

Introduction

God's call to preach is the call to pray. When God called you to preach, He also called you to a daily, fervent prayer life. These things cannot be separated. It is through prayer that God equips you for ministry. It is through prayer that He empowers you to minister. It is through prayer that He speaks to you and provides you with what you need to fulfill His calling for your life. Prayer is the essential key for making the most of the ministry that God has given you.

However, pastors are busy. Their schedules are packed with places to be, people to see, and tasks to be performed. There is always somewhere to be and something to do. This makes it difficult for a pastor to make time for prayer. Sometimes there just doesn't seem to be enough time or energy to pray.

The hectic lifestyle of a pastor is the enemy of intimacy with God. The great challenge of every pastor is to carve out time to get alone and get with God. The words of Jesus apply to every pastor, "But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who is in the secret place will reward you openly" (Matthew 6:6). This is God's desire for you. He longs for you to pull aside and spend time alone with Him. He wants to speak to you, strengthen you, give you insight, and grow your relationship to Him and your ministry.

Yet, you must have a commitment to get alone and get with God. You must be willing to take time to seek God on a daily basis. If you will do this, God will honor and bless your commitment in ways that you cannot imagine. He will grant you strength and discernment. He will provide you with power and insight for your ministry. He will grant you faithfulness and fruitfulness through seeking Him daily. Prayer will change your life and ministry.

The Praying Pastor is designed to help you cultivate your prayer life. It is intended to provide you with insight and help to seek God on a daily basis; it is offered to help you get started and/or maintain your prayer life. This manual offers you a variety of Scripture prayers to aid you in praying for a variety of issues. These Scripture prayers can assist you in covering your life, your ministry, and your church in prayer. This manual is designed to help you shape and mold your prayer life according to your needs and the needs of your church.

Praying the Scripture is the most powerful way that you can pray. The Word of God is the revealed will of God. When you pray God's Word, you are praying His will. When you pray His will, God hears and responds powerfully, "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him" (1 John 5:14-15, italics mine). God loves His Word. When we pray His Word, we are doing what delights His heart. He will answer and move in unique ways as we pray His Word.

Will you become a "praying pastor?" You can build an intimate and powerful prayer life in the midst of a hectic, demanding ministry. Your heavenly Father longs for you to spend time with Him. He desires that You pray His Word for your life and

ministry. He wants to deepen and increase your ministry through prayer. Will you make the commitment to become a praying pastor?

Prayer of Commitment

“Father, You are the God of my salvation. You have saved me by Your grace through Your Son Jesus Christ. I adore You for saving me. Thank You for Your forgiveness. Thank You for bringing me into relationship with You. I praise You for placing me into the ministry. What a gracious God You are! Not only have you saved me, You have also given me the awesome privilege of preaching Your Word and leading Your church. I confess that I cannot do this in my own wisdom and strength. I need You. I commit myself to seek You. I long to be a praying pastor. Teach me how to pray. I ask that prayer would be the foundation of my life and my ministry. Grant me the grace and power to pray. Help me to build an intimate and powerful prayer life. I seek You with all of my strength for this. Amen.

Section One

Saturating Your Life With Prayer

“What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Spirit can use – men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods but men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men – men of prayer”

E.M. Bounds.

Chapter 1

Praying For Your Spiritual Growth

God called you to follow Jesus before He called you to pastor. You became a Christian before you became a pastor. This means that God wants you to grow spiritually. You are responsible for the spiritual growth of your congregation. Yet, before you can help others grow in the faith, you must be growing and maturing in the faith. The following Scripture prayers will help you pray for your own spiritual growth.

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that I would love You with all my heart, with all my soul, and with my entire mind. I ask that I would deal with anything or anybody that I have exalted above You in my life or my ministry (Matthew 22:37-38).

Father, I ask that I would love my neighbor as myself. Grant me the grace and strength to always seek the best for others. Create within me a servant's heart (Matthew 22:39).

Father, I plead that I would hunger and thirst for You. I pray that I would desire You above all things. I ask that You would be my great delight and my primary pursuit (Psalm 42:1-2).

I pray that You will grant me a special sensitivity to the Holy Spirit. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I ask that I would walk in the power of the Spirit daily (**Ephesians 5:18**).

O God, open my eyes that I may behold the wondrous truths of Your Word. I plead that You would teach me the truth of the Scripture. Grant me insight into Your Word. I ask that it would be a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (**Psalm 119:18, 105**).

Father, I ask that I would be a hearer and doer of the Word. I plead that obedience to Your Word would characterize my life. Deliver me from the hypocrisy of preaching and teaching Your Word without seeking to obey it (**James 1:22**).

Father, I pray that You would deepen and strengthen my faith. I plead that I would walk by faith and not by sight. I ask that I will not lean on my own understanding but will trust in You (**2 Corinthians 5:7**).

Father, I plead that I would be a powerful witness for Jesus Christ. Grant me power and insight to do this. Provide me with numerous opportunities for sharing my faith in Jesus (**Acts 1:8**).

I pray that I would be sober and vigilant because my enemy, the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. I plead that I will resist him steadfast in the faith, knowing that other brothers and sisters across the world are facing the same battles (**1 Peter 5:8-9**).

I ask that I would be earnestly devoted to prayer along with thanksgiving. I plead, O God, that I would develop a daily, on-going conversation with You (**Colossians 4:2; 1 Thessalonians 5:17**).

Father, I plead that I will develop a lifestyle of praise. It is good to sing praises to You, our mighty God. It is pleasant and it is beautiful. Create in me a desire to praise You daily (**Psalms 147:1-2**).

Father, I plead that I would seek first the kingdom of God and Your righteousness and then all these things that I need will be added to me. Help me, Father, to keep my priorities in the order that pleases You (**Matthew 6:33**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would make me holy. I ask that I would hate sin with all my being. I pray that You would enable me to confess and repent of sin daily. Deliver me from being complacent about my personal sin (**1 John 1:9**).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that You would teach me how to pray. Grant me a powerful and effective prayer life (**Luke 11:1**).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 2

Praying For Your Emotional Well-Being

As a pastor, you deal with enormous amounts of stress. You face pressures on a daily basis. You must also deal with people – people that will have unrealistic expectations of you, people who will hurt you, people who will challenge you. Because of this, it is important to saturate your emotional well-being in prayer. The following Scripture prayers will help you to do this.

Father, I plead that You will enable me to love others unconditionally. Help me show this love to them in all the circumstances (Romans 5:5).

Father, I pray that You would deliver me from a spirit of fear. Yet, I plead that You would create within me a spirit of power and of love and of a sound mind (2 Timothy 1:7).

Father, I pray that would you grant me emotional stability. I plead that by Your sovereign power You would strengthen me emotionally and help her me to yield to sinful emotions (Psalm 115:3).

Father, I ask You to guard my mind from the lies of the evil one. He is a liar and will attempt to deceive me. He will lie to me in order to create any and all kinds of sinful emotions in me. Protect me from these lies. Give me the wisdom and the strength to recognize them and overcome them (John 8:44).

Mighty God, I ask You to show me that I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Teach me that I am precious in Your sight and that You love me unconditionally (Psalm 139:14-15).

Father, I pray that I would not surrender to fear, frustration, worry, or guilt. I plead that I will not be afraid in any circumstance but will know that You are my God and that You

will be with me no matter what. I ask You to strengthen me and uphold me by Your righteous hand (Isaiah 41:10).

Father, I pray that I would love my enemies, do good to those who hate me, and pray for those who mistreat me. Enable me to treat others, as I would have them treat me (Luke 6:27-31).

Father, create within me a forgiving spirit. I pray that You would protect me from bitterness and anger (Ephesians 4:32).

Father, it is You alone that makes a person safe and secure. I plead that I will trust in You and that I will experience Your safety and Your security (Psalm 4:8).

Father, You are the Healer of the brokenhearted. You bind up the emotional wounds of the past. Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You will grant emotional healing in my life. Heal the broken places of my heart, Father. I plead that You would deal with any emotional weaknesses in my life (Psalm 147:3).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 3

Praying For Your Marriage

Your spouse is an essential part of your life and ministry. This relationship comes second, only after your relationship to God. For this reason, you must cover and intercede for your marriage. The following Scripture prayers are offered to help you pray for your marriage.

Father, I plead that we would speak the truth in love to each other, honestly and openly sharing our feelings with each other (**Ephesians 4:15, 25**).

Lord, I pray that our marriage will glorify You and be an example of Your intention for marriage (**1 Corinthians 10:31**).

God, I plead that You would give us wisdom and compassion in dealing with our in-laws (**Matthew 5:7**).

Father, bless and strengthen our marriage in the midst of the pressure and problems of our lives (**2 Corinthians 12:9**).

Father, I ask You to protect our marriage from the attacks of Satan. Deliver us from his evil, destructive plans (**1 Peter 5:8**).

Father, grant that we might find great delight and joy in each other (**Proverbs 5:18**).

Lord God, I pray that You would deepen and strengthen our friendship to each other (**Proverbs 17:17**).

Father, I plead that Your power would sustain and give stability to this marriage (**Jeremiah 32:17**).

Father, help us to discern and deal with those things that hinder and hurt our relationship (**Psalm 139:23-24**).

Father, I ask that our strengths would match and overcome our weaknesses (**Genesis 2:20-23**).

I pray that we would be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us (**Ephesians 4:32**).

I plead that we would be sensitive to the needs and hurts of each other. Enable us to minister to each other in these areas (**Matthew 20:28**).

God, create within us a hunger for each other. Let us be satisfied with one another (**Proverbs 5:19-20**).

I plead that You would give us a heart to seek after You and serve You all the days of our lives (**Psalm 63:1**).

Father, I pray that You would grant us the wisdom and power to gain and use our finances wisely (**Proverbs 3:9-10**).

Lord, I ask that You would deliver us from pettiness and unforgiveness in our relationship (**Matthew 18:20-21**).

Father, I plead that we will surrender all that we are and all that we have to each other (**Genesis 2:24-25**).

I pray that we would love You with all our being and our neighbors as ourselves (**Matthew 22:37-40**).

Lord God, I ask that we would love and obey Your Word, building our lives, marriage, and family on its truth (**Psalm 119:97**).

Father, I plead that we would be patient with each other in all the circumstances of life (**1 Corinthians 13:4**).

Father, I pray that we will be kind and gentle to each other through the ups and downs of our life together (**1 Corinthians 13:4**).

Father, I ask that we would not let any jealousy or envy to gain ground in our relationship (**1 Corinthians 13:4**).

God, I plead that we will always seek what is best for our relationship (**1 Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I pray that we will share each other's burdens and hurts (**1 Corinthians 13:5**).

Father, enable us to overcome the pride in our lives. Set us free from the pride that will hinder and hurt our marriage (**1 Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I ask that we would not be rude or thoughtless concerning each other (**1 Corinthians 13:5**).

