

PRESENCE

Prayer Guide | Volume III





"Prayer, without fervor, stakes nothing on the issue, because it has nothing to stake. It comes with empty hands. Hands, too, which are listless, as well as empty, which have never learned the lesson of clinging to the Cross. Fervorless prayer has no heart in it; it is an empty thing, an unfit vessel. Heart, soul, and life, must find place in all real praying. Heaven must be made to feel the force of this crying unto God."

- E. M. Bounds

WHYPRAY?

Prayer is one of the ways that we actively dwell in God's presence. There, we find the peace and consolation that our hearts are looking for...

"As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?"

– Psalm 42:1-2

"So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church." – Acts 12:5

"I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf..." – Romans 15:30



Praise God for His eternality...

PRAISE & ADORATION

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." - Psalm 90:1-2

Praise God for His changelessness...

Praise God for His faithfulness ...

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

- Lamentations 3:22-23



CONFESSION



Praise God for Christ's all-sufficient sacrifice...



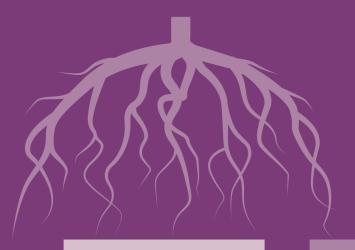
Ask God to free you from personal condemnation

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." – Romans 8:1 "For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God."

- Hebrews 9:13-14

Ask God for the power to throw off remaining sinfulness





SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Pray that God would strengthen us with the power of His Spirit

Pray that Christ would dwell in our hearts through faith

Pray that we would be rooted and grounded in love

Pray that we would grow to know more fully the love of Christ

"For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

- Ephesians 3:14-19

Pray that we might be filled with all the fullness of God



SPIRITUAL HUNGER

Ask God to help us to pray with faith-inspired anticipation

Pray that we would be passionate as we plead for God to work among us

"The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit."

- James 5:16-18

Pray that God would help us to be patient and persistent in our praying

Pray that God would strengthen us to believe that He is able to answer our prayers and meet our spiritual needs

"And Jesus said to him, 'If you can! All things are possible for one who believes.' Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, 'I believe; help my unbelief!'

- Mark 9:23-24



RELATIONSHIPS

Ask God to remove any critical or judgmental spirit from us

"Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand."

- Romans 14:4

Ask God to empower us to sacrifice for the sake of loving unity

Ask God to help us to build one another up with our mouths

"Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." – Ephesians 4:29

Ask God to help us to intentionally love one another

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."

– 1 Corinthians 13:4–8



CHURCH MINISTRIES

Pray for the weekly
ministry of our corporate
worship service
Ask God to implant within
our hearts a spirit of
participation

Ask God to open our eyes to consider new ways to reach out to our community with the Gospel

Ask God to burden our congregation for a renewed commitment to pray



Thank Him for being with us in the divinely appointed trials of life

Thank Him for the goal of our every trial

THANKSGIVING

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

– James 1:2-4

Thank Him for sustaining us through trial

Thank Him for bringing us to further spiritual completion through trial

Thank Him for revealing Himself in new ways through trials

