SEE YOU AT THE ALTAR

An Emphasis on Repentance, Prayer and Fasting



Please join us in September as we collectively seek repentance; revival; healing for our families, church and community; and salvation for the lost.

"If... My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Below is the weekly schedule for our prayer focus. Attached is a detailed guide of how we would like you to pray each day, along with some material for digging deeper.

We are asking you to pray daily on your own. If you'd like to pray in the sanctuary, the church doors will be open as early as 4:00 pm on Wednesday evenings and 7:00 am on Sunday mornings. The Wednesday evening Bible studies will be devoted to prayer during the month of September. We'd also encourage you to pray with your small groups. You are welcome to reserve a time for your small group to pray in the sanctuary by calling the church office.

A cross will be placed in various areas of the church throughout the month. Along with the cross will be some cards for you to write on. We want to encourage everyone to write your prayer needs, concerns, praises, adorations, etc. and pin them to the cross.

"PRAYER DOES NOT FIT US FOR THE GREATER WORK; PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK." OSWALD CHAMBERS.

Dates	Prayer Emphasis
August 26 th – September 1 st	Confession, Repentance & Fasting Begin Fasting September 1 st
September 2 nd – September 8 th	Pray for Our Families
September 9 th – September 15 th	Prayer to Loose the Bonds of Addiction
September 16 th – September 22 nd	Prayer for Our Schools & Children
September 23 rd – September 29 th	Prayer for the Lost

Week One: Confession, Repentance and Fasting (Week of Aug 26 – Sept 1)

The focus for this week is to spend time in prayer with a heavy emphasis on confession and repentance (sins of thought, attitude, speech, relationships, as well as sins of commission and sins of omission). When praying about sins of commission, specifically ask God this week to reveal to you any unhealthy addictions. Ask Him to show you anything that has become an idol to which you are in bondage and need to break free and ask Him to bring you to repentance.

<u>Prayer</u>

Prayer should generally incorporate all of the following components¹:

- Praise and Thanksgiving
- Confession
- Petition
- Intercession
- Meditation

Tips:

- Identify a place and time to pray each day
- Ask God to lead you in your prayers
- Pray scripture
- Journal
- Find prayer partners
- Make a habit of praising God throughout the day
 - Don't rush through confession. Acknowledge responsibility for your sin. Own it. Remember the price Jesus paid for it.² "God is holy and He deserves your full surrender...because you love Jesus and want to please Him".¹
 - Allow God to search your heart & mind over the following²:
 - Sins of Thoughts & Attitudes
 - Sins of Speech
 - Sins of Relationship
 - Sins of Commission what you have done/thought/said that is contrary to God's will.
 - Sins of Omission what you have failed to do or say that is God's will for you

"If the Christian does not allow prayer to drive sin out of his life, sin will drive prayer out of his life. Like light and darkness, the two cannot dwell together." *M.E. Andross*

"We are too busy to pray, and so we are too busy to have power. We have a great deal of activity, but we accomplish little; many services but few conversions; much machinery but few results." *R. A. Torrey*

"Prayer is the real work, Evangelism is just the mopping up." Unknown

"Intercession is truly universal work for the Christian. No place is closed to intercessory prayer. No continent - no nation - no organization - no city - no office. There is no power on earth that can keep intercession out." *Richard Halverson*

"The main lesson about prayer is just this: Do it! Do it! Do it! You want to be taught to pray. My answer is pray and never faint, and then you shall never fail..." *John Laidlaw*

- "When you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. ⁷And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸ So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. ⁹Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father, who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. ¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us this day our daily bread. ¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.' ¹⁴ For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions." Matthew 6:5-14
- The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; But they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing. Psalm 34:10
- I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And You forgave the guilt of my sin. Psalm 32:5

Fasting

Seek God's guidance about fasting with the rest of the church body in September; pray about the type, duration and purpose of your fast.

God blesses us when we fast²:

- Focus on Him and honor Him
- Have spiritual purpose
- Causes us to humble ourselves and submit to the authority of God and His word
- Causes us to acknowledge and repent of sin
- Deprives our natural desires and lusts to focus on the spiritual

Types of Fasts²:

- <u>Absolute Fast</u> consists of no food or water at all, for a short period of time. Not recommended.
- <u>Normal Fast</u> consists of going without food for a definite period of time, during which you ingest only liquids (water and/or juice). The duration can be 1 day, 3 days, 1 week, 1 month or 40 days. Extreme care and medical advice should be taken for longer fasts. Prior to a normal fast, you should spend 3 days eating only raw, unprocessed foods and decrease the size and frequency of meals. In the first few days of the fast you should drink only water and fresh squeezed juice (no sweeteners) and you may want to incorporate broth. If you feel sick, eat and then try again in a few days.
- <u>Partial Fast</u> going without certain foods or a schedule of limited eating. It may consist of skipping a meal or eliminating a specific food group or item. Examples include; eliminating meat, sodas or breads, eating only fresh vegetables, etc.
- <u>Rotational Fast</u> consists of eating or omitting certain families of foods for designated periods. For example, meat is eaten only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- <u>Other</u> you could choose to fast from television, reading, movies, sports, etc; particularly if those are the things you might be in bondage to. You could choose instead to spend that time in prayer and scripture reading, as well as quality time with family.