God, deliver us from the selfishness that would hinder and hurt our relationship (**1 Corinthians 13:5**).

Lord, I ask that we would rejoice in each other's strengths and gifts and would pray concerning our weaknesses and sins (**1 Corinthians 13:6**).

Father, I pray that You would give us a love that bears all things, believes all things, and hopes all things (**1 Corinthians 13:7**).

Lord, I plead that You would create in us a love that will endure the stress and problems that we will face (**1 Corinthians 13:7**).

Father, I ask that our love for one another will never fail (**1 Corinthians 13:8**).

Father, I plead that we would be faithful to attend and serve in the church of Jesus Christ (**Hebrews 10:25**).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 4

Praying For Your Children

God has not called you to be a perfect parent. Yet, He has called you to be a praying parent. The greatest thing that you can do for your child is to pray for him or her. You can make a positive and lasting impact on your child through prayer. At every stage of their lives, your children need and will greatly benefit from your prayers.

You can turn to the expert Parent, your heavenly Father. When you do this, you are inviting His presence and power into his or her life. When you pray for your child, you are asking God to make His presence and power a part of his or her life. You are asking God to powerfully work in his or her life. That does mean that there will always be an immediate answer to your prayers. Sometimes it can take days, weeks, months, or even years. Yet, if you are praying something is happening, whether you see it or not. The Word of God says, "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much (James 5:16). The following is a prayer guide that you can use to intercede for your children.

Lord, I pray that You would save _____ . Grant faith and repentance to him/her. I ask that _____ would surrender himself/herself to Jesus Christ (John 3:16, 5:25; Matthew 11:28; Acts 4:12).

Father, I pray that _____ would grow in the grace and the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Enable him/her to mature in the faith (1 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Peter 3:18).

Father, I pray that You would create a hunger in _____ for the Word of God. I plead that he/she will find Your Word more precious than much pure gold and sweeter than honey from the comb (Psalm 19:10).

I ask that _____ will learn to live a life of love for God and others through the Holy Spirit who lives in him/her and who pours out the love of God into his/her heart (Romans 5:5).

Create in _____ a pure heart, O God, and cause that purity to be shown in their words and actions (Psalm 51:10).

I pray that _____ would have an ever-increasing faith in You and Your Word (Romans 10:17; Hebrews 11:6).

Father, I pray that You would enable _____ to be sexually pure in thought, words, and actions. I plead that he/she will be protected from pornography, pre-marital sex, and outercourse (1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; Ephesians 5:3).

O God, create a servant's heart in _____ that he/she may serve wholeheartedly as if he/she were serving the Lord and not men (Ephesians 6:7).

I pray that You, the God of hope, would cause hope to overflow in _____'s life (Romans 15:13).

Father, cultivate in _____ the ability to have true humility before You and to show true humility before all people (Titus 3:2; 1 Peter 5:5).

Lord, clothe _____ with the godly virtue of compassion (Colossians 3:12).

I plead that honesty and integrity would characterize _____'s life (Psalm 15, 25:21).

Father, help _____ not to be like many others around him/her, but enable _____ to be alert and self-controlled in all that he/she does (1 Thessalonians 5:6).

Lord, I plead that _____ will love justice as You do and will act justly in all that he/she does (Psalm 11:7; Micah 6:8).

Let love and faithfulness never leave _____, but bind these twin virtues around his/her neck and write them on the tablet of his/her heart (Proverbs 3:31).

God, enable _____ to always be strong and courageous for You in all that he/she says and does (Deuteronomy 31:6).

I ask that _____ will always be merciful as his/her heavenly Father is merciful (Luke 6:36).

Father, empower _____ to show proper respect to everyone as Your Word commands (1 Peter 2:17).

Lord, teach _____ perseverance, especially to run the race with perseverance marked out for him/her (Hebrews 12:1).

Father, I pray that _____ will develop a strong self-esteem that is rooted in the righteousness of Jesus and the realization that he/she is God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 2:10).

Lord, I ask that _____ will be filled with joy given by the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 1:6).

Father, enable _____ to make every effort to do what leads to peace (Romans 14:19).

God, grant that _____ will learn responsibility and diligence because each one should carry his/her own load (Galatians 6:5).

I pray that _____ will be generous, willing to give to You and to others. I ask that he/she would lay up treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:19-20).

I ask that _____ will be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving others as God for Christ's sake has forgiven him/her (Ephesians 4:32).

Lord, teach _____ the value of work. Enable him/her to work to Your glory and his/her good (Colossians 3:23).

Father, create a passion in _____ to know and love You (Psalm 63:8).

Lord, I ask that _____ will have a heart for prayer. Teach him/her how to pray and to listen to You (Luke 18:1; Colossians 4:2).

Father, I pray that _____ would give thanks always for all things in the name of Jesus to Your glory and in obedience to Your will (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

I pray that _____ would acquire a disciplined and wise life, do what is right, just, and fair in Your sight (Proverbs 1:3).

Father, create a longing in _____'s heart to see Your gospel declared among the nations. Give _____ a heart for the nations of the world (Psalm 96:3).

Lord, teach _____ the secret of being content in any and every situation through Him who gives strength (Philippians 4:12-13).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Section Two

*Saturating
Your Ministry
In Prayer*

“Prayer in the preacher’s life, in the preacher’s study, in the preacher’s pulpit, must be a conspicuous and an all impregnating force and an all-coloring ingredient. It must play no secondary part, be no mere coating.”

E.M. Bounds

Chapter 5

Praying For Your Preaching

Prayer is the key to powerful preaching. It is only by saturating your sermons in prayer that they will have life and power. It is not enough just to prepare sermons. You must plead with God before you prepare, as you prepare, and after you prepare. God’s blessing on your preaching flows from your prayers for your preaching.

The apostles recognized the necessity for combining prayer and the Word of God. In Acts 6:4, the Word of God says, “But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” They saw the great need to focus on prayer and the Word. The reason is that prayer grants the preaching and teaching of the Word life, power, and blessing. When the apostles combined prayer and the Word of God, the results were supernatural, “Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem; and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith” (Acts 6:7).

In order to help you pray fervently and faithfully for your preaching, the following Scripture prayers are offered. Praying the Scripture is a powerful way to pray. The Word of God is the revealed will of God. When you pray God’s Word, you are praying for His will. As you do this, you can expect God to answer in powerful and unique ways (1 John 5:14-15).

Father, I ask You to teach me the truth of Your Word. Through the Spirit, grant me the insight that I need to share with this church. Holy Spirit, teach me that I might teach others. Grant me a hearing ear and an open heart (John 14:26).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that I would preach the Word in season and out of season. I pray that I would use the Word to convince, rebuke, and exhort with all longsuffering and teaching (2 Timothy 4:1-3).

Father, prepare me to preach. I pray that I would give attention to reading the Word, to exhortation with the Word, and the doctrines of the Word (1 Timothy 4:13).

Father, I ask that You would enable me to give myself to the study and proclamation of the Word. I plead that this would be my passionate desire in all seasons. Deliver me from spiritual laziness (1 Timothy 4:15).

Father, empower me to take heed to my doctrine and myself. Enable me to continue in them so that I will save both my hearers and myself from false doctrine and sin (1 Timothy 4:16).

Father, cleanse me of any sin that would hinder my preaching. Help me to root out of my life any sin that would prevent me from preaching with power (1 John 1:9).

Father, fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I ask that the Spirit of God would control my mind and my speech. I pray that my preaching would be done through His power (Ephesians 5:18).

Holy Spirit, I ask You to rest upon me. I plead that You would release Your power into my life as I speak. As I speak, grant me wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and the fear of the Lord. I ask for this in the name of Jesus Christ (Isaiah 11:2).

Father, I plead that You will prepare the hearts of those that I speak to. Give them ears to hear and hearts to receive. Enable me to speak the words that will produce spiritual fruit in their lives (Matthew 13:23).

Father, Your Word says that a word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver. I pray that I would speak timely words, fitting for peoples' spiritual needs at the time they need them. I ask for this in the name of Jesus Christ (Proverbs 25:11).

I ask that utterance will be given to me that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the gospel of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 6:19).

Father, I plead that I will speak with reliance on the Lord. I pray that the Holy Spirit will bear witness to Your Word through me. Reveal to people that this is Your Word (Acts 14:3).

Father, I pray that my message would not be in persuasive words of human wisdom, but a demonstration in the Spirit and power. I ask that the congregation's faith would not stand on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God. I ask for this in the name of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 2:4-5).

In the name of Jesus, I plead that You would empower me to teach the Word of God with authority and compassion as Jesus did (Matthew 7:28-29).

Father, I plead that I will preach the Word of God plainly, making it clear and giving the meaning of it that the people can understand it. I ask that I would preach in such a way that people will understand and will be changed by the truth (Nehemiah 8:7).

Father, I commit myself to understanding the Word and applying its truth to my life. I plead that I would know, preach, and obey the Word of God (Ezra 7:10).

Father, I pray that I would rightly divide the Word. Empower me to handle the Word correctly. I ask that I would be a workman that is approved by God for my preaching and teaching of the Word (2 Timothy 2:15).

Father, enable me to hold firmly to the Word of God. I ask that I will encourage others by sound doctrine and will refute those who oppose the truth (Titus 1:9).

Father, deliver me from being discouraged about my preaching and teaching. Grant me Your strength and Your courage to continue. I pray that I wouldn't grow weary in preaching the Word but will continue faithfully, knowing that I will reap in due season (Galatians 6:9).

Father, create within this congregation a hunger for You and Your Word. Set this congregation free from a careless or unconcerned attitude about the Word of God (Psalm 42:1-2).

Open my eyes, Lord, that I may understand and proclaim the wonderful truths of God's Word (Psalm 119:18).

Father, I plead that the congregation will combine hearing the Word with faith in the Word. I ask that we will hear and do the Word of God (Hebrews 4:2).

Father, I pray that the congregation will hasten and not delay to hear and obey Your commands (Psalm 119:60).

Father, I ask that the Word will be more precious than pure gold to this congregation. I pray that it will be sweeter to them than honey from the comb (Psalm 19:10).

Father, as I preach, I plead that the Word will be sharper than any two-edged sword. I ask that it will penetrate the hearts, minds, and lives of people, bringing about true change (Hebrews 4:12).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 6

Praying For Your Counseling

One of the responsibilities that you have as a pastor is counseling others. Your counseling will range from people coming to your office for specific help to conversations that you have with members in homes, at the mall, at church, in the grocery store, or wherever you encounter others. The following prayer guide can help you pray for your ability to share and apply the truth of God's Word to the lives of people.

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would give me the wisdom to know what to say to those who are in need. Provide me with the insight that I need to minister and bless others. You promise to give wisdom to those who ask You. I claim that promise and confess my need of wisdom to speak to others and their needs (James 1:5).

