

PRAYER GUIDE

twenty one days prayer & fasting

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family[c] in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may have the ability to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ, which surpasses knowledge,

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,[h] for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be[i] against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who

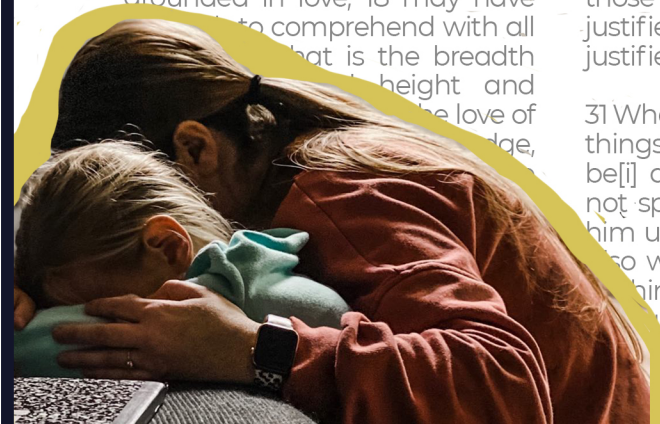


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PERSONAL PRAYER FOCUS

Dear Friends,

Since the very beginning of Life City Church in 2014, we knew our greatest tool to build this church would be to be people of prayer. That is why our rally cry has always been, "pray first." In every situation, whether good or bad, our response is to pray before we act. In many cases, our human nature is to act first and then ask God to rescue us, but instead of using prayer as a last resort, let's make prayer our first response.

Simply knowing that prayer is necessary is not enough. We must make it an integral part of our life, to do so, requires prayer becoming something we desire. I would take an experienced guess and say that for everyone who says they don't enjoy prayer, have never truly been taught how to pray. This prayer journal has been created to help with that. We have taken several different models of prayer straight out of the Word of God to assist you in your 21 Day journey of learning or maybe re-learning a more effective method of prayer. Our desire is for prayer to become more personal, more enjoyable, and ultimately more powerful in your life. We believe you should enjoy your time spent with your Heavenly Father.

As you discover the beauty of a daily conversation with the Lord, you'll also experience the presence of God in a way that will change your life.

Once you learn a more effective way to pray, prayer can become a daily discipline in your everyday life. That's when...

Before your day begins

Before you go to bed

Before you go to work or school

Before you send a text

Before you eat, drive or travel

When bad things happen

Before bad things happen

In every single situation — PRAY FIRST!

Because...PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

PASTOR TIM DUNN

HOW TO USE THE PRAYER GUIDE

We don't have to follow a specific formula to talk with God, but practicing different ways to pray can help us find deeper purpose and connection to Him through our prayer time.

This book is designed to give you several prayer models. You don't have to master all of them at once; you can select a different prayer model each day and spend time working through it at your own pace. You can go in any order you want, and you can even spend a few days on the same model as you become more comfortable with it.

To get started, choose which model you want to use today in prayer. As you pray, focus on the process the model reveals, giving yourself time to pray intentionally. If your mind wanders, use the model to restore your focus.

The goal of using this guide is not to add pressure or overwhelm you. The goal is simply to get comfortable with different biblical models of prayer and for your prayer life to become more natural, effective, and enjoyable. To make your prayer time even more meaningful, you can write notes and prayer requests and play worship music. The important step is committing to regularly entering God's presence through prayer.

The heart of this guide is to help you find a new level of purpose, effectiveness, and enjoyment in your prayer life. While prayer does take commitment, and can require discipline to develop into a daily habit, we also want to remember that it's a "get to" not a "got to." It's a privilege to be able to come to God in prayer.

PURPOSE OF FASTING

The purpose of fasting is to draw nearer to God. Biblical fasting always has to do with eliminating distractions for a spiritual purpose; it hits the reset button of our soul and renews us from the inside out. It also enables us to celebrate the goodness and mercy of God and prepares our hearts for all the good things God desires to bring into our lives. Remember, your personal fast should present a level of challenge, but it is very important to know your body, your options, and, most importantly, to seek God in prayer and follow where He leads you.

SCRIPTURE FOR FASTING

So we fasted and petitioned our God about this, and he answered our prayer. EZRA 8:23

Is this not the fast that I choose; to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ISAIAH 58:6

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High. I will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." PSALMS 91:1-2

But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. MATTHEW 6:17-18

TYPES OF FASTING

Your personal fast should present a level of challenge, but it is very important to know your body, your options, and most importantly, to seek God in prayer and follow what He leads you to do.

COMPLETE FAST

In this type of fast, you drink only liquids, typically water with light juices as an option.

PARTIAL FAST

This fast is sometimes called the “Jewish Fast” and involves abstaining from eating any type of food in the morning and afternoon. This can either correlate to specific times of the day, such as 6:00 am to 3:00 pm, or from sunup to sundown.

SELECTIVE FAST

This type of fast involves removing certain elements from your diet. One example of a selective fast is the Daniel Fast, during which you remove meat, sweets, and bread from your diet and consume water and juice for fluids and fruits and vegetables for food.

SOUL FAST

This fast is a great option if you do not have much experience fasting food, have health issues that prevent you from fasting food, or if you wish to refocus certain areas of your life that are out of balance. For example, you might choose to stop using social media or entertainment for the duration of the fast.

CREATING A LIFESTYLE OF PRAYER

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed.

MARK 1:35

Prayer is most effective when it isn't something we do every now and then, but when it's a lifestyle we cultivate. To understand how to have a lifestyle of prayer, we can look at the example Jesus gave during His life on earth.

DEDICATE A TIME

Jesus got up early in the morning to spend time in prayer. Make a daily appointment with God — whether it's first thing in the morning, at lunch, or in the evening — and faithfully keep it.

DEDICATE A PLACE

Jesus had a specific place He went to pray. Having a designated place to pray helps us remove distractions and frees us to worship and pray out loud.

A DEDICATED PLAN

When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He gave them a prayer outline. We call it “The Lord's Prayer.” This outline, along with several other tools, is available in this guide. As we pray every day, our plans for our prayer time can vary, maybe including worship music, Bible reading, and quiet time to listen to God. It doesn't always have to look the same; it just helps when we have a plan for connecting regularly with God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is often recited in churches or at religious events, but there's so much more to this prayer. Jesus provided this model as an outline to teach us how to pray in a way that connects us to God and empowers us to accomplish great things through Him. This model takes us through each part of The Lord's Prayer, showing us how to pray the way Jesus instructed.

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When He finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray..."

LUKE 11:1

"Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

MATTHEW 6:9-13 NKJV

01. CONNECT WITH GOD RELATIONALLY

"Our Father in Heaven"

God isn't interested in us practicing religion; instead, He desires a relationship with us. God has adopted us as His children and loves for us to call Him our Father. Starting our prayer time acknowledging our relationship with God is powerful for us and delights Him as well.

You have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when He adopted you as His own children. Now we call Him, "Abba, Father."

ROMANS 8:15 NLT

Declare your relationship with God, know Him as your Heavenly Father and thank Him for His goodness.

PRAYER:

"I come to You in prayer today thankful that I am a child of God. I know I am a sinner, but You have forgiven me and adopted me as Your own, and I am so grateful to call you my Heavenly Father. Thank you for loving me. I love you."

