



## PRAYER GUIDE

### 01.15.23 STRENGTH

Many in our church are fasting from something in this 21 days of prayer. You might be fasting from tv, social media, desserts, shopping, or coffee, all of which would be a disruption to your normal routine. Jesus spoke of the importance of fasting in a way to honor God and draw near to him, and to make sure you aren't doing it for your own gain. In Matthew 6:16-18 Jesus says "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but but your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." As you fast from something, you may be getting weary of it. Please continue to press on and draw your strength from the Lord. We don't fast as the scripture says for our own gain to be recognized for it, but to honor God and know Him more. Pray today for continued strength in your fast or for those that are fasting that God would speak and would bring you closer to Him.

*Lord, in this time of prayer and fasting I ask that you speak to me. I long to grow closer to you in this season. I pray that you will strengthen me and help me to press on. I pray for others in our church that are fasting, please strengthen them and help them to draw nearer to you. I know this sacrifice is nothing compared to what you have sacrificed for me. Thank you for your love and grace. Amen.*

### 01.16.23 FORGIVENESS

Forgiveness is difficult. When someone has hurt you it is so hard to forgive them. Yet God calls us to forgive others. Is there someone that can't seem to forgive because of what they did. There's an old saying on forgiveness, that a lack of forgiveness is like drinking poison yourself and hoping that they will get sick. In other words, not forgiving someone really does more damage to you than to them. It can destroy you from the inside out if you can't find a way to give it over to the Lord and genuinely forgive. Colossians 3:13 says, "bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other, as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive." God calls us to forgive as the Lord has forgiven us. Isn't it amazing how much grace God has poured out upon us. We want that forgiveness and grace for ourselves, but we often don't want to give it out to others. Would you take a moment to ask yourself if you have bitterness or anger toward any person over something they have done? Would seek the Lord and pray that God will strengthen you to genuinely forgive them. Maybe you need to take a step and making the relationship right again by having a conversation. Pray to Lord who has forgiven us so much.

*Heavenly Father, you blessed me and you have forgiven me of my sins. You have poured out your grace and mercy upon my life. Thank you for your forgiveness. Help me in my desire to forgive those that have sinned against me. Help me to genuinely forgive them and move forward and past the issue. God give me a love for them that I know you have for them. Thank you for your work and your guiding hand. Amen.*



## PRAYER GUIDE

**01.17.23**  
**NATION**

Our country needs our prayers and our leaders need our prayers. In a time where culture seems to be moving more and more away from God, we as the church need to be pursuing God in prayer more. As God spoke to the people of Israel, He called them to pray. In 2 Chronicles 7:14 it says, “If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and hear their land.” We understand that this scripture is focused upon God’s calling to the Israelites, but it such a great reminder for us and the church today. God works mightily when we pray and seek him. It’s time for us to turn away from the wicked and sinful things that we do and focus our attention upon the Lord. Will you spend some time today praying for our country and praying for our leaders? Here is a prayer to help you but please spend time praying also on your own.

*Gracious Lord, you have been so good to us. You are a great and awesome God. We pray for our nation today. We ask Lord that you give our Leaders wisdom as they lead. We pray that we as Christians will truly seek your face and that our leaders and our country would seek you. Please Lord do a new work across our land and heal our land. We give you our praise. Amen.*

**01.18.23**  
**PEACE**

Everyone desires to have peace. In a broken and sinful world there are times when we don’t feel that peace that we hope for. Scripture tells that peace is found in the fruit of the Spirit mentioned in Galatians 5:22-23. It says this, “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” It is truly amazing that the Holy Spirit brings us that peace. Today may be a day that you feel overwhelmed or burdened by something that you are walking through. You may feel stress and the heaviness of this world upon your shoulders. Will you spend some time praying for peace in your life and in the lives of others as well? Pray your own prayer but here is a prayer to help guide you.

*God our Father, thank you for the peace that you provide. In a busy, broken, and sinful world there are so many stresses and burdens on our lives. Would you pour out your strength and your peace on my life today. I give this over to you and I thank you for carrying the burden for me. Please Lord quiet my mind, soul, and spirit and help me to trust in you. It’s in Jesus’ name that I pray. Amen.*



## PRAYER GUIDE

**01.19.23**  
**UNITY**

God was working greatly in the early church.

It's clear that they were devoted to prayer and to one another. One of the main reasons that God was working through them was because they were united. They were focused together on the mission that was before them. In Acts 4:32 it says, "Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common."

Will you pray that in this coming year our church will be united. Our church is filled with wonderful people but we know the enemy is always at work trying to divide us. We all have our preferences about different things that go on in the life of the church, but let's pray that God will bring us together even more in this season. Please spend some time praying for unity in this coming year, that God will us together to focus on the mission God has for us. Pray your own prayer but here is a prayer to help guide you.

*Lord Jesus, we know that the enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy. We know that the enemy wants to divide any church he can and destroy it. Please protect us from that and please bring us as a church together more than anytime before. We love each other deeply, help us to draw even closer together and focus our attention on the things that truly matter. In my preferences, help me to see that others have preferences as well. Let it not ever be about me, but all about you. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

**01.20.23**  
**GENEROSITY**

Are you generous? Have you ever considered that question before? Not just with your money but with your time and your talents as well. We as Christians should lead the way in our generosity. There are so many needs in our area and around the world, we should always be willing to help those areas of needs with the blessings that God has blessed us with. In 2

Corinthians 9:6-7 says "whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Our flesh tends to pull us to keep what is ours, but in reality everything is God's, we are to be good stewards of what He has given us. Perhaps indeed you are generous in your giving of resources and in your time and energy. We praise God for you. However, we can all grow in this area, we can all become even more generous with what the Lord has blessed us with. Will you spend some time in prayer thanking and praising God for all the blessings He has given you. Then will you ask Him to show you new areas that you can be generous in? Pray your own prayer but here is a guide to help you.

*Heavenly Father, you have been so good to me. Thank you for the many blessings you have given to me. You have generously blessed me in more ways that I deserve. Thank you for those gifts and for those blessings. Lord I pray that you will help me in my own generosity. Help to be willing to give to others the way in which you have given to me. Help me to become more generous with my money, my time, and the talents you have given me. In Jesus' name, Amen.*



## PRAYER GUIDE

**01.21.23**  
**SERVE**

Going to a restaurant is so enjoyable. To be able to sit down with a family member or friend and just talk, while someone else prepares and cooks your meal, someone else gets your drink made, and someone else cleans up all the mess. It's nice to have someone serve you. We all enjoy that experience at one of our favorite restaurants. There's no problem with going to a restaurant and enjoying that from time to time, but when it comes to life and ministry, we as Christians are called to serve, not be served. In Jesus teachings he stressed the importance of serving others. It says in Mark 9:35, "And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, 'If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.'" This mentality seems to be counter cultural. In today's time we want to be first and win. But Jesus makes it clear that we are to be last and be a servant to everyone. That's hard for us to do sometimes, but to truly follow the Lord's calling we need to serve. Would spend some time praying that God would give you a heart to serve? Pray your own prayer, but here is a guide to help you as you pray.

*Gracious Lord, thank you for your goodness to me. Help in me in the area of serving. There are many needs throughout our community and in our world today. Help me to serve and help others that deeply need to be helped. Please grow me in this area with a willing heart to care for others the way that you do. Open my eyes to times where I can be last and servant of all. Thank you for your love for me, Amen.*