

Personal Prayer Guide

VICTORY COMMUNITY CHURCH

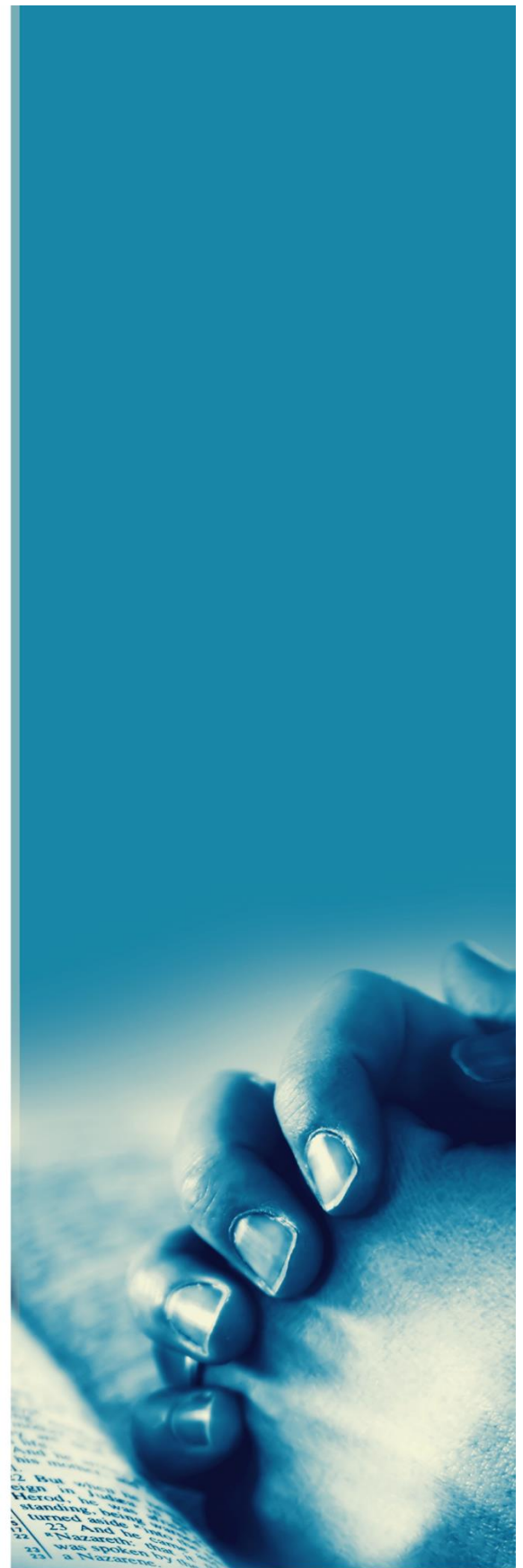
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PRAY FIRST

Dear Reader,

In the beginning of the year we talked at great length about the importance of prayer and “praying first.” In every situation, whether good or bad, we need to pray before we act. Many times, we act first and then, when we have made a mess, we run to God to bail us out of that situation. Prayer should be our first response, not our last resort.

Understanding the necessity of prayer is not enough. For it to become a regular part of our lives, it needs to become something we look forward to doing. I am convinced most people do not enjoy prayer because they have never been taught how to pray. That is where this simple prayer guide can help. Using several prayer models right out of the Bible, and with guides to make prayer more personal, this booklet is designed to bring joy to your time with God. When you discover the beauty of daily conversation with Him, you will experience the presence of God in a whole new way and that will change your life.

Once you learn how to pray, prayer can become a part of everyday life.

And then...

- ▶ Before the day begins
- ▶ Before you go to work or school
- ▶ Before you go to bed
- ▶ Before you send that text
- ▶ Before you act or speak
- ▶ Before you eat, drive or travel
- ▶ Before bad things happen
- ▶ When bad things happen
- ▶ When good things happen
- ▶ In every situation — **PRAY FIRST!**
- ▶ Prayer changes everything!

Pastor Bob

Pastor Bob Claffey

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

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. We need to figure out what works best for us individually. What works for you might not work for someone else and vice versa. The important thing is that you pray.

This book gives you several different 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 so that your prayer life becomes more natural, effective, and enjoyable. To make your prayer time even more meaningful, you can write notes, keep prayer requests, or play worship music. The important step is committing to regularly entering God's presence through prayer. If you can, we suggest you find a quiet time and place so that you can devote your full attention to your prayer time.

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 is a privilege to be able to come to God in prayer.

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 I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

* All scripture quoted is the New King James Version

CREATING A LIFESTYLE OF PRAYER

Prayer is most effective when it is not done casually every now and then, but when it is a lifestyle we cultivate. To understand how to have a lifestyle of prayer, we can look at the example Jesus gave us during His life on earth.