Father, empower me to use Your Word to teach, to rebuke, to correct, and to train others in righteousness. I plead that You would enable me to point others to the life-transforming truth of Your Word (2 Timothy 3:16).

I ask that I would always be prepared to share the truth of Your Word with others. I pray that the Holy Spirit would provide me with the verses and truth to share with those in need. Help me to correct, rebuke, and encourage with great patience and careful instruction (2 Timothy 4:2).

Holy Spirit, speak through me when I counsel others. I plead in Jesus' name that You would grant me the wisdom and the words to speak to those in need (Matthew 10:20).

I ask in Jesus' name that my words will always be full of grace, seasoned with salt, that I may know how to answer everyone (Colossians 4:6).

Father, I pray that my mouth would be a well of life. I ask that I would speak those things that will bless, encourage, help, challenge, convict, and bring great change in the lives of others (Proverbs 10:11).

Father, I pray that You would deliver me from reckless words. I ask that You would empower me to speak words that heal (Proverbs 12:18).

Father, I ask that You would empower me to guard my lips. I plead that I would not speak rashly. I pray that I will depend on the Spirit and contemplate what I will speak and when I speak (Proverbs 13:13).

Father, I pray that You will help me to speak timely words. Empower me to say those things that people need to hear in the time that they need to hear it (Proverbs 25:11).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 7

Praying For Your Deacons

As a pastor, you will work with and have relationships with deacons and other spiritual leaders. Your relationship to them and your labors with them will have a powerful impact on the health and growth of your church. For this reason, you must pray for your deacons. The following prayer guide will enable you to pray for them.

Father, I ask that You would give the deacons of _____ Church the assurance of their salvation. I ask that they would have a heart for You and will seek You with all their being (1 John 5:13; 2 Corinthians 13:5).

I ask that the deacons of _____ will filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3; Ephesians 5:18).

I plead that the deacons of _____ will have a growing love and hunger to know and obey the Word of God (Psalm 1:2, 119:33, 36).

I pray that the deacons of _____ Church will be filled with spiritual wisdom and discernment (Acts 6:3; Proverbs 2:3-6).

I plead that the deacons of _____ Church will be of serious and balanced character (1 Timothy 3:8).

I ask that the deacons of _____ Church will have reliable and godly speech (1 Timothy 3:8).

I pray that the deacons of _____ Church will be of unquestionable honesty (1 Timothy 3:8).

I plead that the deacons of _____ Church will understand the Word of God and will be growing in their ability to share and defend the Word of God (1 Timothy 3:8).

I ask that the deacons of _____ Church will exhibit godly conduct both inside and outside of the church (1 Timothy 3:10).

O God, empower the deacons of _____ Church to provide stable, sound and godly leadership to their homes (1 Timothy 3:12).

I plead that the deacons' wives of _____ Church will live godly and sincere lives (1 Timothy 3:11).

Living Father, grant the deacons of _____ Church the strength and grace to be faithful and to serve well in this office (1 Timothy 3:11).

I pray that the deacons of _____ Church will be bold and faithful personal witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8).

I ask that the deacons of _____ Church will be faithful in their finances and will honor God in their personal giving (Malachi 3:8-11).

I plead that the deacons of _____ Church will have a servant's heart. Touch them to serve and minister to the entire body (Acts 6:2-3).

I pray that the deacons of _____ Church will have a deep love for and commitment to me. Empower me to love them, to serve them, and to labor with them (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).

Praying For Your Deacons' Wives

Father, I plead that _____ will be a reverent woman, serious about serving You and building and strengthening the church of Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 3:8).

Lord, I ask that _____ would not be a slanderer, but enable her to speak the truth in love. Let no corrupt communication come out of her mouth. Cause _____ to speak what is true, good, and will bless others (1 Timothy 3:8; Ephesians 4:29).

I pray that _____ will be self-controlled. Enable her to exercise self-control in all areas of her life.

Father, I plead that _____ would be faithful to You and Your church. Enable her to be faithful to her husband and family. Let _____'s life be characterized by faithfulness (1 Timothy 3:8).

Lord, I pray that _____ would have an intimate and growing relationship with You. Cause her to hunger and thirst for You (Psalm 42:1-2).

Father, I plead that _____ long for Your Word. Make Your Word precious and sweet to her. Let it be the guide for what she believes and how she behaves (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

I ask that _____ will be filled with the Holy Spirit. I pray that she will walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh (Ephesians 5:18).

Father, I pray that _____ will be a bold personal witness of the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8, 4:31).

Lord God, I plead that _____ will have a servant's heart. Grant her a sensitivity to the needs of others and a willingness to serve others (Matthew 20:28).

Father, I ask that _____ will confess and repent of sin. Enable her to live holy life that pleases You and is a powerful testimony to others (1 John 1:9; Hebrews 12:14).

Other Prayers And Insights

Chapter 8

Praying For Your Worship Leader

Worship is essential to powerful preaching. When God's people encounter God in worship, it prepares them to hear and respond to God's Word. You can make a difference in the worship of Your church by praying for Your minister of music or worship leader(s). You can use the following Scripture prayers to intercede for your worship leader(s).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that _____ would have an intimate, growing relationship with You. Cause _____ to hunger for You and Your Word (Psalm 42:1-2).

Father, I ask that _____ would love Your Word. I plead that _____ will hear and obey Your Word. Grant _____ an intimate knowledge of Your Word (Psalm 119:97).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that _____ would walk in the Spirit. I ask that the Spirit would control his/her lifestyle. I plead that _____ would depend on the Holy Spirit for his/her life and ministry (Ephesians 5:18).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You would deepen and increase _____'s faith. Grant _____ the faith that can trust You and receive from You (Matthew 21:22).

Father, I ask that You would grant emotional healing in _____'s life. Heal him/her of the past wounds that would hinder his/her ministry (Psalm 147:3).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that _____ would daily confess and repent of sin. I plead that _____ would hate sin and would not compromise with it (1 John 1:9).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that _____ would have a servant's heart (Matthew 20:28).

Father, I plead that _____ would be a faithful, powerful witness of Jesus Christ. Grant _____ boldness in his/her personal witness (Acts 1:7).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that You would strengthen and bless _____'s family. Let Your peace and protection rest on this family each day (Philippians 4:7).

Father, I ask that _____ would have a healthy, productive relationship with the pastor and other leadership in the church. Enable them to work well together (Psalm 133:1).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that You would protect _____ from all the schemes of the enemy. I pray that every weapon of the evil one formed against _____ will fail. Deliver _____ from all the traps and attacks of the enemy (2 Corinthians 2:11).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that _____ would be earnestly devoted to prayer. I ask that _____ would have great power in prayer (Colossians 4:2).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would grant _____ a hearing ear. Empower _____ to listen to You and to follow Your leadership (Psalm 46:10).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that You would grant _____ wisdom and insight in planning the worship services. Reveal to _____ how You would have him/her to lead this church in worship (Proverbs 2:6).

Father, I ask You to give this church a heart for worship. I plead that this body will seek to worship You in spirit and in truth. Give this body a willingness to follow _____'s leadership in worship (John 4:24).

Father, I plead that this body will be diligent to worship You. Enable us to sing praise to You. Fill _____ with the power and wisdom to guide us in this (Psalm 149:1).

Father, I pray that You would enable _____ to lead this body of believers into the worship that glorifies You and pleases You (1 Corinthians 10:31).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would strengthen and bless _____'s voice. Grant his/her voice power and healing that he/she might sing Your praises (Exodus 15:26).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that You might grant a loving and harmonious relationship between the choir(s) and _____ . I ask that they would respect and cherish _____. I pray that _____'s ministry in this church would be a delight and a joy (Hebrews 13:17).

Father, transform _____ into a leader after Your own heart. Cause him/her to be the leader that people can trust and follow (Psalm 78:72).

Father, I plead that the believers of this body will be ready to worship. Each time we gather together, I pray that our hearts and minds would be ready to seek and encounter God. I ask You also to prepare _____'s heart and life for worship. When _____ leads this body in worship, I pray that _____ will be ready and willing to follow the Spirit's leading (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Father, I pray that You would provide _____ everything that he/she needs to guide this body in worshipping You. Stir this church to supply whatever is needed to truly honor and magnify Your name in our worship (Philippians 4:19).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 9

Praying For Your Relationship To Your Church

Your relationship to your church is crucial to your effectiveness in ministering to them. It will also affect your ability to motivate and guide them. The following prayer guide will aid you in covering your relationship with your church. It is based on Galatians 5:22-23. The fruit of the Spirit can enable you to have a healthy, growing relationship to your congregation.

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would fill me with love for my church. Empower me to love them unconditionally. Help me to seek what is best and right for them. Strengthen my commitment to minister to them.

Holy Spirit, I plead that You would fill me with joy. I ask that I will exhibit this joy in all circumstances. Help me to show the people what a joy it is to minister to them and bless them. I pray that this joy would fill me regardless of the circumstances in the church.

Holy Spirit, I ask that You would fill me with peace. I ask that I would remain calm and stable in all circumstances. Regardless of what happens in the church, let Your peace reign in my heart.

Holy Spirit, I plead that You would enable me to be patient with this body of believers. Deliver me from frustration and griping. Cause me to be as patient with them as You are with me.

Holy Spirit, I ask that You will enable me to be kind to this body of believers. Create within me a tender heart for them. Empower me to forgive them freely and to forsake resentment and grudges.

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would empower me to be good to this body of believers. I ask that I would do what is right and good for them. I plead that I would look out for their best interests.

Holy Spirit, I plead that I would be faithful to this body. Empower me to be diligent to bless and minister to this congregation. Deliver me from basing my faithfulness on my feelings. Help me to be as faithful as You are.

Holy Spirit, I ask that I would be gentle with the members of this body. I plead that I would not be harsh or rude to any member. Grant me the strength to exercise gentleness in all my dealings with others.

Holy Spirit, I plead that You would fill me with self-control. Set me free from laziness. Deliver me from saying and doing those things that I want. Grant me the self-control to say and do those things that You desire.

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 10

Dealing With Difficult People

It is unfortunate but it is inevitable. In the ministry, you are going to have to deal with difficult people. Sometimes they may be more than difficult. Sometimes they can be hurtful, cruel, and even mean-spirited. This is one of the hazards of being a pastor. The following prayer guide can help you pray for and deal with difficult people.

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that You would meet _____'s spiritual needs. Because of _____'s words and/or actions, it is apparent that there is a deep spiritual need. Whatever that need is, I ask You to meet it. Through Your Word and Spirit, I ask You to break and draw _____ to Yourself. Cause him/her to seek You with all his/her being (John 3:16; 1 Peter 2:1-2).

