

Engaging People. Embracing Christ.

INTRODUCTION

The importance of prayer in Local Mission is often overlooked or minimized, but truthfully it must be the foundation that leads us to love our neighbors and share the gospel in our communities. The study of Christian Reformed churches who grew through evangelism in 2023 revealed that prayer was one of the common themes. Pastors made comments such as, "We struggle with evangelism if 'we lack a heart of prayer saturation'; "This is a season of new fire, new energy. It stems from sitting in God's presence."; and "One common denominator is that God was working in their hearts before we even met them."

This 12-week missional prayer guide provides a series of prayers to be used within congregational worship as a means of saturating your strategy for local mission with prayer. The prayers begin with seeking God to work in our own hearts, followed by asking God to work in our community, ending with asking God how mission will work through us in our community. Each prayer time is contextualized, including sentence starters for personal listening and intercession. You can encourage your congregation to continue these prayers throughout the week with the one-page handouts that mirror the congregational prayers.

May God hear the prayers of his people and show his power as we humbly seek God's face.

These prayers can be used in multiple settings:

Congregational Prayers - If this is being used in a congregational prayer setting, the person can pick one or two prayer prompts and leave silence afterward.

Small Groups - If this is in a small group setting, reading the prayer and then giving the prompts and asking people to pray them together would be ideal. The leader can use one or all of them.

Individual Prayer - Have participants read the prayer and then pray through each of the prompts. The prompts are to help begin and direct the prayer time, not to be the only things to pray.

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Prayers for ourselves that we would be transformed into the likeness of Jesus

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

PRAISE

Father, we praise you and thank you for demonstrating your love to us through your compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience which you abundantly show.

Jesus, we certainly don't deserve it, but you demonstrate your love for us through your forgiveness, no longer holding our past against us, instead healing our hurt, and taking away our guilt and shame.

Thank you, Spirit, that you dwell in us richly as you transform us into the likeness of Jesus, leading and guiding our lives.

Through Christ, you change our lives
from the old self to the new self,
from conforming to this world to reflecting the character of God.

Through your word, through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, you shape us.
Thank you for making us into the likeness of the Son.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank you for having a heart of love, compassion, kindness toward us when...

I praise you for forgiving us because...

Thank you for your indwelling Spirit that allows us to live for you when...

REQUESTS

Father, we are a work in progress. Though we are being transformed, we haven't arrived yet.

We so quickly react and judge and jump to conclusions instead of being clothed with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Forgive us, Lord.

Our world around us values shrewdness, values power, and values the false gods that make grand promises of wealth, influence, meaning, and success, but never deliver.

You offer us something completely different, so that we might give you glory and be a witness in this world. Continue to work in us, transforming us into the likeness of your Son, so that the world might see what we truly long for: purpose, meaning, and a relationship with the God who loves us.

Work in us so that we have abundant grace toward others, forgiving one another as you have forgiven us.

Work in us so we reflect your character to our family, our neighbors, our coworkers, and those in our church.

We pray that we would be transformed and renewed so that through our words and deeds, we would be a witness to those around us of you and your incredible love.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God, clothe us with your characteristic of...

As you are transforming us, help us to become more like you in...

Help us to be kind, humble and gentle when...

Transform us to be a witness for you to...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayers that we would realize we are completely dependent upon the Spirit to do the work of God's kingdom into the likeness of Jesus

JOHN 15:5

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:13

This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with Spirit-taught words.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

EPHESIANS 2:8-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

PRAISE

Father, we praise you for sending the Holy Spirit to do the work of your kingdom in this world.

We praise you for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our lives who works with us to transform us, to teach us, to reorient ourselves to you and your kingdom.

Father, we praise you that your Spirit is gentle with us, for oftentimes we are slow learners, not much different than the disciples, to see where you are at work and where you are active in the world.

Thank you, Holy Spirit, that you are transforming us into the image of God, from glory to ever increasing glory.

Thank you, Holy Spirit, that you are at work, doing the slow work of transforming our hearts, transforming the hearts of others, and calling people to yourself.

Triune God, we know that you are almighty and you don't need us to do your work, but we thank you that you have invited us to participate with you in your creation and in your kingdom, to do good works that you have already prepared for us to do. Thank you that you call us, equip us, and send us, never leaving us or forsaking us, as we work with you in your kingdom.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God we praise you that we see you at work within us through...

Holy Spirit, thank you for working in...

Thank you that we can see your transformative work when...

REQUESTS

Father, as you are the one who calls us, equips us, and sends us, help us to have a proper perspective on the work of your kingdom.

