

PRAYER DIARY

MARCH - AUGUST 2020



“²Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. ³And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.

⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.”

Colossians 4v2-4

What a privilege that God wants us to talk to Him in prayer. Yet all too often prayer becomes a last resort – we’ll talk to Him when we really need Him.

Paul, in contrast, challenges us in his letter to the Colossians, to devote ourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful; to persevere in it, to make a constant and committed routine of talking to God.

So thank you for your devotion in praying for this work. Our hope is that this prayer diary will assist and direct us all to regular routine prayers of thankfulness, open doors and bold proclamation as we seek together to reach more and more sportspeople for Christ.

Partner Relations Team

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PRAISE

Since all our blessings flow from God, we have much to be grateful for. This fortnight join us in praising and thanking God for all He has been doing in the world of sport.

MARCH

SUNDAY

22ND

40 year anniversary. Praise God for His faithfulness as we celebrate 40 years of Christians in Sport as a charity this year. Praise God for the hundreds of men and women who have sought to share Christ with sportspeople throughout our history and through whom God chooses to work.

MONDAY

23RD

Technology upgrades. Praise God for technology and the recent implementation of new financial software. This helps us to more precisely track all our income and expenditure to ensure we are making decisions as wisely as possible.

TUESDAY

24TH

Governance. Praise God for His protection in key areas of risk such as safeguarding, data protection and long-distance travel. Pray for wisdom and diligence in managing these risks to help protect the work of reaching the world of sport for Christ.

WEDNESDAY

25TH

Sports Mission Pack. Praise God for churches who have downloaded the Sports Mission Pack and put on events to share the gospel with sportspeople. Pray that God would soften the hearts of those who came, that they would put their trust in Jesus after hearing about Him at these events.

THURSDAY
26TH

Guest events. Thank God for the many Sport Quizzes and big screen events which have happened already this year and for those planned in coming months. Pray for boldness for those who are planning to invite sports friends who don't know Jesus yet.

FRIDAY
27TH

Training in England. Thank God for key towns and cities in England where there is intentional training happening or planned. Pray specifically with thanks for these towns and cities where this is happening: Birmingham, Guildford, Newcastle, Maidenhead, Sheffield, Cambridge, Oxford, among others.

SATURDAY
28TH

Clubhouse in Wales. Praise God for the Clubhouse events that have been held across Wales in March. Pray that those who attended would feel equipped and encouraged to reach the world of sport for Christ in their areas.

SUNDAY
29TH

Scotland volunteer leaders. Praise God for the volunteer leaders who drive the mission in at least 10 towns and cities across Scotland. Pray that they will continue to be an encouragement to the sportspeople within their churches and as a result many sportspeople will come to know Christ this year.

MONDAY
30TH

Northern Ireland events. Praise God for the guest and training events which have taken place in Newtownabbey, Belfast, Ballymena, Carrickfergus, Lisburn & Londonderry this last month. Praise Him for providing people to be trained and to go out into the harvest field of sport.

PRAISE

22ND MARCH - 4TH APRIL

TUESDAY

31ST

Sports Plus young people. Praise God that nearly 700 young people are booked into Sports Plus for this summer, over 250 of which are attending for the first time. Also praise God for those young people who have invited teammates along who don't yet know Jesus.

WEDNESDAY

1ST

Online resources. Praise God for the wealth of Bible studies, podcasts, blogs and videos which are freely available from Christians in Sport to equip sportspeople in sharing Jesus. Pray that these would reach millions across the world for God's glory.

THURSDAY

2ND

Elite golf. Praise God that over the last two seasons, Kenny Crawford has been able to establish and cultivate meaningful relationships with several Christian and non-Christian professional golfers, providing pastoral and discipleship support to them in person and remotely. Pray that these golfers will seek to deepen their relationship with Jesus.

FRIDAY

3RD

Partnerships. Thank God for His provision of gospel partnerships with others including UCCF student workers, IFES Europe and churches throughout the UK. Praise God for the opportunity to work together to share the God's word among those who don't yet know Jesus.

SATURDAY

4TH

Parents of athletes. Praise God for Christian parents of athletes and for the sacrifices they make for their children to continue playing the sport they love. Pray that they would be committed to raising their young people prayerfully and faithfully to know Jesus as their lord and saviour.

The local church is vital to our mission. Praise God for His good gift of churches and pray for partnerships with many seeking to reach local clubs and support sportspeople within their congregations.

