

Sparking Global Revival: 25 Hours of Prayer and Worship

BYLINE: Talia Wise/CBN News

Revival has been sweeping U.S. college campuses since [the Asbury Awakening of February 2023](#). It's been marked by both planned and unplanned events in which thousands of students have given their lives to Christ, resulting in extended impromptu worship and baptisms.

Now there's a plan for a global 25-hour revival event that could be the culmination of two years of awakening. It's being called Gather25 and it's scheduled to hit multiple major cities around the world in March of 2025.

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In the last eight months, CBN News has reported on revival breaking out at events hosted by Christian author and speaker Jennie Allen.

Allen is also the visionary behind Gather25, but she has an army of Christ-followers helping to make this a reality with as many language translations as possible, international hosts and more. Sadie Robertson Huff, Christine Caine and David Platt are all getting involved, along with individuals and groups from all over the world.

"We are doing something epic," Allen told [CBN](#) Monday. "Every single, individual church, we want them to participate. We're going to go live from every single continent and we are going to tell the stories of the church and what God is doing on earth right now."

The Gather25 team is asking individuals to sign up to

participate at gather25.com and is seeking volunteers to host virtual sites for those who can't make it to the larger events.

Live event tickets go on sale this fall for major gatherings in the U.S., Australia, Singapore and Rwanda.

Pray for Jennie Allen's Next 'Unite' Event

Meanwhile, thousands of college students will gather at the University of Tennessee on May 1, with a singular focus – to lift the name of Jesus.

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"Unite Tennessee" will feature Allen alongside Pastor Jonathan [Pokluda of Harris Creek Baptist Church in Waco, Texas](#), and include musical performances by Passion Music.

The preaching duo has seen hundreds of students give their lives to Jesus Christ since last year when nearly 5,000 students packed out Neville Arena at Auburn University to worship and praise Jesus.

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Shake Shack Shades Chick-fil-A with CHICKENSUNDAY

There's a new chapter unfolding in the chicken wars, but the good news is it could mean free chicken for fans of Shake Shack and Chick-fil-A.

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While Shake Shack doesn't have [nearly as many restaurants as Chick-fil-A](#)—262 versus 3059—if there's one in your area you may be able to score some free chicken during the month of April.

“Here at Shake Shack, we pride ourselves on our Chicken Shack which is available 7 days a week,” the company stated online.

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“Every Sunday in April, we are offering a Free Chicken Shack with \$10 minimum purchase with promo code: CHICKENSUNDAY. Just go to your nearest participating [Shake Shack](#) or order on our app or website to taste the true difference.”

The phrasing of the entire promotion appears to be a subtle jab at [Chick-fil-A which is famously closed on Sundays](#) to obey God's command to honor the Sabbath while also guaranteeing a day of rest to their employees.

Earlier this year, during a New York food fight over efforts to force [Chick-fil-A outposts](#) along the NY Thruway to open on Sundays, Sen. Lindsey Graham even called the chicken restaurant chain “[God's chicken](#)”.

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[News](#).

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From Demons to Devotion: The Podcast Drawing People Closer to Christ

BYLINE: Abigail Robertson/CBN News

God is using an unusual topic to spread the Gospel in a podcast that has become a huge success: [exorcism and spiritual warfare](#).

With more than seven and a half million downloads, [The Exorcist Files](#) has topped Spotify charts for more than 40 weeks. The creators of the show recently launched a Kickstarter to fund season two with a goal of raising \$40,000. They hit that number within four hours of the Kickstarter being live, and have since raised more than four times their goal. Loyal listeners include an array of Catholics, Protestants and horror fans.

The creator, Ryan Bethea, told CBN News he first got into this when he was hoping to do a podcast on miracles, but God instead led him down a very different path that included understanding evil, the demonic realm and modern-day spiritual warfare.

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“Half-jokingly, I actually didn’t want to do this,” Bethea explained. “I had no intention of doing a docuseries on spiritual warfare, the demonic, any of this.”

Bethea says during a 2018 trip to the Vatican, he was connected to one of the leading authorities on spiritual warfare.

“I got introduced to father Carlos Martins, the exorcist on our show, and I said, ‘Hey, tell me a story,’ and you know, when you meet an exorcist, you got to say, ‘Hey, tell me a story,’ and he did,” recalled Bethea. “And I went, ‘oh man, we all need to hear these stories’ – and that is how the show was born.”

