



THE PRAYER CLOSET

ENCOURAGING & EQUIPPING BELIEVERS IN PRAYER

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YOUR SAVIOR AND THE WORLD

In **John 4**, Jesus encounters a Samaritan woman. He leads her to saving faith in Him. Then she returns to the city and tells everyone about Jesus. Many of the Samaritans believe the woman's testimony and go out to see Jesus. They listened to the words of Christ and ask Him to remain with them for a time. After spending time with Jesus, they declared, "Now we believe, not because of thy saying; for we have heard him for ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world" (**John 4:42**).

What a statement! Jesus is the Christ. He is the Messiah promised by God and prophesied by the Old Testament. He is the Son of God, the promised Savior of sinners. He is also the Saviour of the world. Jesus came to provide salvation for the peoples of the world. He desires that His good news be declared and believed on in the nations of the world.

You believe in Jesus. You confess that He is the Messiah, the Son of God. You trust Him as your Savior and Lord. Yet, do you have His heart for the world? Do you have a desire to see the nations hear and believe the gospel? If we believe and seek to follow Jesus, we have to acknowledge that He is the Saviour of the world.

As followers of Jesus, the Saviour of the world, it should stir us to pray for the salvation of the nations. This should especially be on our minds at this time of the year. When we celebrate our Saviour's birth, it should challenge us to pray for the nations. Jesus came into the world to seek and save lost people – from every people group of this world.

The following is a prayer guide to help you pray for the nations. I want to encourage you to pray for a nation or nations. You can find lists of the nations and people groups online. One of the best resources is **Joshua Project**. You can consult your denomination's missions websites. You may have a nation or nations on your heart. It may be a people group where a missionary you know is laboring. Sometimes I use these prayers to pray over the continents. You might consider that. I've crafted these prayers so that you can pray for your area and for the nations (**Acts 1:8**).

However you use this material, I exhort you to make this a regular part of your prayer life. You might consider using a couple of these prayers daily to incorporate in your prayer times. Our prayers will make a difference in the nations. They will go places we can't and will have significant spiritual impact.

Father, in the name of Jesus, I plead that You will draw the people of _____ to Jesus Christ in true faith and repentance (**John 6:44**).

In the name of Jesus, I ask You, Father, to quicken the people of _____ who is dead in sins and trespasses (**Ephesians 2:1**).

Father, I ask You to bind and remove Satan's work among the people of _____ and that You would open their eyes to the truth of the gospel (**2 Corinthians 4:4**).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would convince the people of _____ that they are lost, separated from God, and headed to hell (**Romans 3:23**).

Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus, I pray that You would destroy any false ideas that the people of _____ has about Jesus Christ and salvation through Him (**Proverbs 14:12**).

Lord Jesus, I plead that You will seek out the people of _____ and save them from their sins and eternal condemnation (**Luke 19:10**).

Father, I pray that You will open the hearts of the people of _____ so that they will receive and believe the gospel (**Acts 16:14**).

Holy Spirit, I plead that the people of _____ will understand the gospel when it is presented to them so that the devil cannot snatch it away (**Matthew 13: 5, 9**).

Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus, I plead that the Word of God will take root in the people of _____ and bring about true salvation for them (**Matthew 13:6, 20-21**).

Father, I ask that the pleasures of this world and the pressures of life will not choke the Word of God that has been sown into the people of _____ (**Matthew 13:7, 22**).

Father, I plead that You will deliver the people of _____ from the kingdom of darkness and place them into the kingdom of Your dear Son (**Colossians 1:13**).

Father, I pray that the people of _____ will receive the free gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ the Lord (**Romans 6:23**).

Lord Jesus, I ask that the people of _____ will not trust in themselves, but that they will completely trust in You as their Savior and Lord (**Galatians 2:16**).

Holy God, I pray that You would grant genuine repentance to the people of _____, a repentance that will cause them to hate sin and to turn from it (**Acts 11:8; Luke 13:1-3**).

Lord God, I plead that You would grant the people of _____ genuine faith, a faith that trusts in Jesus alone and surrenders to Him as Lord and Savior (**Ephesians 2:8-10**).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would stir the people of _____ out of their indifference and complacency concerning their condition and their need of the Lord Jesus Christ (**2 Corinthians 6:2**).

I ask in the name of Jesus Christ that the people of _____ would surrender themselves to the Lord Jesus Christ (**Romans 14:9**).

Father, I pray that You will send people continually among the people of _____ who will share the gospel with them (**Romans 10:14**).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that You will put a new heart in the people of _____ and that You will place Your Holy Spirit in them (**Jeremiah 42:30; Ezekiel 11:19-20**).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You will cause the people of _____ to hate sin and that You will break the power of those sins that are hindering them from coming to Christ (**Mark 9:43-47**).

Lord Jesus, I ask that the people of _____ would surrender to You, denying themselves, take up the Cross, and follow You (**Luke 9:23**).

Father, I plead that the people of _____ will understand that their only hope for forgiveness and acceptance with You is through Jesus' work on the Cross (**1 Corinthians 1:18**).

Father, I pray that the people of _____ would not neglect the glorious salvation that is available through Your Son (**Hebrews 2:1-3**).

Lord Jesus, I pray that the people of _____ will feel and know the burden of their sin and will come to You for forgiveness and salvation (**Matthew 11:28-30**).