02. WORSHIP HIS NAME

“Hallowed Be Your Name”

God loves when we worship Him, and there is power in His Name. Here is a list of some of His Names to help us worship Him specifically and personally:

God is our Righteousness – He makes us clean

God is our Sanctifier – He has called us and set us apart

God is our Healer – He heals all our diseases

God is our Banner of Victory – He defeated our enemies

God is our Shepherd – He speaks to us and leads us

God is our Peace – He is our peace in every storm

God is our Provider – He supplies all of our needs

The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe. PROVERBS 18:10 ESV

Speak that He is MY healer, MY provider, MY peace, etc. When we proclaim who He is, we not only worship Him, but we also remind ourselves how powerful and great our God is.

PRAYER:

“God, I am in awe of You. Your Name is a strong tower, a place of protection and safety for me. I praise You as my Healer, my Shepherd, and my Banner of Victory. You are my Peace, my Provider, my Righteousness, and my Sanctifier. Your Name is great, and I worship You.”

03. PRAY HIS MISSION FIRST

“Your Kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven”

Part of being a child of God is caring about what He cares about. We know His will is perfect, and we acknowledge His wisdom and sovereignty when we pray His mission first.

Instead, seek His Kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

LUKE 12:31

Spend time focusing on what God is focused on. His priorities include:

- + Saving the lost
- + Accomplishing His purpose in our lives
- + Wisdom and guidance for those in authority – parental, spiritual, governmental, work-related

PRAYER:

“God, I recognize there is no better plan on earth than Yours, and I pray for Your perfect will to be done in my life (name the areas of your life where you need more of God’s presence today) and in our world. This world is lost and needs You desperately, and I pray for every person to know You. I pray for the leaders in my life (pray specifically over parents, spiritual leaders, government leaders, employers, and any other leaders in your life), that you would give them supernatural wisdom and discernment as they lead. Give them a revelation of Your will and Your purpose for them. And I surrender my life to You again today; have Your way in my life! Anything You want to do in me or through me, I will do. I ask today for courage, wisdom and clarity as you show me my next steps.”

04. DEPEND ON HIM FOR EVERYTHING

“Give us this day our daily bread”

God promises to supply all our needs, and He wants us to come to Him with our problems, needs, and desires and to trust Him to provide.

...My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth!

PSALM 121:1-2 NLT

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. MATTHEW 11:28

Ask God for what you need today. It may help to write down the concerns weighing on your mind or the desires of your heart. You can bring them to God, and trust Him enough to hand them over to Him fully. It may help to open your hands before God to physically show your surrender to Him. Problems can either be ours or God's; they can't be both. Pour everything out to Him!

PRAYER:

“Father, I acknowledge that everything I need today will come from You. You made the heavens and the earth; You are more than capable of handling any situation I'm dealing with, so I give it to You completely (specifically talk to God about what is on your mind and heart right now and give it to Him). I look to you to help me, sustain me, and give me Your peace. Remind me of Your hope and power today. Thank You in advance for taking care of my needs.”

05. FORGIVE AND BE FORGIVEN

“Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors”

God has offered us complete forgiveness, and we can receive it at any time. When we turn away from our sins and receive His forgiveness, our hearts are more prepared to forgive others as well.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 JOHN 1:9

Ask God to check your heart and life and show you areas where you might need to ask for forgiveness from Him. Then, it is your turn to forgive those who have hurt or offended you. Ask God to forgive you and to give you the strength to forgive others.

PRAYER:

“God, thank You so much for offering me the gift of forgiveness. Show me any areas in my life that I need to bring before You in order to receive forgiveness and healing. I confess that I have been struggling with sin (talk to God about any areas of sin in your life), and I know that You want me to be clean again. Please forgive me for my sin. Thank You for showing me unfailing grace. As You have so freely forgiven me, I also want to freely forgive others. Please help me let go of all of my hurts and offenses. I release to You those who have hurt me, and I trust You to handle those situations according to Your perfect will.”

06. ENGAGE IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”

Spiritual warfare can seem difficult to understand, but the Bible makes it very clear that we have an enemy who is trying to steal from us, kill us, and destroy us. As we pray, we take our stand against the enemy and fight from a place of victory through as we’re empowered by the Holy Spirit. There is power in God’s Word, and every lie the enemy has told us can be replaced with God’s truth.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. EPHESIANS 6:12

By recognizing that the enemy wants to destroy you, you can shed light on his lies and claim God’s truth over your life. Ask God to show you any lies you’re believing or areas of warfare happening in your life. Ask Him to expose the enemy and to help you understand and receive His truth. Simply speaking the Name of Jesus has great power in the spiritual realm. The Bible tells us in James 4:7 that if we resist the devil, he will flee from us. Through prayer, we can resist him and walk forward in freedom.

PRAYER:

“God, I recognize that my struggles today aren’t against the people or circumstances around me, but against the enemy.

Please help me to see how the enemy is lying to me. Help me to recognize his lies, take them captive, and make all of my thoughts obedient to the truth of Your Word (list out any specific areas God shows you where you have believed a lie that needs to be replaced with His truth). While the enemy wants to destroy me, I know that You came to give me life to the fullest. I speak the name of Jesus over my life and declare that no weapon formed against me will prosper. I don’t have to fear the enemy because the One who is in me is greater than the one who is in the world.”

07. EXPRESS FAITH IN GOD’S ABILITY

“For yours is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.”

God is more than able to move in every situation, and ending our prayer time claiming His authority and power focuses our minds on the truth and hope of who He is and what He can do.

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us.”

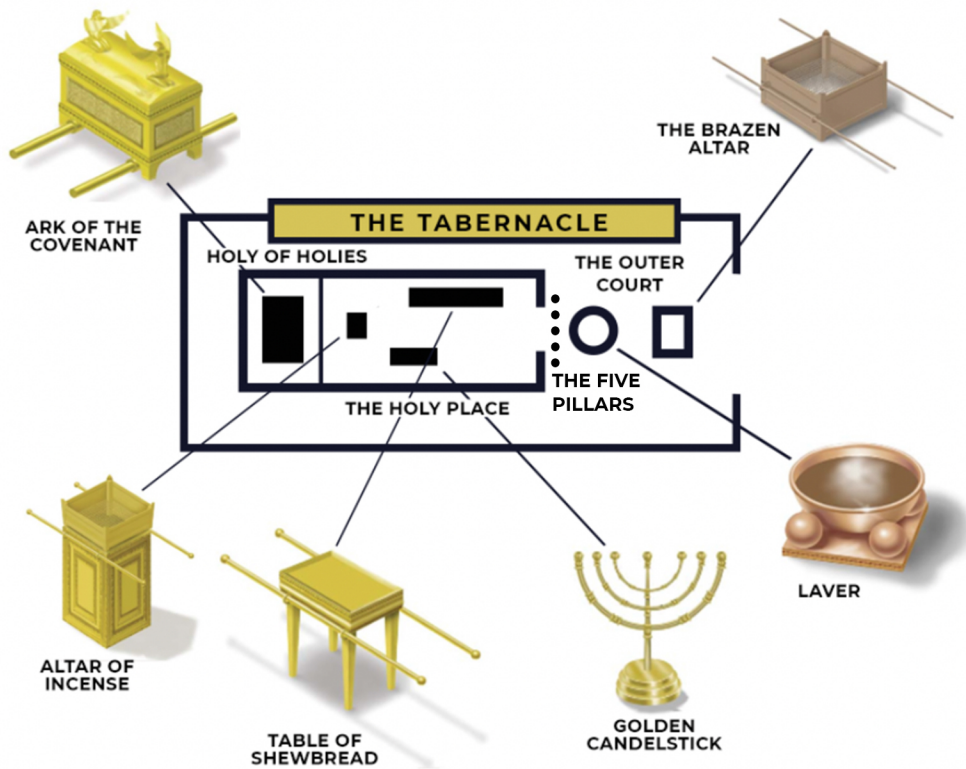
EPHESIANS 3:20

Remind yourself of God’s limitless power and then return to praising Him and declaring your faith in Him:

