

APRIL -
JUNE
2024



PRAYER CALENDAR

Dear friends,

In my experience, there are two ways in which people enter the kingdom of God. They seem to either crash in with dramatic effect that often reverberates across communities, or they are walked in, slowly, over time – across dinner tables or in prison cells, through the unconditional love of a Grocery volunteer or a downwardly mobile missionary serving warm drinks on the corner of their estate.

It would be a mistake to say that God prefers one more than the other. Both are valid, both beautiful and most importantly, both delight the very heart of God.

Just the other day I was hearing about our grocery in Ilford, how a man who had hit rock bottom came stumbling in. Desperate for some food our team were able to feed him and sit with him as he began to open about how he had got caught up in gang culture and was now sleeping rough. Our team shared the good news with him and he gladly invited Jesus into his life. He is now a member of the church... sometimes they crash in.

At one of our Advance Youth groups, a girl was sharing how one of her friends had recently become a Christian. This was special because this had been years in the making. She'd been coming along to the CU for a while but only to support her friend running it. But bit by bit

she was making steps towards Jesus and little did she know that for a year she had a whole group of young people praying for her salvation... some are walked in.



Whether they crash in or are walked in, this is what The Message Trust lives for, to see people come into the kingdom, all to delight the heart of God. My encouragement to you would be to continue to live a life that pleases God more and more.

Thank you again for your prayers and your generosity that enables us to do all that we do.

God bless,

Aaron Routledge
London Hub Leader



APRIL PRAYER POINTS

1

Our team in **The Netherlands** is growing, and as it does, we're looking for people to get involved with Eden and operations. Pray God would lead us to the right people who can propel the work forward.

2

It's a busy month for **Respect ME** as we start Boys' and Girls' courses across the UK. Please pray that as students take part in lessons, they'll connect with the material and decide to make positive choices for the future.

3

Please pray for our **Message School of Evangelism** students as they head out on mission this month. Pray they'd have amazing conversations and see God use them in incredible ways.

4

Eden Gurnell Grove (London) are running their Community Café today. Pray lots of people from the estate come along, feel welcomed and experience something of Jesus' love for them.

5

It's Toastie Friday at **Ilford Community Grocery**! As people come for a chat, a cuppa and a piece of toast, pray they'd build great relationships with our grocery team and want to find out more about church this Sunday.

6

Pray that more people would want to join **Eden** and share Jesus' love in their communities. Find out more at joineden.org

7

Thank God for those in **prison** who've given their lives to Jesus over Easter. Pray that over the coming weeks, they'll grow in their new faith and experience more of Jesus' love for them.

8

Praise God for **Proximity**, our brand-new urban mission resource hub that's launching this June to equip churches, leaders and those on the front line of urban mission. Find out more at proximityhub.org

9

Please pray for our new **Community Groceries** in Hartlepool (North East), Swansea (South Wales) and Harpurhey (North West). Pray that as people come in store to shop, lives will be impacted when families find the hope Jesus offers.

10

Our **prisons** team are running Bible studies in South Wales today. Pray many would come along, be encouraged and filled with the Holy Spirit.

11

Lift up our **Eden** HQ team today. Pray they'd have God's wisdom, and find the people and resources to grow the network and continue sharing the love of Jesus in word and action.

12

Thank God for our **volunteers** who are helping serve customers in our Neal Street Espresso enterprise coffee shop today. Pray they'd be strengthened and encouraged by God's love.

13

Tonight, **Message Germany** are in the Czech Republic partnering with local churches for a Youth Night event where young people will come together to pray and get equipped for mission. Pray it's a powerful evening.

14

As **Sam Ward** speaks at New Life Church in Bolton today, pray God would guide his words and that the church feels encouraged by what he shares.

15

Today is our monthly **prayer day**. As staff take time away from the office, gather to share stories and pray into what God is doing, please pray that we are inspired and hear clearly from God.

16

The **No More Knives Tour** is in Tower Hamlets (East London) this week! As we empower young people to say 'no' to knives and invite them along to our evangelistic gig pray God transforms lives.



24

Our mission bands head into **Teesside** schools this week. Pray that the young people would engage with the songs and stories of hope and want to find out more about following Jesus.

25

Pray for the **young people** who responded to the gospel on Friday at the No More Knives gig. Pray they'd want to come along to events and services run by our partner churches and that they'd grow in faith.

26

Our **Message School of Evangelism** students are in Stockton with our Eden teams helping out with outreach events and Love Where U Live projects. Pray they'd be a blessing to the communities and have many gospel conversations.

