

40 Days of Prayer



**Making a Vision
and a Call
a Reality**



Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us in prayer for the next 40 days as we lift up the International Friendship Center before God's throne of grace.

We invite you to take an imaginary walk with us through the future center and see what is taking place in every room. We pray that the Lord will help us sense His thoughts and longings as we go throughout the building. Thank you for helping us pray.

“Call to Me and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things....” *Jeremiah 33:3*

*Ron and Carole Collins
and the IFM Team*

DAY 1

As you drive through the gate to the International Friendship Center, you feel a sense of expectancy rising up within you. The natural beauty of the landscaping is very calming and uplifting to your spirit. Colorful flowers are blooming in various places and you smell the scent of tea olive in the air.

All of this reminds you of going to your grandparents' house and you somehow feel you are going "home" today—to a place where you are always welcomed and loved.

Prayer - *Father, please assign angels to the property you have prepared for the IFM Center. Let the presence of the Lord be felt even on the grounds.*

Verse - "God is able...." 2 Corinthians 9:8

DAY 2

When you step into the foyer of the Ministry Center, you see a large beautiful painting of a military officer kneeling before Christ. There are flags of many nations around them. You are surprised by the simple elegance of the building and you sense the majesty of the Lord.

Prayer - *Pray that every person who enters the building will feel the Presence of God.*

Verse - “Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations ‘The Lord Reigns!’”

1 Chronicles 16:31

DAY 3

When you turn to the left, you see the IFM office area. The pleasantness of the staff makes you feel more relaxed, and you sense they are genuinely glad you came.

Prayer - *Father, give daily strength, wisdom, refreshment and love to all the IFM Staff so that they can be channels of love to others.*

Verse - “By this will all men know that you are my disciples if you love one another.”

John 13:35

DAY 4

Leaving the office area, you walk into the foyer and turn into a wide hallway which is beautifully decorated with local original art and various international items. You smell the aroma of coffee and walk towards the coffee shop. You wonder if you might meet some new friends there—maybe even some from other countries.

Prayer - *Pray that God will draw many internationals to the Center as well as local Christians. Pray for strategic connections and meaningful conversations.*

Verse - “He who hath friends must show himself friendly.”

Proverbs 18:24

DAY 5

You are about to order some soup and a salad when you notice several internationals walking into the coffee shop. You ask if they would like to join you. You tell them you are from Columbus and ask what countries they are from.

Prayer - *Pray that many new friendships can be built between people of different cultures and backgrounds.*

Verse - ““My sheep... were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them...’ The Sovereign Lord says: ‘I will search for the lost and bring back the strays.’”

Ezekiel 34:6, 16

DAY 6

You notice some people sitting outside on the patio, and because it looks so beautiful out there, you suggest you find a table for you and your new friends. You make a mental note that this would be a good place to come sometimes for a personal quiet time with the Lord.

Prayer - *Pray that the Presence of the Lord will permeate the atmosphere in every part of the property.*

Verse - “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth.”

Psalm 46:10

DAY 7

You enjoy getting acquainted with your new friends and learn that they just arrived in Columbus. They are from two different countries but they each speak enough English for you to have a pleasant conversation. You tell them you heard there was a library here as well as a bookstore and gift shop. The three of you decide to check it out.

Prayer - *Pray that Christians in the Valley will want to contribute good Christian books and DVDs to the library for many people to enjoy.*

Verse - “I will set no impure thing before mine eyes.”

Psalm 101:3

DAY 8

You and your new friends are happily surprised to see hundreds of wonderful books for each age group to enjoy. You recognize a variety of your favorite authors and subjects. You think, “this must have taken a strong collaborative effort to put such a wonderful library together.” You are also amazed at the many wonderful books for children.

Prayer - *Ask the Lord to call forth the laborers to serve in the library—people who will be sensitive to the wide variety of people entering, their special interests, and their spiritual and emotional needs.*

Verse - “He giveth us richly all things to enjoy.”

1 Timothy 6:17

DAY 9

As you and your friends continue to explore the library, you find a wonderful variety of resources which many people can enjoy. Some of the DVDs are classic favorites and some are for children. Others are award-winning Christian movies. You are told that you may check out several books and a DVD for 2 weeks.

Prayer - *Pray that many Christian families will contribute some favorite DVDs (especially with language captions) to the library to be enjoyed by adults and children of all ages.*

Verse - "... whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report... think on these things."