Father, I ask You to grant emotional healing in _____'s life. I realize that _____'s problem today stem from the wounds of the past. I call on You to heal _____'s wounded heart. Bring resolution to past hurts in _____'s life. Grant him/her a forgiving spirit so that _____ may experience this healing (Psalm 147:5).

Father, I pray that You will convict _____ of his/her attitude, words, and actions. I ask that You will show _____ how hurtful and destructive these things are. I plead that You would grant this person repentance and reconciliation with all those that he/she has offended (John 16:7; 1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would empower me to speak the truth in love to _____. I pray that the Holy Spirit would provide me with the words and the wisdom to deal with _____ (Ephesians 4:15).

Father, give me wisdom to minister to _____. Grant me opportunities to minister to _____. Empower me to love _____ and to lead him/her to repentance and reconciliation (Exodus 23:4-5; Romans 12:14).

Father, fill me with humility that I might minister to _____. Deliver me from retaliating against _____. Strip me of the pride that would take offense at his/her attitude, words, and actions. Enable me to commit _____ into Your hands and to trust You for change in _____'s life (James 4:6; I Peter 5:6-7).

Father, I plead that You would have mercy on _____. I ask that _____ would seek You for forgiveness. I pray that _____ would seek to make things right with those that he/she has hurt or offended (Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60).

Father, create within me a spirit of patient endurance toward _____. Flood my life with Your grace and power that I might show love, grace, and mercy toward _____ (I Peter 4:12-14).

Father, help me to overcome retaliation toward _____. Deliver me from unholy anger and bitterness toward _____. I ask You to grant me the grace and power to turn the other cheek. Fill me with Your compassion that I might minister to _____ (I Peter 3:8-9; Romans 12:19; James 1:20).

Father, search my heart. Show me if I have provoked or offended _____. Reveal anything to me that I have done to damage my relationship to _____. I yield myself to You. I long to be right with You and with _____ (James 4:6, 10; I Peter 5:6-7).

Father, I plead that You would empower me to overcome evil with good. Enable me to do this through the love and compassion of Jesus Christ (Romans 12:21).

Father, I surrender _____ to You. I realize that he/she may not want to yield or reconcile. Help me to do all that I can to bless, minister to, and reconcile. Grant me the strength to be faithful in this (Romans 12:18).

A Prayer of Commitment

The following is a prayer that you can use when dealing with a problem person:

"Father, in obedience to Jesus Christ, I pray for _____. I am struggling to deal with _____. You know how he/she feels about me and treats me. I commit _____ into Your hands and pray that You would deal with him/her.

Holy Spirit, I plead that You would envelop _____ in Your conviction. Show _____ how hurtful and evil he/she is behaving. Release Your power into my life so that I can show _____ the love and compassion of Jesus Christ. Grant me the wisdom and strength to deal with this situation. Through this situation, teach me humility. Show me what I need to see in this situation.

Father, You have declared that vengeance is Yours. I am not to repay evil with evil. I am to overcome evil with good. In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray that You would enable me to do this concerning my situation with _____. You are my God. You are my Rock, my Refuge, and my Strong Tower. I trust You and know that you will work this situation out according to Your own pleasure and purpose. Amen."

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 11

When There's Trouble In The Church

In your ministry, you will encounter times of trouble in the church. It can range from the mild to severe. The following Scripture prayers can help you intercede during these times.

Father, I pray that Satan's schemes in this situation will be thwarted and completely defeated (1 Peter 5:8).

Father, I plead that You would bind Satan and his forces and prevent them from gaining any more ground in this situation (Mark 1:25-26).

Father, I ask that You would clear up the confusion that is involved in this situation; I pray that You would end the disorder and grant peace (1 Corinthians 14:33).

Father, I plead that You would convict and burden those who are causing difficulty; show them the evil and the disorder that they are causing through their words and actions (John 16:7-8).

Father, I pray that You would tear down the self-righteousness and hardness of heart in those who are causing problems. Deliver them from being wise in their own eyes (Proverbs 26:12).

Father, I ask You to grant brokenness and repentance to those who are causing problems in the body (James 4:6).

Father, I ask that You would provide the spiritual leaders of this body the wisdom and the courage to do what is necessary to deal with this problem; give them the knowledge and understanding to confront the problem (Proverbs 2:6-7).

Father, I pray that the members of this body will forsake gossiping and taking sides. I plead that they will pray fervently concerning this matter (Colossians 4:2).

Father, I ask that the members of this church will not jump to conclusions but will be wise and discerning about the problem (Proverbs 18:13).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that the members of this church will seek to be peacemakers in all things – especially in this problem (Matthew 5:9).

Father, I ask that every member of this church will seek God's glory in all things. I plead that each member will be delivered from the desire for self-exaltation and importance (1 Corinthians 10:31).

I pray that this church will seek to be likeminded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose (Philippians 2:2).

I plead that the members of this body will do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but humility consider others better than us (Philippians 2:3).

I ask that the members of this body would not look to our own interests, but also to the interests of others (Philippians 2:4).

Father, I ask that this church will have the mind of Christ – willing to humble themselves and serve others (Philippians 2:5-11).

Father, I plead that the members of this body will speak the truth to one another in love. Help us to lovingly but firmly confront this problem (Ephesians 4:15).

Father, I ask that each member of this body will put off falsehood and speak truthfully to each other for we are members of one body, the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:25).

Father, I pray that You would enable this church to get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, and slander, along with every form of malice. I ask You to cultivate in this church kindness, compassion, and a spirit of forgiveness – the same kind of forgiveness that You gave us through Jesus (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Father, I plead that You would humble those who are at odds with one another. I pray that You would break their hardness and opposition. Bring them back into a right relationship with You and with each other (Philippians 4:2).

Father, it is good and pleasant when brothers and sisters in Christ live in unity with each other. I ask You to move powerfully in this body to create the unity that pleases You and that will enable this church to reach the lost for Christ (Psalm 133:1).

Father, I ask that every member of this body will seek to be completely humble and gentle. Empower us to be patient, bearing with one another in love. I plead that we would make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:2-3).

Father, I pray that You would stir this body to confess sin and make things right with one another. I ask that we would be willing to do whatever we must in order to be reconciled with our brothers and sisters in Christ (Matthew 5:23-26).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 12

Doing The Work Of An Evangelist

In 1 Timothy 4:5, the Word of God declares, "Do the work of an evangelist." God desires that you strive to lead others to the Lord Jesus Christ. Praying for lost people is essential for leading them to Christ. The following prayer guide can assist you in praying for those who need Jesus Christ.

Father, in the name of Jesus, I plead that You will draw _____ to Jesus Christ in true faith and repentance (John 6:44).

In the name of Jesus, I ask You, Father, to quicken _____ who is dead in sins and trespasses (Ephesians 2:1).

Father, I ask You to bind and remove Satan's work in _____'s life and to open _____'s eyes to the truth of the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would convince _____ that he/she is lost, separated from God, and headed to hell (Romans 3:23).

Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus, I pray that You would destroy any false ideas that _____ has about Jesus Christ and salvation through Him (Proverbs 14:12).

Lord Jesus, I plead that You will seek out _____ and save him/her from his/her sins and eternal condemnation (Luke 19:10).

Father, I pray that You will open _____'s heart so that he/she will receive and believe the gospel (Acts 16:14).

Holy Spirit, I ask You through Your power and _____'s circumstances to prepare him/her to hear and receive the Word of God (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23).

Holy Spirit, I plead that _____ will understand the gospel when it is presented to him/her so that the devil cannot snatch it away (Matthew 13: 5, 9).

Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus, I plead that the Word of God will take root in _____'s life and bring about true salvation in _____'s life (Matthew 13:6, 20-21).

Father, I ask that the pleasures of this world and the pressures of life will not choke the Word of God that has been sown into _____'s life (Matthew 13:7, 22).

Father, I plead that You will deliver _____ from the kingdom of darkness and place _____ into the kingdom of Your dear Son (Colossians 1:13).

Father, I pray that _____ will receive the free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ the Lord (Romans 6:23).

Lord Jesus, I ask that _____ will not trust in himself/herself, but that _____ will completely trust in You as his/her Savior and Lord (Galatians 2:16).

Holy God, I pray that You would grant genuine repentance to _____, a repentance that will cause him/her to hate sin and to turn from it (Acts 11:8; Luke 13:1-3).

Lord God, I plead that You would grant _____ genuine faith, a faith that trusts in Jesus alone and surrenders to Him as Lord and Savior (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would stir _____ out of his/her indifference and complacency concerning his/her condition and his/her need of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 6:2).

I ask in the name of Jesus Christ that _____ would surrender himself/herself to the Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 14:9).

Father, I pray that You will send people continually into _____'s life who will share the gospel with him/her (Romans 10:14).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You will put a new heart in _____ and that You will place Your Holy Spirit in him/her (Jeremiah 42:30; Ezekiel 11:19-20).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You will cause _____ to hate sin and that You will break the power of those sins that are hindering him/her from coming to Christ (Mark 9:43-47).

Lord Jesus, I ask that _____ would surrender to You, denying himself/herself, take up the Cross, and follow You (Luke 9:23).

Father, I plead that _____ will understand that his/her only hope for forgiveness and acceptance with You is through Jesus' work on the Cross (1 Corinthians 1:18).

Father, I pray that _____ would not neglect the glorious salvation that is available through Your Son (Hebrews 2:1-3).

Lord Jesus, I pray that _____ will feel and know the burden of his/her sin and will come to You for forgiveness and salvation (Matthew 11:28-30).

Father, I plead that _____ will make a genuine commitment to Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of his/her life (Luke 14:24-33).

Lord Jesus, I plead that _____ will not be content with the appearance of righteousness but will seek You for the transformation of his/her whole life (Matthew 23:27-29).

Father, I pray that _____ will see that his/her good works are as filthy rags in Your sight and that they will not save him/her (Isaiah 64:6).

Father, I ask that _____ would believe and trust Your Son that You sent to be the Savior of sinners (John 5:24).

Lord Jesus, I ask that _____ would not die in his/her sins but would trust You and receive eternal life (John 8:24).

Because You came into the world to save sinners, I plead with You to save _____ who is a sinner and in need of Your grace and mercy (1 Timothy 1:13-16).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would humble _____ so that he/she sees his/her need of Jesus Christ (Psalm 18:27; Proverbs 8:13, 29:23).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 13

Praying For Healing

As a pastor, you will be in and out of hospitals, ministering to a variety of sick and hurting people. An essential part of ministering to the sick and hurting is to pray for them. The following prayer guides can help you pray for physical and emotional healing.

These prayers are not magical formulas. They are prayers based on the Word of God that you can use to seek the release of God's healing power in the lives of sick and hurting people. You can use these or develop your own from them.

Father, You created _____ . You formed him/her. You knit his/her inward parts in the womb. You alone know how to make what is right in _____'s body. You alone know how to heal _____. As his/her Creator, I pray that You would grant healing to _____. Let Your power envelop him/her and bring the healing that is needed (Genesis 1:26; Psalm 139).

