



THE PRAYER CLOSET

ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING BELIEVERS IN PRAYER

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PRAYED FOR OR PREYED ON?

Are your spiritual leaders prayed for or preyed on? It is going to be one or the other. The great need of the church is to cover its spiritual leaders in prayer. The health and impact of the church depends on it. The New Testament emphasizes the need to pray for them (**1 Thessalonians 5:25; Romans 15:30; Philippians 1:19; Philemon 22; 2 Corinthians 1:11**). The issue of *The Prayer Closet* will offer suggestions on how to pray scripturally and powerfully for your spiritual leaders. Hopefully these suggestions can enliven and enrich your prayers for your spiritual leaders.

Praying For Your Pastor

His Relationship To God

- ◆ **A man after God's own heart:** "Father, I ask You to make my pastor a man after Your own heart which will do all Your will" (**Acts 13:22; 1 Samuel 16:7**).
- ◆ **A man of the Word of God:** "Father, cause my pastor to love the Word with all his heart and enable him to memorize it and meditate on it all the day" (**Psalms 119:97**).
- ◆ **Guided by God in all that he does:** "O Lord, I plead that You will guide my pastor in all his words and actions. Cause his plans to be shaped and molded according to Your will" (**Psalms 37:23; Proverbs 3:5-6**).
- ◆ **Growing and maturing in his prayer life:** "God, I ask You to give my pastor a heart for prayer. Teach him how to pray and enable him to spend time with You daily" (**Mark 1:35**).
- ◆ **Filled with the Holy Spirit:** "Father, I ask that my pastor would be controlled continually by the Holy

- ◆ Spirit, enabling him to live a godly life and to carry out the ministry You have given him" (**Ephesians 5:18**).
- ◆ **Manifesting the fruit of the Spirit:** "Lord, I ask that the fruit of the Holy Spirit would be powerfully and clearly displayed in my pastor's life" (**Galatians 5:22-23**).
- ◆ **Humble:** "Father, I pray that my pastor will be humble, depending totally on You and remaining useable by You" (**1 Peter 5:5-6**).
- ◆ **Growing in grace:** "Lord, I plead that You would make my pastor into a godly man that You can use in a powerful way" (**1 Timothy 4:7, 6:11; Hebrews 12:14**).
- ◆ **Diligent in resisting temptation:** "Father, enable my pastor to overcome temptation and give him a hatred of sin in any form" (**1 Corinthians 10:13**).
- ◆ **Doctrinally sound:** "God, teach my pastor the truth of Your Word by the power of the Holy Spirit so that he can explain, proclaim, and defend Your Word" (**1 Timothy 4:15; 2 Timothy 2:15; 1 Timothy 4:15-16**).
- ◆ **Growing in his leadership skills:** "Lord God, enable my pastor to fulfill the calling that You have given to him" (**1 Timothy 3:1-7, 3:15; 1 Peter 5:1-4**).
- ◆ **A genuine servant:** "Father, I plead that You would give my pastor a servant's heart and enable him to compassionately minister to this congregation and the lost in this community" (**Philippians 2:5**).

His Preaching

- ◆ That he would be a Christ-centered and Christ-exalting preacher (**1 Corinthians 2:1-4**).

- ◆ That he would remember that God, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the angels are listening to his preaching (**2 Timothy 4:1**).
- ◆ That he would preach all the Word of God (**Acts 20:20-21, 27; 2 Timothy 4:2**).
- ◆ That he would preach in the power of the Holy Spirit (**Acts 4:8-12**).
- ◆ That he would preach the Word of God boldly and fearlessly (**2 Timothy 4:1-2**).
- ◆ That he would not be afraid of men but would be faithful to preach the Word of God (**Proverbs 28:1**).
- ◆ That he would have the time and be disciplined to study the Word of God (**1 Timothy 4:15**).
- ◆ That the Word of God would be central and absolute in his preaching and ministry (**2 Timothy 3:15-16**).
- ◆ That his preaching would be used by God to save the lost, mature the believers, and build up the church (**2 Timothy 4:5; Ephesians 4:11-16**).
- ◆ That he would be faithful to preach in spite of opposition or indifference (**1 Timothy 6:12, 20-21; 2 Timothy 3:13-14, 4:2-4**).

