

# PRAYING FOR THE KAIROS WEEKEND

Many people have asked, "What happens on a weekend?" and "what should we pray for?" With this in mind, we offer this brief outline of the weekend and ask that you reflect on what is taking place at the time of your prayers and ask God to work in the residents' hearts in a powerful way. These residents are also God's creation and He wants to have a relationship with them. Thank you for your prayers and support,

The Kairos weekend is similar to a Cursillo or a Walk to Emmaus weekend, as both are "short courses in Christianity." This schedule is intended to guide you as you pray for our Brothers-in-white as they experience this weekend. The major talks and their objectives are listed below for your prayerful consideration.

## Thursday

**3:00 PM** Meet our Brothers-in-white  
**5:05 PM** Meditations: "Know Yourself" "I Chose You" and "The Prodigal Son" (10 minutes each)

## Friday

**7:30 AM** Greet our Brothers-in-white  
**8:05 AM** Three Encounters with Christ (10 minutes): Rich Young Man (Mark 10); Judas (John 12); and Peter (Mark 14). Each of the men will relate with at least one of these encounters.  
**8:30 AM** Table assignments  
**8:40 AM** Choices (20 minutes): To help participants begin to know themselves as unique human beings; to begin to see themselves as creatures with physical limitations, who also make free-will choices.... to help them understand that the course of their lives can and will be changed through the choices we make from here on.  
**9:50 AM** You Are Not Alone (20 minutes) (and Introduction of Agape): to convey to the participants that God created us to live in community and that God gave us free will which sometimes is in conflict with the community. To point out that we need not only the presence of God in our lives, but we need the help of others ... to demonstrate that others do exist and are earnestly working on our behalf whether we choose to respond or not.  
**10:45 AM** Friendship With God (20 minutes): To convey that God is not a chain gang boss waiting to catch us in some infraction of the rules... God longs for friendship, with us even though we have repeatedly abandoned that friendship ... God will continue to pursue us.  
**12:45 AM** Acceptance of Self (10 minutes) -Forgiveness series, Isaiah 49, "I will never forget you."  
**1:00 PM** The Church (20 minutes): To present the Church positively to the residents, many of whom have little or no acquaintance with the Church or might even hate the Church.... we come to learn that "We are the Church."  
**2:10 PM** Opening the Door (20 minutes): To relieve the participants of false or negative impressions about the Christian life they may have acquired as a result of previous encounters with Church people.... to replace those images with positive ones in which they see a vision of their friendship with God becoming a precious and viable reality ... to describe ways in which that kind of friendship is nourished and encouraged.  
**5:40 PM** Accepting God's Forgiveness (10 minutes) - Forgiveness series. Psalm 65, Psalm 103, Matthew 28, Acts 10, Romans 8.  
**6:10 PM** Brothers-in-white are dismissed for the evening. Team returns to church base.

## Saturday

**7:30 AM** Greet our Brothers-in-white:  
**8:30 AM** Chapel: "Who is Christ"(20 minutes) and "Forgiveness of Others" (10 minutes)

- 9:40 AM**      **Discovery. (20 minutes):** To convey to the resident that the Christian life is an ongoing journey of discovery, and ongoing journey of learning and growth in deepening our friendship with Jesus.... to proclaim that the gates to this fascinating journey may be entered by study, prayer, listening and sharing which are open to all.
- 10:45 PM**      **Action (20 minutes):** To add the important dimension of Action to the Christian life of the residents: the need to be genuinely concerned for his/her brother and sister; to pass God's love on to another, to introduce that other person to Jesus.... to help the resident choose effective ways of being a Christ-bearer by relieving the fear of being perceived as "weak" as he reaches out with love to those nearby.
- 12:35 PM**      **Distribution of Personal Agape letters),**
- 1:10 PM**      **The Wall meditation and Discussion**
- 3:25 PM**      **Open Mike:** This is a time when the residents are given the opportunity to step before the group and say anything they want. It is not a time to express their appreciation to the team. It is a time to spare from their heart what the weekend means to them. This is one of the most powerful moments on the weekend.
- 4:45 PM**      **Chapel:** Forgiveness Ceremony. Each man is given the opportunity and encouraged to reflect on those in his life that he needs to forgive. During the service a list of names that each man has prepared is placed in fire and that list is burned.
- 6:15 PM**      **Brothers-in-white** dismissed for the evening. Team returns to church base.

## Sunday

- 7:45 AM**      **Greet our Brothers-in-white:**
- 8:05 AM**      **The Rooster Story** Participants are reminded that they offered to God their hurt and unforgiveness. Also, they are reminded to leave them with God and “not dig them up again”.
- 9:45 AM**      **Obstacles to God's Grace:** This talk points out common influences that are at work in their lives which can become roadblocks to living a Christian life while incarcerated. It all confronts the issue of “The Devil Made me do it” mindset of those trying to avoid the responsibility of their actions.
- 10:40 AM**      **Walking in God's Grace:** As we begin our final day together, we leave the “mountain top experience” we have to realize that the joy of the weekend will not automatically continue. They are given practical tools to help them cope with returning to life in the unit as Christians.
- 11:45 PM**      **Hang In There:** It will take a conscious choice to stay close to Christ, and the Prayer and Share fellowship of Kairos’ method of helping us continue to walk in the Light of Christ.
- 1:20 PM**      **Chapel:** Presentation of Crosses. Crosses are worn to remind us of the source of our strength, not for others to know who or what we are. As each Brother-in-white is presented with his cross, he is told that "Christ is counting on you;" his response can be, "And I am counting on Christ."
- 3:00 PM**      **Closing Service:** The outside team and community is invited to attend this closing service as a sign of the greater community that supports the Kairos program. The Brothers-in--white are each given an opportunity to speak and answer the following questions:

- 1) **In what spiritual condition did you arrive at Kairos?**
- 2) **What did you find here?**
- 3) **What are you taking away with you?**