You are the God of healing. Your name declares that You are the Healer. Your nature is to heal. I plead with You to be true to Your name and Your nature. I ask You to release

healing into _____'s life. Reveal Yourself to be the God of healing by touching and transforming _____ (Exodus 15:26).

I praise You, O God that one of Your first revelations about Yourself is that You are a God who heals and makes whole. The essence of who You are is to heal and make whole. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would heal and make _____ whole (Exodus 15:26).

Father, Your Word says that You heal all our diseases. I plead in the name of Jesus that You will heal _____ of _____. Drive this completely out of his/her body (Psalm 103:1-4).

Father, I plead that You will heal _____ because of Jesus' work on the cross. By His death and the merits of His blood, I pray that You would grant healing to _____ (Isaiah 53:4-5).

Lord Jesus, You said "according to your faith, let it be to you." I pray that You would grant _____ the faith in order to believe Your Word for his/her healing (Matthew 9:29).

Lord Jesus, like the woman in the crowd who touched the hem of Your garment and was healed, I pray that _____ would reach out to You. Your healing virtue is available to those who reach out to You. I ask that _____ would experience this healing power when he/she reaches out to You (Mark 5:24-34).

Father, when doubt or unbelief starts to fill _____'s mind and heart concerning healing, I pray that he/she will focus on the words of Jesus, "Do not fear, only believe" (Mark 5:36).

Lord Jesus, You have been exalted as Lord over all. This includes all sickness and disease. In the Your name and through Your power, I pray that You would remove _____ from _____'s life (Philippians 2:9-11).

Father, in Jesus' name and because of His blood, I plead that You would bind any evil spirits that are involved in _____'s condition. Bind the spirit of fear that says he/she will only get worse (Matthew 16:19).

Father, I plead that You would remove any obstacle in _____'s that would prevent him/her from receiving healing (James 5:16).

Father, I pray that You would pour out Your mercy and grace on _____ during this time of sickness. Let Your power sustain him/her until healing comes to his/her life (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Father, in the midst of the pain with no outward improvements, enable _____ to be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in love and

obedience for You. I plead that _____ will keep his/her eyes fixed on You, his/her Healer and Sustainer (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Father, You are full of mercy and compassion for _____. He/She is suffering and needs Your healing. Because of Your unfailing mercy and compassion, I plead that You will release Your healing power in _____'s life. I ask that You would heal _____ as a concrete expression of Your mercy and compassion (2 Corinthians 1:3; Lamentations 3:22-23).

Father, the Lord Jesus Christ has taught me to ask, seek, and knock. I ask You to grant healing to _____. I seek You for the release of Your power into his/her life. I am knocking for the blessing of physical and spiritual wholeness in _____'s life (Matthew 7:7).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus for You to heal _____ so that You might be glorified. Grant healing to _____ so that people might praise You and honor You for Your love, compassion, and power (John 11:4; Acts 4:21).

Just as the people who brought the blind man of Bethsaida, I bring _____ to You. I lift him/her up to You in prayer. I beg You to touch him/her. I plead with You to grant healing in his/her life (Mark 8:22-25).

Father, I believe that You are willing to heal. I believe that You have the power to heal. Because of this, I pray that You would heal _____. In faith, I plead for the release of Your healing power in his/her life (Matthew 9:2, 15:28).

O Lord my God, I plead that _____ would cry out to You and that You would heal _____ in response to his/her cries to You (Psalm 30:2).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You would send Your Word and heal _____. Deliver him/her from _____ (Psalm 107:20).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would strengthen _____ on his/her bed of illness. I plead with You to sustain him/her on his sickbed. I pray that You would grant Your healing in Your time and way in his/her life (Psalm 41:3).

Father, I pray that You would heal _____ of _____ so that he/she can declare Your mighty works to others (Psalm 118:17).

Father, You are the God who has the power to take sickness away from _____. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would remove _____ from _____'s life (Exodus 23:25).

Father, I pray that _____ would not be wise in his/her own eyes and that he/she would shun and avoid evil. Let this bring health to _____'s body and nourishment to his/her bones (Proverbs 3:7-8).

Father, You give power to the faint and You give strength to those who have no strength. Father, _____ has no strength and is faint because of his/her illness. I plead that You would grant power and strength to _____ (Isaiah 40:29).

Father, _____'s body has been bought with a price, the precious blood of Jesus. _____'s body belongs to You. This disease/trauma is trespassing on Your property. I plead in the name of Jesus that You would evict this disease or trauma from _____'s body (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).

Emotional Healing

Father, I pray that the suffering that _____ is going through will create a path to You. I ask that _____ will seek You with all of his/her being at this time. I plead that he/she will see You and find You in the midst of his/her pain. Meet his/her spiritual needs (Jeremiah 29:13).

Father, I ask that _____ will see how much he/she needs You. During this time, show him/her that You are his/her greatest need. I pray that as the deer pants for the water brooks, so _____ would long for You. I ask that _____ would hunger and thirst for You (Psalm 42:1-2).

Father, during this time, I ask You to build _____'s faith. Enable _____ to trust You implicitly. I plead that _____ would not sin by charging You with doing wrong or being unfaithful (Job 1:20-22).

Father, I ask You to place people into _____'s life who will encourage and minister to _____. Raise up people who will be able to minister comfort and healing to him/her. Reveal Your compassion to _____ through these people (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).

Father, I plead that _____ will cast all his/her care on You. I pray that _____ will not be weighed down with anxiety, doubt, worry, or frustration. Reveal to _____ that you care for him/her (1 Peter 5:7).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would protect _____ from the schemes of the enemy at this time. He is a crafty and hateful enemy who will attempt to use this pain for his own devious and spiteful purposes. I pray that You would put a hedge about _____ and protect his/her mind at this time. Grant him/her the strength to resist the lies and the temptations of the devil (1 Peter 5:9).

Father, I plead that _____ will experience Your strength. I pray that You would sustain him/her with Your mighty power. When _____ as if he/she cannot go on, fill him/her with the strength to cling to You and to walk faithfully with You through this adversity (Psalm 29:11).

Father, I pray that _____ would taste and see that You are God. I plead that _____ would take refuge in You and experience Your richest blessings. I ask that the bitterness of this adversity would make You taste sweet to _____. Let this adversity teach _____ how great and good You are. Increase _____'s understanding and experience of You during this time (Psalm 34:8).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that _____ would wait for You. I pray that _____ would be strong and wait for You. Deliver him/her from impatience. Fill him/her with trust and the ability to wait on You (Psalm 27:11).

Father, I pray that You would be a shield around _____. I ask You to defend and guard _____'s heart and life. I plead that You would lift up _____'s head, delivering him/her from discouragement, depression, and despair (Psalm 3:3).

Father, I ask that the joy of the Lord would be _____'s strength. I pray that _____ would experience abounding, unceasing, and rich joy through You. Flood his/her life with Your joy (Nehemiah 8:10).

Father, Your Word says that You are close to the brokenhearted. Father, _____ is hurting. I pray that You would cause him/her to sense and know Your presence. I ask that Your presence would strengthen and comfort. Your Word also says that You save the crushed in spirit. Father, _____ has been crushed. I ask You to deliver him/her. Set him/her free from the pain that he/she is now experiencing. Grant him/her Your grace and sustaining power (Psalm 34:18).

Father, _____ is downcast and disturbed. I ask in the name of Jesus that _____ would put his/her hope in You. I pray that _____ will yet praise You as his/her Savior and God (Psalm 42:5).

Father, I pray that Your Word would be _____'s delight. I plead that _____ would turn to Your Word and immerse himself/herself in it. I ask that You would strengthen and preserve _____ through Your Word (Psalm 119:92).

Father, I ask that Your Word would be a lamp to _____'s feet; I plead that Your Word would be a light to _____'s path. Speak clearly and powerfully to _____. Grant him/her the guidance that he/she needs (Psalm 119:105).

Father, I plead that You will fill _____ with the peace that passes understanding. I pray that this peace will guard his/her heart and mind from anxiety, fear, frustration, and discouragement (Philippians 4:7).

Father, Your Word says that You are the God of hope. I plead that You will fill _____ with hope. Cause this hope to sustain and encourage _____. Fill _____ with all joy and peace through his/her trust in You. I pray that _____ will overflow with hope by the power of Your Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).

Father, I ask that _____ will be patient in the midst of his/her adversity. I pray that _____ will be submissive to what You want him/her to do. Open _____'s heart to make the changes and take the steps that You desire during this time (James 1:2-4).

Father, I plead that You would grant _____ the wisdom to use the adversity that he/she is going through. Deliver him/her from making hasty conclusions or taking spiritually immature actions. Fill him/her with wisdom that he/she might submit to You and grow during this time (James 1:4).

Father, I ask that _____ would humble himself/herself before You. Set him/her free from pride. I plead that he/she will be submissive to You and will trust in You. Pour out Your grace on _____ (James 4:6)

Father, I pray that _____ will draw near to You. I ask that _____ will seek You with all his/her strength. O God, respond by drawing near to them. Let them sense clearly Your presence (James 4:8).

Father, I pray that _____ ask for Your help in this time. I plead that _____ will seek You and find You and Your strength. I ask that _____ would knock and the door to hope, peace, and growth would be opened to him/her (Matthew 7:7).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 14

Praying For Your City Or Community

As a pastor, you are accountable for your ministry not only in the church, but also in the community. The most powerful way that you can minister to your community is through intercessory prayer. The following prayer guide can help you pray the Word for your community.

Father, You are the true God. I pray that every person in this area would come to know You and worship You alone (Deuteronomy 6:4).

Father, grant healing and hope to the people of this area through Your great compassion (Psalm 86:15).

Father, fulfill Your good and eternal purpose for this area. I ask that You would accomplish all that You have purposed for this city\community (Psalm 33:11).

Father, I pray that every person in this area would trust in You because You are faithful (Psalm 146:6).

Father, I ask that every person in this area would believe and obey Your reliable Word (Psalm 33:4).

Father, You see and know all things. You see the crime in our area. Expose and bring to justice all the criminals in this area (Psalm 11:14).

Father, I plead that everyone in this area will seek You and find out how good You are (Psalm 34:8).

Father, I ask that the people of this area would repent and receive Your forgiveness (Ephesians 1:6-7).

O God, grant Your help and strength to those who are suffering and struggling (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Father, I plead that the people in this area would hate sin as You hate sin. Cause them to hate what You hate and to love what You love (1 Peter 1:15-16).

Cause the people of this area to reverence You and worship You as the angels of heaven do (Isaiah 6:3).

Father, I ask that the people of this area will know that You are not a respecter of persons and will accept anyone who believes in Your Son Jesus (Acts 10:34).

