

DEVOTIONAL

Hollywood Prayer Network

PRAYER

The Hollywood Prayer Network invites you to join us this week to grow in your own faith and to pray for the people, the projects, and the impact that the Hollywood Entertainment Industry has on our culture. Prayer changes us, and it is the most important life changer of all the gifts God has given to us. Get excited about your conversations with God as you spend this week seeking Him. Your prayers make an eternal difference!

DAY 1

GOLDEN BOWLS OF PRAYER

"TO GET NATIONS BACK ON THEIR
FEET, WE MUST FIRST GET DOWN ON
OUR KNEES."

-BILLY GRAHAM

New International Version

Revelation 5:8

And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

DAY 1

PRAY: Dear Lord, I thank you that the elders in heaven are with Golden Bowls holding all of the prayers I have ever prayed and with all of the prayers ever prayed for me. Knowing that every single prayer is stored, as incense in a Golden Bowl in heaven, I pray for some of the most unlikely people in Hollywood. Lord, I pray for family members, neighbors, and especially for my enemies. May I be a Christian who fills up the bowls of others with prayers of breakthrough, hope, joy, and salvation. Lord, thank You that my prayers make an eternal difference for the people I'm praying for, and that each prayer has a rich and lasting incense. I pray this in Jesus' name, Amen.

REFLECT: Imagine what your life would be like if no one ever prayed for you! How lonely it would feel to know that not one person ever took the time or cared enough about you to talk to God on your behalf. Then think of the difference you can make in other people's lives by praying for them. You may be the first person to ever do so. Think about the joy of meeting Jesus in heaven and finding out how many Golden Bowls are filled with your prayers!

DAY 1

ACT: Start filling up the Golden Bowls of Prayer for others by praying, by name, for the people on your heart. Start with three people in Hollywood whom you care about. Pray for them, asking the Lord to bless them, knowing that you have put prayers in their Golden Bowls. They are full of incense because of you! Then start praying for personal friends of yours, family members, neighbors, and keep track of who you're praying for. You are filling up heavenly Golden Bowls by taking the time to pray for the people you care about!

DAY 2

THE LORD'S PRAYER

"THE LORD'S PRAYER MAY BE
COMMITTED TO MEMORY QUICKLY,
BUT IT IS SLOWLY LEARNT BY HEART."
-FREDERICK DENISON MAURICE

New International Version

Matthew 6:9-15

This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.' For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

DAY 2

PRAY: Dear God, I thank You that You are my heavenly Father. I do hallow Your name and thank You for sending Your kingdom down to earth for me, my family, and friends. May Your will be done in my life here on earth, just as it is in heaven. Thank You that You supply my daily bread and that You forgive me for all of my sins. Help me to forgive others. Please protect me from temptation and from the enemy. For Yours is the Kingdom, the power, and the glory forever! AMEN

REFLECT: As you pray through each line of this amazing prayer, personalize it and notice that He is talking directly to you. He is your Father. You are to praise His name and ask Him to bring His heavenly kingdom down to you. Realize that He promises to supply you everything you need for each day and He forgives everything that you do. Can you even fathom that truth? He will not lead you into temptation because He loves YOU so much!

ACT: Praise God that His name is powerful, hallowed, and glorious, and worship Him now, out loud, with your favorite Christian song, hymn, or chorus. Then read Matthew 6:9-15 out loud and hear the promises that God gives you. Read it again and ask Him to reveal what every word means and to help you embrace all of the truths and love that He is pouring down upon you as you read it as a hymn.

DAY 3

GOD HEARS EVERYTHING

"PRAYER DOES NOT PREPARE US FOR
THE GREATER WORK; PRAYER IS THE
GREATER WORK."

-OSWALD CHAMBERS

New International Version

1 John 5:14-15

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

DAY 3

PRAY: Oh heavenly Father, would You please give me confidence that You are hearing every word I pray. Help me to understand and truly know that You are listening and answering everything I ask You! Thank You that when I pray, I know that I have what I asked of You. I need Your help to trust that Your answers are coming and that You know what is best for me. Thank you, Father. Amen.

REFLECT: Reflect on what you talk to God about and realize that He is actually hearing and responding to everything you say. Does that realization change what you say, how you say it, or how often you talk to Him? It's profound how He allows us to have conversations with Him – the Creator of the universe, and He tells us He is responding to the desires of our hearts. That's awesome.