Help us to realize that we don't do this work apart from the Spirit. Help us to see that the Spirit is leading, guiding, and transforming. Help us to realize that the Spirit has been at work long before we arrive, doing the work that only the Spirit can do.

Open our eyes to the moving of the Spirit. May we learn to listen to the quiet voice of the Spirit who calls us to follow. Help us to listen to the Spirit, who often leads us in new and unexpected directions, as you do a new thing around us. Open our eyes to see the new thing your Spirit is doing (Isaiah 43:19).

And give us a willing and obedient heart to say yes to the Spirit's leading, even before we know where the Spirit is calling us to go and what to do. We can do this because, God, we know you are good, we know you long to bless us, we know you long to have us grow in our relationship with you, and have us see your glory. You don't harm us, deceive us, or mislead us, so help us to say "yes and amen" to your leading, stepping out in faith, even before we know it.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Help us to slow down to discern the Spirit because...

Help us to surrender to your Spirit's promptings to follow even when...

Help us to realize that apart from the Spirit, we can't do...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayer for Spiritual Warfare

EPHESIANS 6:13-20

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

PRAISE

Father in heaven, we praise you that you are sovereign over everything. We praise you that you rule over all of your creation because you created it all and it all belongs to you.

Thank you, Father, that from the fall, you have been at work redeeming all of creation from the effects of sin. We praise you, that through Jesus, redemption has been made possible, and the struggle against evil has already been won.

We praise you that in Jesus, we know that sin has been paid for, death is defeated, and the enemy will not win.

We praise you that through the Spirit, there is power to overcome the evil one and sin in our lives. Thank you for your protection, your filling, and your equipping to help us defeat the enemy's work in our lives.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we praise you that in you, we can stand firm!

PRAYER PROMPTS

Father, we praise you that you rule over...

Jesus, we praise you that you have defeated sin and death because...

Spirit, we praise you that you give us power to overcome...

REQUESTS

Jesus, you teach us to ask when you taught us to pray, "deliver us from evil."

And so we pray that you will protect us from the evil one. Help us realize that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Eph 6:12)."

Help us to take the stand against the devil's schemes and be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Cloth us with the full armor of God so that we may be able to stand against the spiritual forces that oppose us and you.

Equip us to fight the good fight and resist the enemy, not on our own strength, but through your Word, through your Spirit, and through prayer. Help us to do this in community with one another, not thinking we can do it alone.

We pray against the spiritual conflicts in our neighborhoods, in our churches, in our own lives. We pray that through the power of the Holy Spirit, you would bring freedom to those captive to sin, release for the prisoners of darkness, so that we might live in the life of the Son.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus when...

Protect _____ from the lies of the evil one in...

Bring freedom from oppression and bondage for...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Open to the Unexpected Moving of the Holy Spirit

ISAIAH 43:18-19

*"Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.
See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

ACTS 16:6-10

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

PRAISE

God, you are mysteriously three-in-one, you are beyond our understanding, your ways are not our ways and your thoughts are not our thoughts.

We praise you that you are a God who saves in an unexpected way, not through power, position, and authority, but through service, suffering, and sacrifice.

We praise you that you are not a God who is in any way dependent upon us for accomplishing your work in your world, but choose to invite us to partner with you.

We thank you, Father, that you are a God at work in your world, building your kingdom of heaven here on earth. And we are amazed at the ways that you work in and through us, sometimes in spite of us.

Thank you, Jesus, that you are the head of the church.

Thank you, Holy Spirit, that you are at work drawing people to Christ.

PRAYER PROMPTS

We praise you for your mysteriousness in...

We praise you for your work in...

We are grateful for the renewal you bring to...

REQUESTS

God, as you are at work in this world, help us to recognize that the movement of the Holy Spirit is unseen and often mysterious. Help us to see.

Teach us to listen to your call to join you in new ways.

Reorient our hearts so that we can see that you work in new ways,

open our eyes to see the new things you are doing,

open our ears to hear you calling us in maybe a new, unexpected direction.

Help us to discern together where you might be calling us to participate with you in that work.

Give us boldness and courage to step out in faith to follow you, knowing that you are a good God who wants to bless your children, who wants to show us your beautiful grace, and wants to make your name known.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Teach us to listen to the Holy Spirit so that...

Help us recognize the new work the Holy Spirit is leading us to when...

Give us courage to be obedient when...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayers for God's Healing and Restoration in Community

PSALM 147: 1-5

Praise the Lord.

