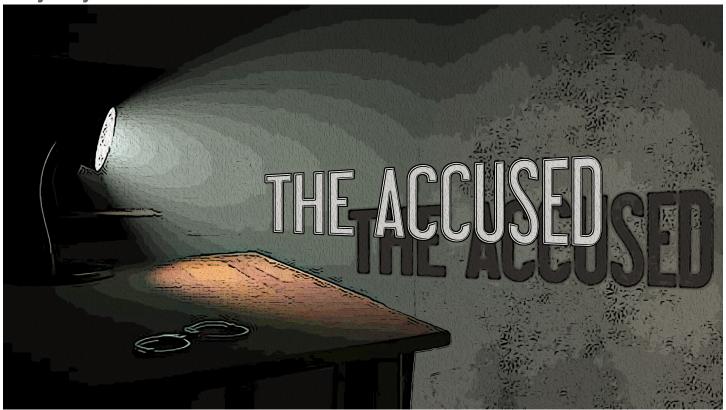
Daily Prayers The Accused



"As Stephen closes his arguments, he accuses his accusers of being stiff-necked, uncircumcised, and rejecting of the Holy Spirit. These are harsh accusations but at the heart of them is a loving call to repentance to those who were persecuting him. In his grace, Stephen extends the invitation to us that we may consider how these adjectives may describe us as well that we might repent and reorient our hearts, minds, and hands to more authentically follow Jesus as depicted in the Scriptures."

DATE	SCRIPTURE	PRAYER
6/12	Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, -Colossians 3:12	Lord, in this fallen world it takes effort to "put on" the things that you created us to live out organically. As your people may we clothe ourselves with compassionate hearts and be defined by our kindness, humility, meekness, and patience with others and ourselves. May we truly live as reflections of you. Amen.
6/13	with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, -Ephesians 4:2	Lord, sometimes we find it difficult to be humble with those who drive us crazy. We find it difficult to treat them gently, to be patient with them, to bear with them in love. Fill our hearts with compassion and love for even those who we find difficult. May we see them as you see them. Amen.
6/14	But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." -James 4:6	Lord, so often we get proud, thinking we know our own way. We dishonor you and your position. Humble us, O God, and remind us of our place in your Kingdom. Amen.

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DATE	SCRIPTURE	PRAYER
6/15	Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt youJames 4:10	Lord, it seems strange to us that when we humble ourselves in your Kingdom that we will be exalted. Help remind us that we were created to humbly submit to your lordship. Forgive us for our proud hearts. Amen.
6/16	Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." - 1 Peter 5:5	Lord, sometimes we find it especially difficult to submit ourselves humbly to others. We think we know better, we think we are better than other people and we proudly oppose those you've put in authority over us. Help us to submit to them and to be humble as you would have us be. Amen.
6/17	if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land 2 Chronicles 7:14	Father, hear us, humble our hearts, hear our prayers, forgive our sin and heal our land. In your name we pray this, amen.
6/18	Any uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin shall be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant." -Genesis 17:14	Lord, as your people, we are to visibly look different than those who are not your people. In ancient times it was through circumcision of the flesh, now it should be from fruit of a circumcised heart. Help us to be people who reflect you so well that we are seen as your covenant people. Amen.
6/19	But Moses said to the Lord, "Behold, the people of Israel have not listened to me. How then shall Pharaoh listen to me, for I am of uncircumcised lips?" -Exodus 6:12	Lord, forgive us for the things we do, the things we say, that do not reflect you or your character. Transform our hearts, our minds, our hands to be used for your purposes. Amen.
6/20	so that I walked contrary to them and brought them into the land of their enemies—if then their uncircumcised heart is humbled and they make amends for their iniquity, -Leviticus 26:41	Lord, so often our hearts chase after things other than you- humble us, O God. Help us to make amends for our iniquities that we might be drawn close to you. Amen.
6/21	Your servant has struck down both lions and bears, and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, for he has defied the armies of the living God." -1 Samuel 17:36	Lord, remind us that you use all kinds of people from all walks of life to do work for your Kingdom. Humble us and help us to see others as you see them. Amen.
6/22	Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in allColossians 3:11	Lord, remind us that in your Kingdom there is no hierarchy where one group is seen as more valuable than another. May we see one another as you see us. Amen.
6/23	Egypt, Judah, Edom, the sons of Ammon, Moab, and all who dwell in the desert who cut the corners of their hair, for all these nations are uncircumcised, and all the house of Israel are uncircumcised in heart." -Jeremiah 9:26	Lord, sometimes we forget when we look out at those in our world living in sin, that we still have areas of sinfulness in our own lives that need repentance, grace, and forgiveness. Humble us, O Lord, and help us to not see others as more sinful than we are. We are all in need of your mercy and grace. Amen.
6/24	"Edom is there, her kings and all her princes, who for all their might are laid with those who are killed by the sword; they lie with the uncircumcised, with those who go down to the pit." Ezekiel 32:29	Lord, though we all sin and are all in desperate need of your mercy and grace, we are also called to deal with that sin as much as we are able that we might live as you would have us live. We are to live as reflections of you, not merely beneficiaries of grace, but as holy representatives of your goodness, your holiness. May we be perfect as you are perfect. Amen.

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6/25	But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them Isaiah 63:10	Lord, we are rebellious in nature. Forgive us. Help us to turn our hearts toward you. Amen.
6/26	And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemptionEphesians 4:30	Lord, help us not to grieve your Spirit, but to heed His instruction, His wisdom, His truth. Open our ears, soften our hearts. Amen.
6/27	but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—Mark 3:29	Lord, in our heart of hearts, we know that we have rejected the Holy Spirit's guidance and chosen our own path. Forgive us. Transform us. Amen.
6/28	Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgivenMatthew 12:31	Lord, may we never blaspheme your Spirit, but heed His teaching, His instruction. We desire to be your people and reflect you in this world through Your Spirit. Amen.
6/29	And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgivenLuke 12:10	Lord, in three of the four Gospels your words are recorded, condemning those who blaspheme the Holy Spirit. Protect us from choosing this path. May we honor you and your Spirit. Amen.
6/30	How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? -Hebrews 10:29	Lord, your Spirit resides within us and He is so often outraged by our behavior, by our thoughts, words, and actions. Help us to be transformed by Him and become more like You. Amen.
7/1	Do not quench the Spirit1 Thessalonians 5:19	Lord, may we not quench the movement of your Spirit in our lives. We desire to be tools used for your Kingdom. Help us to heed the words of your Spirit and trust that His ways lead to our flourishing and the flourishing of our world. Amen.