Father Martins is often called to help with some of the world’s more serious and difficult cases of demonic possession.

“When you see a chair levitate for the 83rd time, it gets old, but confronting the mind of the devil, the source of every perversion, every sin, every wickedness, every bad thing, that’s scary,” Martins explains in a trailer for the show.

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The show depicts dramatic recreations from Father Martins’ experience [battling the devil to free people from demonic possession](#). Some of the cases show the potentially dangerous side effects of unknowing victims casually dabbling in things like Ouija boards and psychics, while other episodes give accounts of modern-day witchcraft and generational curses.

Bethea refers to it as redemptive horror because it uses these

real-life stories to educate people about Christ, and God is using it to teach the program's diverse audience more about him.

"There are thousands of reviews on Apple specifically, and you can see people saying, 'Hey, I grew up Catholic, and I wandered away but wow, this has awakened me to the reality of evil. I can't afford not to have God in my life,'" explains Bethea. "And then others were like, 'I appreciate this, too. I'm still not sold on God, but if this is at all possible that there's demons, I want to be with God.'"

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Minnesota Walkout: Students and Teachers Oppose LGBTQ 'Indoctrination'

BYLINE: Talia Wise/CBN News

Nearly 2,000 Minnesota high school students opted out of an "LGBTQIA+ History and Culture" lesson earlier this month, according to a local parent's rights group.

The opt-outs came after Liberty Counsel, a non-profit legal group, sent a [demand letter](#) to Osseo Area Schools District

279, in March requesting that both teachers and students “whose sincerely-held religious beliefs conflict with the lesson be permitted to opt out of it.

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“Teachers have expressed to Liberty Counsel that this one-sided LGBT political indoctrination [violates parental rights and the teachers’ sincerely-held religious beliefs](#); that they object to teaching it; and that they fear retaliation if they seek to exercise their rights under Title VII to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 for a religious accommodation,” the letter stated.

The school district responded by communicating to students and teachers they were free to exercise their legal rights to opt out of participating.

According to 279 Parents United, a local parents’ group in Minnesota’s Osseo Area School District 279, an estimated 1,800 students and at least 15 teachers opted out of the lesson.

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The school had to use a cafeteria and auditorium to accommodate the large number of students opting out, according to the group.

The school district also confirmed that 394 students officially opted out at Maple Grove Senior High School by filling out a form.

“Hopefully, the school district learned a lesson to stop trying to force its agenda on students, parents and teachers. Nearly 2,000 students and 15 teachers exercised [the right to opt out of the ‘LGBTQIA+’ indoctrination](#). Public schools must

respect the rights of students, parents, and teachers,” said Liberty Counsel Founder and Chairman Mat Staver.

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Israelis Remember Hostages, Fallen Soldiers, Terror Victims as Passover Begins

Byline: Chris Mitchell/CBN News

JERUSALEM, Israel – Jews worldwide and throughout Israel will [celebrate the Feast of Passover Monday night.](#)

While they celebrate the freedom from the bondage of ancient Egypt, they also grieve for the more than 100 hostages still in Hamas captivity, as Tuesday will mark the 200th day since the massacre and kidnappings on Oct. 7th.

On Sunday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to return all of the hostages.

“On this Seder night, our hostages being held by Hamas are before our eyes,” he declared. “Their suffering and the suffering of their families rends our hearts and only strengthens our resolve to bring them back.”

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Netanyahu also took to social media to thank the U.S. Congress for passing critical military aid for Israel over the weekend.

He wrote on X that the bill “demonstrates strong bipartisan support for Israel and defends Western Civilization. Thank you, friends, thank you, America!”

The aid comes as Israel is fighting for its survival on multiple fronts with Hezbollah, Hamas, the Houthis, and Iran, itself.

It was reported Monday that the head of Israel’s military intelligence resigned his post, citing intelligence failures that led to the Oct. 7 attack by Hamas.

In his resignation letter, Gen. Aharon Haliva wrote:

“The intelligence directorate under my command did not live up to the task we were entrusted with. I carry that black day with me ever since, day after day, night after night. I will carry the horrible pain of the war with me forever.”

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It’s not clear if it will set the stage for more resignations and some fear it comes at a dangerous time, [as Israel prepares for the Passover holiday and its troops are on alert.](#)

Despite their welcome of Washington’s U.S. aid vote, Israeli leaders are also criticizing the U.S. State Department’s decision to sanction an Israeli battalion accused of torturing a West Bank Palestinian back in 2022. It represents the first-ever U.S. sanction against an IDF unit.