How good it is to sing praises to our God,
how pleasant and fitting to praise him!

The Lord builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the exiles of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars
and calls them each by name.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his understanding has no limit.

PRAISE

Lord, as we gather today it is so good to sing our praises to you! It is pleasant and fitting to give you praise, for you are good. We praise you because you are the rebuilder of the City of God so you can dwell with us in peace. We sing praises because you gather those who have been cast out, you heal those who are heartbroken, you care for those who are hurting.

Only you, Creator, are so uncontainable as to know the number of stars and only you are so intimately connected to your creation that you call them by name.

You, Lord, are great and mighty in power. We will never comprehend what you know and do. We sing these words of praise in our hearts: "Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love."

PRAYER PROMPTS

We praise you today for being present with us when...

Thank you for your care, compassion, and healing for...

We praise you for your greatness and power, especially as shown in...

REQUESTS

Healer, we need you. We often try to fix things ourselves in the way we think things should be fixed. We judge those who are broke and who are hurting, instead of showing the compassion and care of Jesus. We come to the end of ourselves today and admit that it is not through our greatness or our power that true healing and restoration occur.

We need you, Lord, to be fully present in our community so that everyone can experience your peace. Just as you see each star and call it by name, help us to see those who have been marginalized, heartbroken, and hurting. For the ways that we have been complicit in casting people out, causing divisions, and hurting others in our community, we pray for your forgiveness. May your Spirit lead, guide, and work through us to bring healing and build community in this place.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Bring to mind these things for which we need forgiveness...

Healer, please restore those whose bodies, relationships, and souls are broken. We think of...

Comforter, please be near to those who are lonely, grieving, and struggling with mental health today. We think of...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Praying for the Brokenness in our Community

2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-21

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

PRAISE

Father, we praise you because you did not abandon us in the garden when we disobeyed and turned against you. In your compassion, you sought us out. In your mercy, you showed us grace.

Father, we praise you for sending your son, Jesus, to live among us as the presence of God. And that through Jesus you made a way for us to settle our relationship with you and our relationships with each other. You gave us a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins.

And now, Father, we stand humbly before you, as people who do not deserve to be in your presence but have been reconciled with you through Christ. We give you all the glory and praise.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank you, Father, for drawing me near, even when...

Thank you for being a Father who is...

REQUESTS

Father, you have given us an important task, to be Christ's ambassadors, but we have failed at taking that role seriously. As you have reconciled us to yourself, you've asked us to share that message of good news with others. As you have shown us through Christ what reconciliation looks like, you've asked us to drop our differences and enter God's work of making things right between us. Lord, send your Spirit to lead us and guide us into this role as Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation.

Father, we pray for those who need your message of reconciliation. We think of those who have felt excluded from church, and therefore excluded from a relationship with you. We pray that you will soften those with hard hearts, that they will be ready to accept the love you have for them. Good Shepherd, keep seeking the lost sheep so that they will find peace in your presence.

Father, we also pray for the relationships in our community that need reconciliation. For the relationships that have been cut off from generation to generation, we pray for your healing. For the neighbors who are divided by race, religion, and realities, we pray for the image of Christ in each of us to overshadow these differences.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into the hearts of those who don't know you...

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into our broken relationships, namely...

Father, send the Spirit of reconciliation into our own hearts, that we may be the presence of God in...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayers for Those on the Margins

LUKE 4:18-19

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."*

PRAISE

Anointed One, we praise you as the King of all kings and Lord of all lords. We honor you for instigating a new kingdom, a kingdom that is good news for everybody.

Thank you that you are near to the poor—those poor in spirit and poor in earthly resources. Thank you for the freedom you grant to those in bondage, to those who feel hemmed in and stuck. Thank you for the physical and spiritual healing you bring to those who are broken and in despair.

We give you praise for being a God of spaciousness, of compassion, of healing. We give you praise for being a God who sees the people our society too often overlooks. We praise you for establishing the kingdom of God that turns our earthly values upside down.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Thank you for your love for...

Thank you for the freedom you've given to...

Thank you for the healing you've granted to...

REQUESTS

Jesus, in your life here on earth we saw your love for the marginalized in action. We saw you touch the leper, eat with the tax collector, and speak with women. Over and over again you ignored social rules and saw the image of God in every person you met. Spirit of God, anoint us to be like Jesus. Open our eyes to see the person who is hurting, the systems that are broken, the opportunities to show love and compassion.

We pray that your Spirit will continue to bring freedom to the broken and oppressed today, and that your gospel will truly be Good News to everyone in our community.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Father, show us what Good News looks like for our neighbors.