Philippians 4:8

DAY 11

Your friends tell you they had never

DAY 10

When you leave the library, you go into the bookstore and gift shop right next to it. You see a wide variety of books, DVDs, Bibles, and study resources available for purchase. Your new friends are excited to see books in several different languages. One of your new friends selects a creative greeting card to mail back home, and also buys an art print from a local artist in the gift shop.

Prayer - *Ask God to give much wisdom to purchase excellent literature and uplifting items which will bless and encourage others.*

Verse - God gave David wisdom to “understand all the details of the plan”.

1 Chronicles 28:19

been in a Christian bookstore before nor did they know how to order inspirational materials. This helped you realize the value of having a good resource center so internationals could easily order Christian materials even after they return to their country.

Prayer - *Father, help us understand how we can help our friends from many different nations have the resources they need to grow spiritually.*

Verse - “Jesus asked Philip, ‘Where shall we buy bread for all these people?’ He said this only to test him for he already had in mind what he would do.”

John 6:6

DAY 12

Your international friends comment that they know some people in their countries who could provide beautiful handmade jewelry and crafts to sell in the gift shop. The profit could help their people and also help the ministry.

Prayer - *Pray for divine connections which could be a blessing to everyone involved.*

Verse - The Lord says, “Every animal in the forest is mine and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains and the creation on the field are all mine.”

Psalm 50:10-11

DAY 13

Near the library and bookstore, you see some comfortable chairs and you and your friends stop a few minutes to look through some gardening magazines on the tables. You wonder if there is a local gardening club or individuals who would like to help keep the gardens around the Ministry Center beautiful since people will come here from around the world.

Prayer - *Father, let every space of this property and building bring honor and glory to your name.*

Verse - “Whatever you do, do it heartily as for the Lord and not for men... for you serve the Lord Christ.”

Colossians 3:23

DAY 14

Some parents with younger children walk by you speaking cheerfully in different languages. Some are headed toward the Arts area and one mother is taking her son to a piano lesson. You think, “What an amazing environment this is, with wonderful people gathering here from all over the world.”

Prayer - *Pray that the Ministry Center will be excellent in every way to honor the Lord of all Creation. Pray that the atmosphere will reflect the love and goodness of God.*

Verse - “When the Holy Spirit controls our lives he will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” *Galatians 5:22*

Galatians 5:22-23 TLB

DAY 15

A young Japanese girl leaves the music room and a Hispanic girl enters to have a piano lesson. The happiness of both children reflect that they felt encouraged by their teacher. The beautiful music quietly coming from the room reveal they have excellent instructors.

Prayer - *Pray that many international children can develop their giftedness in music, drama, art and dance for the glory of God.*

Verse - “Whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

1 Corinthians 10:31

DAY 16

Right next to the music room is a colorful and cheerful nursery. You are told that IFM provides free childcare during the English classes, Bible Studies, Family Fellowships and Conferences.

Prayer - *Pray for loving volunteers to help care for the children whose parents are in educational and spiritually enriching classes there.*

Verse - Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Matthew 19:14

DAY 17

Your new friends comment that they know several international mothers who have felt very lonely in their homes since they arrived here. They ask if there are English, craft or Bible classes they could go to and make other friends—especially since they could have some help with childcare.

Prayer - *Pray for more English teachers and teachers of various crafts and skills who would invest their time to be a blessing to people from other countries.*

Verse - “Whatever good thing any person does, the same shall he receive from the Lord.”

Ephesians 6:8

DAY 18

Next to the small music room is a bright, well lit area designated as the Art Room. Your international friends are excited to see children from different nationalities taking drawing and painting lessons together.

Prayer - *Pray that the Arts will be a bridge to many international children and their families, helping them develop their talents to the Glory of God.*

Verse - “For we are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Ephesians 2:10

DAY 19

You are told that there are also Art classes for adults. You learn that the art students learn sequential skills and concepts which provide a good foundation for their future art development. They also learn about many master artists and famous paintings.

Prayer - *Pray that the art instruction will be excellent in every way, helping students gain more self-confidence and aesthetic understanding.*

Verse - “He who formed the mountains and creates the wind and reveals his thoughts to man... the Lord God Almighty is His Name.”

Amos 4:13

DAY 20

You learn that the Art room is also where the younger children meet and have creative learning activities when there are family fellowships and international conferences in the Center.

Prayer - *Pray that international families will learn about other programs in the center which can enrich the lives of their whole family. Pray the children can be impacted at an early age for Christ.*

Verse - “As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His love for those who fear Him. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear Him.”

