

ASKING POINT

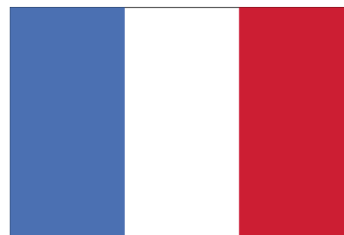
Network

*He is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is He. Deut. 32:4*

Hope of the Nations

In His name the nations will put their hope. Matthew 12:21

FRANCE



France, often known by her inhabitants as the Hexagon (geometric shape of the land), is a beautiful country, renowned for many things, notably her art, her food and wine, and her passion and romance. She has a long Christian history, but recent decades have seen secularization increasingly dominate.

The evangelical protestant church is generally growing, and relations between pastors and denominations are improving. Relations between Catholics and Protestants, historically strained, are also improving; partly due to the significant loss of power by the Catholic Church caused by the rapid ascent of secularism. So Catholics look to other Christians for support, especially evangelicals whose moral values closely resemble their own.

- continued next page -

The World from God's Perspective

I have longed to gather. Matthew 23:37

Praying for Prodigals

"For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from My statutes and have not kept them—Return to Me, and I will return to you. . . ." Malachi 3:6-7

A prodigal is a person that no longer chooses to live in the presence of the Father. First we grieve with Him, then we enter into His compassionate rescue.

Because what we believe **determines** what we ask . . .
Let us begin again. Please ponder and pray:

1. REVELATION

Ask God to reveal Himself to you afresh.

- **remember, recall, respond**
(Psalm 103, Lamentations 3:21-25, Hosea 6:1-3)
- **realign yourself with the Word of God**
(Isaiah 55, Acts 3:19, 1Corinthians 2:9)
- **rejoice in who He is**
(Exodus 34:5-7, Isaiah 40, Jeremiah 9:23-24)

- continued next page -

God in Community

I come in the Name of the Lord Almighty. 1 Samuel 17:45

The Worship Leader

"The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom's voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. He must become greater; I must become less."

John 3:29-30

As a worship leader, my desire is increasingly to create space for the Bride of Christ to meet with and glory in her Bride Groom. Although God loves and meets us each individually, there is something special that happens when the body gathers, and there is a kind of worship that only occurs when the Bride of Christ agrees together in their affection for Jesus. Jesus is worthy of our corporate affection.

- continued next page -

**...receive from Him
anything we ask, because we obey
His commands and do what pleases Him...**

1 John 3:22

Page 2 - Nations

France continued . . .

France has between 7–10 million Muslims. Islam is the country's second religion. The media is increasingly engaging the nation in debates about the Burka and the building of minarets. Most recently they have launched a debate about national identity. In response, many people are expressing their anxiety about the increasing prominence and influence of Islam; a subject that truly divides the French people.

Meditate and ASK:

Christ's Bride in France

- kept by the Father, sanctified in truth, trinity unity — *John 17*
- **next generation** — *"Make us glad according to the days You have afflicted us, And the years we have seen evil. Let Your work appear to Your servants And Your majesty to their*

Page 2 - Perspective

Prodigals continued . . .

2. RESEARCH

Ask God for His heart for the loved one. (Luke 15, Isaiah 49:24–25)

3. REBUILD

Ask God for His purposes. Ask Him to do the things only He can do. (Jeremiah 1:9–10, 29:11, Colossians 1:13)

For your encouragement, what follows is how He led a few others to "build."



I took the Word of God to build a structure for my prayers, the way a carpenter does to frame a house. For example, I prayed through the book of Ephesians. Where it says in 1:1, **"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God,"** I prayed: "John, called, set apart according to the will of God." Then when it mentions a particular church, I prayed my prodigal would find a church and be faithful to Him. Verse 2 is a blessing, **"grace and peace form God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."** Everything became a prayer: that the loved one would experience God's grace and peace, know God as Father, know Jesus as Lord of their life, as Savior.



Through His word He gave me promises to pray—renewing my hope and encouraging me to pray with expectation—directing my behavior to let His love shine through.

Isaiah 29:24, 32:18, 49:24–25, 57:18–19; Proverbs 22:6
• Jeremiah 31:15–17 • Philippians 2:13, 1:9–11



Deuteronomy 11:1–9 has always defined the boundaries of my responsibility toward my children: *to fully love and obey God* (v. 1). Verse 9 offers the promise that my own obedience gains the "promised land" that will pass to them. In between, God reminds me that my life should be a testimony to His greatness and saving power, and Psalm 145 urges me to proclaim it. May God grant us understanding of how our individual faithfulness to Him opens doors to His mighty answers for our prodigals. 🙏

children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; And confirm for us the work of our hands; Yes, confirm the work of our hands." Psalm 90:15–17

- **intercessors** — *"The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught." Isaiah 50:4*
- **evangelization of the nation** — *"And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling, and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God." 1 Corinthians 2:1–5 🙏*

"O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, today let it be known that You are God in Israel ..."

1 Kings 18:36

ask for Israel

Page 2 - Community

The Worship Leader continued . . .

Meditate on John 3:29–30 and ASK:

- *Love for the Bride of Christ:* Pray that Worship Leaders would learn to see the Bride through the eyes of Christ and to lay their lives down to serve her, following the example of Christ.
- *The Humility of John the Baptist ("He must become greater; I must become less."):* Pray for an increasing desire to see Christ glorified in the eyes of His Bride. This will require a decision for worship leaders to humble themselves and decide not to "steal the show."
- *The Maturing of a Prophetic Voice in Worship:* We want to actually hear from God in our present day and our present circumstances! We need the Holy Spirit's sensitivity for this.
- *Spirit-led Songwriting:* We need new expressions of worship that flow from the hearts of God's people today. This is one way for the Bride to declare her affections for Jesus, as she discovers new ways of expressing her love for Him. 🙏

"As for Me, this is My covenant with them . . .

My Spirit, who is on you, and My words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and forever," says the LORD.

Isaiah 59:21

ask for ASK