



THE PRAYER CLOSET

ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING BELIEVERS IN PRAYER

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE PRAYER CLOSET MINISTRIES, INC.

© Copyright 2001

VOLUME XXI

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2018

ISSUE 3

PRAYING FOR CHANGE

As we come to the close of this year, many people will make resolutions for the New Year. This is a great time to consider and make fresh commitments for the New Year. Generally, when people make resolutions or commitments, it concerns some area of change. They want to make some kind of change from the previous year.

I would ask you to consider making spiritual changes. We are always in need of spiritual change and growth. No one has reached the place in the Christian life that these things are not needed (**Philippians 3:13-14**). The foundation of this change is prayer. It is through prayer that we receive God's help and power to change.

In this issue of *The Prayer Closet*, we will focus on spiritual change and growth. This issue will offer you prayer starters to pray for your church's spiritual growth and your own growth. These prayer guides are offered to help you in your own personal intercession for your church and yourself.

Praying For Your Church's Spiritual Growth

Lord God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church will love and worship You with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. I also ask that we will love our neighbors as ourselves (**Matthew 22:37-39**).

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so cause the believers of _____ Church to thirst and long for You, the living God (**Psalms 42:1**).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will desire You above all things on earth. Though our heart and flesh may fail, I ask that You will be the strength of our heart and our portion forever (**Psalms 73:25-26**).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that the believers of _____ will love Your Word. I ask that we will dig into the Word daily, reading, savoring, meditating on, memorizing, and putting its truth into practice (**Psalms 119:97**).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would stand mature and complete in all of the will of God as revealed in His Word (**Colossians 4:12**).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church will continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving. Release a spirit of prayer in this church; stir us and teach us to pray (**Colossians 4:2**).

Lord, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be filled with the Holy Spirit on a daily basis and that we would not quench or grieve the Holy Spirit who lives inside of us (**Ephesians 5:18**).

Create the mind of Christ in the believers of _____ Church. Enable the believers of this church to become more and more like Jesus (**Philippians 2:5-11**).

Father, I plead that the believers of _____ Church will be diligent to confess their sins so that You will be faithful and

just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us of our unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

God, I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not let sin reign in their mortal bodies and that we would consider ourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Jesus Christ (**Romans 6:11-12**).

I plead that the believers of _____ Church would present our bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to You, O God. This is our spiritual service of worship (**Romans 12:1**).

I ask that the believers of _____ Church would not be conformed to this world, but that we would be transformed by the renewing of our minds so that we may prove what is that good, acceptable, and perfect will of God (**Romans 12:2**).

Merciful God, I pray that the believers of _____ Church would discern our spiritual gifts and would use these spiritual gifts that You have given us through the power and working of the Holy Spirit. Enable the believers to use our spiritual gifts for the strengthening of this church (**1 Corinthians 12:7, 11**).

I pray that the Holy Spirit would grant wisdom and insight to the believers of _____ Church so that we would have a deeper, more intimate knowledge of You (**Ephesians 1:17**).

I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be more and more surrendered to Jesus Christ. Enable us to bring every area of our lives under the lordship of Jesus Christ (**Ephesians 3:17**).

Lord, I pray that You would grant that the believers of _____ Church would be filled with the knowledge of Your will. Grant us insight into Your Word and the wisdom to know how to apply this to our lives so that we can live lives worthy of You (**Colossians 1:9**).

Father, I plead that all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking would be put away from

the believers of _____ Church. I pray that the believers of _____ Church would be kind to others, tenderhearted, forgiving just as God for Christ's sake has forgiven us (**Ephesians 4:31-32**).

I pray that You will continue and complete the good work that You have begun in the believers of _____ Church. I am confident in Your power and willingness to do this. Remove any obstacle that would oppose Your work in our lives (**Philippians 1:6**).

Praying For Personal Growth

The following are Scripture prayers that you can pray for personal growth and change. None of us have attained to perfection; we must keep striving to change and grow in our faith. The following prayers can aid you in seeking God for this change. Some may be more needful for you than others. You might consider praying them over time as a part of your regular prayer life.

Father, create within me a clean heart. O God of my salvation, renew a right spirit within me (**Psalms 51:10**).

Righteous Father, I confess my inability to change myself. I find myself doing the evil that I don't want to do while not doing the good that I want to practice. This crushes me and I plead for Your help, O God. Change me, O God. Transform me by Your power and grace (**Romans 7:18-19**).

O God, create within me a greater hunger for Your Word and for You. Father, I plead that my hunger for Your Word and You will root out and replace my lust for sin and the world (**Psalms 42:1-2**).

Father, teach me how to pray. Show me how to communicate with You. Fill me with the grace and discipline to spend time alone with You each day (**Matthew 6:6; Luke 11:1**).

