

*November 2024*  
*Prayer & Devotion Guide*



**Luke 18:1**

**Pray Always and Never Give Up.**

## ***Pray For Jerusalem***

***O Jerusalem, I have posted watchmen on your walls; they will pray day and night, continually. Take no rest, all you who pray to the Lord.***

***<sup>7</sup> Give the Lord no rest until he completes his work, until he makes Jerusalem the pride of the earth. Isaiah 62:6- 7***

One the most effective ways to pray as an intercessor is to pray back to God His very Own Word, which does not return void, but accomplishes the purposes for which He sent it forth.

### **Pray That God Would Raise Up More Christian Watchman to Pray for Peace in Jerusalem**

Pray for the hearts of current Houses of Prayer to be engaged and enlarged for Israel.

God's protection and divine intervention in Israel.

For all nations to have greater understanding & truth of God's promises to Israel.

#### **Isaiah 21:6**

"Meanwhile, the Lord said to me, "Put a watchman on the city wall.  
Let him shout out what he sees."

#### **Isaiah 52:8**

"The watchmen shout and sing with joy, for before their very eyes  
they see the Lord returning to Jerusalem."

#### **Genesis 12:3**

I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples  
on earth will be blessed through you.

#### **Isaiah 40:1**

"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

## ***Prayer for Persecuted Church***

*Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Hebrews 13:3*

Global watchdog Open Doors reports that in just the last year...

- Over 360 million Christians face high levels of persecution for their faith.
- 14,700 + churches and other Christian properties were attacked.
- 295,120 Christians displaced.

These numbers are heart-breaking. And sadly, they do not tell the whole story.

Please pray:

- Whatever their circumstances, God will give persecuted Christians the right words. (Ephesians 6:19-20)
- That persecuted Christians will understand and find peace in the sufficiency of God's grace, even in their weakness. (2 Corinthians 12:9)
- That Christians facing hardship will draw from a source of power larger than themselves. (2 Corinthians 1:7-9)
- God be present in their hardship, protecting them according to His will.
- That their witness would inspire those who seek to harm them.

### **North Korea**

**Persecution Type:** Dictatorial paranoia, Communist and post-Communist oppression

**Main Religion:** Agnosticism

**Government:** Single-party Dictatorship

**Leader:** State of Affairs Commission President Kim Jong Un

### **Somalia**

**Persecution Type:** Islamic oppression, Clan oppression, Organized corruption and crime.

**Main Religion:** Islam

**Government:** Federal Parliamentary Republic

**Leader:** Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre

### **Libya**

**Persecution Type:** Islamic oppression, Clan oppression, Organized corruption and crime

**Main Religion:** Islam

**Government:** In transition

**Leader:** Interim Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Mohammed Dbeibah

## ***Prayer For Our Nation***

### **Pray for Revival**

*“Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!” Psalm 80:19*

### **Pray for Restoration & Healing**

*“Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.” Jeremiah 33:6*

### **Pray for God’s Grace & Mercy**

*“But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.” Ephesians 2:4-5*

### **Pray for Unity & Peace**

*“Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.” 2 Corinthians 13:11*

### **Pray for Justice & Christians to Rise**

*“Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:18*

### **Pray for the Integrity of Our Political Leaders**

*“For lack of guidance, a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers.” Proverbs 11:14*

**Daily Prayers for November:** A thankful heart is one of the primary identifying characteristics of a believer. It stands in stark contrast to pride, selfishness, and worry. And it helps fortify the believer's trust in the Lord and reliance of His provision, even in the toughest times. No matter how choppy the seas become, a believer's heart is buoyed by constant praise and gratefulness to the Lord." –John MacArthur

**Friday, November 1st, 2024:**

**Nothing New Under the Sun**

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness ... it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness...” (taken from the opening lines of Charles Dickens’ *A Tale of Two Cities*) It sounded just as eerily familiar to Dickens’ audience as it should to us. We live in a time of great extremes and contradictions, and it can leave us feeling confused and desperate. But as Christ followers, we don’t need to be dismayed.

We can secure our future, but it won’t be determined by a political party or individual. It will be the result of where we place our hope and how that influences what we do. What we can’t do is idly sit by and hope God does something. I believe He’s waiting for us to do something. Jesus calls for us to be salt and light; if the salt sits on the table still in the shaker, it does nothing to add flavor or to act as a preservative for what is good.

One of the ways we can be obedient to His mandate for us to be salt and light is to let our voices be heard at the ballot box, taking a stand for those things that more closely align to His word. God is neither a Democrat nor a Republican, but He does make His heart known to His people. Let that be our guide and our motivation - that His will be done on this earth. The church has too long been silent at the polls. You may think one vote won’t make a difference, but rest assured that not casting it can never have a positive impact. Let your (His) light shine. **(Matthew 5:16)**

**Saturday, November 2nd, 2024**

### **All Glory to God**

God is not threatened by our unbelief. As a nation, we can choose to glorify Him or we can deny Him and pursue our own interests. Yet even when we fail to honor and glorify Him, He will still ultimately be glorified.