Father, I ask You to intervene and help the oppressed and needy in this area (Psalm 140:12).

Father, I pray that the people in this area would experience Your love, which is better than life itself (Psalm 63:3).

Father, enable the believers in this area to love one another in the same way that You love them (1 John 4:7).

Father, I plead that You would withhold Your judgment but will have mercy on this area. Grant spiritual awakening to this entire area that people may praise You and rejoice in You (Psalm 78:38).

Father, have mercy on the people in this area and deliver them from all that binds and wounds them (Lamentations 3:22).

O God, save and sanctify the people in this area by Your almighty power (Jeremiah 32:27).

By Your right hand and almighty power, shatter all the schemes and attacks of the evil one on this area (Exodus 15:6).

Father, I ask that the people of this area would turn to You and rely on You as their ever-present help (Psalm 46:1).

Father, I pray that the people of this area would call on You and experience Your presence and power (Psalm 145:18).

Father, You know our secret sins. They are ever before You. Convict the people of this area and lead them to repentance (Proverbs 5:21).

Father, You see and know the misery of the people in this area. Touch and comfort all who are suffering and agonizing in silence (Exodus 3:7).

Father, convict and draw those who have hardened their hearts to Jesus. Reveal Your patience to them by continuing to convict them and speak to them. Save them by Your mighty power (1 Timothy 1:13-14).

Father, I ask You to grant every believer in this area endurance and encouragement. Enable them to be faithful and to overcome through faith in You and Your Word (Romans 15:5).

O God, I ask You to preserve the people of this area from suffering, sickness, and death. Do what is right and good for them (Psalm 36:6).

Father, cause the people of this area to know that You are the only One who never changes and that You can be trusted no matter what (Psalm 102:26-27).

Father, You are the God who reigns. You are sovereign over all things. I ask in Jesus' name that You would deal with the most pressing problems in this area. Intervene by Your sovereign power (Psalm 115:3).

Father, send forth Your light into this area. Save and transform people by Your unchanging truth (Psalm 43:3).

Father, teach the people of this area Your way. Empower them to walk in Your truth (Psalm 86:11).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Section Three

Saturating Your Church With Prayer

“A prayerful ministry is the only ministry qualified for the high offices and responsibilities of the preacher . . . The superficial results of many a ministry, the deadness of others, are to be found in the lack of praying. No ministry can succeed without much praying, and this praying must be fundamental, ever-abiding, ever-increasing.”

E.M. Bounds

Chapter 15

Praying For Your Church's Evangelism

The church exists to share the good news of Jesus with a lost and dying world. As a pastor, your heart burns to see people come to Jesus in true faith. You can use the following Scripture prayers to pray for the outreach of your church.

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be salt and light in the midst of this lost world. Grant them a righteous influence in the world (Matthew 5:13-15).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would walk in wisdom toward those who are outside the body of Christ. I also pray that their speech would be full of grace, godliness, and wisdom so that they may know how they ought to answer and respond to the lost (Colossians 4:5-6).

Father, I plead that You would be the main pursuit of the believers' lives and that they would always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks them a reason for the hope that is in them with meekness and fear (1 Peter 3:15).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would do all things without murmuring and disputing so that they would become blameless and harmless, a child of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom they should shine as a light in the world, holding fast the word of life (Philippians 2:14-16).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would know and understand the terror of the Lord. I pray that the believers of _____ Church would see and know clearly that people without Jesus Christ are lost and headed to an eternal hell to face the wrath of God. Because they know and understand these things, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would persuade lost people to turn from their sin and to the Lord Jesus Christ in faith (2 Corinthians 5:11).

Holy Spirit, I plead that You will give the believers of _____ Church a continual and agonizing burden concerning lost people and their need to repent and believe (Romans 9:1-3).

Father, You have declared in Your Word that You have given believers the ministry of reconciliation. The believers of _____ Church have surrendered their lives to You. Because of this, You have given them the ministry of reconciliation--sharing the gospel with lost people so that they can be in a right relationship with You. I ask that the believers of _____ Church would be faithful to this ministry by sharing the gospel with others (2 Corinthians 5:17-19).

Father, You have saved the believers of _____ Church. You have made the believers of _____ Church ambassadors for Your Son, Jesus Christ, in this world. I pray that they would recognize like never before that they represent the Lord Jesus Christ in this world. Enable them to live a life worthy of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would see this lost world as God sees it (John 3:16).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not grow weary in sharing the gospel but that they will know that if they do not lose heart they will reap converts to Christ (Galatians 6:9).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would receive power from the Holy Spirit and that they would be witnesses for You wherever they go (Acts 1:8).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would have certainty and understanding concerning the truth of the gospel. I pray that the believers of _____ Church would diligently search the Scripture so that they will know what they believe and will be able to share and defend the Word of God (Romans 10:8-17; Acts 17:11).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not be conformed to this world but that they will be transformed by the renewing of their mind (Romans 12:2).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would not love this world or the things of this world. I plead that they would not be attracted to and lured away by the things of this world, but that they will be focused on doing the will of God (1 John 2:15-17).

I ask that You would grant the believers of _____ Church opportunities to share the gospel. Bring lost people into their lives so that they can share Your Word with them (Colossians 4:3; Matthew 7:7).

Lord Jesus, You have declared in Your Word that we will be hated because we belong to You. For this reason, I ask You to give the believers of _____ Church the strength and the courage to stand for You in this lost world. Lord Jesus, do not allow the believers of _____ Church to compromise their stand due to the reaction of the world (John 15:18-21).

Father, I plead that You will make the believers of _____ Church bold and fearless in their witness of Your Son (Proverbs 28:1).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 16

Praying For Your Church's Unity

Your ministry will be affected by the unity or lack of unity in your church. When God's people are united, the church will have power and effectiveness. When the church is divided, it has devastating effects. For this reason, praying for the unity of

your church is an essential. The following Scripture prayers will help you to plead for the unity of your church.

Prayer Pointers For Unity

Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, has died to make believers one body (Ephesians 2:13-15). By dying on the Cross, He reconciled us to God in one body. Your Son's death brought us together. I plead that You will unify this body of believers due to Christ's death on the Cross. Glorify Your Son and His death by strengthening and deepening the unity of this church;

Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, prayed that His people would be one (John 17:20-21). He requested that His people would be one as You and He are one. I plead that You will answer Christ's prayer by making the believers in this church to have one mind, one heart, and one purpose. The Lord Jesus Christ said that You always heard Him. I call on You to do that now by deepening and strengthening the unity of this church;

Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, has stated that the world will know that we belong to Him by the love that we have for one another (John 13:35). The strength of our witness and the impact that we have on the world depends on our love and unity. God, unite Your people in love so that we may have a powerful witness in this area for You. For the sake of Your gospel, deepen and strengthen the unity of this church;

Father, I plead that You will grant that the believers who make up this church will grow in their understanding of the truth. Our unity is based on the truth of Your Word (Ephesians 4:13; 2 John 1-2; 3 John 1). Father, feelings change; Your truth is absolute, eternal, and unchanging. Father, feelings can melt away in the heat of controversy; Your words are pure words like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times (Psalm 13:6). Because of this, I plead that You would grant that the believers of this church would have a deeper appreciation, knowledge, and understanding of Your Word so that our unity would be deepened and strengthened;

Father, in Your Word, You declare that we are to be "like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind (Philippians 2:2)." This is Your will for this church. This is Your desire. Since this is Your will and Your desire, create these things in the believers who make up this church by the power of Your Holy Spirit. In Your Word, You have declared that if we ask anything according to Your will, You will hear (1 John 5:14). This is Your will, O God! I am pleading that You will create these things in the believers who make up this church;

Father, in Your Word, You declare that nothing should be done through selfish ambition or conceit (Philippians 2:3). You also command that we should do all things without complaining and disputing (Philippians 2:14). Again, this is Your will, Father. This is what You desire for the church. You have promised to hear and answer when I ask according to Your will. Make this a reality among Your people;

Father, in Your Word, You command that we are to esteem others better than ourselves (Philippians 2:4). You also declare that we are to look out for the interest of others. This is Your will for this church; this is what You desire for this church. I am pleading for You to make this a reality among the believers of this church because it is Your will;

Father, You have determined to make us like Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son (Romans 8:29). You want to conform us to the image of Jesus Christ. Jesus humbled Himself and became a servant (Philippians 2:6-8). God, I plead that You will create the same attitude in us (Philippians 2:5). I beg You to make us like Christ. Cause us to become servants who will esteem others better than ourselves will look out for the interest of others;

Father, in Your Word, You declare that You want us to stand fast in one spirit, with one mind, striving together for the faith of the gospel (Philippians 1:27). You want us to be salt and light (Matthew 5:13-14). You want us to give a positive, powerful witness to the truth. You want us to stand united in our declaration and defense of the truth. This is impossible if we are not united. Lord God, I plead that You will deepen and strengthen the unity of this church so that we may boldly and powerfully proclaim Your Word;

Father, You have made clear in Your Word that division in the church grieves the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30-31). The Holy Spirit is grieved when there is bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor (loud quarreling), evil speaking, and malice in Your church. When Your Spirit is grieved, Your church is powerless. We have no hope or help when the Holy Spirit is grieved. Restore our unity, O God! We need a deep and powerful work! Deepen and strengthen our unity so that Your Spirit will not be grieved. Grant a deeper stronger unity to this church so that the Holy Spirit will be pleased to release His power in this fellowship and through this fellowship.

Praying The One Another Statements of The Bible

Another way that you can pray for the unity of Christ's church is through pleading the "one another" statements of the New Testament. These statements declare the will of God for believers concerning their unity and how they are to relate to one another. These statements show what God desires among believers and what He wants to produce in believers. Because of this, you can plead these requests with confidence.