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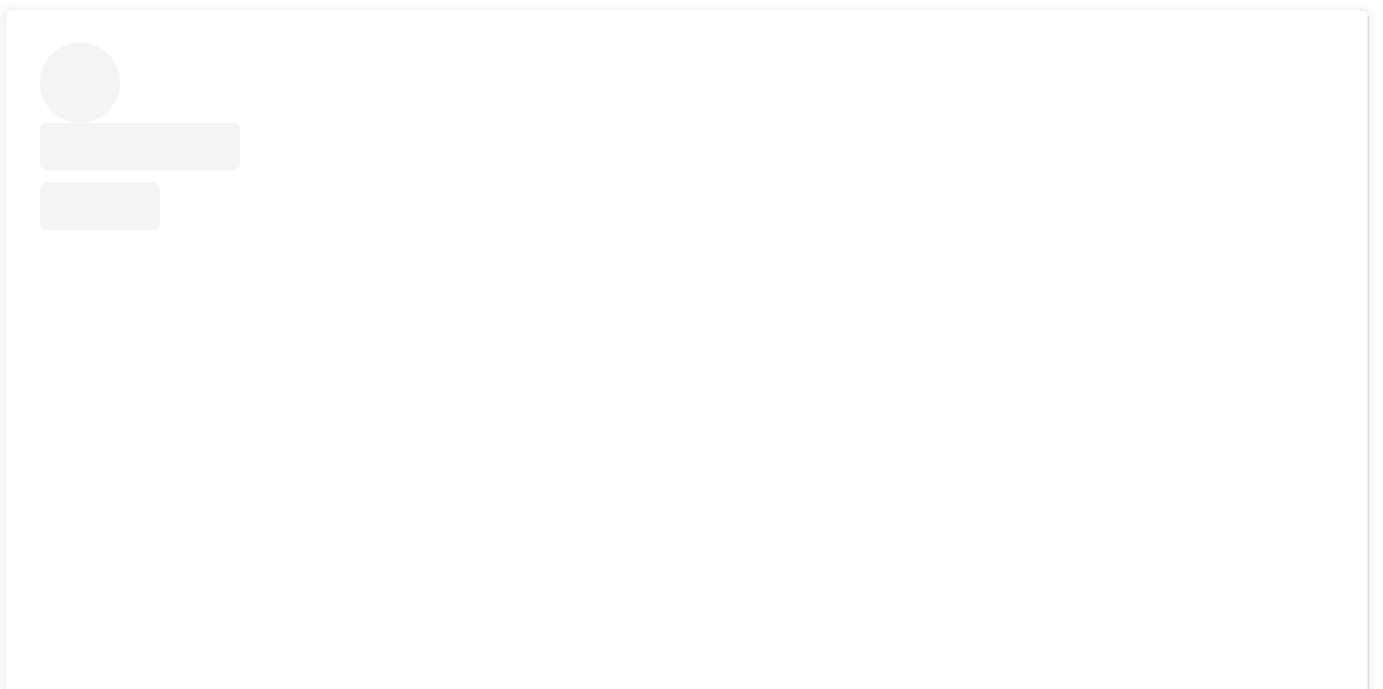
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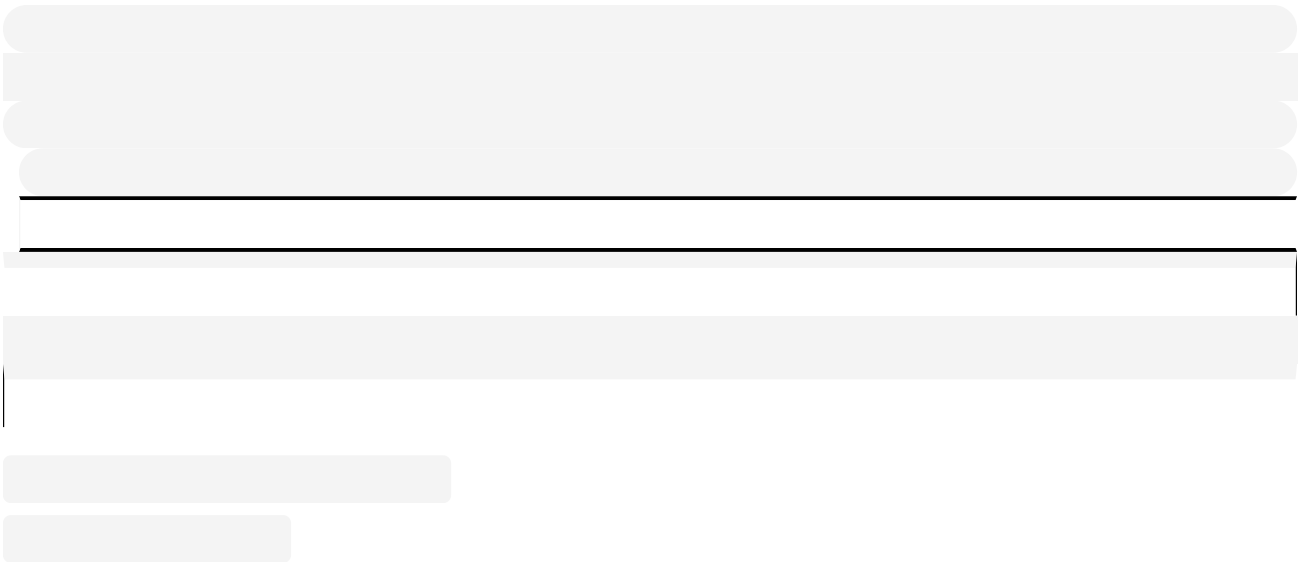
Jenny Weaver Plans 'Massive' Baptism of Nearly 2,000 After 200 Accept Christ