Such was the case with Israel when the Philistines captured the ark of the covenant in **1 Samuel 5** and placed it in the house of Dagon, their chief god. The morning following the first night the ark was there, the statue of Dagon had fallen on his face; the second night it not only fell, its head and hands were cut off on the threshold!

This reminds me of a time at the Boy Scout camp on Catalina Island during a YWAM training. A large totem was standing in the main courtyard, and its presence was disturbing. Several of the trainees prayed against any demonic influence, and during the night a storm arose. In the morning, the totem had fallen *into the direction of the wind* and was face down at the base of a ship's mast which fittingly resembled a cross. God is not threatened.

We can shrug it off as “bad karma” or we can acknowledge that God will not be mocked, and He will be glorified whether we agree with Him or not. Out of ignorance, the Philistines returned the ark but failed to transport it in the proper manner. Still God honored their intent. Out of foolishness and disrespect, the men of Beth Shemesh looked into the ark and were slain.

We know His laws. Those who don't have an excuse for their disobedience; we don't. If we continue to push the envelope, hH must respond because He is holy and sovereign. We have to respond to Him in reverence and obedience to what we know is His truth. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”

**(Matthew 5:16, NKJV)**

**Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024:**

**BLESSED NATION**

“He controls the course of world events; he removes kings and sets up other kings. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the scholars.” **(Daniel 2:21 NIV)**

We can agree with God’s Word, “When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan.” **(Proverbs 29:2 NIV)** We are in a new season and political change is on the horizon. Our prayer is for political candidates to be elected that hold biblical views. We have the privilege to express ourselves and participate in the election process. It is a God given privilege. It is a privilege not to be taken lightly. But...what if we didn’t have that right to engage? We would surely groan as the scripture referenced above says. We are such a blessed nation because of our Christian heritage, and it is up to us to continue the path our founders set for us. Remember when it was such a popular saying: “What would Jesus do?” We know the answer. Jesus would participate in the election process because government is God’s idea. We thank God for the freedom we have in this nation and look to God’s will for our nation. We can all do our part and participate in this election and honor the privilege given to us by those who fought and died for our freedoms.

**Psalm 109:8; Psalm 115:3**

**Prayer:** Father, please bring us Your wisdom and clarity as we go to the poles. Remind us that our vote matters. No matter the outcome You, Father, are on the throne and in control. We trust in You, not in man and Your Kingdom purposes will always prevail. In Jesus’ Name. Amen

**Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

### **He's Still on the Throne**

Tomorrow is a big day – a huge day – in the future of our country with many who are stressed, militant and just downright ugly about the possible outcome. And that's on both sides of the aisle! I'm not minimizing the importance of the election and the absolute responsibility for Christians to vote supporting godly principles, but we need to remember who is actually in charge and in whom we ultimately place our hope and trust.

In the days of Jeremiah, the kingdom of Judah had largely forsaken godly principles, and as a result they received a harsh warning from the Lord. He told them that those who trust in man and make flesh their strength are cursed and like a shrub in the desert – translation: little hope for a healthy environment or relief from the “heat” - both literal and figurative. Our country is in a spiritual conflict of epic proportion, and we can't expect physical resources or answers to solve a spiritual problem. We need to lift our eyes higher than the election results for our help and our hope; the Lord is our keeper. “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth!” (**Psalm 121:1-2**) And finally, “Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” (**Proverbs 3:5-6, NLT**)

Pray that all Christ followers will take part in the voting and will base their choices on Biblical values. Pray for God's favor, protection, and mercy for everyone who is involved: candidates, poll workers, and voters. And pray that the Church would model civility and grace throughout the process, keeping our eyes on Him who is the author of our faith. (**Hebrews 12:2**)



**Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

## **True Peace**

“The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.” **Romans 8:11**

Read that again and soak in the miraculous promise of that Scripture. The very Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead is in you! When you accepted Christ into your heart and made Him your Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit also came into your heart and now resides in you.

Jesus promised that after He ascended to heaven, the Father would send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to teach us and give us peace of mind and heart. With His peace, we don't need to fear the present or the future. **(John 14:26-27)**

Without God's peace, we would constantly be struggling against sin, doubt, fear and uncertainty. We don't have to face this internal conflict by ourselves when we allow the Holy Spirit to fill us with the Lord's peace.

God's peace isn't like the world's peace. True peace doesn't rely on positive thinking, good vibes or the absence of conflict. It comes from trusting God to work things out according to His plan as we live our lives in Christ Jesus. **(Philippians 4:6-7)**

Paul tells us to turn our worries into prayers. If you want to worry less, pray more! Any time worrying thoughts begin to fill your mind, stop the mental chatter and talk to your Heavenly Father. Tell Him what you need and thank Him for all He has done.