HAVE A CERTAIN TIME

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

HAVE A CERTAIN 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.

HAVE A CERTAIN 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, are 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 does not always have to look the same; it just helps when we have a plan for connecting regularly with God.

***Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.
Mark 1:35***



THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is recited often, but there is 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.

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." Luke 11:1

In this manner, therefore, 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 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

1. CONNECT WITH GOD RELATIONALLY

"Our Father in heaven"

God doesn't want us to just practice 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.

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba Father." Romans 8:15

Proclaim your intimate relationship with God, addressing Him lovingly as your Father and thanking Him that you are His child.

PRAYER: *"Father, I come to You in prayer today thankful that I am Your child. 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 Father. Thank you for loving me. I love you."*

2. 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 Righteous – He makes us clean
- ▶ God is Sanctifier – He has called us and set us apart
- ▶ God is Healer – He heals all our diseases
- ▶ God is Banner of Victory – He defeated our enemies
- ▶ God is Shepherd – He speaks to us and leads us
- ▶ God is Peace – He is our peace in every storm
- ▶ God is Provider – He supplies all of our needs

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

Speak God’s names out loud. 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.”*

3. PRAY HIS AGENDA 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 agenda first.

But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Luke 12:31

Spend time focusing on what God is focused on.

His priorities include:

- ▶ Saving the lost
- ▶ Wisdom and guidance for those in authority – parents, spiritual leaders, government, employers
- ▶ Accomplishing His purpose in our lives

PRAYER: *“God, I recognize there is no better plan on earth than Yours, and I pray for Your 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 as their personal Lord and Savior. 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 commit myself to You again today; have Your way in my life! Anything You want to do in me or through me, I am Yours. I ask today for wisdom and clarity as you show me my next steps.”*

4. DEPEND ON HIM FOR EVERYTHING

“Give us this day our daily bread”

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

I will lift up my eyes to the hills – From whence comes my help? My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. Psalm 121:1-2

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 cannot be both.

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.”*

5. 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 to forgive us our sins and to cleanse 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 offended you. We can even choose to forgive people in advance. Ask God to forgive you and to help you 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 offenses. I release to You those who have hurt me and I trust You to handle those situations according to Your perfect will.”*

6. ENGAGE IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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

As Christians, we are in a spiritual battle of some sort every day. The Bible makes it very clear in John 10:10 that we have an enemy who is trying to steal, kill, and destroy us. One of the greatest weapons we have is prayer. As we pray and are empowered by His Holy Spirit, we take a stand against the enemy and fight from a place of victory through Jesus. There is power in God’s word, and every lie the enemy has told us can be replaced with God’s truth.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
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.”*

7. 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.

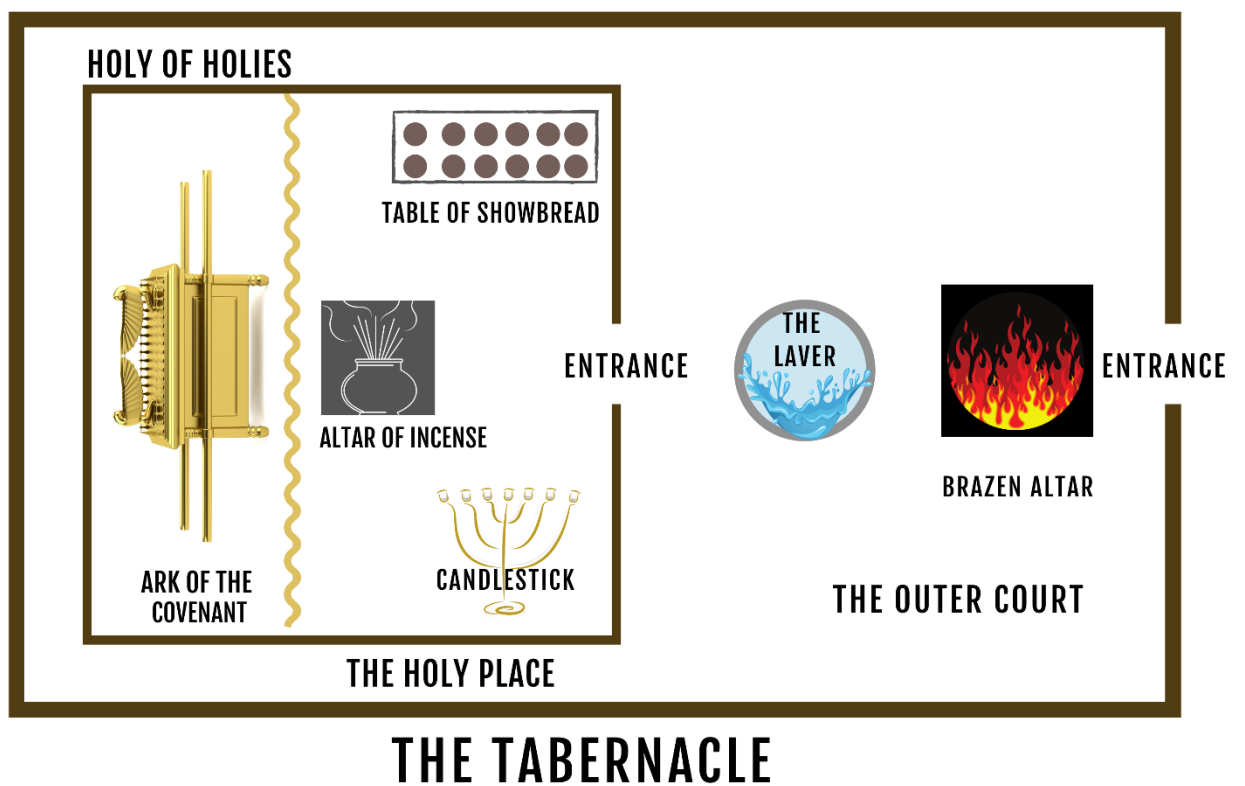
Ah, LORD GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. Jeremiah 32:17