APRIL

SUNDAY

5TH

London. Pray for London and the many Christian sportspeople and churches intentionally thinking about the mission field of sport. Pray for great impact from London Clubhouse held on 23rd March.

MONDAY

6TH

Word Alive. Pray for the team running sports activities and leading seminars at Word Alive, the Bible festival in Wales, this weekend. Pray for great opportunities for the team to meet and encourage other Christian sportspeople to share Jesus with their teammates.

TUESDAY

7TH

Tokyo 2020 opportunities. Pray ahead of the summer that churches would make the most of the opportunity to engage with sportspeople through the buzz of the Olympics and Paralympics.

WEDNESDAY

8TH

Global church. Pray for the global church and thank God for the gospel going out through churches across the world. Pray for churches engaged in sports ministry around the world and especially for those where there is persecution, that they would stay faithful to Jesus and have perseverance in their ministry.

THURSDAY

9TH

Rugby World Cup 2019. Thank God for last autumn with churches hosting Rugby World Cup guest events and big screen events. Pray that those who came to hear the gospel would continue to consider what they heard.

CHURCHES

5TH - 18TH APRIL

FRIDAY

10TH

Sunday sport. With sport increasingly clashing with church, pray for wisdom for families and church leaders as they navigate this tension. Pray that workable solutions would be found so athletes can be involved in their sports clubs and also active and spiritually fed in their local church.

SATURDAY

11TH

Church leaders. Thank God for church leaders who are themselves committed to sports clubs or supporting the work of sports ministry. Pray that they would have time to train and share with their teammates.

SUNDAY

12TH

Easter film resources. Pray that the Easter film would be watched and shared by many this Easter. Pray that God's glory and grace would speak through it.

MONDAY

13TH

School chaplains. Praise God for the Christian heritage of schools with permanent chaplains. As these chaplains minister to many unbelieving pupils and staff involved in sport, pray that God would be opening blind eyes.

TUESDAY

14TH

Training in churches. Praise God for opportunity to serve the local church through training events for sportspeople. Pray for more training events to happen across the UK to equip others to share their faith with friends.

WEDNESDAY

15TH

Event follow up. Pray that sportspeople would be bold to invite teammates to church off the back of guest events. Pray for opportunities to share such an invitation and for a real heart for these sportspeople who aren't yet trusting Jesus.

THURSDAY
16TH

Evangelistic courses. Thank God for the many churches running evangelistic courses for those investigating Jesus. Pray especially for any you know of locally and for sportspeople who you know attending.

FRIDAY
17TH

Christians in Sport interns. Give thanks for our interns who are all based part-time in local churches. Pray that each of our interns would be encouraged by their service through church and be strengthened in their faith.

SATURDAY
18TH

Groups of athletes in churches. Thank God for sportspeople within churches who are meeting together to pray and encourage each other to pray play say in their clubs. Pray that they would be able meet together regularly and would help their wider church family to see that sport is a mission field to pursue for Christ.

ENGLAND

We commit England to God in prayer this week, lifting up resources, events and sportspeople as we seek to glorify Him in the world of sport there. Pray with us for the multiplication of the work throughout all regions of the country.

APRIL

SUNDAY

19TH

North of England. Pray for cities in the North of England including Manchester, Liverpool, Durham, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Leeds and Carlisle. Pray that God would raise up leaders across churches to drive the work forward in reaching sports clubs and teams.

MONDAY

20TH

Sportspeople exploring Christianity. Pray that we would continue to connect with and be able to support more sportspeople throughout England who are exploring the Christian faith. Pray that many would respond to the gospel of grace they have heard.

TUESDAY

21ST

Training and guest events. Praise God for the Clubhouses and guest events that have happened already this year in towns and cities across England. Pray for boldness for sportspeople in clubs and teams to invite teammates to events and take opportunities to share their faith.

WEDNESDAY

22ND

Olympic events. Pray for churches who are planning to host outreach events for local sportspeople around the Olympics. Pray for smooth planning processes and trust in the Lord to use these events for His glory, bringing many to put their trust in Jesus.

THURSDAY
23RD

Boldness in evangelism. Pray for boldness for sportspeople across England to speak of Jesus in their clubs and teams. Pray that God would give them courage to take opportunities to share the gospel with teammates and for the right words to explain it clearly.

FRIDAY
24TH

New contacts. Thank God for new sportspeople found through their use of the Sports Mission Pack in England. Pray that we would support people well with these resources and enable and equip them to put on evangelistic events themselves.

SATURDAY
25TH

Jersey. Pray for the work in Jersey, particularly for the planned summer outreach events to young sports people and adults. Pray for Vusa as he heads up the work here, for courage and wisdom.