After hosting a baptism service on Clearwater Beach, FL this Easter, a former witch turned minister and worship leader is planning to lead one of the biggest revivals in the U.S. this May.

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A post shared by Jenny Weaver (@jennyweaverworships)

“During baptism, all of a sudden HUNDREDS of birds began flying over us and kept circling around and DOLPHINS jumped

out of the water right behind us,” she wrote. “It was as if all of Creation was celebrating what the Lord was doing on the beach!!!”

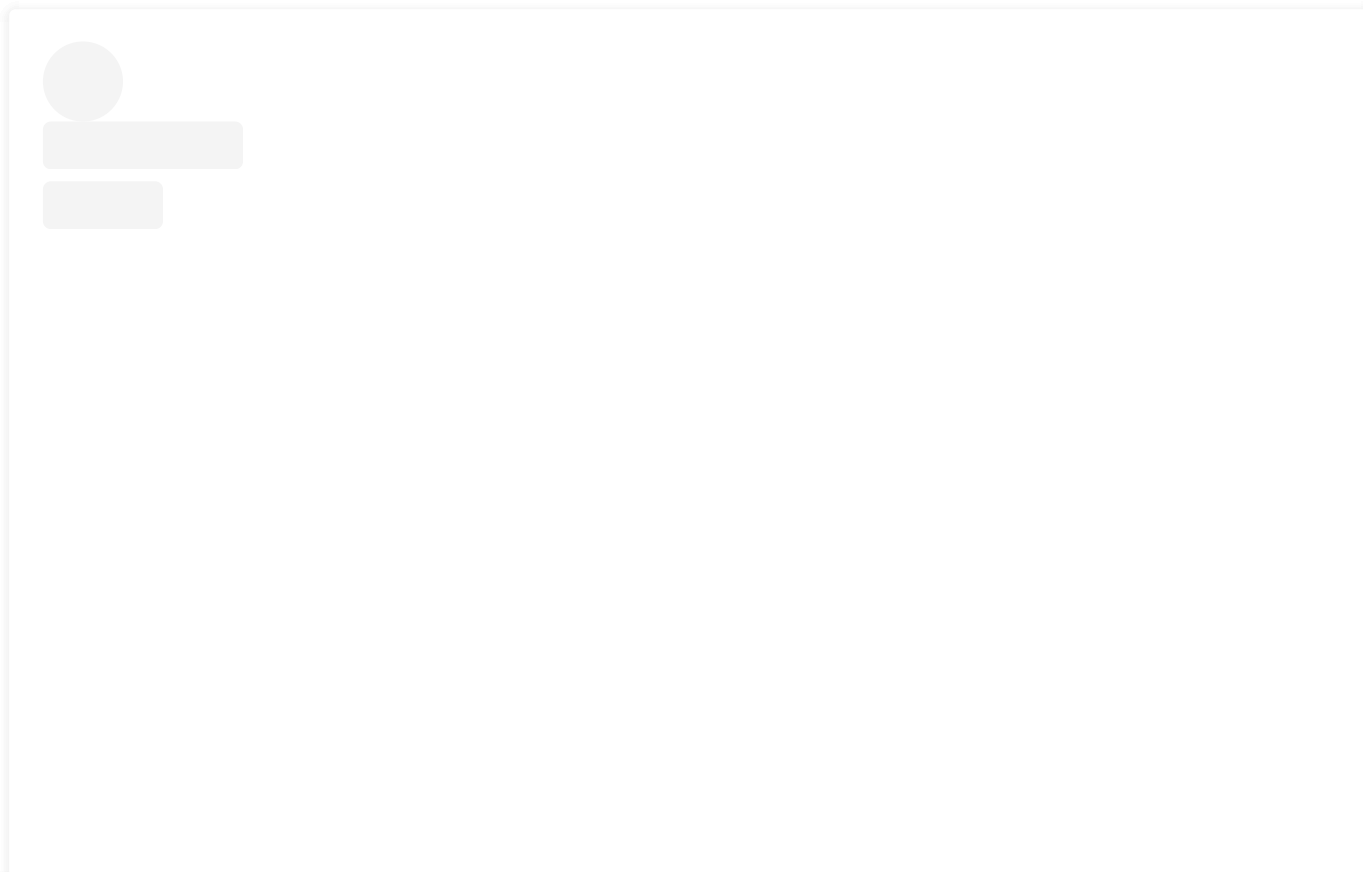
Weaver later told Fox News, “It is a blessing to be a part of what God is doing in Clearwater, Florida.”