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: *“Father 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.”*

THE TABERNACLE PRAYERS



In the Old Testament, the tabernacle was the dwelling place of God, built to His specifications. It was where He would meet with His people. As they entered the tabernacle, they passed through seven 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
- ▶ The Brazen Altar
- ▶ The Laver
- ▶ The Candlestick
- ▶ The Table of Showbread
- ▶ The Altar of Incense
- ▶ The Ark of the Covenant

1. 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 into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless 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: *"Father 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, Jesus. I thank You that Your mercies are new every day. I thank you for who You are and all You have done for me."*

2. 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 once and for all with His blood on the cross.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalm 103:2-5

Thank God for the gift of Jesus. Thank Jesus for His 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 sins
- ▶ 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

PRAYER: *“Thank You, God, for making a way for me through Your Son. Jesus, thank You for the sacrifice You made for me on the cross. You saved me, and You set me free. I praise You for being my Healer. You have power over all disease and harm in my life (list specific areas where you need to experience God’s healing power). 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).”*

3. 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 beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Romans 12:1

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 God to cleanse and renew 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, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

4. THE CANDLESTICK

The Holy Spirit

The next piece of the tabernacle was a seven-branched, golden candlestick. The fire represents the Holy Spirit and how we are called to be light in the world’s darkness.

The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD. Isaiah 11:2

When Jesus left the earth, Christians were given the gift of the Holy Spirit. He calls the Holy Spirit our “advocate.” We cannot do what God has called us to do without His supernatural power. It is through the Holy Spirit that God comforts us, guides us, and empowers us.

PRAYER: *“Holy Spirit, I ask You to fill me up. I need Your presence in my life, guiding, directing, comforting, and counseling me. I know that You, Holy Spirit, are God, in the Trinity with God the Father and the Son, Jesus. You are the Spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, and knowledge. Give me a holy fear of the Lord, helping me to be in awe of who God is and what God does. Work in me, Holy Spirit. Teach and transform me (pray through any areas where you feel the need for transformation today). I honor You and ask You to empower me with Your spiritual gifts for the good of the church.”*

5. THE TABLE OF SHOWBREAD

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.

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 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 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."*

6. THE ALTER 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 names. 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

Thank God for making His presence available to you. Praise His names 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 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 names 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. I love you, God.”

7. 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.

Therefor I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and come to the 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, 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 through Jesus 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 do not 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 leaders and everyone who steps foot into our buildings. 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 help us 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 to have a conversation with God.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Yea, 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 runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will 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.

Draw near to God and He will draw 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 be near to me and change me to be more like You.”*

Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting. Psalm 139:23-24

PRAYER: *“Father God, I ask You to search my heart. 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.”*

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. 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.”*

Humble yourselves in the sight of 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 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.”*

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
2 Timothy 1:7*

PRAYER: *“Father, 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 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.”*

*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God,
to those who are 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 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 circumstances in my life for good.”*

*Trust in Him at all times, you people; Pour out your heart before Him;
God is a refuge for us. 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.”*

The Lord will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. 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.”

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which 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.”

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, And their righteousness is from Me,” Says 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. This truth is verified by Your love and saving power in my life.”