If you don't know how to pray, ask Holy Spirit to intercede. The Holy Spirit pleads for us in harmony with God's own will. **(Romans 8:26-27)**

### **Prayer Points:**

1. Thank God for all He has done for you as you take all your worries to Him in prayer.
2. Ask Holy Spirit to intercede when you don't know how to pray.

Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024:

## Who Cares?

**1 Peter 5:7** tells us to *cast* our *cares* on Him because He *cares* for us. The first question would be what is meant by *cares*. The Greek word is *mermina* and refers to anxiety, ie. distress, uneasiness caused by danger or misfortune, apprehension. What are we to do with these? We're to *cast* them on Him. *Epiriptō* means to throw upon, so we're to throw all of our anxieties on Jesus - why? Because we are His object of care; we're in His keeping; He watches over us.

Ruminate on that a bit. The legal definition of a caretaker is a related or nonrelated person who has the responsibility for the protection, care, or custody of a dependent adult as a result of assuming the responsibility voluntarily. We are related to Him through adoption - "He predestined us for adoption as His sons through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will," (**Ephesians 1:5**) He's our protector - God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (**Psalm 46:1**) We belong to Him - "Now it is God who makes both us and you stand firm in Christ. He anointed us, set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come." (**2 Corinthians 1:21-22**) He took on the responsibility voluntarily - "I put the sheep before Myself, sacrificing Myself if necessary...I freely lay down My life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from Me. I lay it down of My own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again." (**John 10:11, 18**, MSG)

So who cares? Jesus does! He cares so much He died in our place, carrying the weight of our sin so we don't have to but might instead have life abundantly. The word you're looking for is hallelujah!

**Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

### **The Need to Know**

It's actually possible to be actively serving in the church, doing all the right things, and still not know God. An example of this would be young Samuel. He had been dedicated to the Lord from birth and was ministering to the Lord before Eli the priest, but we read that Samuel did not yet *know* the Lord. When the Lord called to him, he instinctively and obediently ran to Eli, his superior. After the third time, Eli realized it was the Lord calling and wisely advised Samuel on how to respond.

Samuel may have been oblivious because we read that word from the Lord was rare in those days. Perhaps that was because the sons of Eli, the priests for the people, didn't really want to listen and had become so calloused that they were beyond reach. As a result, the priesthood was taken from Eli's family and his sons died. **Hebrews 10:26** warns us that if we *deliberately keep sinning* after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there's no longer any sacrifice to cover it.

We all need to learn to hear His voice. It may not sound familiar at first, but as we lean in and listen, responding with a desire to hear what He's saying, He will be faithful to confirm what He says and will speak to us with greater frequency. Then it's our responsibility to follow through with what He tells us. When we have truly committed ourselves to Him, He first encourages us to "Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known." (**Jeremiah 33:3**) He follows this with the promise "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." (**John 10:27**) We need to know Him.

**Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Led by the Spirit**

***“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.”***

**Romans 8:14**

This verse reminds us of our identity as God's children, but it also emphasizes the importance of being led by the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.

To be led by the Spirit means submitting our thoughts, decisions, and actions to God's guidance. It requires sensitivity to the Spirit's promptings, whether through Scripture, prayer, or the inward conviction of our hearts. **Galatians 5:16** echoes this truth: *“So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.”* When we follow the Spirit, we walk in alignment with God's will, avoiding the temptations that pull us away from Him.

The Spirit doesn't lead us into confusion or fear but rather into peace, truth, and purpose (**John 16:13**). As God's children, we have the privilege of living under the constant direction of the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to reflect Christ and fulfill God's purposes for our lives.

**Prayer Points:**

1. Pray for greater sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's leading in every aspect of your life.
2. Ask for strength to trust and obey the Spirit, especially when His direction challenges your comfort or understanding.

**Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

### **Confidence in the Holy Spirit**

***"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." – Romans 15:13 (NIV)***

Confidence in the Holy Spirit is one of the greatest gifts God gives us as believers. Romans 15:13 reminds us that God is the source of hope. When we place our trust in Him, we are filled with His joy and peace—inner qualities that transcend external situations. This kind of trust leads to an overflow of hope that is empowered by the Holy Spirit. It's not about hoping in our own strength or plans, but rather a hope that rests in God's power and faithfulness, knowing that His Spirit is actively working within us.

The Holy Spirit is our constant companion, helping us navigate life's uncertainties with confidence. The Spirit's role is to guide, comfort, and remind us of God's promises, especially when we face challenges or doubts. When we lack clarity or feel weak, the Spirit strengthens us and fills us with a hope that is beyond human understanding. This hope is an anchor for our souls, keeping us steady in the midst of trials (**Hebrews 6:19**).