ACT: Would you make a list of the bold, seemingly impossible, and even outrageous prayers you would like to pray for other people and then pray those prayers. If you keep a journal of your prayers, you can see how the Lord has responded to you. He is listening and wants to answer all of the prayers that you have talked to Him about. Pray BIG, don't limit God, and keep track of those prayers. For He WILL answer!

DAY 4

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

“WHAT DO YOU REALLY CARE
ABOUT?”

-GOD (MORGAN FREEMAN) TELLING
BRUCE (JIM CARREY) HOW TO PRAY
IN BRUCE ALMIGHTY

New International Version

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, who are called by my
name, will humble themselves and pray
and seek my face and turn from their
wicked ways, then will I hear from
heaven and will forgive their sin, and
will heal their land.

DAY 4

PRAY: Jesus, would You please give me a heart and life of humility? Would you give me a hunger to seek Your face and to turn from all the sins I'm struggling with now? Thank You so much for listening to me and hearing my prayers and forgiving my sins. And I praise You for not only healing me, but for healing my family, my neighborhood, my workplace, my city, my region, and my land – my country! True humility and heartfelt prayer can only come from You, oh God. I pray this in Your mighty name, Amen.

REFLECT: Have you thought that when you pray, you are not only impacting your own life, but you are potentially changing your world – and “healing your land”? Have you thought about the far-reaching power of your prayers? If you truly understood that your prayers could heal your family, your city, and your country, how would you pray differently? Imagine how your prayers for Hollywood can change our world – both in the content which is produced and in the lives of the people creating it.

ACT: Including your physical body in prayer is a common practice in many cultures around the globe. More and more people are raising their hands, kneeling, and even laying prostrate. What can you do physically to humble yourself and to seek His face in prayer? Take a chance, with no one around, to seek God in a new way.

DAY 5

GOD ANSWERS EVERY PRAYER

"IF ONLY GOD WOULD GIVE ME SOME
CLEAR SIGN! LIKE MAKING A LARGE
DEPOSIT IN MY NAME AT A SWISS
BANK."

-WOODY ALLEN

New International Version

Mark 11:24

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask
for in prayer, believe that you have
received it, and it will be yours.

DAY 5

PRAY: Lord, please help me to believe that when I talk to You, You're not only listening but You are with me and are answering. Don't let me doubt You or Your love and faithfulness to me. Let me know that You are answering every prayer in Your way, in Your time, and with unconditional love. Let me look forward to Your answers. I pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

REFLECT: Reflect on how many times you pray about something and then are completely surprised when it's answered. Or when you pray about something you really want, and you don't get it. What does it mean to know, with confidence, that God is answering every prayer? Can you honestly believe that, regardless of what His answer is?

ACT: Write down one "unanswered prayer" and then ask the Lord to reveal to you how He actually did answer it. Be open to His response, and do not doubt that He will make it clear to you or give you peace about it. Then choose one person in Hollywood whom you think will never become a Christian and start praying for the Lord to touch that person's heart. And have no doubt that He's answering your prayers. The more you do it, the less you will doubt and the bolder your prayers will become.

DAY 6

SEEK GOD IN PRAYER

"PRAYER MAY NOT CHANGE THINGS
FOR YOU, BUT IT FOR SURE CHANGES
YOU FOR THINGS."

-SAMUEL M. SHOEMAKER

New International Version

Matthew 7:7-8

Ask and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks the door will be opened.