- + “Yours is the Kingdom”—all authority belongs to You
- + “Yours is the Power”—all mightiness flows from You
- + “Yours is the Glory”—Your victory will be complete

PRAYER:

“God, nothing is too hard for You! Through Your great power, all things are possible. All authority is Yours, all might is Yours, and I know that Your victory will be complete. You are amazing, and I worship You. I praise You for Your power and presence in my life. You are my God, and You are worthy of all praise.”



PRAYING THROUGH THE TABERNACLE

In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle was the dwelling place of God, built to His specifications, where He would meet His people. As they entered the Tabernacle, they passed through prayer stations, following God's instructions, to experience His presence. Today, even though we no longer need the physical Tabernacle to meet with God, these same steps can help us connect with Him. This prayer model will take us through each station of the Tabernacle and use the purpose of each station to guide our prayers.

THE OUTER COURT

THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

The Israelites entered the Tabernacle with thanksgiving and praise, and we start our prayer time the same way.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. PSALM 100:4

Spend some time really thinking about all the blessings in your life for which you're thankful. You can write down a list, sing your own song of praise, or just spend quiet moments reflecting on your gratitude and praise toward God.

PRAYER:

"God, You are good, and You deserve all my praise and more. Thank You for the many ways You have blessed me and for watching over me (tell Him specific things in your life that you're grateful for. Thank Him for something new that you've never thanked Him for before). I want to experience Your presence and Your love in a fresh way today. I thank you that Your mercies are new every day. I thank you for Who You are and all You have done for me."

THE BRAZEN ALTAR

THE CROSS OF JESUS

In the Old Testament, everyone had to regularly bring animal sacrifices as payment for their sins. Today, we don't have to do that because Jesus paid for our sins with His blood on the cross.

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord. ACTS 3:19

Thank you Jesus for your sacrifice and love. Let the power of the cross and what it means for your life really settle in your spirit. In addition to expressing your gratitude, claim the power of transformation and healing that the cross of Jesus has in your life.

The cross provides us with five major benefits:

- + Salvation - God forgives all my sin
- + Healing - God heals all my diseases
- + Redemption - God rescues me and restores me
- + Transformation - God changes me into His likeness
- + Blessing - God provides everything I need

It is important that we die daily, as Paul notes (1 Corinthians 15:31), in repentance. This altar is a projection of Christ, meaning He was the spotless lamb sacrificed on a hill called Calvary for our sins. Our responsibility is to come to Him and ask for forgiveness for anything that is not pleasing to Him or does not obey His Word.

PRAYER:

"Thank You, Jesus, for making a way for me by the sacrifice You made for me on the cross. I lay my life down before You on an altar of repentance asking for your forgiveness. You saved me, and You set me free. I praise You for being my Healer. Thank You for being my Redeemer. You rescue me and give my life purpose. Thank You for transforming my life with Your love, for making me new. I want to grow to be more like You (give Him access to every area of your life). Thank You for blessing me. I know You have good plans for me and all that I have comes from You (thank Him for specific blessings in your life)."

THE LAVER

CLEANSING AND PREPARING

The next step in the Tabernacle was a bowl of water where people were reminded of their sinfulness and their need to be cleansed and forgiven by God. Checking our hearts and motives and surrendering our lives to God is an important part of daily prayer.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ROMANS 12:1 ESV

As the altar points to the death of Jesus Christ, so the lavar points to the life of Jesus Christ. Blood speaks of a life taken, water speaks of a life given.

As we come into a true relationship with Jesus we must go through the cleansing process. Baptism is the cleansing that takes place as we enter a Holy relationship with Him.

PRAY FIRST

Because of what Jesus did on the cross, we can confess our sins to Him and receive complete forgiveness and a fresh start. In prayer, humbly and sincerely turn away from your sins and allow a cleansing of the blood of Jesus to wash you. Then, surrender your life and every part of yourself to Him.

PRAYER:

"God, I confess my sins to You and turn away from them (tell God any sin you know is in your life and confess it to Him with a sincere heart. Ask Him to show you any other areas that need His cleansing). Thank You, God, for freely forgiving me. As I turn away from my sin, I turn toward You, and I offer myself to You:

- + I give You my tongue, to speak good and not evil*
- + I give You my eyes, to focus on You and the needs of others*
- + I give You my ears, to be sensitive to Your voice*
- + I give You my hands, to do good for others*
- + I give You my feet, to walk in Your ways and follow Your footsteps*
- + I give You my mind, to be transformed and used by You*

I ask You, Lord, for the fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23, so that I can grow closer to You and make a difference in the lives of others. I ask for: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

THE TABERNACLE

THE FIVE PILLARS

GOD'S GRACE

The grace of God is extended to us without conditions as an invitation to come into the Holy Place of His presence through prayer, worship, song, and His Word.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ISAIAH 9:6

The dual nature of Christ is signified in these five pillars; in the wood (humanity) and gold (Divinity & Sovereignty). The doorway had four pillars, but the door to the Holy Place had five pillars. Five is the number of grace. Only those who were partakers of the grace of God may enter the Holy Place.

- + Pillar 1: He is Wonderful (goodness)
- + Pillar 2: He is my Counselor (wisdom)
- + Pillar 3: He is my Mighty God (strength)
- + Pillar 4: He is my Heavenly Father (love)
- + Pillar 5: He is my Prince of Peace (sound mind)

The pillars were built to support the entrance to the inner court & Holy of Holies. Jesus is said to have the government or authority upon His shoulders. This is why we can come to Him with anything as His strength is unmatched.

PRAY FIRST

His grace is extended to us through the 5 definitions in Isaiah. He is wonderful in all His ways in our life, He is our counselor as we can bring the chaos of our lives to Him (His perfect love as our counselor can remove all fear), He is our Mighty God in how He fights our battles, protects us, covers us and His strength replaces our weakness, He is our everlasting Father as He works all things to our good, He is our Prince of Peace as He covers us in a peace that is beyond our ability to comprehend it.

PRAYER:

God of all mercy, as I come before you in prayer today, I thank you for Your grace that I know is extended to me. Your grace is enough for me no matter what the situation is in my life. As my wise counselor I bring every thought, worry, fear, and detail of my life to You (take a moment to let His grace cover you), as my Mighty God, Heavenly Father, and Prince of Peace I know I can carry anything & everything to You and You will have the wisdom, strength, gentleness, and vision to know what I need at the time I need it. I receive Your grace today and I fully trust in You.