27

Today, our **Advance Youth** head into Edmonton (North London). Pray that team leader Aaron and the young people would be bold as they share Jesus with everyone.

28

Andy Hawthorne is speaking at Christ Church Barnet today. Do be praying for lives to be changed and a great new level of partnership to be created.

29

Thank God for our amazing **supporters** who help keep our work going! Could you stand with us financially? Visit message.org.uk/donate

30

As **Ilford Community Grocery** run events and courses for their members, pray many would come along, gain new skills, build friendships and experience the love of Jesus in new ways.

17

God continues to open amazing doors for us to share the gospel with young people in schools in **Brazil**. Pray for continued favour on hub leader Daniel as he builds relationships with school directors and headteachers.

18

We have a heart to see everyone take up the call of the evangelist in their everyday conversations. Pray that those coming along to our **Advance** groups to be equipped in evangelism would be inspired to share their faith.

19

As young people come to the **No More Knives gig** tonight to hear music from our bands and the gospel, pray many would respond and accept Jesus into their lives.

20

Join us in thanking God for the incredible volunteers and corporate partners who support our **Community Grocery**. Pray God would bless them today. Want to get involved? Visit communitygrocery.org.uk

21

Eden South Bank (Middlesbrough) are holding an accessible church service tonight for those who might normally have barriers to coming to church. Pray many come along, meet Jesus and connect with our partner church, TVCC.

22

In **South Africa**, the schools team are running a Higher Tour in Hanover Park (Cape Town) sharing the gospel in the streets and schools. Pray for many Jesus-filled conversations and that those they meet come to the evangelistic gig on Friday.

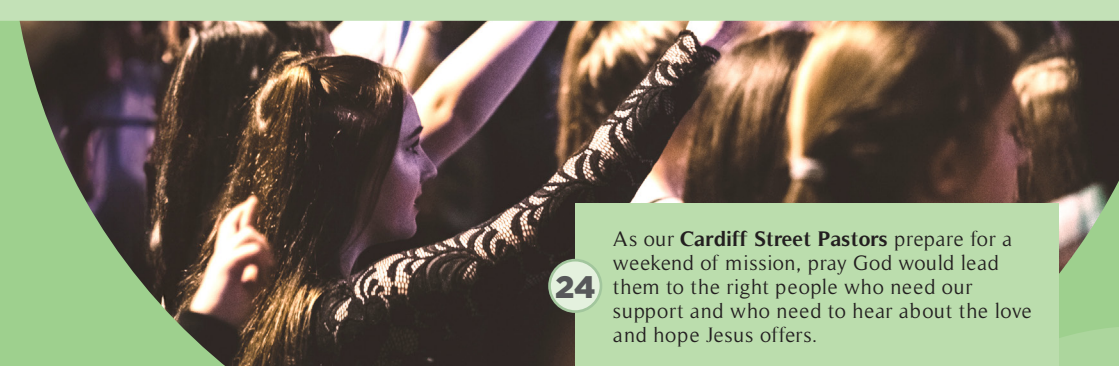
23

Today, **Ilford Community Grocery** are running a Life Skills course for members. Pray the team would be able to bless everyone who comes along and support them as they develop new skills.





MAY PRAYER POINTS



1

As our **Respect ME** team continue building relationships with local schools in London, pray we'd get more bookings and have the opportunity to take lessons to even more young people this term.

2

Message South Africa are celebrating the first graduates of their 2024 prisons and enterprise barista course programme. Pray God would continue opening doors for the graduates to find employment and continue growing in faith.

3

As the **Message School of Evangelism** students head off to Germany, The Netherlands and Zambia on their international trips, pray they'll have boldness to share the gospel and an expectation to see God move.

4

Pray for our **Proximity Conference speakers**, including Krish Kandiah and Natalie Williams, as they prepare to speak at the event next month. Join us at message.org.uk/proximity

5

Our **Eden Gurnell Grove** (London) team are visiting a local sheltered housing centre getting to know and encourage the residents there. Pray the team would bring the peace of Jesus with them and have great gospel conversations.

6

As our **Advance** Ambassadors gather online to be encouraged and equipped, pray they'd be inspired and refreshed. Particularly pray for our leaders in Zambia, Germany and Japan as they look to launch new groups this month.

7

Prisons worker **Kez** has been running a Faith and Recovery course to support women struggling with addiction. Pray many would find freedom in Jesus and that churches would connect with Kez to help support the women as they transition out of prison.

