



Pray First
Prayer Guide & Journal

21 Days of Prayer



Aug 16- Sep 5

In every situation, whether good or bad, we try to pray before we act. Many times people act first and then want God to bail them out of that situation, but prayer should be our first response, not our last resort.

Understanding the necessity of prayer is not enough. In order for it to become a part of our life, it needs to become something we look forward to. I'm convinced most people don't enjoy prayer because they have never been taught how to pray. That's where this simple prayer journal can help. When you discover the beauty of daily conversation with Him, you'll experience the presence of God 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 bed —

Before you go to work or school —

Before you send that text —

Before you react —

Before bad things happen —

Before you eat, drive, or travel —

In every situation —

PRAY FIRST!

Prayer changes everything!

21 Days of Prayer Guide

We are so excited to kick off this year with worship & prayer! We have this 21 day prayer guide to unify us as we pray for key topics during this season. These daily prayer guides are simple, easy and applicable. They include a prayer topic, description, and verse to guide you as you pray. We encourage you to take 5 minutes each day to join together as a church family in the powerful practice of unified prayer.

DAY 1 Prayer Topic: Personal Hunger

The first step in prayer is to connect with The Lord and focus on who He is. It's only when we know who He is that we can know who we are as His children. Join us today as we pray for an increase of personal intimacy and hunger for the Lord. Pray that He would reveal Himself to you in a new way and that you would discover and desire His presence more. Pray for a new desire to set aside time to pray everyday and for strength to join together with the body of Christ corporately as we have our weekly prayer gatherings.

Psalm 95: 6-8 Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care. Today, if only you would hear His voice.

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

DAY 2 Prayer Topic: Awakening in Our Church

Join us as we pray for our church today. The Church is one of the 7 Spheres of Influence in society. Pray for our church community to grow in hunger for the presence of God and for a deeper understanding of God's word. Pray that we would be unified as we love one another and love those around us. Pray for strength in our church to daily put Jesus first in our lives.

Ephesians 3:17-19 "I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

DAY 3 Topic: Schools

Education is one of the 7 Spheres of Influence in society. Pray for all levels of education-from younger children in elementary school through high school. Pray for an awakening among students of all ages as well as for their teachers. When possible pray by name for students and teachers you know. Pray also that godly principles will come into the curriculum being taught at all levels of education.

Proverbs 1:5-9 Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.

DAY 4 Prayer Topic: Your Lost Family Members

Pray for your family members who are not following Jesus. Pray for the blinders to be removed from their eyes so that they may see Jesus rightly and respond to the love of God. Pray against the lies and deception of the enemy, that the plan of the enemy would not prevail in the lives of those who do not know Christ, but that the Lord would break through with His loving kindness and soften their hearts toward Him. Pray for those who have walked away from the Lord to once again return to Him.

2 Corinthians 4:4 Satan, the god of this age, has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Acts 26:18 I am sending you to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.

DAY 5 Prayer Topic: Local Government

Government is one of the 7 Spheres of Influence in society. Because of this, the Church must cover it in prayer. The apostle Paul instructed Timothy in his first letter to, "pray for all that are in authority". There is little doubt that Paul's first concern in this regard was for prayer that impacted those in government positions. Pray for our local government leaders that they would lead with wisdom from God.

1 Timothy 2:1-4 I urge, then first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people-for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

DAY 6 Prayer Topic: Family Church

Join us today as we pray that God will help us to reach more people than ever before, make disciples, raise up leaders & volunteers, an increased level of generosity, powerful stories of life change, open doors to preach the gospel & open hearts to receive it, compassion for the lost, grace, peace, & unity, the fear of the Lord, to be full of the Holy Spirit, and rest.

Romans 12:9-13 Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Acts 9:31 The church then had peace throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria, and it became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord. And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers.

DAY 7 Prayer Topic: Awakening in our City

Join us today as we pray for spiritual awakening in our city. We encourage you to pray specifically for your city/town you live in. Pray for the hearts of those who live in your community to be awakened to the love and peace of Christ. Pray that the presence of God would flood your community - in the schools, businesses, neighborhood, restaurants, etc. Pray that the enemy would not have his way, but that God would have His way in and through your city.

Philippians 1:9-11 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

DAY 8 Prayer Topic: Local Pastors & Leaders

Join us today as we pray for Local Pastors & Leaders! Jesus is the head of the Church, but we need leaders who walk in obedience to Him to be the heartbeat of the body! We are praying for pastors and leaders who are obedient to the call Jesus gave Peter..."if you love me, feed my sheep". Pray today for pastors & leaders in our city to be strengthened by the Holy Spirit. Pray for unity and love to abound amongst them that they would be able to work together with one heart to reach our city. Pray for your pastor that they would receive refreshing today.

Ephesians 4:11-13 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Numbers 6:24-26 *The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.*

DAY 9 Prayer Topic: Adoption & Foster Care

The Church is God's hands and feet in this world. Pray that He will raise up more families to open their homes to care for children in need. Pray for those who are already walking the road of foster care or adoption to be strengthened and have endurance for the journey as they reveal the love of Jesus to kids from hard places. Pray that the children will come to know Christ and experience God's love and healing from all past trauma. Pray for felt safety and healthy attachment in relationships within the home.