We pray for your Spirit to bring good news to...

Our local jails and prisons (name them)

Those who are homebound and lonely (name them)

Those who are poor in spirit and struggling with mental health (name them)

Those who need to experience your freedom (name them)

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Praying for Ministry Partners in the Community

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

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.

PRAISE

Dear Father, we thank you that you have invited us to participate in the work of your kingdom. Thank you that we can continue to fulfill the calling that you give to be ambassadors of you in this world.

Lord, we thank you that you have chosen to use many people, who may believe differently, who focus on different things, who have their own God-given passions and callings to live out your kingdom in your world.

Thank you for bringing a mosaic together through the partnerships that you create in our community so that together we can demonstrate the unity of the Spirit through these bonds of peace.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God, thank you for the work you've done through the partnership with ...

Thank you for the joy we have in ministry together when...

REQUESTS

Lord God, as we work together, may the favor of God rest upon us and bless and establish the work of our hands (Ps 90:17).

Strengthen the ministries that are at work in our community. Bless those who are working in different capacities in your kingdom than we are. May your graciousness and generosity abound to them, so that your name may be praised.

May you supply all of their needs according to your riches in glory (Phil 4:19).

Give the leaders wisdom to make decisions that give you glory.

Give them discernment to know your leading and direction.

And we pray for those whom they minister to. May they see you and your goodness and care through their work. May their encounter with your people bring a difference to their lives. And may they see their good deeds and come to faith in you and glorify the Father in heaven.

Open up opportunities for partnerships together so that together we may care for those in our community in ways that give you glory.

PRAYER PROMPTS

May our love abound more and more for...

We pray for your abundant blessings for (name community partners)...

May the work we do be filled with righteousness so that...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayers for Being Sent

ACTS 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

ACTS 13:1-5

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off. The two of them, sent on their way by the Holy Spirit, went down to Seleucia and sailed from there to Cyprus. When they arrived at Salamis, they proclaimed the word of God in the Jewish synagogues. John was with them as their helper.

PRAISE

Dear Lord,

We praise you that you are a God who comes into the world through Jesus Christ. Our lives are yours, not because of our initiative, but through your reaching down to us. We praise you that you called us to your Son and through the cross, you call us your own.

We praise you that you are "God with us" through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Thank you that you did not leave us to journey through this life alone, but through the Holy Spirit, we have received your power to participate in the work of your kingdom.

Thank you for being a God who longs to extend your kingdom throughout this world. Our lives are touched by your grace because others have shared with us the story of salvation and the good news of your grace.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God, we praise you for the good news shared by...

We thank you for the power of the Holy Spirit at work in...

We praise you for extending your kingdom toward...

REQUESTS

Father, the Spirit at Pentecost was sent from a gathering of the disciples who worshipped and prayed (Acts 2). You sent Saul and Barnabas out from a time of worship, fasting, and prayer (Acts 13:1-3). Grow us in worship and prayer to expect to hear you. Help us to hear you sending us into our worlds—our neighborhoods, our workplaces, our families, and our homes—to bring the good news.

As you sent the disciples with power at Pentecost, send us into the world to bring the good news of the gospel. Remind us that we do not do this alone, that it isn't based on us, but on the work and power of the Holy Spirit. Teach us that we are not the ones responsible for getting it right, but just willing participants to be filled and used by your Spirit.

Free us from the pressure to think we need to produce, instead give us the freedom to realize that because we belong to you, you empower us with your Spirit to do your work.

Give us boldness to speak the mystery of the gospel (Eph 6:19) as ambassadors and representatives of Jesus in this world.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Lord, open the door that I might share the gospel with...

Send us with your Holy Spirit to bring the good news to...

Lord, send us into the world so that...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,
Amen.

Prayer for Fruitfulness in the Work of the Gospel

COLOSSIANS 4:2-6

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

PRAISE

Father, we praise you that you do not treat us as our sins deserve, but have shown us your love through the grace of Jesus on the cross, that you have defeated sin and death, and that you dwell in us through the Holy Spirit.

You have given grace toward those who were dead in their sins and transgressions. Your love abundantly has been shown to those who so desperately needed it. All of this is beyond what we can fully understand.

Thank you, Father, that in our lives someone proclaimed to us the mystery of Christ. Thank you for the salvation that we have received through the grace of our Lord Jesus.

PRAYER PROMPTS

We praise you for the fruit of the witness we have seen in...

We praise you for your love which is greater than...

We thank you for the salvation we have received through the witness of...