8

The Yorkshire and Humberside team are hosting a **fundraising dinner** at the Woodseats Community Hub tonight. Pray many would come and be inspired by all that God has done and want to stand with us.

9

Praise God for all our **Eden** team volunteers. Pray that he would refresh and encourage them and give them a new opportunity to share the gospel today.

10

Tonight, Message Wales are hosting their termly **Youth Nights** event in partnership with local churches. Pray the young people would experience God in new ways as they pray and worship.

11

Pray today for our **operations teams**, such as the finance, creative and facilities departments, who help behind the scenes to make mission happen. Pray God would encourage them in their work today.

12

Thank God for the team members at our **Neal Street Espresso** enterprise coffee shop in Covent Garden. Pray that as they serve coffee today, they'd experience the love and strength of Jesus in a new way.

13

We're seeing so many people in **prison** coming to know Jesus. Pray they'd each experience the love, peace and hope that Jesus offers and grow in their faith as they're disciplined by our teams.

14

Today, we're training all our **schools workers** with content for our Wellbeing and Resilience tour. Pray each team member would be refreshed and excited to go again sharing the lessons and their faith in Jesus with young people around the UK.

15

Praise God for the young people who're responding to the gospel at **Genetik Sessions**. Pray each one would get plugged into a local church and be encouraged and supported in their new faith.

16

Lift up **Eden Central Drive** (Blackpool) as they take part in the diocese-wide Love Where U Live mission. Be praying they'd show Jesus' love and care to everyone in the community and have great conversations about faith.

17

Andy Hawthorne and Gary Smith are speaking at the largest Christian festival in **The Netherlands** today! Pray that as they share about the work of Advance, many would want to grow in their evangelism and start or join a group.

18

Tonight is Message South Africa's **Bloom** event where women are empowered, equipped and encouraged to step into their God-given potential. Pray everyone who comes along will know how loved they are by Jesus.

19

As our hub leader **Aaron** speaks at a church today, pray God would use him to encourage everyone there with stories of what Jesus is doing in and through the work of The Message in London.

20

Pray for Ben, Michael and the team from **St Paul's Shadwell** as they go out onto the streets of Tower Hamlets to chat with young people about Jesus. Pray the good news of Jesus would change lives today.

21

The East Midlands team is partnering with local churches for **Love Where U Live** mission in Derby. Please pray it would be a great time of church connection, and seeing the area come together to show the love of Jesus.

22

Thank God for **London City Mission** and the work they do across the city to share the love of Jesus and see lives transformed. Pray they'd be encouraged today and see God do amazing things.

23

Our Yorkshire and Humberside team are partnering with 24-7 Prayer to run a **youth prayer and worship** event tomorrow. Be praying it would be a powerful night for all those who come along.

24

As our **Cardiff Street Pastors** prepare for a weekend of mission, pray God would lead them to the right people who need our support and who need to hear about the love and hope Jesus offers.

25

Today, our **Advance Youth** are heading into London to put what they've learnt about sharing the gospel into practice. Pray God would guide them to people who need to hear his good news today.

26

Thank God for each person who serves on our **Eden** teams here in London. Pray they'd be encouraged today and see people who they've been journeying with for years accept Jesus into their lives.

27

Message South Africa begin their Higher Prison tour today. Pray the team would be able to share the gospel with those they meet and support them as they turn their lives around.

28

This week, **Message Germany** are in schools in Wermelskirchen with their 'This Is Me' tour that's all about finding self-worth and identity in Jesus. As each young person is invited to an evangelistic gig, pray many lives would be changed by Jesus!

29

Pray for those experiencing homelessness who come to **Neal Street Espresso** as a safe, warm place to spend some time. Pray God would transform their lives and would equip the team to help support those in need.

30

We're **hiring**! Pray we'd find the right people to join our teams as we take mission to the next level. Want to join The Message family? Visit message.org.uk/jobs

31

Our **Eden** kids club is running today. Pray it would be a great opportunity for our team to connect with families in Gurnell Grove and share about Jesus.





JUNE PRAYER POINTS



1

The Advance Youth team are praying and planning for **The Scattering** week of mission happening in London this summer. Pray God would guide them in their decisions today. Find out more and get your young people involved at message.org.uk/thescattering

2

Andy and Michele Hawthorne are in **Canada** for the week speaking in many locations about the work of Message Canada. Please pray they'd encourage and support the team and develop new connections and fundraising opportunities.

3

As **Ilford Community Grocery** members come in store for their shopping and to access support, pray they'd feel the love of Jesus in the building and want to find out more from our team.