His Ministry

- ◆ That he would intercede and instruct the congregation (**Acts 6:4; 1 Samuel 12:23; Romans 1:9-10**).
- ◆ That he would equip the saints for service and discipleship (**Ephesians 4:11-12; 2 Timothy 2:2**).
- ◆ That he would be protected from Satan and all his attacks (**2 Thessalonians 3:1-3**).
- ◆ That he would be protected from and strengthened during the attacks of unregenerate church members (**2 Timothy 4:15-18; 2 Corinthians 11:26**).
- ◆ That God would give him insight and direction into the solutions for the problems of the church (**1 Kings 3:7-9**).

- ◆ That God would give him wisdom and discernment in counseling those who come to him for help or advice (**Proverbs 2:6**).
- ◆ That he would have a strong, close, and harmonious relationship with those in leadership in the church (**Psalms 133:1; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12; Amos 3:3**).
- ◆ That he will be able to respond to criticism and opposition in a gracious, Christlike way combined with a determination to be faithful to God and His Word (**Matthew 5:10-12, 43-48, 10:28; Romans 12:14, 17-21**).

His Relationship To The Church

- ◆ Pray that the congregation will be stirred by the Spirit of God to pray for your pastor (**1 Thessalonians 5:25**).
- ◆ Pray that the congregation will have a growing love and hunger for the Word of God (**Psalms 119:97**).
- ◆ Pray that the deacons and the congregation will be committed to your pastor's ministry and leadership (**Hebrews 13:17**).
- ◆ Pray that the congregation will respect and love the pastor (**1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**).
- ◆ Pray that God would silence any rumors, gossip, or slander that is being spread about the pastor (**Proverbs 15:28, 20:19, and 21:28**).

His Relationship To His Family

- ◆ Pray that the pastor's family would be loving, unselfish, respectful, and understanding to each other (**Ephesians 5:25; 1 Peter 3:7; Ephesians 5:33; Ephesians 6:1-4**).
- ◆ Pray that God would bless and strengthen your pastor's marriage and family life (**Proverbs 5:15-20**).
- ◆ Ask that the pastor's family would be a source of blessing to one another (**Proverbs 23:24, 31:28, 30**).

Praying For Your Deacons

The following is a prayer guide to help you intercede for your deacons.

- That God would give them the assurance of their salvation (**1 John 5:13; 2 Corinthians 13:5**).
- That your deacons will filled with the Holy Spirit (**Acts 6:3; Ephesians 5:18**).
- That they will have a growing love and hunger to know and obey the Word of God (**Psalm 1:2, 119:33, 36**).
- That they will be filled with spiritual wisdom and discernment (**Acts 6:3; Proverbs 2:3-6**).
- That they will be of serious and balanced character (**1 Timothy 3:8**).
- That they will have reliable and godly speech (**1 Timothy 3:8**).
- That they will be of unquestionable honesty (**1 Timothy 3:8**).
- That they 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**).
- That they will exhibit godly conduct (**1 Timothy 3:10**).
- That he will provide stable, sound and godly leadership to his home (**1 Timothy 3:12**).
- That their wives will live godly and sincere lives (**1 Timothy 3:11**).
- That they will be faithful and will serve well in this office (**1 Timothy 3:11**).
- That they will be bold and faithful personal witnesses of the Lord Jesus Christ (**Acts 1:8**).
- That they will be faithful in their finances and will honor God in their personal giving (**Malachi 3:8-11**).
- That they will have a servant's heart (**Acts 6:2-3**).

- That they will have a deep love for and commitment to the pastor (**1 Thessalonians 5:12-13**).

Praying For Your Worship Leader

The following is a prayer guide to help you intercede for your minister of music/worship leader.

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 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 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 _____ 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**).

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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 (**I Corinthians 10:31**).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that You might grant a loving and harmonious relationship between the members of the church and 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**).

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