

Prayer Guide

October - December 2024



This prayer guide and scripture reading are devoted to a regular commitment to devoted time with Jesus. They help you slow down for contemplative prayer and scripture reading and follow a shared track of prayer and scripture with our church.

Use this prayer guide along with our weekly prayer list that is sent out each week and lift up your church family in prayer. Remember, prayer forms us. I expect you to hear from God when you pray; it could be a simple encouragement or a convicting spirit nudge. His Spirit is always at work.

Pastor Nate

We pray to be **formed by God**. Take a moment and **quiet your head, heart and spirit**. Open yourself to hearing from God and then **begin with these prayers each day**. This is the work of slowing down and posturing yourself to **hear from God**.

FIRST WORDS IN PRAYER

Eternal God, you are always with us-
You are here, Now.

Father God, creator of heaven and
earth.

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,

God of Israel,

God and Father of our Lord
and Savior, Jesus Christ,

True and living God who is Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit,

Have mercy and hear our prayers.

DECLARATION

O Lord, open our lips,
And our mouths shall proclaim your
praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit:
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.
(Hallelujah)

O God, make speed to save us,
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.
(Hallelujah)

CONFESSION

Lord, we confess our day-to-day failure to be human.

Lord, we confess to you.

Lord, we confess that we often fail to love with all we have and are, often because we do not fully understand what loving means, often because we are afraid of risking ourselves.

Lord, we confess to you.

Lord, we cut ourselves off from each other and we erect barriers of division.

Lord, we confess to you.

CONFESSION

Lord, we confess that by silence
and ill-considered word
**we have built up walls of
prejudice.**

Lord, we confess that by
selfishness and lack of sympathy
***we have stifled generosity and
left little time for others.***

Holy Spirit, speak to us. Help us to
listen to your word of forgiveness,
for we are very deaf. Come fill this
moment and free us from our sin.

THE JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

HAVE MERCY ON ME [A SINNER].

Amen.

When we open God's word, it's like we're opening his mouth—take some time each day to immerse yourself in God's word. As you read the daily Psalm, imagine the feelings you encounter as your own. As you read in the Old Testament, work to discover what it has to do with the Good News of Jesus Christ. As you read in the New Testament, imagine you are present with Jesus or with the early church.

BIBLE READING QUARTER 4

Psalms: one each day

Old Testament Reading: same each day of the week

New Testament Reading: one chapter each day

Week of Oct 6

Psalms 1-7
Job 2:1-10
Hebrews 2:5-12

Week of Nov 10

Psalms 24-40
Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Hebrews 9:24-28

Week of Dec 15

Psalms 69-75
Zephaniah 3:14-20
Luke 3:7-18

Week of Oct 13

Psalms 8-14
Job 23:1-9
Hebrews 4:12-16

Week of Nov 17

Psalms 41-47
1 Samuel 1:4-20
Hebrews 10:11-25

Week of Dec 22

Psalms 76-82
Micah 5:2-5
Luke 1:39-55

Week of Oct 20

Psalms 15-21
Job 38:1-4, 34-41
Hebrews 5:1-10

Week of Nov 24

Psalms 48-54
2 Samuel 23:1-7
Revelation 1:4-8

Week of Dec 29

Psalms 83-89
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
John 1:1-18

Week of Oct 27

Psalms 22-28
Job 42:1-17
Hebrews 7:23-28

Week of Dec 1

Psalms 55-61
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Luke 21:25-36

Week of Nov 3

Psalms 29-33
Ruth 1:1-18
Hebrews 9:11-14

Week of Dec 8

Psalms 62-68
Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 3:1-6

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

This next section is all about bringing our requests to God. Before you begin this specific time of prayer, read Psalm 23 and Psalm 91:1-2.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for your immediate family by name.

Pray the Lord's Prayer.

Pray for your personal requests and needs.

Use this time to pray for whatever is on your heart. Employ your spiritual gift and pray in tongues to edify yourself before the Lord.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for these weekly needs:

Sunday: the church gathered

All of Albemarle's worship gatherings today; clear gospel! All of our network churches: AFA, Sandhills Assembly, NC AG Churches.

Monday: the church scattered in mission

Wisdom in reaching out with God's love through our various vocations, local businesses and medical missions. Business owners in the community, doctors, nurses, civil servants.

Tuesday: the church at home and at school

For homes and schools. All of our county schools, charter and private schools, college and universities.

Wednesday: the church serving the needy

The people who reach out regularly, for the needs of the community. All of our local and regional outreach partnerships: Pregnancy Resource Center, Stanly Christian Ministry, Convoy of Hope.

PRAYER FOR FAMILY AND NEEDS

Pray for these weekly needs:

Thursday: the church in our nation and world

Guidance for those who govern and those who are governed. For peace and justice. Local, state, and national officials and servants.

Friday: AFA's own fellowship

For the growth and deep-rooted cultivation of unity and hospitality at AFA. For our pastor, board, and leadership team.

Saturday: the witness of Christians

That the church may grow inwardly in discipleship and outwardly through evangelism of the lost; All of our supported missionaries.

SLOWING DOWN AND SITTING WITH JESUS.

Take several minutes to sit in silence. If you need to say something or think something, say or think in Jesus's name. Maybe set a timer or an alarm, but take several minutes to be still, silent, breathe, and just BE with Jesus.

PRAYER WITH OPEN HANDS

Lord Jesus, speak gently in my silence. When the loud noises of my surroundings and the loud inner noises of my fears keep pulling me away from you, help me to trust that you are still there even when I am unable to hear you. Give me ears to listen to your small, soft voice- Let that loving voice be my guide.

CLOSING PRAYERS

These prayers are an appropriate ascent from the slower, more contemplative prayer that we've just prayed. Pray these as you wrap up this time of prayer.

VICTORY IS OURS (DESMOND TUTU)

Goodness is stronger than evil;

Love is stronger than hate;

Light is stronger than darkness;

Life is stronger than death;

Victory is ours through Him who
loves us.

BENEDICTION PRAYER

We are image bearers of the
most high God,
We are covered by the love
of Jesus,
We have the power of the
Holy Spirit within us.

Because of the Holy Spirit's
power within us,
We will freely and recklessly
give away this love of Jesus
We won't hold back.

CONFESSION OF THE MYSTERY

Christ **has died**.

Christ **has risen**.

Christ **will come again**.

THE JESUS PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

HAVE MERCY ON ME [A SINNER].

Amen.



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