

**Prayer for Student Affairs Staff
Preparation before the Arrival of SoulForce
March 25, 2007
D'Esta Love**

Dear God, you have taught us to love you and our neighbor as we love ourselves, to welcome the stranger, to be kind in all our ways, to be compassionate toward others, to seek truth, and to give thanks in all things. We place ourselves before you in humility and in trust. We seek your face as we prepare for the activities of Monday and Tuesday and we are grateful for this opportunity to grow in our knowledge of you and others. We seek wisdom from you, O God. We seek understanding and discernment. We also seek your way, O God. Lead us in paths of righteousness for your name's sake we pray.

As we consider the task before us, prepare us O God. Prepare our hearts that we might engage our guests with a spirit of love. Help us not be afraid and call us to courage. Give us the courage to listen, to be open, to stand for our convictions, and to fully engage each activity and each guest who comes.

We ask for your Holy Spirit to guide us and to fill us with power that we might not be put to shame. Teach us what to say and how to say it. And in all things may we honor you and bring glory to your name.

We ask a special blessing on all who have planned this event and who will lead. We are particularly thankful for Mark Davis and we ask that you give him peace and sustain him by your grace as he directs the events that will unfold. Bless all our student leaders. Give them joy in this service and the knowledge that you are with them.

We also ask a blessing on each equality rider who comes to our campus. Grant that they will receive our hospitality in the spirit it is given. Give them a sense of peace while they are here and we pray for mutual respect and mutual understanding. We place them and ourselves in your hands, O God.

We seek your will, O God. Touch our hearts, engage our minds, renew our spirits, and let us be instruments of righteousness and of hope and of love and of peace.