Psalm 103:11-12

DAY 21

When you return to the main area of the International Center, you and your friends see a spacious lounge which adjoins a large meeting room. The lounge is a very elegant open space where parents can wait for their children or where there can be art exhibits or receptions.

Prayer - *Pray for wisdom and guidance to use all the space in the building to honor God.*

Verse - “Serve the Lord wholeheartedly and with a willing mind for the Lord searches every heart and understands the intent of every thought.”

1 Chronicles 28:9

DAY 22

Adjacent to the lounge and reception area you see a beautiful large room, which is used for board meetings, staff meetings, prayer meetings and special group meetings. There are beautiful paintings on the wall and a large TV which reveals this room can also be used for family movies.

Prayer - *Pray that all conversations and activities in this room will always honor the King of Kings, knowing that Jesus is the unseen guest at every meeting.*

Verse - “When the disciples were gathered together, Jesus Himself came and stood among them.”

John 20:19

DAY 23

An IFM staff member invited you and your friends to come back to the Center on Friday night for an award-winning Christian movie. Pizza will be served afterwards in the Coffee Shop area.

Prayer - *Pray for outreach ideas to build relationships, build bridges and enrich lives.*

Verse - “They continued to meet together... they broke bread and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.”

Acts 2:46

DAY 24

Your friend asks if it is possible to rent the large meeting room for an upcoming family event or a special cultural gathering of their ethnic group at a time when nothing else is scheduled.

Prayer - *Pray that wisdom will be given to make good business decisions which could bless the community and also help provide for the Ministry.*

Verse - “If anyone lacks wisdom, let him ask of God who gives to all men generously without finding fault and it will be given. But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt.”

James 1:5

DAY 25

You and your friends now walk into the main center of the building. It is a large, spacious room with a vaulted ceiling and lovely windows on both sides. Flags from many different nations line the front of the room on each side of the raised platform area.

Prayer - *Pray that the power of God will be released through spirit-filled speakers and musicians, transforming many lives and impacting nations.*

Verse - “May the Lord be gracious to us and bless us, and make His face to shine upon us so that His ways may be known on the earth and His salvation among all the nations.”

Psalm 67:1-2

DAY 26

Your friends comment that as the situations in their home countries have become more difficult, many people have become more open to spiritual things. The future does not feel as secure as it once did. Many would like to grow close to God but have been apprehensive about anything religious.

Prayer - *Pray for opportunities for IFM to share Christ in loving, non-confronting ways.*

Verse - "I revealed Myself to those who did not ask for me. I was found by those who did not seek me."

Isaiah 65:1

DAY 27

You are told that this large central area will also be used for family fellowships. The adults will enjoy getting to know each other here and enjoy listening to inspirational speakers while their children will have activities in the art room or large meeting room. The babies will be cared for in the nursery.

Prayer - *Pray that many internationals will find a personal relationship with Christ and grow spiritually while they are in Columbus.*

Verse - “I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God.”

Acts 26:17

DAY 28

This central area of the building will also be used for classes in dance and worship. You are excited that different cultures can also come together here for the children to learn traditional national dances.

Prayer - *Pray that the unique gifts that God has given to the different cultures can be recognized and honored. Pray that each culture can realize more clearly their divine purpose.*

Verse - “I looked and behold, a great multitude... from every nation, all tribes and peoples standing before the throne and before the Lamb.”

Revelation 7:9

DAY 29

You discover that this beautiful, spacious area could also be used to host welcome events for internationals at Ft. Benning or CSU. It seems an ideal location for the community to come together to meet new internationals that have come to our city.

Prayer - *Father, please supply all that is needed to purchase the Ministry Center so that your purposes can be accomplished to reach and disciple the nations.*

Verse - “God is able to make all grace abound toward you so that always, having all sufficiency, in all things, you may abound to every good work.”

2 Corinthians 9:8

DAY 30

Your friends seem interested in learning about the different classes offered at the Center, such as English as a Second Language (ESL), Citizenship, Crafts, Cooking, and Drama.

Prayer - *Father call forth the laborers we need to bless and enrich the international community, both the local and short-term families. May the fruit of this labor bring many people into your Kingdom.*

Verse - Jesus said, “The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Pray earnestly that the Lord of the harvest will thrust out laborers into His harvest.”

Matthew 9:38

DAY 31

Your new friends have to go now but they express the hope that we can all meet again soon. They are carrying Bibles and a DVD purchased in the bookstore. Neither of them had brought a Bible with them when they came to Columbus nor had they ever seen a Christian movie.