She added, “When [people] get baptized and they go into the water, all the sin, all the strongholds, [all those things holding them back in life](#) that it will be left in the water because Jesus has made them whole and new again.”

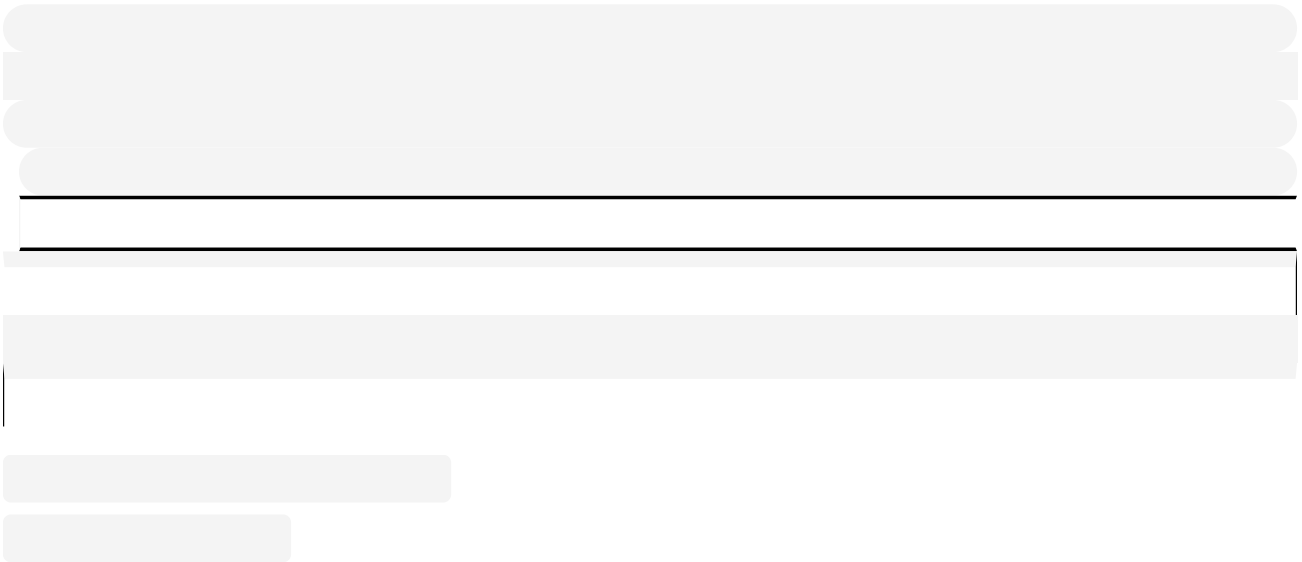
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Now, Weaver will be hosting a “[Summer of Baptisms](#),” on May 11th where hundreds of people are invited to take part in the [water baptism](#).