We can walk confidently because the Holy Spirit enables us to see beyond our current circumstances. It's the Spirit that reassures us that God is working all things for our good, even when things seem hopeless. With the Spirit's power, our hope is not fleeting or wishful thinking, but a firm assurance grounded in God's character. This confidence is what allows us to face tomorrow with expectation and boldness, knowing that the same Spirit who raised Christ from the dead is at work in us (**Romans 8:11**).

***"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you." – John 14:26 (NIV)***

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Pray for an unshakable confidence in the Holy Spirit's guidance, especially in areas where you feel uncertain or afraid.
2. Ask God to fill you with hope through the power of the Holy Spirit, trusting that His Spirit is working all things for your good, even in difficult times.

**Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**More Than a Label**

Reading **2 Timothy 3:1-7** gives an eerily accurate description of our current culture: self-absorbed, materialistic, prideful, pleasure-seeking, cynical, disrespectful, ungrateful, crude, divisive, hateful, and Godless. And they might even be sitting next to you in church! They carry the label, but the contents are artificial at best.

The Israelites knew they were God's chosen, but they put more confidence in the Ark of God than in the God of the Ark to win their battle. (**1 Samuel 4:1-11**) To them, God was more of a good luck charm than their Sovereign Lord. They expected Him to do their bidding without bothering to first seek Him in humility and defer to His directive. If He's truly on His throne in our hearts, we'll put our confidence in Him to direct our steps. Then He gets the glory and we receive the blessing. Anything less is foolish and futile.

**Romans 1:21** warns us, "...for though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks to Him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their senseless minds were darkened." It isn't just a matter of wearing His name; it's walking in His Presence and honoring Him in our lives. We should be like a clear glass container - what's on the inside being so evident that we don't need a "label".

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any areas that might weaken your testimony; then address them and ask Him to help you walk the walk and not just talk the talk.

**Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**For Time AND Eternity**

The saying goes, we only have one life to live, but that's not entirely true. How we live our life while here on planet earth will determine where and how we'll spend our eternal existence. In the grand scheme of things, what at times may *seem* like forever is in reality only a vapor compared to eternity! God is keenly aware of every decision we make, and even our thoughts are recorded as indicators of what drives us.

Being a Christ follower goes beyond the sinner's prayer, although that is indeed the necessary first step in the right direction. It's where we acknowledge our sinful nature and our need for a Savior, but we have to understand we live in a fallen world that will constantly try to pull us back into our "former" lifestyle. We become a new creation, and that means our hard drive must be replaced - updated to reflect a new operating system, and it's definitely an upgrade.

We can't expect different outcomes from before if we think we don't have to hit the delete button on some of our old programming. Our lives should reflect the radical change in how we process everything around us and the choices we make. Now we should filter it all through the lens of an eternity spent in the Presence of God Himself. When we fully understand the magnitude of that, we'd be foolish to hold onto anything that might set us on a different path. Ask Him to lead you in this life, keeping your eyes focused on the life awaiting you. It's an investment you'll never regret with a guaranteed payoff beyond what you could even imagine. "THINGS WHICH THE EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND THE EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND WHICH HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM [who hold Him in affectionate reverence, who obey Him, and who gratefully recognize the benefits that He has bestowed]." (1 Corinthians 2:9, Amplified Bible)

**Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **Christ's Ambassadors**

God's priority for His people is that we reach out in love to a confused and dying world with the Good News of God's forgiveness, peace and hope through Jesus Christ. *Billy Graham*

It's the purpose of every Christian to follow the commission by Jesus to bring others to Him. **(Matthew 28:19-20)** But is our priority aligned with God's priority? Are we sharing the Good News both in word and in deed with a confused and dying world?

Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person and has been brought back to God through Christ's work on the cross. Now God has given us the task of reconciling people to Him.

So as Christ's ambassadors, God is making His appeal through us! We speak for Christ when we share the Good News and plead with the world to come back to God. **(2 Corinthians 5:17-20)**

No doubt it's easy to talk the talk and walk the walk when we are surrounded by fellow believers. We know we will be encouraged, accepted and understood. But how do we handle Jesus' commission when we are among unbelievers? Those who don't understand and who challenge us or worse, persecute us.

Rather than be fearful and hesitant to share Jesus with others, we are to focus on Christ. And we are to be prepared. If someone asks about our beliefs or tries to challenge us, we must be ready to give an answer, gently and respectfully. **(1 Peter 3:14-16)**

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Seek the Holy Spirit's guidance as you prepare to share with unbelievers.
2. Pray for clarity and boldness as Christ's ambassador.
3. Ask the LORD for His love and His peace to flow through you as you share His Good News.



**Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Pt. 1 Show Gods Love...**

**By Listening**

One of the simplest yet most profound ways to show God's love is by listening. In a world filled with noise and distractions, giving someone your full attention can be a powerful act of love. Jesus often demonstrated this. He listened to the cries of the blind, the needs of the hungry, and the hearts of the broken. We are called to do the same. When we listen to others, we reflect the patience, compassion, and grace of our Heavenly Father.