WALES

Join us in praying for Wales this week and asking God to work in the world of sport there through local churches, those involved in competitive and elite sport, and individual sports contacts throughout the country.

SUNDAY
26TH

Brecon Sports Plus. Pray that more young Welsh sportspeople who are playing in a club or team would hear about Sports Plus and want to attend. Pray that those who are already booked in would invite teammates along to explore the Christian faith and what it means to be a Christian sports player.

WALES

26TH APRIL - 1ST MAY

MONDAY

27TH

Rugby. We want to see the number of rugby players at Brecon Sports Plus increase to 20. Praise God for those who are already booked in and pray that others who are playing in local clubs would hear about Sports Plus and want to attend as well.

TUESDAY

28TH

Reaching more of Wales. Pray for all the towns and cities across Wales where we would love to see sportspeople equipped to live for Jesus and sportspeople hearing the gospel. Pray also for our partnership with churches in this work, that they would grasp the vision and help multiply it.

WEDNESDAY

29TH

Clubhouse Wales. Praise God for the Clubhouse events that have already been held across Wales in 2020. Pray for those that came, new contacts and existing, that they would have been encouraged and equipped to live for Jesus in their sporting contexts.

THURSDAY

30TH

New contacts. Praise God for the new Christian sportspeople we have had contact with so far this year. Pray that as they live for Jesus in the world of sport we can serve and support them to be witnesses of Jesus in their clubs and teams.

MAY

FRIDAY

1ST

Sustained sports mission. Please pray for sports mission across Wales which is fruitful, growing and long-term. Pray for individuals who are passionate about seeing the world of sport reached for Jesus who can lead this work into the future.

NORTHERN IRELAND

God continues to graciously open doors to share Christ with sportspeople across Northern Ireland. Praise Him for those involved in all streams of sports ministry, from schools to churches, elite sport to university work, as we pray for this nation this week.

MAY

SATURDAY

2ND

Clubs without a Christian. Please pray for the number of clubs and teams across Wales that do not have a Christian sportsperson in them. Pray that God would send more workers into this harvest field.

SUNDAY

3RD

Portrush Sports Quiz. Pray for the Christian golfers in Royal Portrush Golf Club who are hosting a Sports Quiz in the club in late May. Pray for opportunities to have conversations about Jesus with those who come along.

MONDAY

4TH

North Coast Clubhouse. Pray for the Clubhouse event which took place in the North Coast in April. Pray it would have better equipped and encouraged Christians involved in sport in the area as they represent Jesus in their clubs and teams.

TUESDAY

5TH

Sports Plus Dublin. Pray for the second year of Sports Plus in Dublin this summer. Praise God for the success of last summer and pray for many more young people from the south of Ireland to come along.

WEDNESDAY

6TH

Training in churches. Praise God for the opportunity to train Christian sportspeople in 2020, in churches across Northern Ireland such as Newtownbreda Baptist, Orangefield Presbyterian, Carnmoney Parish church.

NORTHERN IRELAND

2ND - 9TH MAY

THURSDAY

7TH

Ballyclare Golf Day. Pray for the Ballyclare Golf Day in June. Pray for Rob and Richard as they organise the event and pray that many golfers would be given the opportunity to hear and respond to the good news about Jesus.

FRIDAY

8TH

Guest events. Praise God for the Sports Quizzes which have taken place in Bangor, Holywood, Belfast, Portrush, Lisburn and Ballymena in 2020. Praise God for the opportunity to proclaim the gospel to many sportspeople across NI.

SATURDAY

9TH

First-time training. Praise God for Clubhouse events which took place for the first time in Londonderry and Carrickfergus in 2020. Praise God for raising up people in these towns and cities who are passionate about reaching the world of sport for Christ in their area.

SCOTLAND

We lift up the world of Scottish sport in prayer this week. Pray with us for the encouragement of Christians in sport and for the sustenance and growth of the work across the country to the glory of God.

SUNDAY

10TH

Scottish Sports Quizzes. Praise God for Sports Quizzes in Stirling, Perth, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Carnoustie and Aberdeen, all of which gave sportspeople the opportunity to consider Jesus for themselves. Pray for future quizzes in Hawick, Dumfries, Inverness and Troon.

MONDAY**11TH**

Clubhouse training. Give thanks for the 12 Clubhouses that have taken place across Scotland so far this year with the aim of equipping Christians to boldly live out their faith in their sports clubs and communities.