REQUESTS

Help us to be devoted to prayer, realizing that you choose to work through the prayers of the people. Help us to learn our dependence upon prayer and the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit to do the things only the Spirit can do.

Lord, open doors for us to be able to share the good news. Surprise us with the opportunities that you have prepared for us, and give us boldness of obedience to follow your promptings into those opportunities.

Help us not to be fearful of not having the right words, but trusting that your Holy Spirit can use us to make the most of every opportunity.

Help us, Holy Spirit, that our lives, that our conversations, that the witness of our lives, may give us the opportunity to share the gospel.

PRAYER PROMPTS

We pray for an open door (vs 3) when...

Help us to proclaim it clearly (vs 4) to...

Open our eyes to see every opportunity (vs 5) when...

May we be Full of grace (vs 6) so that...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.

Prayers for Strength and Healing

ACTS 4:29-31

Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly

PRAISE

Lord, your church and your kingdom has been opposed from the beginning by the evil one. Yet, the forces of darkness cannot thwart the plans of the Almighty.

We praise you, God, that you work amid the threats, you work in the oppression and opposition, and your Word goes forth strongly when it is being pushed against.

We praise you for the assurance that Jesus gave us, that the gates of hell will not prevail against you or your church.

God, we praise you that not only are you the one who defeats evil at the end, you are the one who brings healing into today's world.

Your stretched out hands brought healing to the blind.

Your presence raised Lazarus from the grave.

Your words brought life to Jarius's daughter.

Your command made the lame walk and healed the ten lepers.

We praise you, Father, that your healing didn't end with Jesus' ascension, but through the power of the Holy Spirit, the same power that rose Jesus from the grave, which lives in us, is at work today through your church and your people, bringing healing and hope in Jesus name.

PRAYER PROMPTS

We praise you for your healing of...

Thank you for your assurance that you are at work even in...

We praise you for the hope that we see in our world today through...

REQUESTS

As we look around at our work, we see brokenness and the result of the fall almost everywhere we look. And though our hearts break, we are not like those who have no hope. Our hope is in the promises that God is at work in the messes of this life and this world, to bring healing, hope, and glory to God.

So we pray:

Bring redemption and renewal to our streets,
to our schools,
to the places where we work,

Bring healing to families,
to those caught in sin,
in addiction

Bring healing, justice, and restoration
to systems,
to cultures,
to governments,

Heal our land
Build your kingdom here
that we may see your glory here on earth

PRAYER PROMPTS

Bring healing to...

Heal our land of...

May we see your justice and righteousness abound in...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,
Amen.

Prayer for Perseverance

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.

PRAISE

God, the journey of faith in this world is being faithful to the calling we have received and stepping out in faith as we follow you. Thank you for being the perfect example of perseverance as you relentlessly pursued your people, over and over calling them back to yourself. Thank you that you didn't give up on us, write us off, or leave us to ourselves.

In grace through Jesus, we see your full commitment to your people and to all of your creation. So many times we would have given up, but you did not, and we are eternally grateful!

We praise you that your love never lets us go, that nothing can separate us from your love, and that your love is so vast it is beyond our comprehension.

As we have been praying for these last months, thank you that you have given to us a bigger and ever expanding view of yourself—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—and of your love for your world and the people in it.

PRAYER PROMPTS

God we praise you that you didn't give up on us when...

Thank you for your faithfulness toward...

We praise you for experiencing your love when...

REQUESTS

Sometimes Lord, following you is a challenge. We like to have it all easy, but you have not promised convenience, but suffering. Living and sharing the good news costs us something; it requires courage and a willingness to be uncomfortable.

So, we pray to keep going. We pray for perseverance, for encouragement, for the strength to be faithful. We ask that we not become weary in doing good, so at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up (Gal 6:9).

We pray as seeds are being planted, we would be patient as your Holy Spirit is at work to have

the sprout, grow, and develop. We long some day to see the harvest, so help us to keep your kingdom and your righteousness in view in the days of discouragement, frustration, and not seeing results.

Help us to learn to trust the unseen, and often slow, working of the Spirit. And may we might share in the harvest and see a harvest of righteousness as you bring people to a saving faith and as you restore what is broken.

PRAYER PROMPTS

Help us to be joyful in hope even when...

Give us perseverance to be patient in affliction because...

Give us the faithfulness to be continually in prayer for...

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, continue to do the work of transforming our hearts to be like yours, longing for the world to see you and come to believe in you.

Through the power of the Holy Spirit, who is at work within us,

Amen.