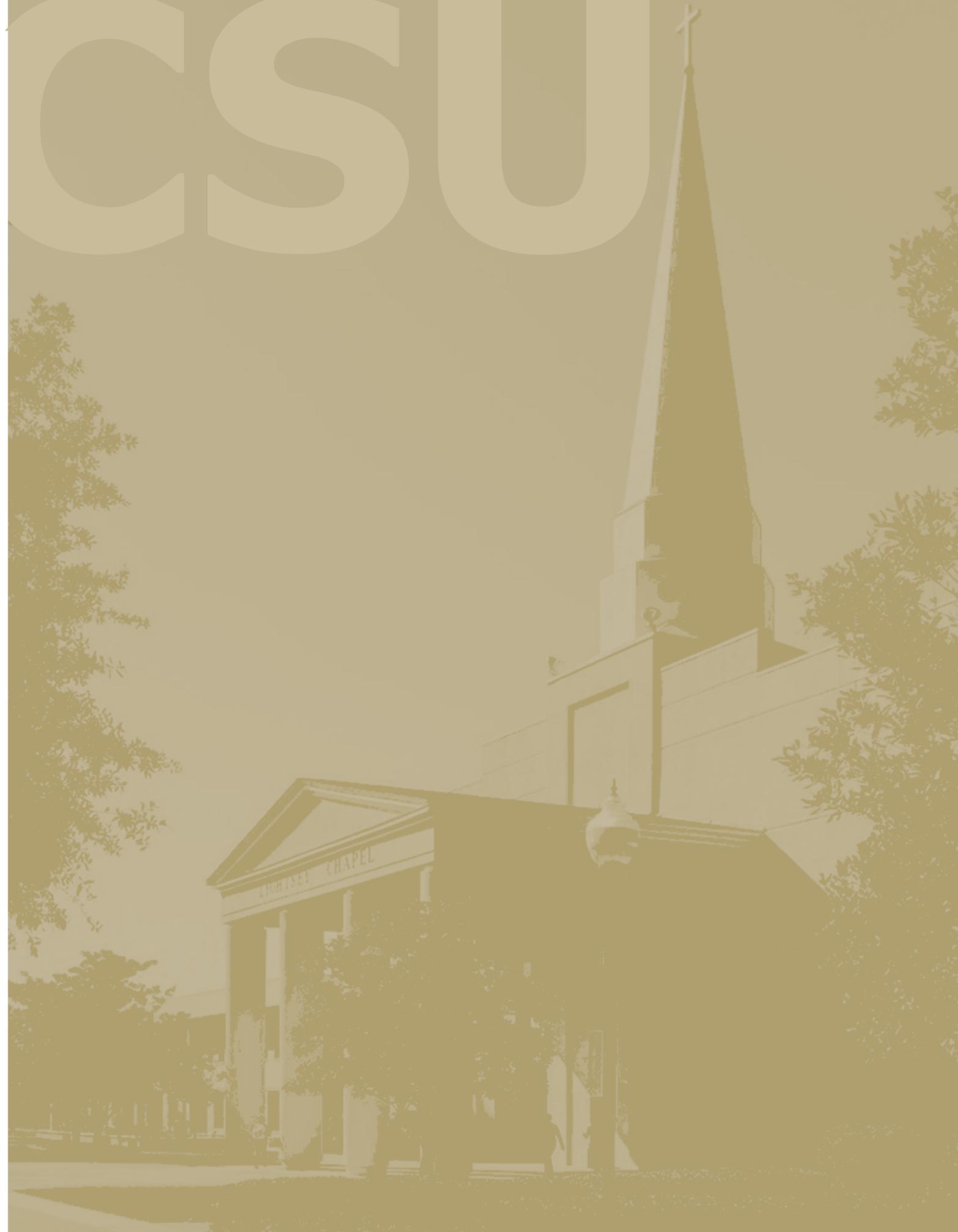
As parents, we pray for guidance in making good decisions, and that You will continue to clearly show us how to guide our children with a spirit of joy and enthusiasm as they face new challenges.

As faculty and staff, grant us wisdom so that we can give generously to those precious students You have placed in our care, strength when there is weariness, and words of encouragement too that will inspire our students.

Bless us, Heavenly Father, and inspire us by Your spirit. Lead us to dwell in love and peace and let us always make positive impacts on our lives. All that we do here today and always is for the glory of God.

I pray we will spend the year and leave this place with joy and thanksgiving as we continue the work You have given us as students, parents, faculty, and staff. You are the source of our strength, courage and peace. In the name of Jesus, for whom we give thanks,

Amen.



Contributing Writers



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