TUESDAY**12TH**

Strathallan School events. Praise God for six events that took place over three days at Strathallan School in March, where a team from Christians in Sport were able to give pupils the opportunity to hear and discuss the gospel. Pray for the ongoing witness of the chaplain and Christian teachers within the school.

WEDNESDAY**13TH**

Sports Plus Xtra. Thank the Lord for the chance to teach the Bible to around 40 young Scottish sportspeople at Sports Plus Xtra in October and February half term. Pray that God's word will continue to transform their minds and help them worship Christ and witness for Him in their sport.

THURSDAY**14TH**

Staff and intern team. Pray that God would continue to use the staff and intern team in Scotland (Kirsten, Dave, Sean and Archie) to support and equip churches and Christians in sport to reach sports clubs with the good news of Jesus!

SCOTLAND

10TH - 16TH MAY

FRIDAY

15TH

More workers. With at least one fifth of the population of Scotland engaging in sport on a regular basis, we recognise the need for more workers in this harvest field. Pray that God would send more workers into the sports clubs of East Kilbride & Dundee this year bearing witness to the name of Jesus.

SATURDAY

16TH

Christian support staff. Give thanks for a team manager of a rugby club in Troon and a team doctor of a rugby club in Hawick. Pray that more Christians would consider the various ways they can engage in their local sports clubs and shine brightly for Christ through their role.

Join us in praying for the world of elite sport and all the players, coaches and officials within it. The elite sport can be tough for Christians with many sportspeople struggling with performance pressure, sharing the gospel with others and time away from home and church, so please lift it up in prayer.

MAY

SUNDAY

17TH

Rugby. Praise God for His goodness in the contacts that have been made and maintained across the Pro14 and Premiership. Continue to pray for further contacts in clubs where we currently have no links, especially in the English Premiership.

MONDAY

18TH

Women's Golf. Give thanks for the Christian contacts on the Ladies European Tour. Pray that we might find more contacts and begin to create Christian community on the tour where athletes can encourage each other in speaking of Christ and playing for His glory.

TUESDAY

19TH

Young Performance Athletes. Pray for YPAs who are coming to the end of their season, that they would finish well and have a good break. Pray for any who have contract decisions ahead of the coming year, that they would be able to trust God for their future.

WEDNESDAY

20TH

Football in Northern Ireland. Praise God for recent opportunities for Christians to share Jesus with teammates and for mature players being able to invest in the lives of young Christian players. Pray that, as Christian players look ahead to the new season, they would seek to represent Him in their clubs and teams.

ELITE

17TH - 30TH MAY

THURSDAY

21ST

Tennis. Give thanks for the contacts we have within elite tennis. Pray that we would be able to deepen these relationships whilst the tour is in Europe. Pray for access to the player areas during the Grand Slams and for the Lord to raise up more players who know and love Him.

FRIDAY

22ND

Disability Sport. Give thanks for Christians within a number of disability sports. Pray that we would find more Christians within the elite world of disability sport and that there would be a growing sense of Christian community in the sports where we know of several Christians.

SATURDAY

23RD

Parents of YPAs. Give thanks for the YPA parents who have shared their experiences on the Christians in Sport podcast. Pray this would continue to be a helpful resource for other parents to listen to and reflect on their own situations of supporting their children in elite sport.

SUNDAY

24TH

Rowing. Give thanks for believers in the Great Britain set up. Pray that rowers may know that their identity is secure in Christ in a year when the pressure of Olympic competition is likely to be significant.

MONDAY

25TH

Netball. Thank God for the Christians we know who play in the Superleague and national teams. Praise Him for the meal they were able to share in January and that elite Christian players are identifying and encouraging each other in their faith. Pray for players now to be able to rest well in their off season and attend church.

TUESDAY
26TH

Men's Golf. Give thanks for the growing sense of Christian community on the European Tour. Pray that Kenny Crawford might have more opportunity to point others to Christ as he meets with believers on the tour.

WEDNESDAY
27TH

Track and Field. Give thanks for the believers competing at the highest level. Praise God for the Diamond League Bible studies and for the increasing sense of fellowship there. Pray for those looking towards the Olympics, for God to give them peace about their identity in Him and not in their performance.

THURSDAY
28TH

Cricket. Give thanks for Christians involved in county teams. Pray that we might be able to identify and connect with more contacts in the world of cricket, and that Christians might be encouraged to play and speak for Jesus as they connect with those from other county teams.