Father, enable the believers of _____ Church to realize that we are members one of another and are totally dependent on each other (Romans 12:5; 1 Corinthians 12:14-26);

Father, cause the believers of _____ Church to be lovingly devoted to one another just as a close knit family is (Romans 12:10);

God, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would honor each other above themselves (Romans 12:10);

Father, I ask You to make the believers of _____ Church to be like-minded in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 15:5);

Lord, I ask that the believers of _____ Church would accept one another in love. Deliver the believers of _____ Church from making hypocritical judgments about each other and/or showing partiality among members (Romans 15:7);

Father, I plead that You will fill the believers of _____ Church with the truth of Your Word, love, and humility so that we can admonish one another (Romans 15:14);

God enable the believers of _____ Church to greet one another with concern and love and not with superficial, vain talk that means nothing (Romans 16:3-6, 16);

Lord, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would bear one another's burdens in humility and love (Galatians 6:2);

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will serve one another with a sacrificial, selfless love (Galatians 5:13);

God, enable the believers of _____ Church to bear with one another in patience. Deliver the believers of _____ from an easily offended spirit (Ephesians 4:2);

Lord, cause the believers of _____ Church to submit to one another in love (Ephesians 5:21);

God, I plead that You would cause the believers of _____ Church to encourage one another and build up one another with the Word of God (1 Thessalonians 5:11);

Father, I plead that You would guard the believers of _____ Church from being conceited toward one another. Keep the believers of _____ Church from provoking one another and envying one another (Galatians 5:26);

Lord God, cause the believers of _____ Church to always be kind and tenderhearted toward one another (Ephesians 4:32);

Father, enable the believers of _____ Church to always be forgiving toward each other as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us (Ephesians 4:32);

God, cause the believers of _____ Church to speak the truth in love and not to lie to one another (Colossians 3:9);

Father, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would abound and overflow with love toward one another (1 Thessalonians 3:12);

Lord, enable the believers of _____ Church to have mutual concern and love without preferring one before another (1 Timothy 5:21);

Father, I ask that the believers of _____ Church would exhort one another to faithfulness and good works (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25);

God, cause the believers of _____ Church to not speak evil of each other (James 4:11);

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would not hold grudges toward one another (James 5:9);

Father, cause the believers of _____ Church to have a burden to pray for one another (James 5:16);

Lord, enable the believers of _____ Church to have genuine compassion for one another (1 Peter 3:8);

God, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would exercise hospitality toward one another (1 Peter 4:9).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 17

Praying For Your Church's Worship

The believers of your church need to develop a lifestyle of worship in their personal lives. If they are not worshipping God Monday through Saturday, it will be impossible for them to worship God on Sunday. You can use these prayers by placing the name of Your church in the blank and then pleading these Scriptures before God.

I plead that the believers _____ Church will praise You with uprightness of heart when they learn about You from Your Word (Psalm 119:7).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will worship You, the living and the true God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

O Lord my God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church will praise You with all their heart and that they will glorify Your name forevermore (Psalm 86:12).

Father, I pray that the believers of _____ Church will bless You. I plead that they will bless You with all that is in them. Do not let them forget Your benefits that You grant to them on a daily basis (Psalm 103:1-2).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will develop a lifestyle of praise. It is good to sing praises to You, our mighty God. It is pleasant and it is beautiful. Create in them a desire to praise You daily (Psalm 147:1-2).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will speak of the might of Your awesome acts and that they will declare Your greatness. I ask that the believers of _____ Church will utter the memory of Your great goodness and that they will sing of Your righteousness (Psalm 145:6-7).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will bless You every day and that they will praise Your name forever and ever (Psalm 145:1-2).

Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, I pray that the believers' lips would praise You. As long as they live, I ask that the believers of _____ Church will bless You and praise You (Psalm 63:4-5).

Father, it is good to give thanks to You and to sing praises to Your name. It is good to declare Your lovingkindness in the morning and Your faithfulness every night. For this reason, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would give thanks to You and sing praises to Your name. Cause them to declare Your lovingkindness in the morning and Your faithfulness every night (Psalm 92:1-2).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will praise You with their whole heart. As people worship and pursue all kinds of gods, I ask that the believers of _____ Church will sing praise to You the living and the true God (Psalm 138:1).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church will praise You, O Lord, for You are good; I plead that they will sing praises to You for it is pleasant to do this (Psalm 135:3).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will not draw near to You only with their mouths. I ask that the believers of _____ Church will not simply go through the motions of worship. Never let them be content with the outward appearance of worship. I pray that they will worship You from the heart and that their worship will be acceptable to You (Matthew 15:8).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will give unto You, the LORD, the glory due to Your name. I ask that they will worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness (Psalm 29:2).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will worship You in the beauty of holiness. I pray that they will tremble before You (Psalm 96:9).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would not forsake the assembling of believers but would be diligent to attend and participate in the worship of believers (Hebrews 10:25).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 18

Praying For Your Worship Services

Prayer is essential for preparing your congregation and you for your worship services. The following prayer guide can assist you in getting your church and you ready for your times of worship.

Father, I pray that our worship time will glorify You. Enable the believers of _____ Church to focus on You during the worship service. Cause the attention of believers to be drawn to You during this time. Remove any distractions that might hinder us from focusing on You (Psalm 115:1).

Father, I plead that You will remove any hindrances from the lives of believers that could prevent us from worshipping You. Enable us to remove anything from our lives that would prevent us from worshipping you in spirit and truth (1 John 1:9).

Father, I pray that peoples' hearts would be prepared to hear from You both in the music and the preaching of the Word. Create within the people anticipation and expectation that they will hear from You—that You will deal with them (Matthew 13:3-9).

Father, I pray that the I will be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit both as I prepare and as I speak, resulting in the Holy Spirit speaking to people during the message. Prepare my heart to preach through the week. Enable me to be sensitive to the Spirit in my preparation and preaching (Ephesians 5:18; Acts 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 2:15).

Father, I pray that the musicians will be used of You to minister and bless the congregation. I also ask that they will show forth the joy of the Lord (Psalm 149:1).

I plead that You will give wisdom and guidance for those choosing the music, that each song will deepen the worship experience of the believers and will prepare the believers and the lost for the message (Psalm 150:3-5).

Father, I plead that You would transform lives through the worship service. O God, I pray that

- ✓ *sinner would be saved: John 3:16; 4:12*
- ✓ *believer would be edified: Hebrews 10:25*
- ✓ *backslider would repent: Hosea 14:4*
- ✓ *physical bodies would be healed: Exodus 15:26*
- ✓ *broken hearts would be mended: Psalm 147:3.*

Father, I ask for these things in the name of Jesus and for the glory of Jesus.

Father, I ask that believers of _____ Church will truly worship God in spirit and in truth. I pray that the people will hear and understand the truth of God's Word. I ask You to enable them to respond to You with deep and genuine repentance and commitment (John 4:24).

Father, I pray that all who attend _____ Church will feel the love of God in God's people and sense a spirit of peace and unity and that they are important to this body of Christ (John 13:34-35; Philippians 2:1-5).

Father, I ask that visitors will feel welcomed, be ministered to, and will desire to be saved and become a member of the church or if they are saved, to join this church and serve Jesus Christ through the ministry of this church (Acts 2:42).

Father, I pray that the power of God would be revealed and felt by each person in every worship service (Psalm 22:3). Send Your power into the midst of Your people as we worship. I plead that the Holy Spirit will manifest His presence and power among the worshipers. Plead that this power will be released in your worship services (Psalm 22:3).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 19

Praying For Your Church's Growth

In Matthew 7:7, Jesus calls on us to ask of Him, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." He declares that we must ask if we are to receive. If you desire that your church grow, cry out to Jesus. Ask for the growth of your church. The following prayer guide can aid you in crying out to Him for the growth of your church.

Father, I plead that You would give the believers of _____ Church a broken and burdened heart for the lost. O God, grant us a hunger to pray for the lost and to see the lost saved (Isaiah 57:15; Romans 9:1-3).

Father, I ask You to convince the believers of _____ Church that Jesus Christ is the only hope for any sinner. Create within us a passion to share the good news of Jesus with the lost (Acts 4:12; John 14:6).

Father, I call on You to give the believers of _____ Church certainty and conviction of the doctrine of hell. I pray that we will not be complacent about the lost and their need to come to Christ (Matthew 10:28; Hebrews 10:31).

Father, I call on You to create an atmosphere in _____ Church so that it will be a place where people are saved and discipled. Father, I ask You to make the following characteristic of this church:

- ✓ a deep commitment to and the diligent study of God's Word (Acts 2:42);
- ✓ genuine and mutual love for one another (Acts 2:42);
- ✓ true fellowship and unity (Acts 2:42);
- ✓ a deep commitment to and diligent practice of prayer (Acts 2:42);
- ✓ the manifest presence and power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:43);
- ✓ mutual sharing and ministry among believers (Acts 2:44-45);
- ✓ sincerity and openness among believers (Acts 2:46);
- ✓ genuine praise to God (Acts 2:47).

Father, I pray that You would remove anything that would hinder the outreach and growth of _____ Church. I plead that You would remove any obstacles to the growth of this church (Acts 5; Romans 16:17-18; Psalm 83).

Father, I plead with You that You would open doors for the Word of God in _____. Break through the hardness of heart and indifference in _____.

_____ to the gospel of Jesus Christ. I call on You to make people receptive to the gospel (2 Thessalonians 3:1; Colossians 4:3).

Father, I ask that Your power would be exhibited in the outreach and discipling of _____ Church. I plead that Your power would be exhibited through the preaching and ministry of _____ Church. (2 Thessalonians 3:1).

Father, I ask the Holy Spirit will do a deep and powerful work in the lives of the inactive members of _____ Church. Convict them and meet their spiritual needs. Draw them back into the fellowship of this church (John 6:44, 16:7).

Father, I ask that You will grant us prospects. Draw them from the north, south, east, and west. Raise up people that we can bless, minister to, reach (Psalm 115:3).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 20

Praying For Your Church's Finances

God desires that believers have the proper perspective and relationship to possessions (Matthew 6:33). At the same time, it takes money to do ministry. Your church must have the right attitude about possessions and must give to support the ministry of the church. You can use the following prayer guide to pray for the financial condition of Your church.

Heavenly Father, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would seek You and depend on You daily for the provision of his/her needs (Matthew 6:11).

Father, I ask that the believers of _____ will give to the work of the Lord sacrificially. I plead that they would not be greedy but will give generously for the ministry of this church (Malachi 3:8-12).

O God, stir the believers of this church to give as never before. I ask You to create a spirit of generous and spontaneous giving in this body (Psalm 115:3).

Father, I ask You to convict the believers of _____ Church concerning their giving. O God, teach them the truth about giving. Move on their hearts to give abundantly that _____ Church would grow and change lives (1 Corinthians 16:1-4).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would not lay up treasures for themselves on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. Yet, I pray that they would lay up treasures in heaven for themselves where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal (Matthew 6:19-20).

I ask that spiritual matters and not earthly concerns will be the top priority of the believers' lives (Matthew 6:21).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would not be in bondage to material things and to the pursuit of those things (Matthew 6:24).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not worry about material possessions. Teach them that worrying will not help them but only harm them. Cause

them to know that they are of infinite value to You, their heavenly Father (Matthew 6:25-31).

Father, cause the believers of _____ Church to understand and rest in the fact that You know what they need (Matthew 6:32).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would seek first the kingdom of God and Your righteousness and then all these things that they need will be added to them (Matthew 6:33).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would not worry about tomorrow. Cause them to focus on You and doing Your will on a daily basis (Matthew 6:34).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will honor You with their possessions so that You can bless them (Proverbs 3:9-10).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church will understand and rest in the fact that You will supply all their needs according to Your riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will give not out of necessity or grudgingly but with a cheerful and sacrificial spirit because You love a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will give with the right motives (Matthew 6:3-4).