Psalms 68:6 *God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land.*

DAY 10 Prayer Topic: Your Lost Friends

Pray for your friends who are not following Jesus. Pray for the blinders to be removed from their eyes so that they may see Jesus rightly and respond to the love of God. Pray against the lies and deception of the enemy, that the plan of the enemy would not prevail in the lives of those who do not know Christ, but that the Lord would break through with His loving kindness and soften their hearts toward Him. Pray for those who have walked away from the Lord to once again return to Him. Ask the Lord if He has an assignment for you to show them His love.

2 Corinthians 4:4 *Satan, the god of this age, has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.*

Acts 26:18 *I am sending you to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.*

DAY 11 Prayer Topic: Local Business

Business is one of the 7 Spheres of Influence in society. Pray for businesses in our community that God will use them to accomplish His purposes. Ask the Lord for strength to share His love in your workplace, and pray for those whom you work with or those you know who work in business that they would also share His love. Pray for God to raise up godly men and women to share the gospel wherever they serve that many would be reached at their workplace. Pray for funds to be given by businesses for the advancement of the Kingdom of God in our nation and the nations of the earth.

Isaiah 60:1-5 *Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and His glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you. All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be*

radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come.

DAY 12 Prayer Topic: Missions

Pray for the foreign and local mission partners Family Church supports- Abba House in Thailand with David and Joyce Moore. Christi Alexander with AG World Missions. Terrence and Laurel Harris' family in Tajikistan. Compassion International GO Kids sponsorship. Local missions- Helping Hands Food Pantry. Family Church Wellsville community Celebrate Recovery as we set out to launch this program to help all those with hurts, hang ups, and habits in our community.

Matthew 25:40 Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.

Matthew 5:13-16 You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

DAY 13 Prayer Topic: Church Leadership

Join us today as we pray for our leadership at Family Church. Pastor Curtis and Sue. Pastor Jessica and her family. The board members and leadership team. Pray today for those who lead in our church. Pray that they would be strengthened and refreshed by the Holy Spirit today. Pray for fresh vision and direction from God. Pray for unity in our leaders, that they would continue to work together as a team.

Ephesians 4:11-13 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

DAY 14 Prayer Topic: Awakening in America

Join us today as we pray for our nation. We are in a pivotal time as we see so much darkness and confusion rule our land. Pray today that the truth from God would be put first again and that our hearts, the hearts of those in our city, the hearts of those in our state, and the hearts of those across this nation would be awakened again to the truth and love of Jesus. Pray that the

church would unify to reach our nation and that the Holy Spirit would pour out in a new way. Pray that we would see a great harvest of salvations in America.

Ephesians 5:14-17 Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.

DAY 15 Prayer Topic: Youth Depression & Suicide

Join us today as we pray for those affected by depression & suicide. We have seen a radical increase of this in youth in our city & the cities surrounding. In Johnson County alone suicide rates have raised 70% in the past decade. Pray for the youth in our community that they would find Christ and receive their identity in Him. Pray that they would know their worth, how truly valuable and treasured they are. Pray for those who are bullied, that their peers would come around them with love and support. Pray for those who struggle with depression that they would receive freedom through the Holy Spirit. Pray for youth who know Christ, that they would look for those around them who are struggling in these areas and would share the love and peace of Jesus.

John 16: 33 I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

Psalms 40:1-3 I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in him.

DAY 16 Prayer Topic: The Lost in our City

Join us today as we pray for the lost in our community who have never heard the gospel of Jesus. Pray that we would be intentional to love those in our daily lives who need to be shown the truth of who Jesus is. Pray that many would be invited to local churches and respond to the gift of salvation.

Matthew 9:36-38 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

DAY 17 Prayer Topic: Colleges & Universities

Pray for an awakening on college and university campuses, that this next generation will love Jesus with all their hearts, souls, minds and strength. Pray for an increase of worship and prayer inviting the Lord to move powerfully on the campuses. That hearts would be ignited with passion for the lost, both on their campus and in the nations.

1 Corinthians 15:58 *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

DAY 18 Prayer Topic: Emergency Responders

Join us today as we pray for our local emergency responders. We are truly blessed to live in a community with dedicated emergency responders. Pray for police officers, firefighters, and EMT's. Pray for their safety as they help protect and serve our community in so many ways. Pray for the Lord to pour out His blessing on them today.

Peter 4:11 *If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.*

Isaiah 41:13 *For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.*

DAY 19 Prayer Topic: Your Neighbors

Today we want to encourage you to pray for your neighbors! Whether you know them well or not God has strategically placed you to live where you are to be able to shine the light of Jesus to your neighbors. Pray for the Lord to bless them today. If they are not followers of Jesus pray that they would encounter the Love of Christ and receive His saving grace. If your neighbors have kids pray for their children to know Christ from a young age. Ask the Lord how you can practically serve your neighbors through acts of kindness. Ask God how you can live out "Our Mission Is GO!" in your neighborhood.

Mark 12:30-31 *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'* *The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* *There is no commandment greater than these.*

DAY 20 Prayer Topic: Disciples that make disciples

As we near the end of 21 Days of Prayer, pray that each one of us would walk out as disciples who make disciples. Pray for strength and boldness to share your faith with those around you. Pray for a fresh daily awareness of what the Holy Spirit is doing, invite Him into every area of your life. Live life on mission.