FRIDAY
29TH

Football. Give thanks for the witness of Christians within elite level football over the past season. In this out of season period, do pray for those out of contract or injured to trust God for their futures.

SATURDAY
30TH

YPA Bible studies. Praise God for the opportunity to hold group Bible studies for YPAs where they have been able to meet other YPAs around the country and discuss what it looks like to be a Christian in elite sport. Pray these would continue to grow and be helpful.

INTERNATIONAL

There is so much that God is doing in training and equipping sportspeople around the world to share the good news of Jesus. With all the conferences, governance and logistics involved, please join us in thanking God for all He is doing in sports mission internationally and pray for upcoming work.

MAY

SUNDAY

31ST

Strategy meetings. Give thanks for the European Strategy Team meetings that took place in Budapest in March. Please pray that the discussions will bear fruit and we continue to see bold creative mission across Europe in the world of sport.

JUNE

MONDAY

1ST

Go Sport Europe. Give thanks for the Go Sport conference in Germany in May, one of several worldwide to envision sportspeople in the mission field of sport. Praise God for the 90 athletes from across Europe who came and pray that God would use them to reach many for His kingdom.

TUESDAY

2ND

International Go Sport conferences. Please continue to both give thanks and pray for the 14 Go Sport conferences taking place around the world in 2020. Pray for the Christians in Sport staff taking part, teaching and training at all of them.

WEDNESDAY**3RD**

Multiply graduates. Give thanks for the 2019 graduates of Ready Set Go Multiply, the European sports mission summer school, and for all they are being used to do in the world of sport. Pray that God would continue to give them a heart for lost sportspeople and would strengthen them in their work to reach them.

THURSDAY**4TH**

Seville university group. Please continue to pray for student leader Samu and the university group in Seville that started this year. Pray for boldness as they share Jesus with teammates across their respective sports.

FRIDAY**5TH**

New student groups. Give thanks for new groups of students starting to meet in universities across Europe. Pray for excitement and commitment for the leaders of these groups and wisdom for the staff helping them.

SATURDAY**6TH**

Facilitation Team. Give thanks for the members of the Facilitation Team who help make Go Sport conferences happen. Praise God for the work they do serving and equipping competitive and elite sportspeople across Europe to share Jesus in their teams.

SUNDAY**7TH**

Work in Lisbon. Pray for the elite and university sports players in Lisbon, Portugal who meet regularly to read the Bible together. Pray that they would learn to delight more and more in Jesus and would want to live and play for Him.

MONDAY**8TH**

Safe travel. Give thanks for ongoing safe travel in Europe and the ongoing freedom we have to travel post-Brexit.

INTERNATIONAL

31ST MAY - 13TH JUNE

TUESDAY

9TH

European Christian Sports Union Planning Team.

Give thanks for the small Planning Team of the ECSU, the network of European churches, players and organisations working in sport mission, especially as they plan next steps for the movement. Pray for wisdom and courage as they work to help more sportspeople hear the gospel.

WEDNESDAY

10TH

Macedonia Bible studies. Pray for the small group of elite sportsmen in Skopje who meet regularly to read the Bible together. Praise God for His work in Macedonia and pray for Him to be merciful in bringing more sportspeople to know Him.

THURSDAY

11TH

French gathering. Please pray for the planning and logistics of a French sports players gathering in the autumn. This will be the first national gathering in France and is aimed to help equip sportspeople in sports mission ahead of the Rugby World Cup 2023 and the Paris Olympics in 2024.

FRIDAY

12TH

Financial partners. Give thanks for all our financial supporters and for their generous giving that allows us to serve globally.

SATURDAY

13TH

Ready Set Go Multiply preparation. Please pray for all the final preparation ahead Ready Set Go Multiply, that takes place in August. Pray for the young people who are attending, that they would be equipped and grown to become effective future leaders in sports ministry for God's glory.

STUDENTS

Thousands of students train and compete in their sport each week and the need for gospel workers in this harvest field remains great. Join us in praying particularly that God will empower student sportspeople to pray, play and say among their teammates.

JUNE

SUNDAY

14TH

Graduates. Pray for graduating students. Pray that as they graduate from university they will remain faithful to Christ, settle into churches and sports clubs where they will make the wonderful news of Christ known.

MONDAY

15TH

Friendships. Thank God for the friendships that have developed between Christians sports players and their teammates. Pray that as they go into the off-season they would continue to be intentional in sharing life and the gospel with these friends and that as a result many students will investigate Jesus for themselves.