Prayer - *Father, give us wisdom and favor to provide our international friends with materials that will be a great blessing to them and their families.*

Verse - “The Lord will guide you continually, He will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land, He will strengthen your frame. He will make you like a well-watered garden.”

Isaiah 58:11

DAY 32

As you walk back alone into the Center, many thoughts are going through your mind. What would be some ways you might meet other internationals here? How might you volunteer to help? Which of your friends might want to help also? You enjoy reading, you like art, you enjoy teaching and meeting new friends.

Prayer - *Father, help many local Christian think of creative ways they could reach out and touch the lives of the people You are bringing to Columbus from all over the world.*

Verse - “Be strong all you people of the land... and work. For I am with you,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

Haggai 2:4

DAY 33

You wonder if some of your friends could help create walking trails in the woods behind the Center. Many internationals seem afraid to go to the parks but might feel safer in this environment.

Prayer - *Father, give us new ideas of many ways we could bless the lives of those from other nations who are here with us. Make us mindful of their needs and longings.*

Verse - “Do not trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God who gives us richly all things to enjoy.”

1 Timothy 6:17

DAY 34

You ponder the fact that God is sovereignly bringing people from all over the world to Columbus, Georgia. You remember that the name “Columbus” means “Christ Bearer” and that we are a “Fountain City.” You wonder if God intended from the beginning that we be a place where those who come here could find the true water of life and take it back to their countries.

Prayer - *Father, show us your plan and your purpose for bringing the nations to our own front door.*

Verse - “God chose us in advance. He makes everything work out according to His plan.”

Ephesians 1:11

DAY 35

You realize that God has many people who love Him in this city and that thousands of prayers are going up from this place to God's throne. The atmosphere over this geographic area provides a window of opportunity for those who come here from dark places to discover the light of Christ.

Prayer - *Father, help your children work together to make the International Friendship Center become a reality for your glory and for future generations to continue this outreach.*

Verse - "And this is the confidence which we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, we know that He hears us."

1 John 5:14

DAY 36

When you walk back into the International Center, you go to the coffee shop again and walk out on the patio. Beautiful beams of sunlight are streaming through the over-hanging branches of trees. A longing and a prayer begins to form in your heart...

Prayer - *Father, help us understand the great value of every individual whom you have brought to Columbus from other nations. Give us your heart for even the least of them.*

Verse - “A soul is far too precious to be ransomed by mere earthly wealth. There is not enough wealth in all the earth to buy eternal life for just one soul....”

Psalm 49:8

DAY 37

You remember having seen some internationals at Walmart, Publix or at Ft. Benning, but you had not thought of each one as having great eternal value to God, each one spending eternity in heaven or hell.

Prayer - *Father, help us look at each person we encounter as someone very precious to you. We have looked at the outward appearances but you know every heart.*

Verse - “My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my thoughts higher than your thoughts and my ways higher than yours.”

Isaiah 55:8-9

DAY 38

You remember the “Great Commission” (Matt 28:19-20) which was on Jesus’ heart right before He ascended into heaven. He told His disciples to “teach all nations” to obey all that He had commanded. You had thought that command was just for those serving in ministry...

Prayer - *Father, help me to be willing to do whatever you want me to do to touch the lives of those from many nations whom you have brought to our city.*

Verse - “When Jesus... saw the city, He wept over it and said, ‘If only you had known what would bring you peace.’”

Luke 19:41

DAY 39

You remember the scripture that teaches us to pray for the city where God has placed us (Jeremiah 29:7). You had never thought much about your city being such an international hub. What does this have to do with you...?

Prayer - *Father, open our eyes to see the uniqueness of Columbus. We have two major world-wide international training centers here as well as many internationals in our area who own businesses, are students or are working in the major corporations. Help us recognize this privilege and responsibility.*

Verse - “To whom much has been given, much will be required.”

Luke 12:48

DAY 40

When you walk out of the International Friendship Center, you are still pondering these things. You sense the Presence of the Lord walking beside you. Your heart is full of gratitude as you are aware of His great personal love for you.

Prayer - *Lord Jesus, what are the longings in your heart as you look at our city? We don't want you to weep over the lost opportunities as international come and leave without finding you. Will you give us more of your heart for them?*

Verse - "He will cause your thoughts to become established according to His will, and so shall your plans be established and succeed."

Proverbs 16:3

*“You are helping us
by praying for us.
Then many people will
give thanks because God
has graciously answered
so many prayers....”*

2 Corinthians 1:11



**International
Friendship Ministries**

3404 University Avenue

Columbus, GA 31907

(706) 653-0097

www.ifmga.org