Weaver and her husband, Stephen, will personally lead baptisms in Sarasota—a location she feels is handpicked by God.



[View this post on Instagram](#)



A post shared by Jenny Weaver (@jennyweaverworships)

“This is my Hometown Sarasota Florida, this is something called the drum circle they have every week ever since I was a little girl. It’s a circle of new age singing, dancing, drinking, smoking and promotes occult worship,” she shared.

“This is the EXACT place the Lord told me to go and hold MASS BAPTISMS,” Weaver added. “It’s the first time I’m going back to the place I used to dance half naked and drunk as a practicing Wiccan back in the day as now going as a BORN AGAIN Holyghost filled believer to minister the GOSPEL!!”

She added, “It’s time to reclaim the land for Jesus!”

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Jill Duggar Dillard and Husband Announce Pregnancy Loss of Their Daughter: 'Isla Was Much Loved'

Jill Duggar Dillard and her husband, Derick, [are asking for prayers](#) after announcing the sad news that their four-month-old daughter was stillborn.

The couple shared in a joint post on Instagram they are dealing with the pain of this loss.

"It is with heavy hearts that we announce the stillbirth of our beautiful baby girl, Isla Marie Dillard," the couple began. "Jill was four months pregnant (due in August) when we found out that our baby died in utero."

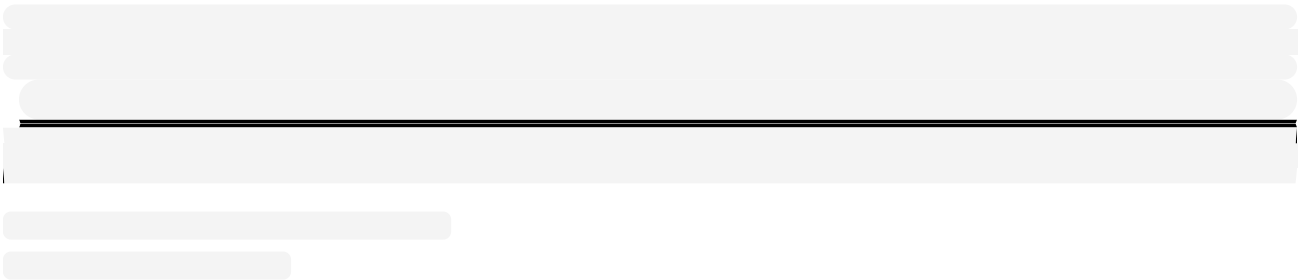
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"From the moment we found out we were pregnant, we couldn't wait to meet our baby," they continued. "Isla was much loved from the start, and her three big brothers were so excited to introduce her to their world."

The couple added, "We appreciate your prayers as we continue to grieve and heal from the loss of our little Isla Marie."



[View this post on Instagram](#)



A post shared by Jill (Duggar) Dillard (@jillmdillard)

The 32-year-old reality TV star met her husband while shooting the famous series “19 Kids and Counting” and wed in 2014.

The couple are parents to three children: sons Israel David, nine, Samuel Scott, six, and Frederick “Freddy” Michael, 21 months.

[The Dillards shared the news](#) with a photo of them holding knitted booties and comforting one another.

The Instagram community also shared comforting messages of support for the couple during their loss.

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“Love you so much, sis. Continuing to uphold you all in prayer. Sweet little Isla will be missed,” Jill’s sister, Jinger Duggar Vuolo, wrote.

“We love you all. We are continuing to pray. Isla Marie is so loved. Forever our first girl,” Derick’s mother, Deena, said in another comment.

Selah Christian artist, Todd Smith, wrote, “It’s the most heartbreaking group to be a part of. May God continue to give Isla Marie weight in this world to draw others to Jesus. May you grieve fully, and may Jesus’ loving arms cover over your marriage and family.”

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Dallas Jenkins Update on Season 4 of 'The Chosen' as Season 5 Begins Filming

The creator and director of the [popular faith-based TV series "The Chosen"](#) says it will not be long before Season 4 of the show will be available for fans.

Dallas Jenkins recently announced that while he cannot give an exact date on when Season 4 will be released, he believes it will be "in the near future."

"I've seen a few things online of people saying, 'Oh man, you know it could be six months.' Or 'I don't even know if it's going to come out this year.' That is not the case. It will be well before then. I can't give you an exact date but we are hopeful that it will be sometime in the near future. It's not going to be three months. It's not going to be that long. It will be shorter than that," Jenkins said.