Other Tips for Effective Fasting²:

- If God doesn't call you to fast, don't fast
- Identify, confess and repent of all revealed sin before & during your fast
- Pray fervently and continually
- Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit
- Read and meditate on scripture
- Always reserve time to be still and quiet before the Lord
- Journal In the beginning you should write down 1) why you are fasting (breaking free of bondage to ______, intercession on behalf of ______ for _____, etc.), 2) how you are fasting and 3) when you will start and finish.
 - > "Cry loudly, do not hold back; Raise your voice like a trumpet, and declare to My people their transgression and to the house of Jacob their sins.² yet they seek Me day by day and delight to know My ways, as a nation that has done righteousness and has not forsaken the ordinance of their God. They ask Me for just decisions; they delight in the nearness of God.³ Why have we fasted and You do not see? Why have we humbled ourselves and You do not notice?' Behold, on the day of your fast you find your desire, and drive hard all your workers. ⁴ Behold, you fast for contention and strife and to strike with a wicked fist. You do not fast like you do today to make your voice heard on high.⁵ Is it a fast like this which I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it for bowing one's head like a reed and for spreading out sackcloth and ashes as a bed? Will you call this a fast, even an acceptable day to the LORD? ⁶ Is this not the fast which I choose, To loosen the bonds of wickedness, To undo the bands of the yoke, And to let the oppressed go free and break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to divide your bread with the hungry And bring the homeless poor into the house; When you see the naked, to cover him; And not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸ Then your light will break out like the dawn, And your recovery will speedily spring forth; And your righteousness will go before you; The glory of the LORD will be your rear guard.⁹ Then you will call, and the LORD will answer; You will cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' If you remove the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger and speaking wickedness, ¹⁰ And if you give yourself to the hungry And satisfy the desire of the afflicted. Then your light will rise in darkness And your gloom will become like midday. ¹¹And the LORD will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorched places, And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a watered garden, And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. ¹² Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach. The restorer of the streets in which to dwell." Isaiah 58:1-12
 - ¹⁶ "Whenever you fast, do not put on a gloomy face as the hypocrites do, for they neglect their appearance so that they will be noticed by men when they are fasting. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. ¹⁷ But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face ¹⁸ so that your fasting will not be noticed by men, but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you." Matthew 5:16-18

¹ How to Develop a Powerful Prayer Life by Dr. Gregory R. Frizzell

² The Power of Prayer and Fasting, 10 Secrets of Spiritual Strength by Ronnie W. Floyd

Week Two: Week of Prayer for Our Families (September 2 - 8)

The Focus for this week is to spend time in prayer with a heavy emphasis on the FAMILY. When praying about Family, it is vital to understand that Family encompasses both your church and your household.

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to retire late, to eat the bread of painful labors; for He gives to His beloved even in his sleep. Psalm 127:1-2

Day 1 Sunday, September 2 - Pray for Unity in All Families

Pray that our households and church family will live together in unity with one mind and one voice.

- Be completely humble and gentle; Be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:2-3
- May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6
- > How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! Psalm 133:1

Day 2 Monday, September 3 - Pray for Love in Our Families

Pray that our households and church family will love each other deeply and demonstrate it with our actions.

- Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8
- A new command I give you: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another". John 13:34-35
- > Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. I John 3:18

Day 3 Tuesday, September 4 - Pray Specifically for your Family & our Church Family

Pray for God's vision to be in our homes and church. Pray for us to be kind, submissive and respectful to one another. Pray that all families would show God's love, mercy and compassion. Pray that your home and church are pleasing to God.

- Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. **Ephesians 5:21**
- Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Colossians 3:18
- > Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Colossians 3:20
- Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. Hebrews 13:17
- Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Romans 13:1

Day 4 Wednesday, September 5 - Pray for Godly Priorities and Guidance in Our Families

Pray that our households and church family will love God first and that God will guide us into all truth.

- Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." Matthew 22: 37-40
- Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:5
- But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; He will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. John 16:13

Day 5 Thursday, September 6 - Pray for the Obedience and Witness of Our Families

Pray that our households and church family will be obedient and live in a way that brings glory to God.

- Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. 1 Peter 2:11-12
- He replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28

Day 6 Friday, September 7 - Pray for Our Families to Be Like Christ

Pray that our households and church family will be changed and renewed to be more like Christ.

- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and selfcontrol. Against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23
- You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:22-24
- But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do. 1 Peter 1:15

Day 7 Saturday, September 8 - Pray for Our Families to Be Grateful

Pray that our households and church family will live a life of praise, thanking God for everything.

- I will tell of the kindnesses of the LORD, the deeds for which he is to be praised, according to all the LORD has done for us-- yes, the many good things he has done for the house of Israel, according to his compassion and many kindnesses. Isaiah 63:7
- Always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:20

Digging Deeper:	
Ephesians 5:1-2	
Psalm 143:10	
Deuteronomy 11:18-19	
Ephesians 6:1-2	

Jeremiah 9:23 & 24 John 15:13 Matthew 12:50 Romans 13:7

John 14:15 Philippians 4:8 Proverbs 22:6 Proverbs 4:7

Rules for Christian Households: Colossians 3:18-4:1 and Ephesians 5:22-6:9

Week Three: Week of Prayer for Addiction (September 9–15)

"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

Day 1 Sunday, September 9, 2012 - Pray for Personal Deliverance from Addictions/Strongholds

- Pray that God would deliver you from the specific things that bind or separate you from Him. Repent where you have opened the door for the enemy with your own desires. In Jesus' name, pray that every stronghold erected by the enemy will be brought down to nothing. Ask God to make the darkness light before you and the crooked places straight. Isaiah 42:16
- > Ask God to help you present your body to Him as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable. Romans 12:1
- Ask Him to teach you to be a good steward of your body and to lead you to people who can help or advise you. Ask God to enable you to discipline your body and bring it into subjection. 1 Corinthians 9:27
- Ask God to help you hide His word in your heart so that you will see clearly and not sin against Him in any way. Psalm 119:11
- Thank the Lord that He is near to all who call upon Him and He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him. Thank Him that He will hear your cries and save you from any weakness that could lead you away from all He has for you. Psalm 145:18-19
- > Thank God that He has said to call upon Him in the day of trouble and He will deliver you. Psalm 50:15
- > Praise God that He will complete the good work He began in you. Philippians 1:6

Day 2 Monday, September 10, 2012 - Pray for Deliverance of Other Believers from Addiction

Pray specifically for anyone you know who is struggling with addiction; interceding on their behalf.

- On behalf of the addicted, pray that they would break every stronghold, demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God. Pray that their every thought be taken captive in obedience to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5
- > Pray that the addicted will seek after God with all of their heart, soul, mind and strength. Deut. 4:29
- Pray that those who are enslaved to carnal desires will be set free and instead hunger and thirst for the Word of God and the righteousness of Christ. (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 6:33) Pray that the Holy Spirit brings conviction of guilt as to sin, righteousness and judgment to those bound by addiction. John 16:8-11

Day 3 Tuesday, September 11, 2012 - Pray for Salvation and Deliverance from Addiction

- Pray that the Lord would convict the addicted of their sin and separation from God. John 16:8 Pray that God would reveal to them who He is and what Christ has done for them and they would trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord & Savior
- Pray that God would bind Satan from the addicted and guard them from having Satan steal His Word from them. Matthew 12:19
- Pray that the addicted would not dwell on past mistakes or give in to past failures, but would be able to see that God has forgiven them and is doing a new thing; making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland. Isaiah 43:18-19

Pray that our fast will be pleasing to God and will set the oppressed free and break every yoke of addiction. (Isaiah 58:6) Pray that God would open the eyes of their understanding (Ephesians 1:18) and remove spiritual blindness. 2 Corinthians 4:4

Day 4 Wednesday, September 12, 2012 - Pray for Salvation and Deliverance of Those Who Enable and Profit from Addicts

Pray similar to Day 3, but specifically for those who sell alcohol, drugs, pornography, gambling and other harmful things to those bound by addiction – both in our community and around the world.

Day 5 Thursday, September 13, 2012 - Pray for Protection from Addiction of our Families

- Pray that God would thwart any plan Satan has to destroy our family through alcohol, drugs or any other addiction. Pray that God would take away anything in their personality that would be drawn to those things.
- Pray that God would show our family His ways, teach them His paths and lead them in His truth, for He is the God of their salvation. Psalm 25:4-5
- Ask God to give our family discernment and strength to be able to say no to things that bring death and yes to the things of God that bring life. Proverbs 16:25 Pray they clearly see the truth whenever tempted and are delivered from the evil one whenever trapped.
- Pray that everything our family does with their body would be done to God's glory, as their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, bought with a price, and should honor Him. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Day 6 Friday, September 14, 2012 - Pray for Protection from Addiction for Christian Leaders

Pray similar to Day 5, but specifically for those who are in leadership positions in Central, as well as other church leaders and lay people serving in the U.S. and around the world, praying they would seek to honor God and bring glory to His name in everything they do.