**James 1:19 (NIV)** reminds us: *"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry."* Listening carefully to others helps us respond with understanding and grace.

**Proverbs 18:13 (ESV)** warns: *"If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame."* Rushing to speak without first listening leads to misunderstandings and missed opportunities to show empathy and love.

When we listen well, we become vessels of God's love, showing others they are seen, heard, and valued.

**Prayer Points:**

1. **Lord, help me to listen more than I speak.** Give me the patience to hear the hearts of those around me and respond with wisdom and love.
2. **Father, teach me to reflect Your love in every conversation.** Let me be slow to anger and quick to understand, that I may offer grace just as You have given me.

**Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Pt. 2 Show God's Love...**

**By Praying For Others**

One of the greatest ways to show God's love is by lifting others in prayer. When we pray for someone, we demonstrate care and compassion, placing their needs before God and trusting His grace. It's a powerful reminder that God works through our prayers, changing lives and bringing hope.

In Philippians 2:4, Paul encourages us to "look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." This scripture invites us to step outside of our own concerns and selflessly pray for the well-being and spiritual growth of others. Likewise, in James 5:16, we are reminded that "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." Our prayers, offered in faith, can bring healing, comfort, and transformation to the lives of those we lift before God.

Let us take time each day to intercede for others, whether they are close friends, family, or even those we don't personally know. Through prayer, we become vessels of God's love, bringing light into the dark corners of people's lives.

**Prayer Points:**

1. Ask God to strengthen those you are praying for, providing peace and comfort in their trials.
2. Pray for God's will to be done in their lives, bringing them closer to Him and His purpose.

Through prayer, we show the world that God's love knows no bounds and reaches everyone who needs Him.

**Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Pt. 3 Show God's Love...**

**By Encouraging**

We are called to be vessels of God's love, and one of the most powerful ways to express that love is through encouragement. Life can be challenging, and a kind word or a gentle nudge in the right direction can help someone feel God's presence in their darkest moments.

When we encourage others, we mirror the heart of God, reminding them that they are valued, loved, and not alone. Encouragement lifts spirits, strengthens faith, and restores hope. It is a practical way to live out our calling as Christ's followers.

Scripture reminds us, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing" (1 Thessalonians 5:11, NIV). Our words have the power to build others up, to edify and support them in their walk with Christ.

Hebrews 10:24 also tells us, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (NIV). Encouragement inspires action and draws people closer to the life God has called them to live.

Let's be intentional today in offering encouragement to those around us, showing them the love of God in practical ways.

**Prayer Points:**

1. Lord, help me to be a source of encouragement and love to those in need of support today.
2. Father, guide my words to uplift and strengthen others, reflecting Your heart of compassion and grace.

**Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Pt. 4 Show God's Love...**

**With Acts of Kindness**

Kindness is a simple yet powerful way to demonstrate God's love to others. Jesus Himself modeled kindness in His interactions, reminding us that through our actions, we can reflect God's heart. Small acts of kindness—whether a smile, an encouraging word, or helping someone in need—have the potential to make a significant impact. When we act with kindness, we reflect God's love, becoming His hands and feet on earth.

**Supporting Scriptures:**

1. **Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)** – "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."
  - This verse reminds us that kindness flows from a heart that has experienced God's forgiveness. As we've been shown grace, we are called to extend it to others.
2. **Proverbs 19:17 (NIV)** – "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward them for what they have done."
  - When we show kindness to those in need, we are not only helping them but also honoring God, who sees and rewards our efforts.

**Prayer Points:**

1. **For a heart of compassion** – Lord, help me to see others through Your eyes and respond to their needs with compassion and kindness.
2. **To reflect God's love in actions** – Father, empower me to show Your love through my everyday actions, so that others may experience Your grace through my life.

Let us strive daily to love others by practicing kindness, reflecting God's love in every small gesture.

**Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Pt. 5 Show God's Love...**

**With Generosity**

God's love is boundless, and one of the most profound ways we can reflect His love is through generosity. When we give, we imitate the heart of God, who gave us the greatest gift—His Son, Jesus Christ. Generosity goes beyond material possessions. It's about giving our time, attention, compassion, and kindness to those in need. Every act of generosity points others to God's love working through us.

**Supporting Scriptures:**

1. **2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV):** "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2. **Proverbs 11:25 (NIV):** "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."
- 3.

**Prayer Points:**

1. Pray for a heart that seeks opportunities to be generous, allowing God to work through you to bless others.
2. Ask God to help you give freely and joyfully, knowing that your generosity reflects His love to the world.

May our generosity be a living testimony of God's love to all those around us.

**Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

### **Stop, Look and Listen**

When Moses had his burning bush experience he was on the far side of Horeb, the mountain of God, tending the flock of his father-in-law. We read that the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the phenomenon of a burning bush, but it wasn't until Moses *turned aside* that the Lord called out to him. God saw that he was willing to push pause and focus on the interruption. And because of that willingness to look deeper into the distraction, Moses received his destiny.