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"We are actively working on it every day," he added. "I promise you, no one is more frustrated by this than I am. And no one wants to get this to you more quickly than I do. We're working on it. I promise you."

As [CBN News](#) previously reported, Jenkins released a Facebook video in March explaining there was a delay in the release of the show on streaming platforms.

In a video titled, ["I've got bad news about Season 4's release,"](#) Jenkins addressed the latest season of "The Chosen" being released in theaters, the monumental cost of producing the series, and upcoming plans for the show.

“Our previous path wasn’t proving to be sustainable,” Jenkins said of the crowdfunding model that launched “The Chosen” into success.

He explained how expensive the show is to create and bring to market while continuing to offer it to viewers for free. The cost is “tens of millions of dollars, minimum, every year.”

Plus, with three more seasons in the future, much of the money earned by the series has to go into funding the upcoming seasons.

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Without going into excessive detail, the famed director also indicated current legal challenges are holding up the latest season’s streaming release.

In his latest update from the set of Season 5 in Utah, the show’s director plainly said, “I’m sad to say that the legal matters that we are dealing with for Season 4 are still happening.”

On the bright side, Jenkins reported the cast and crew were starting their first day of production for the upcoming season.

“It is Day 1. In the midst of all the craziness of us trying to get Season 4 to you...and in the midst of all the craziness of ‘The Chosen’ in general, all over the world, we are officially commencing Day 1 of 68 days of filming, here in beautiful Utah,” Jenkins said. “We have done our first rehearsal, and we are about to get going. It is unbelievable.”

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12,000 Souls Baptized Reporting 'a Personal Encounter with Christ'

More than 12,000 people were baptized in France on Easter Sunday—a record number for the country where about 50% of the people say they do not believe in God.

The French Bishops Conference reports that despite the acceleration of “de-Christianization,” there has been a rise in requests for [baptism in the Catholic Church](#) within the last 10 years.

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During an Easter service, 7,135 adults were baptized and more than 5,000 teenagers aged 11 to 17 were baptized, according to [America Magazine](#).

The report explains that 31% more people were [baptized this year](#) than last year and that the number of adults, 18-25 years old, rose from 23% to 36% in the last year.

“In today’s French society, 80% of young people have not received any religious education,” Father Vincent Breynaert, director of the National Youth and Vocations Service, explained in the report presented on March 27. “They have very

few preconceived ideas about the Church. What those asking for baptism have in common is that they had a spiritual experience and a personal encounter with Christ.”

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The report also outlines that the requests for baptism are noticeable in bigger cities.

In Paris, there was a 27% increase from 2023 to 2024.

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Winning Masters Title Doesn't Define Scheffler: 'I Believe in a Creator'

The No. 1 golfer in the world, Scottie Scheffler, says he was at a crossroads just hours ahead of the 2024 Masters tournament.

The 27-year-old says being in the lead during the final round of the competition put pressure on him and left him overwhelmed.

During a post-tournament press conference, Scheffler told

reporters, "I was sitting around with my buddies this morning, I was a bit overwhelmed, I told them, I wish I didn't want to win as badly as I did or as badly as I do. I think it would make the mornings easier."

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He continued, "[But I love winning. I hate losing.](#) I really do. And when you're here in the biggest moments, when I'm sitting there with the lead on Sunday, I really, really want to win badly."

Advice from his friends led the champion to take the competition out of his hands and put it in God's hands.

"My buddies told me this morning, my victory was secure on the cross. And that's a pretty special feeling to know that I'm secure for forever, and it doesn't matter if I win this tournament or lose this tournament. My identity is secure forever," he shared, referring to the spiritual victory of salvation through Christ.

Scheffler approached the green with confidence and walked away a Masters champion for the second time in his career.

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"I believe that today's plans were already laid out many years ago, and I could do nothing to mess up those plans. I have been given a gift of this talent, and I use it for God's glory. That's pretty much it," he said during the post-tournament conference.

Scheffler said his new win and the game of golf do not define him, but God does.

"Golf is something that I do. It is a tremendously huge part

of my life, but it doesn't define me as a person. I happen to be good at it some weeks...and the next week I'm bad at it," he shared. ["I'm a faithful guy. I believe in a Creator. I believe in Jesus.](#) Ultimately, I think that's what defines me the most."

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