THE HOLY PLACE

As God gave Moses the instructions for His tabernacle, He ordered that the tent be divided into two parts; a larger outer chamber called the Holy Place and an inner room called the Holy of Holies. This room is represented by three pieces of furniture, the Table of Shewbread, the Candlestick, and the Altar of Incense; which all individually are a representation of His relationship with us. These furnishings are a symbol of His Word of God, our worship and the church.

THE TABERNACLE

THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD

THE WORD OF GOD

In the Tabernacle, a table with twelve loaves of bread represented the importance of reading God's Word for daily sustenance.

Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

JOSHUA 1:8

God's Word is an incredible gift and a powerful tool, and it has great relevance and impact in our prayer life.

Here is how you can incorporate God's Word into your prayer time:

- + Take time to read and think about the Word
- + Claim God's many great promises for your life and the world around you
- + Ask Him for fresh revelation of His Word
- + Ask Him for a Word to help you as you go throughout your day

PRAYER:

"Thank You, God, for giving me Your Word. I commit to reading it, and I ask You to reveal Yourself to me through it. I want to know You more. Help me to grow more in love with Your Word and to be more dependent on it. I claim the promises You have for me, and I meditate on the truth of Your Word (pray any Scriptures that are on your heart or that God has given you in your current season). Give me fresh revelation from your Word today and every day! I am hungry to see You more clearly through Your Word."

THE GOLDEN CANDLESTICK

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The next piece of the Tabernacle was a seven-branched golden candlestick. This piece of furnishing represents the church and how we are called to be light in the world's darkness. The seven-branches represent the seven churches described in Revelations, it also points to the seven gifts of the Spirit mentioned in 1 Corinthians.

I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believes on me should not abide in darkness. JOHN 12:46

As the priest were coming into the Holy Place to commune with God in order to see the other furnishings there had to be light. The candlestick was the only source of light in the outer room. Jesus being the true light for the world is now represented by the church, which is called to allow the true light to shine through us.

PRAYER:

"Lord, I give honor to You as you have been the true source of light in my own life but also the world. Thank you for the anointing that You have placed in me and I ask that you help me use that anointing to be more like You as You are our example. As I commit my life to You I pray that the gifts of the Spirit will be activated on a daily basis so that others may see Your light and power. Let Your light shine into the darkest places and transform lives."

THE ALTAR OF INCENSE

WORSHIP

A small altar of burning incense stood at the entrance to the Holy of Holies, where God's presence dwelled. The people of God entered God's presence as they worshipped His Name. This altar represents worship and the pleasure it gives God when we worship Him.

The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe. PROVERBS 18:10 NLT

Thank God for making His presence available to you. Praise His Name and worship Him personally and specifically for Who He is and how He has moved in your life.

PRAYER:

"Thank You, God, for Your presence. I know that You are here with me. I worship You and You alone. I know God, that You are:

My Righteousness - Jeremiah 23:6

My Sanctifier - Leviticus 20:7-8

My Healer - Exodus 15:26

My Provider - Genesis 22:14

My Banner of Victory - Exodus 17:15

My Peace - Judges 6:24

My Shepherd - Psalm 23:1

(As you pray through the different Name of God, focus on a few aspects of who He is that have been especially meaningful in your current season of life.) I know that You are always with me, God, and Your presence is life to me. You give me breath, joy, and purpose."

THE HOLY OF HOLIES

Within the Holy Place of the tabernacle, there was an inner room called the Holy of Holies, or the Most Holy Place. Judging from its name, we can see that it was a most sacred room, a place no ordinary person could enter. It was God's special dwelling place in the midst of His people. During the Israelites' wanderings in the wilderness, God appeared as a pillar of cloud or fire in and above the Holy of Holies. The Holy of Holies was a perfect cube — its length, width and height were all equal to 15 feet.

A thick curtain separated the Holy of Holies from the Holy Place. This curtain, known as the "veil," was made of fine linen and blue, purple and scarlet yarn. There were figures of cherubim (angels) embroidered onto it. Cherubim, spirits who serve God, were in the presence of God to demonstrate His almighty power and majesty. They also guarded the throne of God.

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body ...let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith. HEBREWS 10:19-22

The word "veil" in Hebrew means a screen, divider or separator that hides. What was this curtain hiding?

Essentially, it was shielding a holy God from sinful man. Whoever entered into the Holy of Holies was entering the very presence of God. In fact, anyone except the high priest who entered the Holy of Holies would die. Even the high priest, God's chosen mediator with His people, could only pass through the veil and enter this sacred dwelling once a year, on a prescribed day called the Day of Atonement.

However, Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross changed that. When He died, the curtain in the Jerusalem temple was torn in half, from the top to the bottom.

As the veil was torn, the Holy of Holies was exposed. God's presence was now accessible to all. Shocking as this may have been to the priests ministering in the temple that day, it is indeed good news to us as believers, because we know that Jesus' death has atoned for our sins and made us right before God. The torn veil illustrated Jesus' body broken for us, opening the way for us to come to God.

As Jesus cried out "It is finished!" on the cross, He was indeed proclaiming that God's redemptive plan was now complete. The age of animal offerings was over. The ultimate offering had been sacrificed.

We can now boldly enter into God's presence, "the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf." (Hebrews 6:19-20)

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

INTERCESSION

The final place in the Tabernacle was the Holy of Holies, where God's presence dwelled. There, the priest interceded by praying on behalf of the people of God. In the same way, we intercede on behalf of those around us.

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4

We can make a difference when we spend time praying for others.

Pray for those with whom you interact and connect, including:

- + Those in authority - leaders in church, government, family, and workplace
- + Your family - both immediate and extended family members
- + Your church - pastors, City Group leaders, members, and missionaries
- + Your community - people in your city, nation, and world
- + Your relationships - friends, co-workers, acquaintances

PRAYER:

"Thank You, God, for creating a way for me to have Your presence wherever I go. I want to specifically ask You to watch over those in authority over me - my spiritual leaders, the leaders of our government, the leaders in my family, and my employers (pray for these people by name). I ask that You give them wisdom and grace, watch over and protect them, help them to know and love You more. I ask You, God, to be present with my family. Bless them and keep them from harm (pray for any specific needs in your family right now). For those in my family who don't know You, I ask that You meet them where they are and guide their hearts toward You. I ask You to watch over my church, God. Give my pastor wisdom and vision, bless the City Groups and everyone who steps foot into our building. I pray that You will bring the lost into our church, and that they will have a positive experience and come to know You. Keep our vision rooted in who You are and moving toward Your goals. I ask You to watch over my city, my nation, and our world. Bring peace and help us all take steps toward You (name areas where you feel a burden for your city, nation, and the world). I pray for anyone who comes across my path to see Your light in me. I lift up my friends, neighbors, and coworkers. I thank You for them and pray for Your blessing over them (pray for any specific needs of others). Lastly God, I ask You to provide for my needs. I know that You sustain me, and that You care for me. I lift up my physical, emotional, and spiritual needs to You (share the needs on your mind right now). I lay my cares at Your feet. Thank You for loving me, choosing me, and calling me Yours. Amen."

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

The Word of God is one of the most valuable tools we have to build a dynamic daily prayer life. It brings power, truth, and encouragement to our prayer time.

Let's begin with King David's Psalm 23. Take a moment to read it, and then use the prayer below as a way to use the psalm to have a conversation with God.