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6-7

PRAYER: *“Father, my heart feels anxious (tell God what is giving you anxiety). I do not like this feeling, but I am thankful I can come to You and receive peace. You invite me to replace my anxiety with prayer, and even though my mind and heart are racing, I am 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.”*

*“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for 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, 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 plans.”*

For He Himself has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” Hebrews 13:5b

PRAYER: *“Father, 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 am comforted by knowing I am 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 Your Holy Spirit and remind me that I am never alone because You, the Almighty God, have promised to always be with me.”*

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light” Matthew 11:28-30

PRAYER: *“Lord Jesus, at times I am so tired and worn out (tell God the areas that you’re tired and weary). I can feel exhausted mentally and physically. You invite me to come to You when I am weary, and I fall at Your feet looking 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 striving. 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.”*

He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will 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.”*

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And Your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord upholds all who fall, And raises 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.”*



THE PRAYER OF JABEZ

And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested. 1 Chronicles 4:10

1. BLESSING

Jabez begins his prayer by asking God for His blessing. We need more of God’s blessings 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 4:2b-3 tells us, “Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it 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

Ask God for His blessing. Recognize your need for His provision, and set your heart toward wanting more than you need so that you can be a blessing to others.

PRAYER: *“Father 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.”*

2. 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.

"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."*

3. PRESENCE

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.

"that Your hand would 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. 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."*

4. 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 do not 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 evil” 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 in the name of Jesus that You will stop any and every attack of the enemy against me. I claim protection for my body, my mind, and my emotions. I resist the enemy that he will not 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.”*



SPIRITUAL 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 did not 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 are under attack from the devil.

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
Ephesians 6:11-12

1. THE ARMOR OF GOD

Based on Ephesians 6:11-18

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

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of

righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—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."*

2. THE WEAPONS OF 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.

For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of 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. Father 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.”

3. PROTECTION PRAYER

Based on 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, who will establish you and guard 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.

PRAYER: *“God, I bow in worship to praise You. Thank You for making a way for me through Your son, 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.”*

4. CONFESSION 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 God by removing 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 can work in our lives and transform us to be more like Him.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse 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 through Your son, Jesus. Lord Jesus, I believe that You are the Son of God. 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.”*

5. FORGIVENESS PRAYER

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

Our sin separates us from God, but Jesus made a way for us to be reunited with God by removing 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 can work in our lives and transform us to be more like Him. 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 men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. 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 are not 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 did not 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.”*

6. 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 Jesus.

When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is 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: *“Father God, 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.”*

7. 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 Jesus to stop the sin with your generation, and not pass it on to anyone else in your family.

“You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands, to 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 God to stop right now, end it 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: *“Father God, 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). 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.”*

8. 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.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, And forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from destruction, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies your mouth 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 are praying to be healed.

PRAYER: *"Father, in the name of Jesus, I come before You asking for healing (name yourself or someone you are praying for 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). 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 are praying for). Nothing is impossible for You, God! Give us peace and direction as You work in our lives."*

9. 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, loving well takes work and effort. We cannot have a successful marriage in our own power. We need God, who is love Himself, to give us His Holy Spirit and to guide us every day. Marriage is a picture of Jesus Christ and His bride, the church. As Christian husbands and wives, we have the high honor of representing the love and commitment Christ has for His church through our love and commitment to each other.

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. So husbands ought to love their own 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 the Lord does the church. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. Ephesians 5:25-30

Thank God for your marriage every day. Start by asking Him to help you be the best spouse you can be. Ask Him to help you see your spouse as He sees them and show you how to love them with His love. 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. If you allow it, He will use your marriage to bring honor and glory to Himself.

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 a stronger couple, more devoted to one another and to You. Use us God, build us up to be an example of what a 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 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

God desires everyone to know Him. He says in His Word that He would leave the ninety-nine to go after the one who does not know Him. As followers of Christ, we are called to partner with Him praying for those who do not know Him to come to know Him.

► ASK THE FATHER TO DRAW THEM TO JESUS

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

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; John 6:44

PRAYER: *“Father, I pray for the people around me (list specific names), that you would supernaturally draw their hearts to you. Send your Holy Spirit to 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.”*

► BIND THE SPIRIT THAT BLINDS THEIR MINDS

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

whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. 2 Corinthians 4:4

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

PRAYER: *“Father, 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 Jesus.”*

► 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 or by religious legalists and their hypocrisy. But God did not come to build an organization. He came to have a relationship with his children.

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “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: *“Father, 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.”*

► 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.

“Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” 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: *“Father, 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.”*

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

It is 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 giving their life to God.

that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 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: *“Father, 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 Jesus did for them on the cross. Help them to have the information and experiences 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.

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the 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.

GOVERNMENT

President
National Leaders
State Leaders
City Leaders

MY CHURCH

Pastor
Leaders
Church Members

MY FAMILY

Spouse
Children
Parents
Siblings
Extended Family

MY CIRCLE

Employer
Co-workers
Employees
Teachers/Professors
Friends

THOSE WHO NEED GOD

Our hope is that you will develop a richer, closer relationship with God through prayer. You can visit our website at www.discovervcc.org and submit a specific prayer request and our Prayer Team will include it in their prayers. You can also email us at info@discovervcc.org