TUESDAY

16TH

Clubhouse Xtra. Give thanks for the three conferences that were held in the New Year in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. Pray that those students understand the vision of Christians in Sport and want to live it out in their university sports clubs. Pray ahead for the planning of Clubhouse Xtra 2021.

WEDNESDAY

17TH

Churches supporting students. Praise God for the churches who are faithfully teaching God's word to students and encouraging them to share the gospel. Pray that the relationships with these churches would flourish and that more sporty students would come to faith and enter through the doors of these churches.

STUDENTS

14TH - 27TH JUNE

THURSDAY
18TH

Missions Week. Praise God for Bath Mission week at the end of February. Praise Him for all those who heard God's word and for the students that boldly spoke of the gospel. Pray for fruit off the back of this, that many at Bath University would come to know Christ.

FRIDAY
19TH

Injured Students. Pray for those students who have sustained injuries over the course of the season. Pray specifically for those who considering what is next and for wisdom in this. Pray that they would remain committed to reaching the world of sport for Christ and trust God fully despite their frustrations.

SATURDAY
20TH

Evangelistic Events. Thank God for the thousands of students who don't yet know Jesus and have heard the gospel so far this year. Pray for all who have heard about Jesus at an event, that it will cause them to investigate the gospel for themselves.

SUNDAY
21ST

University Groups. Praise the Lord for university groups that meet each week to pray together and encourage one another in reaching the world of sport for Christ. Pray for the year ahead that all groups would see the desperate need for their teammates to hear about Jesus.

MONDAY
22ND

Group Leaders. Give thanks for the leaders who faithfully led the university groups last year. Pray that the new leaders will understand the vision of Christians in Sport and share it effectively in their universities. Pray that many sporty students will come under the sound of the gospel as a result of their zeal for Christ.

TUESDAY
23RD

Dialogue Dinners. Praise God for all the dialogue dinners that have taken place this year. Thank God for bold students inviting their teammates and for their vulnerability as they answer questions about their faith. Pray that these dinners will have built up relationships and broken down barriers to the gospel.

WEDNESDAY
24TH

Evangelistic Opportunities. Pray for opportunities during the off-season for students to be continually bold in sharing their faith. Pray for those still competing that they would have conversations about Christ and seize opportunities to speak of Jesus with their teammates.

THURSDAY
25TH

Student Team. Give thanks for the Student Team and interns who have travelled the UK encouraging students to live out their faith within sports clubs and delivering talks at events. Pray ahead for the planning of the next academic year as the team consider how lost sportspeople can be reached for Christ.

FRIDAY
26TH

Identity in Christ. Pray that students do not forget that their identity is firmly rooted in Christ as they go on holiday. Pray that as they play sport they will continue to honour and glorify Him through the gifts and talents that they have been given.

SATURDAY
27TH

Leadership Roles. Praise God for those Christian students who have recently been appointed into positions of leadership within their university sports clubs. Pray that they would glorify God in the way that they conduct themselves. Pray that their friends will see them lead distinctively and ask faith-based questions.

SPORTS PLUS

Sports Plus is a week-long residential camp for competitive young sports people, providing serious sports training and a chance to explore what it means to be a Christian athlete. Please pray for the seven Sports Plus camps happening this summer and all the young people, leaders, coaches and support staff involved.

JUNE

SUNDAY
28TH

Dublin Sports Plus. The young people arrive at St Columba's College this afternoon for the start of Dublin Sports Plus. Praise God for the growth in numbers from last summer and that a number of young people are returning from 2019 and bringing friends along.

MONDAY
29TH

Teaching Programme. This summer we will be in John during the Evening Meetings and Bible studies and looking at 1 Peter in the Morning Meetings. Pray that as young people and leaders hear the gospel there would be a new wonder, acceptance and joy to live for Jesus in their world of sport.

TUESDAY
30TH

Support Staff. The Support Staff help Sports Plus function well and provide specialist support in key areas such as medical, technical and administration. Pray that those on the Support Staff would serve well and enjoy helping Sports Plus to run smoothly.

JULY

WEDNESDAY
1ST

Young People. Pray for young people who don't yet trust in Jesus. Pray that their eyes would be opened to their need of Him. Pray for those who are Christians, that they would grow in Christ and leave better equipped to represent Him in their sport.

THURSDAY
2ND

Venues. Praise God for the provision of the six schools where we hold Sports Plus. Pray for ongoing good relationships with each venue and that we would be good witnesses to the school staff while we are there.

THURSDAY
3RD

Team Meetings. Pray for the Team Leaders as they lead Bible studies with their team of young people each lunchtime. Pray that the young people would actively engage in these studies and that the Spirit would teach, convict and encourage the young people in gospel truth.