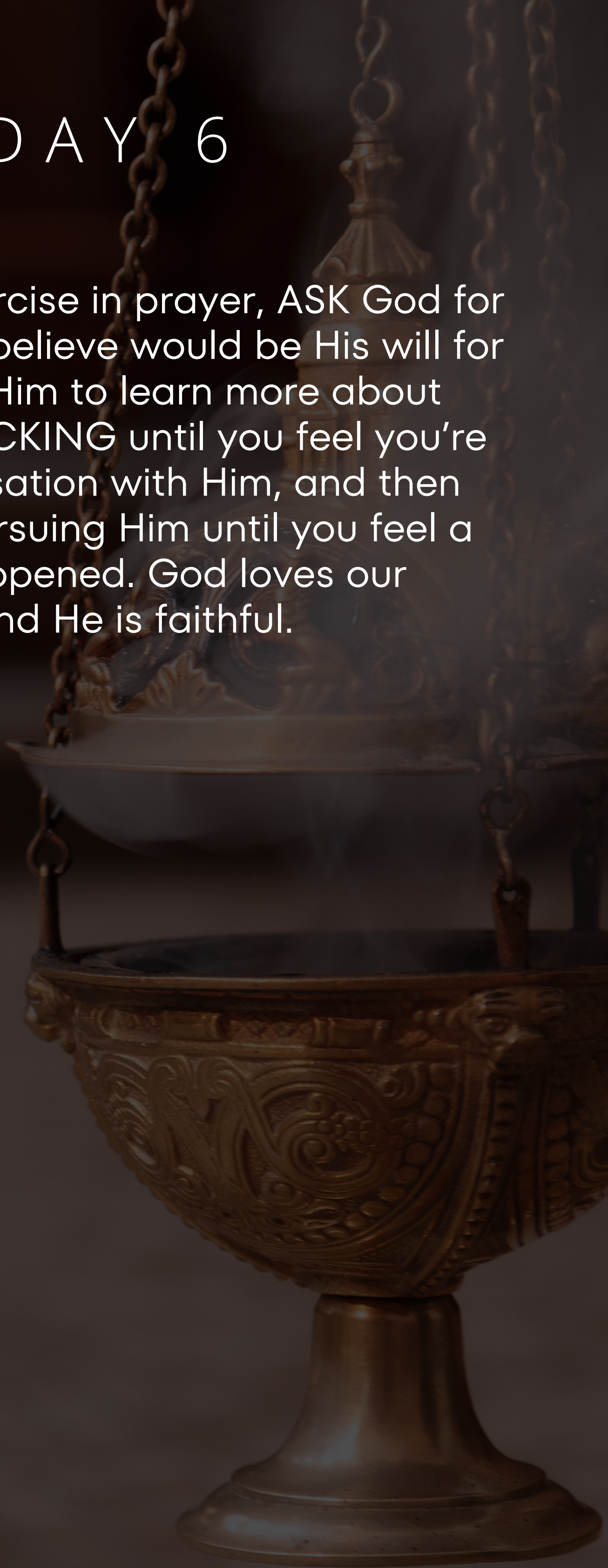
DAY 6

PRAY: Lord, I seek You through my prayers by asking You not for stuff but for more of You. I'm knocking on the door of Your heart and asking You to allow me to see people the way You see them, to hear them the way You hear them, to love them the way You love them, and to show me how much You love me. And I trust that as I keep knocking, You will open the door of my heart so that I can experience You more richly, deeply and lovingly. Thank You for listening, for loving me, and for wanting me to experience You more intimately. Selah! Amen.

REFLECT: Reflect on how many times you've asked for something and felt like God wasn't listening, or you didn't get what you asked for. Think about what you asked for. Could it be that getting it wouldn't be best for you? Do you have to wait longer? What does it mean to knock on the door of God's heart? Can you continue to turn to Him without giving up, getting discouraged, frustrated, or angry with Him? Do you believe that He is listening and answering? There is a lot to think about in this verse.

DAY 6

ACT: As an exercise in prayer, ASK God for something you believe would be His will for you, then SEEK Him to learn more about Him, keep KNOCKING until you feel you're really in conversation with Him, and then FIND Him by pursuing Him until you feel a door has been opened. God loves our perseverance and He is faithful.



DAY 7

GOD GIVES YOU PEACE

"YOU PRAY FOR RAIN, YOU GOTTA
DEAL WITH THE MUD TOO. THAT'S A
PART OF IT."

-DENZEL WASHINGTON

New International Version

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, 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.

DAY 7

PRAY: Dear Jesus, I pray that You give me peace today. Please guide my steps, order my day, and show me what is most important on Your agenda for me. I want Your will to be done in my life. Please fill me to overflowing with Your peace. Guard my heart and my mind as I talk to people, make decisions, finish deadlines, and take care of my work and my family. I don't want to just give You a list of requests. I want to seek You for Your peace, Your joy, Your priorities, and Your heart for other people. Thank You, Jesus, for answering my prayers and filling me up new and fresh every day. Amen.

REFLECT: Reflect on how your whole day can change, just by letting go of your agenda and truly asking the Lord to guide you, direct your path, and even choose what words you are to say and not say. Think of the pressure that Hollywood celebrities have as they are watched, even hounded, with every step they take and every word they say. If you could be aware of the Lord hearing your every word and following your every step, how would you change? Step out of your comfort zone in prayer today.

DAY 7

ACT: Spend one whole prayer time just thanking God – for your life, family, friends, and your job, your gifts, talents, creativity, and your passions, your personality, character traits, and your joy, your humor, wisdom, favor, and even how you love. Don't ask Him for anything. Just thank Him and praise Him. Try it now and see how long you can go. Notice how you are feeling. You are probably experiencing more peace right now.