I ask that You will cause the believers of _____ Church to know that they will stand before the judgment seat of Christ in order to give an account of how they used the blessings of God (2 Corinthians 5:10).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would use their time wisely, having the right priorities and make right use of their time (Ephesians 5:16).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would be completely free of covetousness and would be content with what You provide (Philippians 4:10-13).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 21

Praying For Your Church's Spiritual Growth

God desires that His children grow spiritually (1 Peter 2:1-2). The following Scripture prayers will help you to pray for the spiritual growth of your church. You can plead these Scripture prayers with confidence and expectation. They are God's will for the believer. If you will cry out to God, God will hear and move among your church in powerful ways.

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will be diligent to confess their sins so that You will be faithful and just to forgive their sins and to cleanse them of their unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).

God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not let sin reign in their mortal body (Romans 6:12).

Father, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would consider themselves dead to sin but alive to God in Jesus Christ (Romans 6:11).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would present their body as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to You, O God. This is their spiritual service of worship (Romans 12:1).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not be conformed to this world, but that they would be transformed by the renewing of their mind so that they may prove what is that good, acceptable, and perfect will of God (Romans 12:2).

Merciful God, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would discern their spiritual gifts and would use these spiritual gifts that You have given them through the power and working of the Holy Spirit. Enable the believers to use their spiritual gifts for the strengthening of the church (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11).

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so cause the believers of _____ Church to thirst and long for you, the living God (Psalm 42:1).

I pray that the Holy Spirit would grant wisdom and insight to the believers of _____ Church so that they would have a deeper, more intimate knowledge of God (Ephesians 1:17).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will desire you above all things on earth. Though their heart and flesh may fail, I ask that You will be the strength of their heart and their portion forever (Psalm 73:25-26).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will understand the sure and secure hope of their calling in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:18).

Father, I ask that You will grant the believers of _____ Church understanding about the glorious inheritance that You have given to them through Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:18).

Father, I plead that You will give the believers of _____ Church understanding in the exceeding greatness of Your power toward them. Cause them to understand that the power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is available to them (Ephesians 1:18).

God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church would be encouraged through and through by the Holy Spirit. Remove any discouragement from their lives (Ephesians 3:16).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be more and more surrendered to Jesus Christ. Enable them to bring every area of their life under the lordship of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 3:17).

Lord God, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be rooted and grounded in your love. I plead that they will be able to comprehend what is the width and length and depth and height of Christ's love for them. I call on You to cause them to know and experience Christ's love that passes understanding (Ephesians 3:18-19).

Father, I ask that that the believers of _____ Church would be filled with the fullness of God. Cause them to reflect Christ in what they say, think, and do (Ephesians 3:19).

I plead that the believers' love would overflow with knowledge and discernment. Cause their love to overflow with knowledge and discernment so that they can make the best possible choices in their lives, stay morally pure, not cause anyone else to stumble, and that their lives will be filled with righteous words and deeds (Philippians 1:9-11).

Lord, I pray that You would grant that the believers of _____ Church would be filled with the knowledge of Your will. Grant them insight into Your Word and the wisdom to know how to apply this to their lives so that they can live lives worthy of You (Colossians 1:9).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would stand mature and complete in all of the will of God as revealed in His Word (Colossians 4:12).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would live lives worthy of their calling in Jesus Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:11).

I pray that You would work powerfully in the believers of _____ Church so that You call fulfill all the good pleasure of Your goodness and the work of faith with power in their lives. Do this in their lives so that the name of the Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in them and then they in Christ (2 Thessalonians 1:12).

Father, do not allow the believers of _____ Church to be anxious for nothing. Cause them to bring all their requests to You along with thanks for Your blessings (Philippians 4:6-7).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving (Colossians 4:2).

Lord God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church will love You with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. I also ask that they will love their neighbor as themselves (Matthew 22:37-39).

Father, I plead that all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking would be put away from the believers of _____ Church. I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be kind to others, tenderhearted, forgiving just as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Lord, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be filled with the Holy Spirit on a daily basis and that they would not quench or grieve the Holy Spirit who lives inside of them (Ephesians 5:18).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would exercise a righteous influence in this world. Cause them to be salt and light in this world (Matthew 5:13-16).

Enable the believers of _____ Church to persuade the lost to turn from their sin and to trust in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Create the mind of Christ in the believers of _____ Church (Philippians 2:5-11).

I pray that You will continue and complete the good work that You have begun in the believers of _____ Church. I am confident in Your power and willingness to do this. Remove any obstacle that would oppose Your work in their lives (Philippians 1:6).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 22

Praying For Your Church's Spiritual Protection

The Bible is clear: the church has a deadly and ferocious enemy, the devil (1 Peter 5:8-9). The only way to stand against him and his forces is through prayer. The following Scripture prayers have been designed to help you cover your church. In order to cover your church, you can place the name of your church in the blank. Then you can plead these Scripture prayers to God with confidence and expectancy.

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will be strong in the power of the Lord and in His might. I ask that they would put on the whole armor of God on a daily basis so that they can stand against the schemes of the devil (Ephesians 6:10-11).

Father, I pray that the believers of _____ Church will realize that they are in a spiritual war with a deadly enemy. Cause them to know that they do not wrestle with flesh and blood, but with principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, and the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places (Ephesians 6:12).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church will stand strong in this battle. Enable them to put on their armor on a daily basis. Convict them of the necessity to wear and use this armor. I pray that the believers of _____ Church will become powerful in the use of their armor in this spiritual war (Ephesians 6:13-17).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would be diligent in prayer with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit. Cause the believers of _____ Church to persevere in prayer (Ephesians 6:18).

Lord, I plead that the believers of _____ Church would not give place to the devil in their lives. I pray that they will be diligent to confess their sins and pursue a holy life. Enable them to deal harshly and immediately with their sinful habits (Ephesians 4:27).

Lord Jesus, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be able to discern the lies of Satan. You have declared that he is a liar and I believe Your Word. Satan will lie to the believers of _____ Church in order to attack them. I pray that You

would make them wise to his lies and give them the strength to overcome these lies (John 8:44).

Lord Jesus, You have declared that Satan is a murderer. Satan will attempt to destroy the believers of _____ Church. I ask you to protect them. I plead that You will put a hedge about them. I pray that You will send Your angels to protect and watch over the believers of _____ Church (John 8:44; Hebrews 1:14).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be sober and vigilant because their enemy, the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. I plead that they will resist him steadfast in the faith, knowing that other brothers and sisters across the world are facing the same battles (1 Peter 5:8-9).

Father, I pray that the believers of _____ would submit to You in all things. Enable them to resist the devil so that he will flee from them (James 4:7).

Lord Jesus, I plead that You would strengthen the faith of the believers and that You would not allow Satan to weaken, pervert, or destroy their faith in You (1 Thessalonians 3:5).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

Chapter 23

Praying For Revival In Your Church

As a pastor, your heart longs to see the Holy Spirit move powerfully in your church. You desire to see Him transform lives by the Word of God. The following prayer guide is designed to help you plead with God for genuine revival in your church.

I want to emphasize that these suggestions are not magical formulas. They are simply ways that you can seek God for revival. Revival comes from God. Receiving revival calls for believers to seek God with faith and with the Word of God. These are suggested starting points for your intercession for revival in your church.

As you pray for revival, be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leadership. He may give you insights on how to pray for revival in your particular church. He also may give you more Scripture to pray through concerning revival. As you pray through these requests, start with yourself. Ask God to do these things in your life. Plead with Him for a fresh work of His grace and His power.

O God, revive the believers of _____ Church so that we may rejoice in You (Psalm 85:6)

Restore, O God, the believers of _____ Church; make Your face to shine on us that we may be delivered from our backsliding (Psalm 80:7).

Rise up and help the believers of _____ Church; restore us to Yourself because of Your redeeming love (Psalm 44:8).

Father, grant a spirit of brokenness and repentance to the believers of _____ Church (Isaiah 57:15).

Living God, give the believers of _____ Church a fresh and powerful vision of Your holiness (Isaiah 6).

Almighty God, create in the believers of _____ Church a clean heart and renew a steadfast spirit within us (Psalm 51:1).

O Lord, do not take away the sense of Your presence from us and do not take away Your Holy Spirit from us (Psalm 51:11; Revelation 2:5).

Holy God, cause the believers of _____ Church to acknowledge our transgressions and to see that our sins are ever before You (Psalm 51:3).

Father, cause the believers of _____ Church to be receptive to and responsive to Your holy Word (Nehemiah 8:8-9).

Father, cause the believers of _____ Church to be broken and humble, trembling at Your Word (Isaiah 66:2).

Lord God, cause the believers of _____ Church to call on Your name and to stir us to lay hold of You (Isaiah 64:7).

Father, stir the believers of _____ Church to remove anything from our lives or church that would hinder our experience of revival (Luke 3:4-6).

God, convict the believers of _____ Church of any unforgiveness and bitterness. Give us no joy, peace, or rest until this is dealt with (Ephesians 4:30-32).

Father, as the deer thirsts for the streams of water, so cause the believers of _____ Church to thirst for You (Psalm 42:1-2).

Lord, I plead that the Holy Spirit will work powerfully among the believers of _____ Church (John 16:7).

Revive us, O God, that the believers of _____ Church will obey Your holy Word (Psalm 119:88).

O Lord, heal our backsliding; love us freely; turn Your anger away from us (Hosea 14:4).

Though our sins testify against us, restore the believers of _____ Church for Your great name's sake (Jeremiah 14:7).

Father, I plead that You will convict and save those who belong to this church who have been deceived about true salvation and are actually lost. Have mercy on them and save them (Matthew 23:27-28)!

Lord Jesus, enable the believers of _____ Church to return to You as our first love (Revelation 2:4).

Father, convict the believers of _____ Church of the sin of compromise. Cause us to hate this sin and to deal immediately with it (Revelation 2-3).

Lord Jesus, break the believers of _____ Church from a spirit of self-sufficiency and grant us a spirit of dependence on You (Revelation 2:17).

Father, I plead that You will create a spirit of praise among the believers of _____ Church (Psalm 150).

Father, enable us to deal with anything in our lives and our church that we have placed above You (Exodus 20:1-2).

Have mercy on the believers of _____ Church and restore us to a right relationship to Yourself (Psalm 51).

O God, grant the believers of _____ Church a burden for lost souls (Romans 10:1).

Father, create within the believers of _____ Church a spirit of prayer and fasting (Colossians 4:2).

Lord, reveal to the believers of _____ Church what is not pleasing in Your sight. Give us an unceasing burden about these things until they are dealt with (Psalm 139:23).

O God, cause Your people of _____ Church to love You with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Matthew 22:37-38).

Father, cause Your people of _____ Church to love each other with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength (Matthew 22:39).

Other Scripture Prayers And Insights

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