I can easily get distracted with so many things: responsibilities at home, ministry, serving, and just life in general. None of those things are inherently bad, but we can all become Marthas and get so preoccupied with what we think we should be doing that we miss what He's trying to show us. **(Luke 10:38-42)**

I sometimes wonder how often God may be trying to get my attention in order to call me into His Presence, to detach myself from everything going on around me and just *step away from* in order to *step into*. What we encounter may not be as dramatic as a burning bush, but I would say the exponential escalation of immorality being touted as "human rights and free speech" is pretty blatant evidence that He's calling us to hit the pause button and investigate more closely what He's revealing to us.

He is seeking to give us our destinies. The more perceptive we become to His omnipresence, the greater the likelihood that we will see the hidden purposes that He desires to reveal to those who are willing to stop, look and listen.

**Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

### **Servants Have Benefits**

The role of a servant is not usually considered one of status, although there is a hierarchy even among the hired help. There is the lady's maid and the valet who answer directly to the mistress or master of the house as well as the housemaid and valet who direct the daily operation of the household with the remainder of the staff below them. They all know their place and to whom they must answer, but they all have the privilege of living in the manor.

Those who are guests may come for a special occasion, but oftentimes they are somewhat aloof to the servants, and they come with an expectation of receiving something from the host and possibly being recognized as someone of elevated status. The Bible gives an insight to benefits afforded servants that are not enjoyed by visitors. The first, of course, is that they live with the master of the house and thus enjoy his provision all the time. And if their master is especially important and powerful, he probably has a sophisticated surveillance system and many safeguards to ensure the safety of his property, including everyone and everything in his household.

Isaiah tells us that when we are servants of the Most High God, no weapon formed against us will prosper because that is our heritage. (**Isaiah 54:17**) If our relationship with Him is based on what we can get from it either in material blessing or in a sense of seemingly spiritual superiority, we are more like the rude visitors.

Lord, may we always come as humble servants, knowing our role is in serving You and gladly celebrating the benefits we can enjoy as a result of being part of Your household.

**Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

**Draw Near**

“Who is like the Lord our God, who dwells on High.” **(Psalm 113:5)**

The Lord has “...called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” **(1 Peter 2:9b)** “...I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. **(Exodus 19:4 NLT)** “I have loved you with an everlasting love: therefore, with lovingkindness have I drawn thee. **(Jeremiah 31:3b)** The Lord is doing a new thing for all those who humbly come before Him in repentance. You will find new meaning in life as you spend time in the presence of the Lord. He will transform you as you spend time with Him. As you seek His face you will find the joy your soul has been craving. If you “Draw near to God, He will draw near to you.” **(James 4:8)** However, we are admonished in this same scripture to draw near with clean hands and a pure heart, having the right motives. The Lord longs to fill our empty vessels with more of His Spirit so that our light will draw others to Christ. “We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves.” **(2 Corinthians 4:7 NLT)** Your life is your testimony of the transforming power of Jesus Christ. Draw near and He will show you what He has purposed for your life. “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.” **(Ephesians 2:10)** Draw near and let Him fill the longing in your soul.

**Isaiah 43:19, Romans 12:2, Psalm 27:8, Matthew 5:16, Psalm 107:9**

**Prayer:** Father, we draw near to You with an open heart. Clean our hands and heart to serve our neighbors for Your glory. As we seek Your face transform our souls to reflect Jesus in all our interactions from this day forward. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



**Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024:**

### **Seeking the Lord for Strength**

**"Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually!" (1 Chronicles 16:11, ESV).**

This verse is a reminder that the strength we need for life's challenges doesn't come from ourselves, but from the Lord. When we face difficult times, we are called to seek God first, leaning on His power rather than relying solely on our own abilities.

The same theme appears in **Isaiah 40:31**, where we're told, "Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles." Here, waiting on the Lord—seeking His presence—leads to renewed strength. God equips us to rise above challenges when we depend on Him.

In **Matthew 7:7**, Jesus teaches, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find." When we seek God earnestly, He responds by granting us the strength, wisdom, and guidance we need. His strength becomes perfect in our weakness, and His presence empowers us to keep moving forward.

Let us commit to seeking God daily, trusting in His unfailing strength.

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Lord, help me seek Your presence continually in all situations, trusting You above all else.
2. Strengthen me by Your Spirit, so that I may rise above difficulties with renewed faith and courage. Amen.

**Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

## **Abiding in Christ**

***John 15:7* says, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you."**

Jesus reminds us that the key to a fruitful life is found in abiding—staying close to Him. Our connection to Christ is not a casual acquaintance but a deep, daily relationship. Abiding means immersing ourselves in His Word and letting His truth shape our lives.