SCRIPTURE:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever. PSALM 23

PRAYER:

"God, You are my Provider, and I know You will take care of me. Thank You for guiding me to places of rest. You are my source of energy and passion. You keep me going and lead me toward a life of purpose and freedom. I know that even when I experience my darkest seasons of difficulty and challenge, I have nothing to be afraid of because You are with me.

Your presence and power are a constant comfort to me. I know that You are preparing the way for me and that my enemies cannot touch me because You are taking care of me. I know that You have blessed me, and I thank You for choosing me and anointing me with purpose. Your blessings are so much more than I could ask for. I know that You are good, God, and that You are with me all the days of my life. You have chosen me, and I have chosen You, and that means I will be with You, in Your presence, forever."

In the following section, we will use several Scriptures and claim their promises through prayer. You can make this as personal as you like. You will find the most benefit when you pray the Scriptures that God is showing you in His Word and that are connecting with you personally in your current season of life.

SCRIPTURE:

Come near to God and He will come near to you. JAMES 4:8

PRAYER:

"Heavenly Father, You have promised that if I draw near to You, You will draw near to me. I need more of Your presence today, and I am drawing near to You through prayer, worship, and reading Your Word. I open my heart to You and ask You to come close to me and change me to be more like You."

PRAY FIRST

SCRIPTURE:

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. PSALM 139:23-24

PRAYER:

"God, I ask You to search my heart. I open my life fully to You today. If You find anything in me that is offensive, please show me and help me remove it from my life. Lead me to live a life that draws people to You. Help me live my life on earth in a way that impacts eternity."

SCRIPTURE:

But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. MATTHEW 6:33

PRAYER:

"Your Word tells me that if I seek first Your Kingdom and Your righteousness, You will lead me to a life of blessing, purpose, and freedom. I am Yours today, God, and I give this day to You. Help me to focus on Your priorities first, sharing Your love and making Your Name known. I know that by focusing on You rather than myself, I will receive joy and peace."

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE:

*Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up.
JAMES 4:10*

PRAYER:

"God, You have promised that if I humble myself before You, You will lift me up. I recognize today that I cannot succeed on my own, and I need You in every moment. I admit my need for You in every avenue of my life and day. I humble myself before You, and I ask You to work in and through me today. My time, efforts, thoughts, and words are Yours today (name specific parts of your day and give them to God). Use me for Your purposes, Lord. I trust that You will be with me and lift me up."

SCRIPTURE:

For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. 2 TIMOTHY 1:7

PRAYER:

"I know You have not given me a spirit of fear or timidity, but one of power, love, and self-discipline. When my mind feels out of control, I invite You to take every thought into captivity. I pray that You will renew my spirit and let power, love, and self-discipline fill me. Help me to look more like You every day. I declare that anything that is not of You has to leave me in Jesus' mighty Name. I proclaim that I do not have a spirit of fear, but I have a sound and healthy mind."

PRAY FIRST

SCRIPTURE:

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

ROMANS 8:28

PRAYER:

"God, You promise me in Your Word that in all things You work for my good. Right now, there are circumstances in my life that don't feel good and that I can't see an ounce of good in (talk to God about the specific situations that are causing you difficulty or pain). Even though this is how I feel, I choose to believe Your truth over my feelings. When you say You will work in all things for my good, I believe You. Even in situations that seem hopeless, I know You are working on my behalf and that You want more for me than I could ever want for myself. Thank You for having a purpose for me and for working all my life circumstances for good."

SCRIPTURE:

Trust in Him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge. PSALM 62:8

PRAYER:

"Father, in Your Word You invite me to pour out my heart to You. You are my refuge, and I know that anything I think, feel, or do is ok to bring to You. Knowing that You are a safe place for me, I come to You and give You everything on my heart (talk to God about the specific things that are on your heart today). From what is worrying me to what is delighting me, what I hope for to what I'm afraid of, I bring it all to You because I know I can trust You. Help me and guide me in every area, in Jesus Name."

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE:

The Lord will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands.

DEUTERONOMY 28:12

PRAYER:

"Lord, I believe You have everything I need and You want to bless me. You tell me in Your Word that You will open the heavens to bless the work I do. I know that without You, I can do nothing. I ask that You will open the heavens and pour out Your blessings and power over me. I give my work and my efforts to You and I ask You for favor and blessing in anything my hands touch (surrender specific efforts to Him). May it be for Your glory alone so that others may see Your power and goodness at work."

SCRIPTURE:

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39

PRAYER:

"God, I am in awe of Your love for me. You are so great, and I am so small, yet You love me fully. I remind my soul today that nothing can separate me from Your love—I am so grateful! There is nothing I can do to win or lose Your love; You love me without condition. Because I know nothing on earth, in time or space, or anything in existence can separate me from Your love, I will live confidently and peacefully knowing I have always been and will always be fully loved by You."

PRAY FIRST

SCRIPTURE:

"No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and this is their vindication from me," declares the Lord.

ISAIAH 54:17

PRAYER:

"Lord, I know that no weapon raised against me will succeed because I am Your child. I feel pressure in my life right now, and sometimes I feel as though life will overcome me (talk to God about the concerns weighing on you). Even though I feel this way, in faith, I claim Your promise that no weapon can overcome me and that any accusations that come against me will be silenced. I place my trust in You and I choose to stand in Your will. This truth is verified by Your love and saving power in my life."

SCRIPTURE:

"Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." HEBREWS 13:5

PRAYER:

"I am so comforted by the fact that You will never leave me. You are always with me, and I am safe with You. As I go through my life and take on each new situation, I'm comforted by knowing I'm not alone because You are by my side. Help me feel Your presence. When I feel uncertain or afraid, I pray You will comfort me through the leading of the Holy Spirit and remind me that I am never alone because You, the Almighty God, have promised to always be with me."

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

PRAYER:

"God, my heart feels anxious (tell God what is giving you anxiety). I'm thankful I can come to You and receive peace. You invite me to replace my fear with prayer, and even though my mind and heart are racing, I'm coming to You knowing that You provide healing and calm for my soul. Thank You for giving me breath and life. I thank You that I am fearfully and wonderfully made in Your image. I lay down all worries, all my physical and mental anxiety, and any attempt at trying to control it all (tell Him the things you are laying down right now). I surrender it all to You. I need You. I need Your peace that transcends my human understanding. Even if things are unstable around me, I pray that Your peace will be evident in my heart and my life. Guard my heart and mind, God. I trust that You are faithful, and I receive Your peace in my life today."

SCRIPTURE:

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. PSALM 145:13-14

PRAYER:

"Almighty God, as I claim the promises in Your Word through my prayer time, I praise You for Your character. Trustworthy, faithful—that is Who You are. I thank You that I can trust You to be faithful to me. I know that when I come to You with humility and a surrendered heart that You will lift me up."

PRAY FIRST

SCRIPTURE:

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." JEREMIAH 29:11-13

PRAYER:

"My God, I try to make so many plans for my life, but I know Your plans for me are best. You tell me that You have plans for me to prosper and have hope and a future. Thank You for loving me enough to have a plan for my life. You have promised me that when I call on You, You will listen to me. Thank You for listening when I pray. I am confident knowing that I serve a God who cares about my life. I want to find You every day, and You say that if I seek You with all my heart, I will find You. Thank You for showing me the way to You. I lay my plans down at Your feet and receive Your plans for me (mention your plans and lay them down before God). I know that You see the big picture and You know what is better for me than I do. I trust You, and I ask You to guide me toward Your perfect will and plans."