FRIDAY
4TH

Perth Training Weekend. Today over 60 leaders will arrive at Glenalmond College for the start of the Perth Sports Plus leaders' training weekend. Pray that these training weekends would equip each leader for their role during the week and that both new and returning leaders would be united by the gospel.

SATURDAY
5TH

Main Meetings. Pray that the MCs would lead the Morning and Evening meetings well, finding the right balance of fun and seriousness as they point young people to Jesus. Pray that all practical elements would combine effectively to create an atmosphere in which God is glorified.

SUNDAY
6TH

Coaches. Pray for the more than 80 coaches who will coach 11 main sports at Sports Plus this summer. Pray that they would prepare well, establish good relationships with the young people and be a good witness for the Lord Jesus.

SPORTS PLUS

28TH JUNE - 11TH JULY

MONDAY

7TH

Trainee Programme. Praise God for the opportunity to invest in the lives of around 100 Trainees this summer. Pray that the training received would help develop their leadership potential as future Team Leaders and coaches and help them to live out being a Christian in their sport.

TUESDAY

8TH

Bursary Fund. The Sports Plus Bursary Fund has enabled nearly 150 young people to attend Sports Plus this summer who would otherwise have been unable to. Praise God for all those who have donated to this fund and enabled these young people to attend.

WEDNESDAY

9TH

Team Leaders. Pray that in preparation for Sports Plus every Team Leader would be grounded in the gospel and ready to lead. Pray that at Sports Plus they would reflect God's love to the young people in their teams; both in action and word.

THURSDAY

10TH

Sport. Young people will play over five hours of sport a day at Sports Plus. Pray that the young people would respond well to the training, develop in their sport and glorify God. Pray that the water break talks would help them understand what it means to live as a Christian in sport.

FRIDAY

11TH

Preparations. Pray for all the preparations ahead of the five camps running in August. Pray that those who will open the Bible would be faithful to God's Word in preparation and that all the final practicalities will come together to ensure the smooth running of each camp.

LOOKING AHEAD

2020 has already been such a significant year for God's work among sportspeople and for Christians in Sport. Join us in praying for further upcoming events and chances to engage, equip and encourage sportspeople to play and speak for God's glory.

JULY

SATURDAY

12TH

The Big Match. Praise God for £500,000 of matched funding that has been made available for all new and increased monthly giving. Pray that this boost to our regular income helps us to plan effectively and work to have the right firm foundations moving forward.

SUNDAY

13TH

Upcoming training events. Pray for the upcoming series of evangelism training evenings taking place. Pray that they will be useful in equipping and inspiring people to share the gospel in sports clubs.

MONDAY

14TH

Internship. Pray for the 2020/21 interns starting with Christians in Sport in September. Pray that their time training, serving, and growing in sports ministry would be significant and enjoyable. Pray that God would use these interns fruitfully for His glory as they seek to share Jesus with sportspeople now and in future.

TUESDAY

15TH

Guest events. Pray that upcoming evangelistic events in churches would act as a catalyst for more conversations about Jesus within local sports clubs and teams.

LOOKING AHEAD

12TH - 25TH JULY

WEDNESDAY

16TH

Elite Netball. Please ask the Lord to raise up more Christian players within the Superleague and national teams. Pray also that we would quickly become aware of any overseas players who are believers and be able to build relationships to support them.

THURSDAY

17TH

New contacts. Pray for more Christian sportspeople to be found in new towns and cities across the UK where we don't yet know of anyone.

FRIDAY

18TH

Future leaders. Please pray that God would raise up the right people with a passion for sport and for Jesus and a desire to make Him known in the world of sport across Britain.

SATURDAY

19TH

Ready Set Go Multiply. Please pray for the Ready Set Go Multiply summer school that starts in Italy on August 2. Pray for the participants from all across Europe that they would have a really rich, fruitful and safe three weeks learning and growing in mission to the world of sport!

SUNDAY

20TH

Unreached areas. Pray for areas of the UK where we know of no Christian sportspeople. Ask God to help us find any who may exist in these towns and cities and pray for new players who can take the gospel to these areas.

MONDAY

21ST

Sports Plus Growth. As we seek to grow Sports Plus though increasing the number and size of camps, pray that God would provide the necessary venues, leaders and resources to enable this to happen.