**Psalm 91:1** echoes this, "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." Living in God's presence brings protection and peace, but it also requires intentional pursuit.

Similarly, in ***Colossians 2:6-7***, Paul encourages us, "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in Him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith." Our strength flows from ongoing intimacy with Christ, where His love becomes the foundation of everything we do.

### **Prayer Points**

1. Lord, help me to abide in You daily, seeking Your presence above all else. Let my heart remain close to You in every season.
2. Father, deepen my intimacy with You. Let Your Word shape my thoughts and help me stay rooted in Your love and truth.

**Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**

**“COME TO ME”**

**“The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad: let the distant shores rejoice.” (Psalm 97:1 NIV)**

It is God that is in control. It may be difficult to understand everything that is happening in the world, unless you know God is in control. Some use the imagery “the world is on fire” to describe our current state of affairs. Are we living in the end times? Is God using the chaos to draw people to himself? We know God is not “...willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.” **(2 Peter 3:9b)** What are we to do? Jesus said, “So don’t worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today’s trouble is enough for today.” **(Matthew 6:34 NLT)** God has given us some comfort when He said, “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” **(Isaiah 55:9)** Jesus did tell us we would face trials in this life, but He also let us know He will be there for us when the trials come. He also said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” **(Matthew 11:28 NIV)** He will be there for us and all we must do is call upon the name of the Lord. “The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.” **(Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV)** “The Lord reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice.” **(Psalm 97:1 NIV)**

**Colossians 1:16-17; John 16:33**

**Prayer:** Father god we praise You for Your consistent presence in our lives. In the ups, downs and uncertainties we trust that You are in control. We bring all our struggles to You and rest in Your faithful love, provision, and power to guide us through this day. In Jesus’ Holy Name. Amen.

**Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**For His Own Sake**

I was blown away when I read a passage in Isaiah that I've read many times before but never picked up on a particular phrase. **Isaiah 43:25** reads, "I, even I, am He who blots out your transgressions *for My own sake*; and I will not remember your sins." (emphasis added) For His own sake! I had to ask myself why He would do that. And then it occurred to me that He has such an intense desire to be in relationship with us, but because He is altogether holy, we cannot approach Him if we are still in our sin.

Enter His mercy and grace and promise. I know the reason He sent Jesus was to save us, but the realization that He did this for Himself in addition to doing it for us was a game changer. I don't know about you, but that thought totally captivated me. The God of all creation saved me – **me** - from the penalty and stain of my sin *for His sake*. He did it to reveal to me His character, His glory, and the magnitude of His love for me...and for you.

"God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins." (**1 John 4:9-10**, NLT) With that knowledge, how can my response be anything other than humility, ultimate gratitude, and love. Do it for His sake.

Thank You, Father, for Your unfailing grace, mercy and love.

**Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## **Praying in the Spirit**

**Ephesians 6:18 encourages us to "pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests."**

This verse highlights the importance of being constantly in prayer, not just during times of need but in every moment. Praying in the Spirit means relying on the Holy Spirit's guidance to shape our prayers, allowing Him to lead us in how and what to pray.

**Romans 8:26** reminds us that "the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." This shows the intimate role of the Holy Spirit in empowering our prayers, especially when we feel unsure or inadequate.

**Jude 1:20** further emphasizes, "But you, dear friends, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit." Here, we are reminded that praying in the Spirit strengthens our faith and builds us up spiritually, helping us stay aligned with God's will.

Let us commit to seeking God's presence through Spirit-led prayer, trusting Him to lead our hearts in every situation.

### **Prayer Points**

1. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your prayers, helping you pray in alignment with God's will.
2. Pray for a deeper awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence as you intercede for others, allowing Him to strengthen your faith in every prayer.

**Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **God Hears and Cares**

***“Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.” – Jeremiah 29:12 (NKJV)***

One of the greatest truths about our relationship with God is that He hears us when we pray. In Jeremiah 29:12, God reassures His people that when they come to Him in prayer, He listens. This promise was given in a time when the Israelites were in exile, feeling distant from home and likely from God. Yet, even in their distress, God wanted them to know they were never alone.

God is not distant or indifferent. Psalm 34:17 tells us, *“The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and delivers them out of all their troubles.”* No matter what challenges we face, we can come before Him with confidence that He cares about every detail of our lives.

Jesus reaffirmed this truth in Matthew 7:7 when He said, *“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”* God is eager for us to approach Him, knowing He listens and responds. His heart is attentive to His children, and He desires to meet us in our need.

You are invited to call upon Him, trusting in His faithfulness. He hears, He cares, and He is working in ways you may not see.

#### **Prayer Points:**

1. Lord, help me to come to You in prayer with full confidence, knowing You are always ready to listen.
2. Heavenly Father, thank You for caring about my needs and concerns. Help me trust that You are working even when I cannot see it.