SCRIPTURE:

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light. MATTHEW 11:28-30

PRAYING SCRIPTURE

PRAYER:

"Lord Jesus, I am so tired and worn out (tell God the areas that you're tired and weary). I feel exhausted mentally and physically. Life feels hard, and I feel like I can't keep up my current pace. You invite me to come to You when I am weary, and I fall at Your feet desperate for rest, peace, and perspective. Show me where I am trying to do things on my own. Show me where I need to rest instead of strive. Teach me Your ways. Show me how to walk in gentleness, humility, and rest. I know Your ways are higher than my ways, and I pray that You will transform my heart and mind to be more like You."

SCRIPTURE:

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." PSALM 91:1-2

PRAYER:

"God, I claim that I dwell in Your shelter, the Most High God, and I rest in Your shadow, the Almighty One. I claim that You alone are my refuge and fortress. You are my God and I trust You. When I face anything that brings me uncertainty or fear (confess these things to Him), I know that I can come to You as my safe place. Thank You for Your strength and protection in my life."

THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

Jabez cried out to the God of Israel, "Oh, that You would bless me and enlarge my territory! Let Your hand be with me, and keep me from harm so that I will be free from pain." And God granted his request. 1 CHRONICLES 4:10

The Prayer of Jabez is a helpful model of a prayer we can pray every day.

01. BLESSING

Jabez begins his prayer by asking God for His blessing. We need more of God's blessing to be better equipped to make a difference for His Kingdom. We need more provision, more spiritual gifting, more wisdom, so that we can bless others with what God has given us. James 4:2-3 tells us, *"You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."*

God wants to bless us, but He is often waiting for us to ask with the right heart. We have a big God, and we can be bold in asking for His blessing. As James points out, God sees our heart, and when we ask for blessing with the motivation not only to help ourselves but to help others, this gets His attention.

"Oh, that You would bless me..." 1 CHRONICLES 4:10

PRAYER:

"God, I pray that You would bless me with more than I need so that I can bless others. I pray for more provision, that You would equip me to give generously to others and meet their practical needs in Your Name. I ask You to give me greater spiritual gifting so that I can strengthen the church and be more effective for the Kingdom of God. I pray for an abundance of wisdom and discernment so that I can point others to You and make decisions that honor You. Help me keep Your generous blessings in perspective, so that I never become self-serving but stay focused on using what You've given me to serve other people."

02. INFLUENCE

Next, Jabez asks for more influence. As God's blessings increase in our lives, we ask for and experience greater opportunity to influence the world around us for Him. God has the power to bless us greatly, and He also has the power to open doors of opportunity for us to make a difference. We want to walk through doors that only He can open, and He responds when we specifically ask Him to give us more influence for His Name.

PRAY FIRST

"Enlarge my territory..."

1 CHRONICLES 4:10

Pray for more influence. Knowing that God can make a way, trust in Him to open doors and lead you on the best path for your life and for His glory.

PRAYER:

"God, make me effective in my sphere of influence, and open new doors for me to be able to influence and reach even more people (name any particular areas where you'd like to have more influence). Help me to be a good steward of the responsibility You've entrusted to me. I pray for greater territory to impact for Your glory."

03. PRESENCE

In order to have lasting influence, we need God's presence in our lives. Through His power at work within us, God can do more than we could ever ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). As we ask for blessing and influence, we also need to ask for His presence as Jabez did so that we are not operating out of our own strength but through the presence and the hand of our Almighty God.

"Let Your hand be with me..."

1 CHRONICLES 4:10

In humility, acknowledge your need for God's presence. Depend on Him and ask for more of Him in your life today.

PRAYER:

"Lord, I know that without You, I am nothing. I cannot do what You've called me to do on my own."

PRAYER OF JABEZ

I am desperate for Your presence in my life. I depend on You completely. I recognize that the same Spirit who raised Christ Jesus from the dead lives in me. Through the power of Your Spirit, I pray that You will help me succeed in the opportunities You've given me. Thank You for being with me. I would never want to face today without You."

04. PROTECTION

Finally, Jabez asks the Lord to protect him. If we are influencing the world for Jesus, we must understand the enemy will try to stop us. This leads us to pray that God will not only help us if the enemy attacks, but that He will protect us from the enemy attacking us in the first place. Jesus has already won the victory so we don't need to fear destruction. God promises to be with us and protect us, and because He is with us we have nothing to fear.

"Keep me from harm"

1 CHRONICLES 4:10

Trust God to protect you. Tell Him specific areas where you feel the need for His protection and ask Him to cover areas that you can't yet see.

PRAYER:

"God, as I walk out the purpose You have for my life, I pray that You will stop any and every attack of the enemy against me. Please protect my body, my mind, and my emotions. Don't let the enemy get a foothold in my life. I pray, too, that You will protect my family and community from harm. I know that the One who is in me is greater than the one who is in the world, so I have nothing to fear. Thank You for watching over me. I love You and I trust You."

WARFARE PRAYERS

Prayer is not only communion with God; it is also confrontation with the enemy. When Jesus was on the earth, He came face-to-face with the devil when He was tempted in the wilderness (see Matthew 4 and Luke 4), and every time the enemy tried to tempt Him, Jesus responded with a reference from the Bible. He used the Sword of Truth to defend Himself from the enemy's attacks. Consider that in these exchanges, Jesus didn't confront the devil as God. He confronted the devil as a man with the Word of God. We should do the same thing. These spiritual warfare prayers and verses are examples we can use and adapt to our specific situations when we or someone we know is under attack from the devil.

THE ARMOR OF GOD

Based on Ephesians 6:13-17

Knowing that we are in a spiritual battle, God provides spiritual armor and equips us to take a stand when battles come our way.

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the Gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

EPHESIANS 6:11-18

Acknowledge that you're in a spiritual battle. Then, claim the protection God has given you by praying through the different pieces of armor described in Ephesians 6.

PRAYER:

"Thank You, Lord, for my salvation. I receive it in a new and fresh way from You, and I declare that nothing can separate me from the love of Christ and the place I have in Your Kingdom. I wear Your righteousness today against all condemnation and corruption. Cover me with Your holiness and purity—defend me from all attacks against my heart. Lord, I put on the belt of truth. I choose a lifestyle of honesty and integrity. Expose the lies I have believed, and show me Your truth today. I choose to live for the Gospel in every moment. Show me where You are working and lead me to it.

Give me strength to walk daily with You. I believe that You are powerful against every lie and attack of the enemy and I receive and claim your power in my life. Nothing is coming today that can overcome me because You are with me. Holy Spirit, show me the truths of the Word of God that I will need to counter the traps of the enemy. Bring those Scriptures to mind today. Finally, Holy Spirit, I agree to walk in step with You in everything as my spirit communes with You in prayer throughout the day."

ARMOR OF GOD

- + Belt of Truth
 - Proverbs 23:23
- + Breastplate of Righteousness
 - Guards your heart
- + Feet Shod with Gospel of Peace
 - Equipped with the Gospel
- + Sheild of Faith
 - Extinguishes the arrows of the enemy
- + Helmet of Salvation
 - Covering of our mind
- + Sword of the Spirit
 - The Word of God

THE WEAPONS OF OUR WARFARE

Based on 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

When we are aware of spiritual warfare, we can be active in praying through it. God has given us victory and power to fight through the blood of Jesus.

