



21 Days of Prayer

Pray...Pray some more...Repeat

“Jesus told them to always pray
and never give up!”

–Luke 18:1

Week 1 (August 1 - 7)

Week 1 (August 1 – August 7): The Joy and Hope of Confession & Repentance

“Let us examine and probe our ways, and let us return to the Lord. We lift up our heart and hands toward God in heaven.”
Lamentations 3:40-41

“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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place.”
2 Chronicles 7:14-15

This first week of our 21-Days of Prayer emphasizes personal and corporate confession and repentance. Unconfessed sin and an unrepentant spirit not only grieves God’s heart, but also restricts His blessing.

Humility is to stand before a Holy God, acknowledging and confessing our sinfulness and our absolute and unceasing dependence on Him for salvation and life. As we stand in that place humbling ourselves, He forgives us, heals us, and welcomes us into His glorious life-giving Presence where we can pray, seek His face and favor and He hears and answers.

There are 4 areas to pray through each day. Start by reading the assigned section of scripture, then pray. Find a quiet unhurried place to be with the Lord and enjoy being in His presence!

Daily Scripture for reading and meditation

Day 1 (Monday): Nehemiah 9:1-38 **God is our merciful Lord**

Day 2 (Tuesday): Psalm 32:1-11 **God is forgiving**

Day 3 (Wednesday): 2 Corinthians 10:3-6, James 1:22-25 **God desires obedience**

Day 4 (Thursday): James 4:1-10, Luke 18:10-14, and Acts 3:19 **God desires humility**

Day 5 (Friday): Psalm 51:1-12 and 1 John 1:5-2:2 **God is our Advocate who forgives and cleanses us**

Day 6 (Saturday): Jeremiah 17:5-14, Psalm 139:1-7, 23-24 **God knows our hearts**

Day 7 (Sunday): 1 Peter 1:14-21, Hebrew 9:11-15, and rev. 1:4-8 **God is a Holy judge**

Pray this week that...

1. God, by His Holy Spirit, would bring a humility and openness in our spirits to see any sin; and then the courage and commitment to confess it and repent by making a total about face, and changing our way of thinking and living.

2. God would reveal any areas of *personal sin*. For example, pray through each of the following areas asking, "Lord do I have..."

- An unforgiving spirit
- Sensuality
- Pride/arrogance
- Unrighteous anger
- A critical spirit
- Bitterness or resentment
- A demand that I "get my way"
- An independent spirit
- Unwillingness to go be reconciled with another
- Competitiveness
- Sowing discord/gossip
- Lack of moral outrage at sin
- The expectation to be served by others (i.e., entitlement)
- Idols (i.e., what I love more than God)
- Lack of demonstrating love for others
- Taking on the grievance of another
- Anything else God's Spirit brings to mind

3. God would reveal any strongholds of sin in our church (c.f. 2 Cor.10:4, *A stronghold is an area of repeated sin that is ignored or excused and thus inhibits spiritual vitality*). Is there, corporately, any consistent pattern of...

- Pride/arrogance
- Desire for control or selfish agendas
- Sexual immorality
- Lack of desperate dependence on God or spiritual complacency, prayerlessness
- Deception
- A focus on performance or appearance over integrity of heart and life
- Worldly attitudes or methods
- Unrealistic expectations of the pastor(s)
- Anything else God's Spirit brings to mind

4. Spend some time resting in the joy of having been seen by our merciful and good God, being forgiven and made clean, with a hope of the transformation possible by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This process goes on all our lives. Meditate on 1Peter 5:6-8.

“Therefore, humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in time, casting all your care on Him, for He cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant: because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

But we can have hope that our response to the enemy’s oppression and temptations is to humble ourselves, resist and stand strong in our faith. Meditate on 1 Peter 5:9-11.

“Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace Who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Please feel free to join the Wednesday morning prayer group at 8 am. Here is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86864320567?pwd=bXc4UGFJbUkwU2h-ZUIVZ2Z1hEa05TQT09>

Meeting ID: 868 6432 0567

Passcode: 345900