**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## **Spiritual Growth**

“You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God’s word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food. For someone who lives on milk is still an infant and doesn’t know how to do what is right. Solid food is for those who are mature, who through training have the skill to recognize the difference between right and wrong.” **Hebrews 5:12-14**

In order to grow from infant Christians into mature Christians, we must learn discernment. We must train our conscience, our senses, our minds and our bodies to distinguish good from evil. We need discernment to understand the Scriptures and to identify the areas of our lives where we need to apply their teachings.

If a fellow believer incorrectly translated a Scripture to justify their sin, would you recognize the error, even if it was misinterpreted ever so slightly? Would you know how to handle the situation?

As we continue to grow in our relationship with the Lord and learn more about Him through His Word and time spent in prayer, our discernment will increase. We will learn how to gently and humbly help that person back onto the right path and motivate them to do acts of love and good works. (See **Galatians 6:1-2** and **Hebrews 10:24**)

### **Prayer Points:**

1. Seek God’s guidance to help you deepen your relationship with Him.
2. Ask the Lord for spiritual discernment and understanding.
3. Pray for a mind renewed by the Word of God and for a heart attuned to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

**Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**THANKSGIVING TO GOD**

“Come, let us sing to the Lord! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come to him with thanksgiving. Let us sing psalms of praise to him. For the Lord is a great God, a great King above all the gods.” **(Psalm 95:1-3 NLT)**

This scripture is a real treasure to meditate on. We have a good reason to shout joyfully that Jesus died for us and through his death, burial and resurrection He gave us salvation today and forever. We can come to Him and seek His presence with a heart of thanksgiving. We give Him the glory and honor when we sing psalms of praise to Him. He alone is God. He is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him and given Him a name which is above every name.” **(Philippians 2:9)** We can shout “HALLELUJAH” praise to God. Our God reigns. “It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High. It is good to proclaim your unfailing love in the morning, your faithfulness in the evening...” **(Psalm 92:1-2 NLT)**

**Luke 24:6-7, Isaiah 46:9, 1Timothy 6:15, Isaiah 44:6, Psalm 99:1,**

**Prayer:** Father, we have so much to be thankful for, but we owe our gratitude first to Your Son, Jesus, who died for us that we could live new lives by Your grace. We give you all the honor and glory. In the name of Jesus, Amen



**Friday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **In the Waiting**

Most of us are familiar with the beautiful “Footprints in the Sand” poem which reassures us of God’s presence, even when we’re unaware of it. Those “in between” times are typically the most difficult for us to bear or to understand. They are often the times when our faith is most greatly tested. We want to know what it is we’re dealing with and just how long it’s going to last. But we don’t always have that luxury.

Sometimes we just need to accept the fact that the waiting period is allowing something of great value to be conceived, to be formed or birthed – something new or in a form we weren’t expecting. Perhaps it’s a brand-new life, such as when a baby is born; or maybe it’s more akin to a transformed life, like a butterfly emerging from a dark and confining cocoon. Either way, you can’t rush the process.

The disciples didn’t understand why Jesus had to leave, and after He had risen from the grave He spent 40 days with them before gathering them together in Jerusalem. Then He instructed them not to leave until they received the Holy Spirit. Wait. And they waited - *for ten long days* – days of seclusion and absence. Jesus had not left them; they were just waiting to experience the Presence in a different form.

As one pastor put it, He hadn’t *ghosted* them; He was *gifting* them with a deeper understanding of who He was to them. Lord, teach us how to abide with You in the middle of the waiting, knowing that You are working Your perfect plan, and at the proper time You will reveal to us its glorious fulfillment. Teach us how faith is born in the absence of answers.

**Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

### **Are We Listening?**

In **Luke 6:46** Jesus posed this question to both His disciples and the crowd that had gathered to hear Him and to be healed: why do you call Me Lord but you don't do what I say? How would we respond to the same question? Would we rationalize that at least we do *some* of what He says? Would we go silent and maybe pretend we didn't hear the question? Worse yet, would we have to admit that we really don't even know what He says?!

We are so inundated with messaging in so many forms, much of which is heavily biased or outright propaganda, that it's imperative for us to be carefully attentive to what the author of all truth has to say. And we need to understand that His words have an authority beyond our comprehension. In a fishing boat on a raging sea, the seasoned fishermen were keenly aware of the imminent danger while the seemingly clueless carpenter was asleep at the bow! And when they awakened Him, He *stood up* (seriously?) in the boat and commanded the wind and waves to cool it - and they did!

It seems it would be in our best interest to listen to someone with that kind of authority. We've capitulated for too long to the voices that are trying to silence us and keep us out of the public arena. Jesus has given us spiritual authority and He's given us an assignment. It's time for His church to stand up, even in the midst of the storm, and to command the forces of wickedness to submit to the purposes of heaven. We have to first know what He's saying, and then we must take appropriate action. Ask Him to open our ears and our hearts so that we might say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening." (**Samuel 3:9**)