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 CORINTHIANS 10:4-5

You can command anything that comes against the truth of God and His Word to bow to the Name of Jesus. Take a bold stand, praying specifically and confidently through God's power and His Spirit.

PRAYER:

"Father, Your Word says that no weapon formed against me will prosper (Isaiah 54:17), and I declare it in Jesus Name. Your Word says that trouble will not arise a second time (Nahum 1:9). So, I declare in Jesus Name that satan cannot make trouble for me again, like he has in the past. I declare in the Name of Jesus that all of these prayers are answered and taken care of by trusting You.

I stand on Your Word. The enemy is driven out from me; from my home, workplace, church family, children, and loved ones. I declare that he is not able to stand against me.

No weapon formed against me will prosper, because the Spirit of the Lord is with me, protecting me. I declare these truths in the Name of Jesus. Anything that comes against me or my family that is not in line with the truth and will of God, I command to bow to the powerful Name of Jesus. God, I give You all of my thanksgiving, praise, glory, honor, and worship. Thank You for loving me, making me clean, and giving me purpose."

PROTECTION PRAYER

2 Thessalonians 3:3; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1, 10:3-5; Romans 12:1-2

We often worry about our safety and protection. When we feel this way, we can immediately come to God in prayer, pouring out our heart to Him, and battling in the heavenlies by asking for and claiming protection for ourselves and our families in Jesus Name.

But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 2 THESSALONIANS 3:3

Share your thoughts and concerns with God. Ask Him for His supernatural protection. He says He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways (Psalm 91:11). Claim this promise and lay everything down before Him trusting His good plans and His power to protect you and those you love.

In the first part of Psalms 23, we read that He walks with us and we shall fear no evil. Trust in Him for protection even when things seem chaotic because He is always there.

God is:

- + Omnipotent - all powerful and all authority
- + Omnificent - all knowing
- + Ominopresent - all present

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. PSALM 23

PRAYER:

"I bow in worship to praise You. Thank You for making a way for me Jesus. I surrender myself completely in every area of my life to You. I submit myself to the true and living God and refuse any involvement of the enemy in my life. I choose to be transformed by the renewing of my mind. I reject every thought that tries to compete against the knowledge of Christ. I pray and thank You for a sound mind, the mind of Christ. Today and every day I ask for protection over my family and loved ones; all immediate family members, relatives, friends, acquaintances, and myself. I ask for protection during all of our travels. I ask You to watch over our financial security, possessions, health, and safety (be as specific here as you like). All that I have is Yours God, and I declare that satan cannot touch me or anything You have given me. I rebuke the enemy and tell him to bow to the blood of Jesus that covers me and my family. He will not take what You have given us and we are protected and provided for by You, God, and You alone."

REPENTANCE PRAYER

Based on Romans 10:10; James 5:16; 1 John 1:7-9, 3:8

Our sin separates us from God, but Jesus made a way for us to be reunited with Him by covering our sin by dying on the cross.

When we accept the gift of salvation we confess our sin, and as Christians, confessing and repenting of sin is something we continue to do. By coming clean and repentant before God, He is able to work in our lives and transform us to be more like Him.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 JOHN 1:9

Assume a posture of humility, and without fear of condemnation or punishment, come sincerely to God confessing your sin on a regular basis. Whether your sin feels big or small to you, your sin is still sin and affects your relationship with God. You get His attention when you tell Him your sin and turn from that sin to follow Him. After you confess, remind yourself and claim the power of the blood of Jesus in your life to wash you clean and make you new.

PRAYER:

"Lord Jesus, I confess all of my sins to You. I repent and turn away from them. I'm sorry for the wrong I have done. I confess the times I should have stepped up to do right and did nothing instead. I lay it all down at Your feet. I submit my thoughts, words, actions, and inactions to You.

Thank You, God, for forgiving and making a way for me. You died on the cross for my sins and rose to life again on the third day. I confess all my sins and repent. I receive Your forgiveness and ask You to cleanse me from all sin. Thank You for redeeming me, setting me free, making me holy, and giving my life purpose."

FORGIVENESS PRAYER

Based on Matthew 6:14-15; Leviticus 19:18

Forgiveness can feel challenging, but God makes it clear in the Bible that He freely forgives us and we are expected to do the same for others.

For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins. MATTHEW 6:14-15

Come before the Lord with humility, honesty, and sincerity. Share the areas in your life where you need to forgive others. Even if you aren't able to settle a situation with that person, you can settle it with the Lord, letting them off the hook by forgiving them. As you choose to forgive those who have hurt or offended you, you can also praise and thank God for forgiving you when you didn't deserve it.

PRAYER:

"Lord, I have a confession to make. I haven't loved others well. I have resented certain people and have not forgiven them in my heart. God, I know that You have forgiven me for so much, and I need Your help to follow You and forgive others. In faith, I now forgive (name them). I also forgive and accept myself because You have made me new in the Name of Jesus."

PRIDE PRAYER

Based on Proverbs 11:2, 16:18, 26:12; 1 Timothy 3:6

The Bible tells us that pride comes before the fall. Pride can be a very real issue in our lives, but we have the power to overcome it through the power of the Holy Spirit.

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom. PROVERBS 11:2

Practicing humility requires overcoming pride in our lives. Just as you confess other sins, regularly confess your pride to God.

Submit it to Him, asking Him to help you walk in humility, free of pride and self-absorption. If you feel like pride is an issue that continues to surface in your life, confess it daily and bring it before God.

PRAYER:

"I come to You in the Name of Jesus. I know pride only keeps me from You. I put down anything that would cause me to have pride in my heart in dealing with other people. Help me to prioritize others over myself. I ask you God, to remind me daily that true humility is not thinking less of myself, it's thinking of myself less. I humble myself before You and come to You like a child."

Note: One of the best ways to humble ourselves is to mix prayer with fasting.

GENERATIONAL BONDAGE PRAYER

Based on Exodus 20:4-6, 34:7; Numbers 14:18; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1, 12:1

Generational bondage is sin that can be passed down from generation to generation. Whether it's pride, addiction, divorce, abandonment, sexual sin, or something else, through spiritual warfare, you can claim the power of the Holy Spirit to stop the sin with your generation not passing it on to anyone else in your family.

You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments. EXODUS 20:4-6

Recognize the generational bondage that might be in your life and bring it before God. Ask for His power to defeat the sin that has affected generations of your family. Ask for it to stop right now, with you, and rebuke any sin or anything that tries to pull you away from your relationship with Christ. Pray for protection, healing, and a new path for you and your family.

PRAYER:

"I understand that I have inherited certain consequences from my family, and in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I proclaim Your power to break any hold of mental or physical illness, pride, addiction, and anything else on me and my family that are a result of sin being passed down through parents, grandparents, or other family members (if specifics come to mind, talk to God about it).

PRAY FIRST

I proclaim that all generational sin ends here and now, and that I will not pass these on to anyone in my family. Thank You, Lord, for setting me free and making a new way for me and my family."