Father, teach me how to worship. Show me how to worship You in the way that will delight Your heart and

minister to You. I want my whole life to be a worship service to Your glory and honor (**Psalms 147:1**).

Father, grant me a deeper and greater spirit of repentance in my life. I pray that I will hate sin and will confront it in every area of my life (**Acts 5:31**).

O God, create a humble spirit in me; don't let my pride keep me from growing spiritually and experiencing Your transformation (**James 4:6**).

Father, search me and show me what changes I need to make in my life. Open my eyes to what You want to do in my life (**Psalms 139:23-24**).

Your Word says that I am dead to sin. Empower me to say "No!" to sin and "Yes" to what is right in Your sight (**Romans 6:11**).

Father, I'm forgetting the things that are behind me. I releasing all the guilt, the shame, and the brokenness that sin has caused in my life. Now I'm pressing on to genuine transformation. I'm pursuing the change that You want to unleash in my life. I want to be a trophy of Your grace and love. Provide me with the grace and power to seek You and experience this transformation (**Philippians 3:14-15**).

Father, help me to take up my cross, deny myself, and follow Your will each day (**Mark 8:34**).

Father, lessen my love for the world and all that it offers. Weaken and destroy its hold on my life. Increase my love for You. I want to love You first, best, and most of all (**Matthew 22:36-38**).

Father, deliver me from the snares and attacks of the enemy, Satan. He wants to lead me back to the old path of sin and rebellion. I ask You to guide me in the path of righteousness for Your great name's sake (**2 Corinthians 2:11**).

Father, I pray that I will have deep and genuine fellowship with other believers. Surround me with believers who will pray for me and encourage me in my walk with You and that I can do the same for them (**Hebrews 10:25**).

Father, I ask that my love for You and for others will grow and abound more than ever in my walk before You (**1 Thessalonians 1:3**).

The Church Of Jesus Christ Matthew 16:18

In **Matthew 16:18**, Jesus Christ says, "I will build my church." This text can help us to pray for our churches. I'd ask you to consider the following truths and how to use them for prayer.

The Invincibility Of The Church – "I will build"

Jesus Christ asserts that He is the Builder of the church. It is through the power and grace of Jesus Christ that people are added to the church (**Acts 2:39, 2:47, 5:14**). Christ does use His people – their witness, their ministry, and their lifestyle – to draw people to Himself/. However, He is clear – He will build the church. He has and He will build it.

Lord Jesus, I praise You that You are the Builder of the church. Your power and grace builds and sustains Your church. By Your Word and Spirit, add people to this church. Draw them to Yourself and to Your church.

The Intimacy With The Church – "my"

When He refers to the church, Jesus says "my" church. This refers to intimacy and involvement. Jesus Christ loves and is personally involved in His church. How is He intimately involved with His church?

- He purchased the church (**Acts 20:28**)
Lord Jesus, You purchased this church with Your own blood. Continue to have mercy on us and to grant us favor and power.
- He provides for the church (**Ephesians 5:29**)
Lord Jesus, Your Word says that You nourish and cherish the church. I plead with You to sustain and meet every need this church has. Feed us with Your Word through our pastor and teachers. Grant us the fresh assurance of Your cherishing love.
- He protects the church (**Ephesians 1:22**).
Lord Jesus, the Word of God says that all things have been put under Your feet. You

**The Prayer Closet Ministries, Inc.
Dr. Kevin Meador
P.O. Box 278
Hickory, MS 39332**

**Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Hickory, MS
Permit #102**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

have been made Head over all things to the church. As our living Lord and Head, I ask You to protect us. Lord Jesus, protect us from all the attacks and lies of the enemy Satan.

- He pursues the church (**Revelation 3:20**)
Lord Jesus, I plead that this body of believers will grow in our relationship with You. You desire to have an intimate relationship with You; I ask that we will hunger and thirst for Your and Your Word. Draw us to Yourself; Help us to make worshipping You in public and private a priority in our lives.

***The Identity Of The Church – “church”
(Acts 2:38-47)***

Lord Jesus, You have called us out of the world to Yourself. Through faith and repentance, we have become a part of Your church. Empower us to continue to trust You and to repent of our sins. I ask that those who profess You in this church will

be active and faithful. I plead that we will worship You, observe the ordinances, hear and obey the Word, give faithfully, and share out lives with other believers and the gospel with non-Christians. Shape and mold this church for Your glory according to Your will.

**Dr. Kevin Meador, President
The Prayer Closet Ministries, Inc.
P. O. Box 278,
Hickory, MS 39332**

(601) 635-2180

(601) 646-5960

EMAIL:
prayer@prayerclosetministries.org

WEB PAGES:
www.prayerclosetministries.org