TUESDAY**22ND**

Bursary funds. Praise God for the various bursary funds which enable young people to attend Sports Plus and students to attend training conferences throughout the year. Pray that more people would be moved by God to donate to these funds so events continue to be as accessible as possible for all.

WEDNESDAY**23RD**

Men's Golf. Pray for Kenny Crawford as he attends several events during a busy summer period. Pray that God will create unique opportunities for him to get alongside golfers and help them know something more of Jesus in their lives. Pray for safety in travel, and for his wife and young daughters at home.

THURSDAY**24TH**

Starting back. Pray for students as they return or begin university this autumn. Pray that they remember their identity is rooted in Christ and nothing else. Pray that they would settle into church life at university and boldly share their faith within their sports teams.

FRIDAY**25TH**

Game Plan 5. Please pray for the launch of our new strategic plan, Game Plan 5, starting in September. Pray for godly dependence and humility as we seek to implement these plans, and that as a result many more sportspeople would come to know Christ.

OLYMPICS & PARALYMPICS

The Olympic and Paralympic Games are two of the biggest sporting competitions in the world, and the Tokyo Games are almost here. Following the Olympic Opening Ceremony on July 24, join us in dedicating the Games to God in prayer.

JULY

SATURDAY
26TH

The gift of sport. Praise God for the gift of sport and sporting endeavour which the Olympics and Paralympics celebrate. Pray throughout these events for God's name to be honoured and glorified.

SUNDAY
27TH

The Olympic village. Pray for the athletes as they settle into the Olympic village, missing home and anxious about the imminent competition. May those that know the Lord have a positive influence on the atmosphere within the village.

MONDAY
28TH

Security. With the attention of the world focused on Tokyo, pray for the security of the city, that those with malicious intent would be thwarted and the Games would be a safe and positive environment.

TUESDAY
29TH

Boldness of Christians. Pray for the Christians competing, coaching, officiating and serving as support staff, that they would have opportunities to share their faith at the Games. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give them boldness and that those who hear will respond to the gospel and be saved.

WEDNESDAY**30TH**

Churches engaging with Tokyo 2020. Pray for the thousands of sportspeople who will hear the gospel at sports quizzes, community festivals and other outreach events during the Games. Pray that God would work in their hearts and call them to look deeper into Jesus' identity.

THURSDAY**31ST**

Track and field. Pray for the start of the track and field competition today. Pray that the many athletes who know Christ would be aware of His 'everlasting arms' upholding them, and that they would encourage one another as brothers and sisters in Christ.

AUGUST**FRIDAY****1ST**

Injury. May God give the medical staff great skill and wisdom in treating competitors who get injured at the Games. As their hopes and dreams are dashed, may they find God to be a living reality.

SATURDAY**2ND**

Officials and coaches. Pray for all the Olympic and Paralympic officials and coaches. May the officials be fair and impartial and may coaches help athletes achieve their best and maintain perspective. May Christian officials and coaches be salt and light to those around them.

SUNDAY**3RD**

Performance and identity. Pray that Christian athletes would keep their identity firmly fixed in Christ. As the world watches their performance and judges them by it, pray they would find their worth in being God's children and not in their performance.

OLYMPICS & PARALYMPICS

26TH JULY - 8TH AUGUST

MONDAY

4TH

Volunteers. Thank God for all those who have given their time to volunteer at the Games. Ask Him to give them energy and patience and help them as they contribute so much towards the atmosphere and running of the events.

TUESDAY

5TH

Disappointed athletes. Ask God to help disappointed athletes deal with any negative attention which comes with failure. For those who are crushed because sport is their identity, may the Lord reveal Himself to them. For those who already know God, may He remind them of who they are in Him.

WEDNESDAY

6TH

Drugs testing. Pray that the drug testing systems at the Games would achieve justice; that the innocent would not be unfairly tarnished and that the guilty would be held to account.

THURSDAY

7TH

Media coverage. Pray for those involved with the media at the Games. Ask that they would report accurately and pray for mutual respect and trust with competitors.

FRIDAY

8TH

Successful athletes. Pray for those who succeed at the Games to deal well with the attention that follows. For those who wake up the next day feeling flat because their success didn't satisfy, may the Lord reveal Himself to them. For those who know Christ already, may He protect them from pride, remembering that their talent is a gift from Him.

OTHER WAYS TO PRAY

Visit christiansinsport.org.uk/prayer to sign up to get this prayer diary via email every fortnight or to pray daily using the Prayer Mate app.

Back Pages and the Prayer Diary are produced three times a year and sent free of charge to supporters of Christians in Sport for as long as you would like to hear from us.

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