4

Ask God to move powerfully across India as those in our **Advance** groups step out to share their faith. Pray he'd open new doors for the groups and protect them as they do this.

5

Lift up our events team in prayer as they serve in the **Message Community Hub**. Pray the building would continue to be a place where people will discover faith, find hope and have their lives transformed by Jesus' love.

6

Thank God for everyone who's visited **Neal Street Espresso** and been impacted by the team's powerful testimonies. Pray they'd continue thinking about these and want to find out more about faith.

7

Festival Teesside is happening this weekend! As our North East team get involved sharing the gospel on the streets and from stages, pray thousands would respond to the good news of Jesus and have their lives changed by him.

8

Eden Fir Vale (Sheffield) are taking part in a local family fun day with their young people. Pray it would be a great day for the community and that the team would make great connections with their neighbours.

9

As **Daniel** continues to write gospel-packed music to share with young people in Brazil, pray God would inspire him with the words that will stir hearts to find out more about Jesus.

10

Ilford Community Grocery is running cookery courses today. Pray it would be a fun time for our grocery members as they gain skills and build connections with the team.

11

It's incredible seeing our **Advance** material being translated into different languages to encourage people all over the world in their evangelism. Pray we'd have the resources to make even more translations happen.

12

Pray for **Eden West Bowling** (Bradford) as they continue to grow their Bible-based after-school clubs. Pray the young people who come along would engage well and get excited about having a relationship with Jesus.

13

Please pray that as we recruit new **Message School of Evangelism** students for September, the right people would hear about the course and want to join. Find out more at message.org.uk/mse

14

Our 2024 **Proximity** Urban Mission conference is happening today and tomorrow! Do pray that as people come along, they'll be encouraged and equipped again in their urban mission.

15

Thank God for the Christian Unions our **Advance** young people have started in their schools to share their faith with their mates. Pray these would continue to grow and gain momentum.

16

Pray that our hub leader **Aaron** would be encouraged by God today and have his wisdom to know what the next steps are for mission across London in this coming season.

17

Our staff are gathering to **pray and worship** today and be encouraged with news and testimonies of what God is doing across The Message. Pray it would be an incredible day praising God.

18

The **No More Knives Tour** is in Sheffield this week! Pray that the students we meet would be impacted by the songs and testimonies and want to give their lives to Jesus at the end-of-week evangelistic gig.

19

Pray for our **Respect ME** teams as they deliver sessions on identity and relationships in schools this week. Pray the young people would engage well and learn about their value in Jesus.

20

We'd love to find more **volunteers** to support us as we grow in mission across the UK. Pray we'd find the right people to join our teams. Could this be you? Find out more at message.org.uk/volunteer

21

As our **prisons** team support men and women leaving prison, pray that those they're working with would get plugged into local churches and continue growing in their faith.

22

Lift up our **schools team**. Pray God would continue growing the team and opening more doors into new schools across London to take our power-packed Christian resources to young people.

23

Advance Youth is growing in The Netherlands! As young people come along to learn how to share the gospel and put this into practice, pray they'd grow in confidence and see God using them powerfully.

24

None of what we do is possible without our amazing **financial supporters**. Thank God for each of them today, and if you'd also like to stand with us, visit message.org.uk/donate

25

As the **Message School of Evangelism** students come to the end of their time on the course, praise God for how they've grown in their faith and pray that they'd know God's peace and wisdom as they decide what to do next.

26

As our **Advance** young people in London continue to pray for and share the gospel with their mates in school, pray they'd be encouraged by God today and see him change lives.

27

Pray for the creative mission and GangStar teams in South Africa as they host their monthly **Thursday Night Live** event in Mowbray (Cape Town). Pray many would come along and are impacted by what they hear about Jesus.

28

Young people are gathering together for **Greater Manchester Prayer Youth** tonight. Pray that as they cry out to God for revival in their friendship groups, schools and city, they'd see breakthrough and hear God speaking.

29

Our **Advance Youth** are back out on the streets sharing the love of Jesus with those they meet today. Pray for boldness and great conversations about faith.

30

Pray God would continue opening doors for us to take the **No More Knives Tour** to more schools so that young people's lives can be transformed by the lessons and Jesus' love.



proximity_

THE URBAN MISSION CONFERENCE_

Friday 14 – Saturday 15 June 2024
Manchester, UK

**Speakers include: Krish Kandiah, Natalie Williams,
Rachael Mutesi, Sam Ward, Andy Hawthorne,
plus lots more**

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