HEALING PRAYER

Based on 1 Peter 2:24; Psalm 103:2-5; Luke 1:37

Our God is a God of miracles. Just as we read about in the Bible, we still see Him perform miraculous healing today. He is our healer, and we can confidently approach Him asking for healing for ourselves or someone we know.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits— who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. PSALM 103:2-5

In faith, ask God for healing. Proclaim His power and goodness, believing and trusting Him to take care of you or those you're praying to be healed.

PRAYER:

"In the Name of Jesus, I come before You asking for healing (name yourself or someone you are praying to experience healing). My hope is in You as our healer. I believe You are able to do this. Your name is Jehovah Rapha, the God who heals, and I believe every knee will bow to You including the name of (name disease or disorder).

WARFARE PRAYERS

Thank You, Jesus, for dying on the cross so that we can receive healing. You say that You forgive our sins and heal our diseases, and I praise You for this. Thank You that the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us. I stand in faith believing for healing for (yourself or someone you're praying for). Nothing is impossible for You, God! Give us peace and direction as You work in our lives. In Jesus Name, Amen."

MARRIAGE PRAYER

Based on Ephesians 5:25-30

God created marriage, and His design for it is good. In marriage, just as in any human relationship, we have to work to love well. We can't do this successfully in our own power. We need God to guide us in our marriage. Marriage is a picture of Jesus Christ and His bride, the Church. As Christian husbands and wives, we have the high honor to represent the love and commitment Christ has for the Church through our love and commitment to each other.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church.

EPHESIANS 5:25-30 ESV

PRAY FIRST

Thank God for your marriage. Start by asking Him to help you be the best spouse you can be. Ask Him to help you love well and to see your spouse as He sees them. Then, pray for your marriage, asking God to use your marriage to impact the world for Him. Ask Him for protection physically, spiritually, and emotionally. Pray for unity in your marriage and wisdom from Him about how to live your lives as one. Bring to Him anything in your marriage that concerns you, and trust Him to work on your behalf.

PRAYER:

"Thank You, God, for loving us, and for creating marriage to be an illustration of Your love for us here on earth. Help me, God, to love my spouse (call them by name) the way You love me. Help me to listen to my spouse, give honor, and put my spouse before myself. Protect us physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. We ask You to build greater unity between us, make us stronger as a couple, more devoted to one another and to You. Use us God, build us up to be an example of what Godly marriage can look like. Use us together to do more than we could ever do apart. We ask for greater influence and more impact on the people around us. We ask you to work through us in the lives of our friends, family, and even those far away. Fill us with Your Holy Spirit and move through us to bring those far from You closer, so that they can have an encounter with the Living God, who seeks and saves the lost, and who sets us free and gives us purpose. We choose as a couple to love You first, God. We put our relationship with You before anything and everything else. We confess our need for You. Thank You for bringing us together. We choose to love one another today and every day. Thank You for our marriage. We ask You to bless it, build it, and be present in it always."

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO NEED GOD

PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO NEED GOD

God desires everyone to know Him. He says in His Word that He would leave the 99 to go after the one who doesn't know Him. As followers of Christ, we are called to partner with Him praying for those who don't know Him to come to know Him.

01. DRAWING NEAR

God draws people to Him. It's not something we can make happen out of our own efforts, so we need to be faithful in praying that the Lord would draw those He's placed on our hearts to Him.

No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them...JOHN 6:44

Think about the people you know who are far from God. Let your heart be open to God and anyone He may bring to your mind. It may help to write down their names as you focus on praying for them.

PRAYER:

"Father, I pray for the people around me (list specific names), that you would supernaturally draw their hearts to you. Let your Spirit draw them, and give them the desire to give their lives to You. Help them to recognize their longing for more in life as a spiritual thirst only you can quench. Open their ears to hear your voice."

02. BIND THE SPIRIT THAT BLINDS THEIR MINDS

The truth can be right in front of some people, and they still can't see it because something is in the way blocking their view of God.

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 CORINTHIANS 4:4

We can pray against whatever is in their way so that they can see the light of God. We can pray that they would see the truth without any obstacles or distractions interfering.

PRAYER:

"Bind the evil spirits that are blinding the minds of the people around me. In the name of Jesus, I pray that they would be able to see clearly, to recognize who You are, and to give their hearts to You. Remove all hindrances the enemy would use to distract them from Your truth. Open their eyes, Lord, that they might see You."

03. PRAY THAT THEY MAY HAVE A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Many people think Christianity is just another religion. They only see God through the lens of the organization and institution of the church. They may even feel frustrated, angry, or betrayed by people in churches they have encountered. God came to have a relationship with his children.

It's not about religion, it's about a relationship. As we were created in His image, He is a relational God, and desires a personal relationship with you.

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ROMANS 8:15

God wants His beloved sons and daughters to come home. Praying for people to have personal encounters with the living God makes a huge difference.

PRAYER:

"I pray that people will understand how much You love them. Loose the spirit of adoption for the people around me, so that they come into a meaningful relationship with You. Stir in their hearts a longing to come home, to hear Your voice, and to see You welcoming them with open arms. Let them know You are always running to meet them and hold them close."

04. PRAY FOR BELIEVERS TO CROSS THEIR PATHS

This is twofold: we can pray for other Christians to influence the people around them positively, and we can also look for opportunities to influence others positively ourselves. God's plan to reach people is worked through those who already know and love Him. Jesus asked us to pray for people to go into the world to be salt and light. He came to bring the good news of the Gospel to all people, and His desire is that everyone would know and love Him.

Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. MATTHEW 9:38

As his "spiritual farmers," we should be attuned to opportunities to plant spiritual seeds in the lives of the people we encounter each day. We may have no idea who has already been praying for them and the culminating impact our kind word, compassionate act, or loving attitude can have to draw someone to Christ.

PRAYER:

"I pray for the lost around me to meet believers who will influence them in a positive way. Lord, let my life shine in such a way that people want to know the God I serve. Allow others to see my genuine love and concern for them in all that I say and do. Let me be Your hands and feet to serve them and let them know just how much You love them."

05. RELEASE THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION ON THEM, SO THEY MAY KNOW GOD BETTER

It's that "eureka" moment, that "aha!" when it finally clicks. The most important moment to have this kind of revelation is when the lights come on spiritually. People need to see their own sin, see what Jesus did on the cross, and see the hope that comes from receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. EPHESIANS 1:17

People need wisdom, not just knowledge, of spiritual things and insight into how spiritual realities directly impact them. We can pray for this kind of supernatural revelation that only comes from God.

PRAYER:

"Jesus, I pray for the people around me to experience the spirit of wisdom and revelation. I pray that they would truly understand their spiritual condition and see what You did for them on the cross. Help them to have the courage and faith needed to come to You, so they can understand all You have for them."

PERSONAL PRAYER FOCUS

God has put us on the earth at this specific time for a reason. He says in Acts 17:26 that He determined when and where we would live. Knowing this, we can look at those around us at this specific time in history, and take personal responsibility to pray.

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4

Pray for those in authority and those under your authority. Pray for those in your family and your circle of influence (anyone you're connected to). Write down the names of specific people and pray for them.

MY FAMILY

SPOUSE

KIDS

PARENTS

SIBLINGS

EXTENDED FAMILY

MY CHURCH

PASTOR & FAMILY

MINISTRY LEADER

CITY GROUP LEADS

MY MINISTRY

MY LIFE

JOB

SCHOOL

FRIENDS