Father, I plead that the people of _____ will make a genuine commitment to Jesus Christ as the Lord and Savior of their lives (**Luke 14:24-33**).

Lord Jesus, I plead that the people of _____ will not be content with the appearance of righteousness but will seek You for the transformation of their whole lives (**Matthew 23:27-29**).

Father, I pray that the people of _____ will see that their good works are as filthy rags in Your sight and that they cannot save them (**Isaiah 64:6**).

Father, I ask that the people of _____ would believe and trust Your Son that You sent to be the Savior of sinners (**John 5:24**).

Lord Jesus, I ask that the people of _____ would not die in their sins but would trust You and receive eternal life (**John 8:24**).

Because You came into the world to save sinners, I plead with You to save the people of _____ who are sinners and in need of Your grace and mercy (**1 Timothy 1:13-16**).

Holy Spirit, I pray that You would humble the people of _____ so that they see their need of Jesus Christ (**Psalm 18:27; Proverbs 8:13, 29:23**).

Praying For Your Worship Services

Prayer is essential for preparing your congregation and you for your worship services. The following prayer guide can assist you in getting your church and you ready for your times of worship.

Father, I pray that our worship time will glorify You. Enable the believers of _____ Church to focus on You during the worship service. Cause the attention of believers to be drawn to You during this time. Remove any distractions that might hinder us from focusing on You (**Psalm 115:1**).

Father, I plead that You will remove any hindrances from the lives of believers that could prevent us from worshipping You. Enable us to remove anything from our lives that would prevent us from worshipping you in spirit and truth (**1 John 1:9**).

Father, I pray that peoples' hearts would be prepared to hear from You both in the music and the preaching of the Word. Create within the people anticipation and expectation that they will hear from You--that You will deal with them (**Matthew 13:3-9**).

Father, I pray that the _____ will be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit both as _____ prepares and speaks, resulting in the Holy Spirit speaking to people during the message. Prepare _____'s heart to preach through the week. Enable _____ to be sensitive to the Spirit in his preparation and preaching (**Ephesians 5:18; Acts 2:1-4; 2 Timothy 2:15**).

Father, I pray that the musicians will be used of You to minister and bless the congregation. I also ask that they will show forth the joy of the Lord (**Psalm 149:1**).

I plead that You will give wisdom and guidance for those choosing the music, that each song will deepen the worship experience of the believers and will prepare the believers and the lost for the message (**Psalm 150:3-5**).

Father, I plead that You would transform lives through the worship service. O God, I pray that

- ✓ sinners would be saved: **John 3:16; 4:12**
- ✓ believers would be edified: **Hebrews 10:25**
- ✓ backsliders would repent: **Hosea 14:4**
- ✓ physical bodies would be healed: **Exodus 15:26**
- ✓ broken hearts would be mended: **Psalm 147:3**.

Father, I ask for these things in the name of Jesus and for the glory of Jesus.

Father, I ask that believers of _____ Church will truly worship God in spirit and in truth. I pray that the people will hear and understand the truth of God's Word. I ask You to enable them to respond to You with deep and genuine repentance and commitment (**John 4:24**).

Father, I pray that all who attend _____ Church will feel the love of God in God's people and sense a spirit of peace and unity and that they are important to this body of Christ (**John 13:34-35; Philippians 2:1-5**).

Father, I ask that visitors will feel welcomed, be ministered to, and will desire to be saved and become a member of the church or if they are saved, to join this church and serve Jesus Christ through the ministry of this church (**Acts 2:42**).

Father, I pray that the power of God would be revealed and felt by each person in every worship service (**Psalm 22:3**).

Send Your power into the midst of Your people as we worship. I plead that the Holy Spirit will manifest His presence and power among the worshipers. Plead that this power will be released in your worship services (**Psalm 22:3**).

Father, I ask in the name of Jesus that You would be glorified in our worship services. I plead that Your name and Your fame would be preeminent in our times of worship (**1 Corinthians 10:31**).

Praying Through Marital Problems

The following prayer guide is offered as a guide that can help you pray through marital problems. You can also use this prayer list for the safeguarding of your marriage. You can also use it to pray for other marriages.

- ◆ Pray that God would enable them to communicate with each other in a clear and loving way (**Ephesians 4:15; Proverbs 18:13**).

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- ◆ Pray that God would remind them of the value and preciousness of marriage (**Genesis 2:22; Proverbs 18:22**).
- ◆ Ask that God would enable them to find intimate and abiding joy in their love and friendship (**Ecclesiastes 9:9; Proverbs 5:18**).
- ◆ Pray that God would enable them to always be kind to each other, tenderhearted, and forgiving as God for Christ's sake has forgiven them (**Ephesians 4:32**).
- ◆ Plead that God would prevent Satan from gaining a foothold in their relationship (**Ephesians 4:25**).
- ◆ Pray that God would help them to always remember that love is a commitment and a choice (**I Corinthians 13**).
- ◆ Ask that they would always trust in the Lord and would not lean on their own understanding (**Proverbs 3:5**).
- ◆ Pray that they would acknowledge the Lord in all their ways, keeping Him as the top priority of their lives (**Proverbs 3:6**).
- ◆ Ask that they will remember that hatred stirs up strife but love covers a multitude of sins (**Proverbs 10:12**).
- Pray that they will remember the seriousness of the commitment that they have made to God and to each other (**Mark 10:5-9; Malachi 2:6**).

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