

HCC Prayer & Fasting / Praying Like the Church in Acts

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

1. Pray for Boldness: *"God, give me courage..."*

Read: Acts 4:29–31

After Peter and John were threatened, the believers didn't pray for an easier life. They prayed for boldness to keep proclaiming Jesus. The early church didn't pray for God to remove every difficult circumstance. They prayed for boldness to remain faithful in the middle of those circumstances.

Pray for yourself:

- Boldness to share your faith with someone who doesn't know Jesus / Courage to stand for what is right when it's unpopular / Boldness to obey God when you're afraid / Courage to step into an opportunity God has placed in front of you

Pray for others:

- **Your family:** That they would have courage to live out their faith at school, work, or in their community.
- **Your church:** That your church would boldly proclaim the gospel without being ashamed of Jesus.
- **Your staff/leaders:** That God would give them courage to teach God's Word faithfully.
- **Someone who doesn't know Jesus:** That God would give you and other believers opportunities to speak truth and love into their life.

2. Pray for God's Direction: *"God, show me where to go..."*

Read: Acts 13:1–3; Acts 16:6–10

The church at Antioch was worshipping and fasting when the Holy Spirit directed them to send out Barnabas and Saul. The believers in Acts didn't simply make their own plans and ask God to bless them. They sought God and followed His direction.

Pray for yourself:

- Wisdom about an important decision you're facing / Direction about your job, ministry, relationships, or future / Discernment to recognize when God is opening or closing a door / Willingness to follow God even when His plan is different from yours.

Pray for others:

- **Your children/family:** That God would guide their decisions and future.
- **Your church:** That leaders of HCC would seek God's direction rather than simply following popular ideas.
- **Your friends:** That God would give them wisdom about major decisions they're facing.

Looking for more prayer resources? Go to www.heath.church/prayer for tools, guides, and to submit prayer requests.

- **Missionaries/ministry workers:** That God would clearly direct where they should go and who they should reach.

3. Pray for People Who Need Jesus: *"God, open hearts to Christ..."*

Read: Acts 2:37-41; Acts 16:14

One of the clearest themes throughout Acts is that God changes people's hearts through the gospel. Lydia heard Paul preaching, and "the Lord opened her heart" to respond to the gospel.

Pray for yourself:

- Opportunities to share Jesus with people you encounter / A greater burden for people who are far from God / Wisdom to know when and how to have spiritual conversations / A life that points people toward Jesus

Pray for others:

- **Family members who don't know Christ:** Ask God to open their hearts to the gospel.
- **Friends and coworkers:** Pray for opportunities for them to hear about Jesus.
- **Your community:** Pray that people would become receptive to the gospel.
- **People who have walked away from God:** Pray that God would draw them back to Himself.

4. Pray for Strength in Hard Times: *"God, help me and those around me endure..."*

Read: Acts 12:5

When Peter was in prison, the church prayed. They didn't know exactly what God would do, but they knew they could bring the situation to Him.

Pray for yourself:

- Strength when you're tired or discouraged / Faith when you don't understand what God is doing / Peace when you're facing something you cannot control / Perseverance when you feel like giving up

Pray for others: *(Consider using the prayer list or requests from the Prayer Wall)*

- **Someone who is hurting:** Ask God to comfort and strengthen them.
- **Someone facing a difficult decision:** Ask God to give them wisdom and peace.
- **Someone experiencing loss:** Pray that God would surround them with His presence.
- **Someone struggling spiritually:** Ask God to strengthen their faith and help them persevere.