



WCA Aaron and Hur
May 2025 Prayer Guide
“Fixing your eyes on Jesus”
By Rev. Dale Shunk

Our Scripture - Hebrews 12: 1-3

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, 2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.”

Devotional: “Only said once.”

When I grew up in McKean, Pennsylvania just south of Erie, PA on Lake Erie, my dad would say to the five kids around the table. “I’m only going to tell you this once!” There was zero tolerance for disobedience in the house when Dad was around.

Another time I heard this same phrase was while I worked as a janitor at Pennsylvania Electric Company with the Night Supervisor. He gave his instructions to the crew of ten workers by saying “I’m only going to tell you this one time.” He handed out our daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual work schedules and walked away. He inspected our work at least once a week to see if we complied.

In this message, I want to introduce one of the 3,414 **Hapaxes** of the Bible, or words and phrases that are said only once, which account for nearly 25% of the total vocabulary. (Oct. 24, 2022 / Catechesia Forum) These unique words pack profound meaning that transforms lives of those who believe the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One such hapax is found in Hebrews 12: 2. The Greek word used only once in the Bible is “**apharao**” and is actually the phrase “**Fixing your eyes.**” This is a present active participle. I didn’t know Greek in those college days, but I had a sense that I had to keep looking to Jesus as my source of life, so I chose Hebrews 12: 2 as my life verse to remind me to keep looking to Jesus. I also had it printed inside my wedding ring, and I use it as a complimentary closing on my letters and posts usually expanding it to Hebrews 12: 1-2. It is our brothers and sisters who surround us that help us keep looking at the Lord. This verse often comforts and encourages those who read it to trust Jesus as the source of godly wisdom in their lives.

For the awakening,

Dale Shunk, GMC Senior Elder

Here are the four weekly themes for the month of May 2025 to focus on while in prayer and fasting:

WEEK 1 -- May 1-10

Fixing your eyes on Jesus and do the following.

In your “prayer closet” quietly listen to what the Holy Spirit is speaking to your heart and write it down as soon as you hear it.

The Lord is giving you an opportunity to open the windows of heaven through your prayers to provide a solution to the things God is speaking to you. Seeking the Lord in these matters opens a landing field for God’s grace to land and work miracles according to Dr. Terry Teykl in his book on Divine Strongholds.

Consider & Pray: Are you taking time to be quiet before the Lord and listening to the Holy Spirit speak to you about his plans and concerns for his church? Is the worship of God what you, as MidSouth intercessors, are making a priority in your churches? If not, what steps need to be taken to deepen your worship experiences with God and each other? Lift your eyes to the heavens and the wonder and power of our Creator God.

Scriptures: Hebrews 12 with key verses 1-2.

Prayer Concerns:

- Spend time in prayer over GM Church Prayer Needs

WEEK 2 -- May 11 - 17

Fixing your eyes on Jesus as we bless our mothers and families

Both our mothers lived long lives. Annabelle’s mother, Margaret Cope, lived until age 95 and my mother, Margaret June Shunk, lived until age 92. They both lived extraordinary lives as they took care of their families. We fondly think of them as heroines.

Consider & Pray:

Honor your mother by telling her how much you love her and do it unconditionally. Write a handwritten love letter or better yet go spend time with her and hold her hand. Our Creator God created mothers with special abilities of compassion and mercy to care for their families.

How big is your God? The Creator of the heavens and the earth loves you and desires an intimate relationship with you. He wants you to worship him as a God like no other.

Scriptures: I Corinthians 13; Psalm 39: 3, Isaiah 45: 18, Col. 1: 15-20

Prayer Concerns:

- Spend time in prayer over GMC Annual Conference Prayer Needs

WEEK 3 -- May 18 - 24

Fixing your eyes on Jesus as John Wesley did at Aldersgate and Fetter Lane

At Aldersgate on May 24, 1738 John Wesley's heart was "strangely warmed" as he wrote in his journal because he understood fully for the first time what the Lord Jesus Christ did on the cross on Calvary to lift the burden of guilt and sin off his soul. John Wesley received justifying grace which brought joy to his soul and warmth to his heart.

At Fetter Lane, London where both John and Charles Wesley and their friend George Whitefield attended a Love Feast with the Moravians who had reactivated this meal and testimony time started by the early Christian Church. During this Love Feast on January 1, 1739, Wesley writes in his journal "About three in the morning, as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell on the ground." This was the beginning of the Wesleyan Revival as healings, manifestations of the Holy Spirit and souls crying out in repentance for salvation were continually happening that was not happening before Fetter Lane. Learn more in the April 20, 2021 article by Douglas Fox in the Firebrand Magazine.

Consider & Pray:

Can you identify your Aldersgate and Fetter Lane experiences? If not, are you hungry enough for the things of God to find one?

The Devil targets our pastors and their families for failure. Pray for their protection and build up a shield of faith around them to make a way for them to prosper in the Lord. As our pastors, presiding elders, and bishops prosper in physical and spiritual health, so will those they shepherd.

Scriptures: Acts 2: 40-42; 4: 23-41; Ex. 17: 8 -12. Be the Aarons & Hurs for our pastors as they were for Moses.

Prayer Concerns:

- Pray for the GMC to be able to seek the Holy Spirit's filling until its members find their Fetter Lane experience in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for your pastor by name as well as your conference leadership and your bishop.
- Pray that the Lord raise up prayer warriors for every GMC Conference local church House of Prayer!
- Pray that the Lord establishes one new church plant for every currently established local church!
- Pray that the Lord fill every pastor and lay leader with your Holy Spirit to boldly seek the Father's presence for His glory!
- Pray that the Lord, show your favor on every GMC church so it can be said of us as it was in the Book of Acts. "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Amen and hallelujah!

WEEK 4 -- May 25 - 31

Fixing your eyes on Jesus all the while remembering our lost soldiers on Memorial Day

Consider & Pray: We are to honor the king or those in elected authority over us by praying for them. Jesus commanded us to “go and make disciples of all nations.” We don’t want any soul to be missing from the redeemed & neither does our Heavenly Father.

Join us for 40-days of prayer for 5 people that you know who do not know Jesus. If we all take this to heart, we could realize a wonderful harvest of fruit. Amen!

Scriptures: Romans 13: 1-14; John 15: 13

Prayer Concerns:

- Pray for the Prayer Coordinator in your Annual Conference to be blessed both spiritually and physically to be able to do the work of prayer. In the MidSouth, pray for Sue Eaton as the leader of our conference prayer network and the prayer warriors that she works with each week through two Zoom Prayer Meetings.
- Pray for your upcoming GMC Annual Conference. Important delegates will be elected to attend the GMC Global Conference in 2026 from every GMC Conference.
- Pray that we seek and know the presence of God Almighty at every level of our Global Methodist leadership and local church congregations. We would not want anything less for them!