Day 7 Saturday, Sept 15, 2012 - Pray for Wisdom and Discernment in Our Elections & for Our Leaders

- Pray that people would seriously seek God in how they vote and put godly and biblical foundations above economic or other political factors.
- Pray that huge numbers of godly people will turn out to vote in each election and follow His guidance and not just political parties.
- Pray that the Lord would convict our elected officials of their sin and separation from God. John 16:8 Pray that God would reveal to them who He is and what Christ has done for them, and that they would trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- Pray that God would give us leaders of integrity who will govern in godly wisdom and righteousness. In particular, pray they would seek to please God in making decisions about alcohol, drugs, tobacco, pornography, casinos, lotteries, etc.

Digging Deeper:

- Read and pray **Psalms 18 and 116**
- Pray that if the deliverance the addicted seeks isn't immediate, they will be kept from discouragement. Pray that God will help them be confident that He has begun a good work in them and will complete it.. **Philippians 1:6.** Pray God will give them the certainty that even in their most hopeless state, when they find it impossible to change anything, the Lord can change everything.
- Pray that God would draw the addicted to Himself in a powerful way. John 6:44
- Pray that grace and mercy would surround the addicted.
- Pray that God would send people to witness to the addicted.
- Pray that God would help us be a witness to them and lead them to Christ. Matthew 28:19
- Praise God that where His Spirit is, there is liberty. 2 Corinthians 3:17
- Pray the addicted would find others they can trust to hold them accountable and would reach out for assistance and prayer when they need encouragement. James 5:16 and John 16:33

- Pray that our Christian families and leaders would put on the full armor of God, so they will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. **Ephesians 6:10-11**
- Pray that the addicted, along with our families and leaders, would trust in the LORD with all their heart and lean not on their own understanding. **Proverbs 3:5-6**

<u>Week Four: Week of Prayer for Our Schools (September 16 – 22)</u>

Day 1 Sunday, September 16, 2012 - Bless Our Schools Sunday*

Today we join churches around the world in praying for schools. Let's begin our week of prayer focus on schools in our area—public, private, and homeschools. Ask the Lord to bless our schools.

God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all time, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. II Corinthians 9:8

*Bless Our Schools Sunday was initiated by the international ministry of Moms In Prayer International . Churches around the world are called to pray for our schools on the third Sunday in September. For more information about this ministry of moms and grandmas who pray for children, teachers, and schools for one hour a week, call the church office or visit <u>www.momsinprayer.org</u>.

Day 2 Monday, September 17 - Prayer for Children at our Preschools and Elementary Schools

Pray for our children in local schools and don't forget to pray for children at Grand Central Kids at CBC and for our church's adopted school, Hodson Elementary.

Pray children will have a desire to learn; that they will be motivated to do their very best in their school work; that a good foundation will be laid for future education.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Psalm 32:8

Day 3 Tuesday, September 18 - Prayer for Students at our Junior High and High Schools

Pray that older students at our local schools will have a desire to learn and do their very best. Pray they will focus on their work and not be distracted by things happening around them.

Let your eyes look straight ahead, fix your gaze directly before you. Make level paths for your feet and take only ways that are firm. Do not swerve to the right or the left; keep your foot from evil. Proverbs 4:25-27

Day 4 Wednesday, September 19 - Prayer for College/Technical School Students

Pray these students will have wisdom and discernment as they choose their classes and major field of study. Pray they will have good study habits and desire to do their best.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6

Day 5 Thursday, September 20 - Prayer for Teachers, Staff, Cafeteria Workers, and Bus Drivers

Pray that those who come in contact with our children on a daily basis would see each child as a special individual and not just as "their job"; that they will have a zeal to make a difference for good in each life. Pray they will be men and women of integrity that children can look up to.

In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us. Titus 2:7-8

Day 6 September 21 - Prayer for the Administration and School Board of Our Local Schools

Pray that godly men and women will fill leadership positions; that they will make wise decisions regarding curriculum, rules, hiring, etc. Pray they will have the best interests of our children at heart.

Blessed are they who maintain justice, who constantly do what is right. Psalm 106:3

Day 7 Friday, September 22 - Pray for Those in Authority Over Education in Oklahoma and in Our Nation

Pray for wisdom in decisions made at every level that affect our schools. Pray that those in authority will have the best interests of our children and the future of our state and country at heart. Pray that godly men and women will fill these positions and that they will seek wisdom from the Lord.

For the LORD gives wisdom, and from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds victory in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand what is right and just and fair-every good path. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you. Proverbs 2:6-11

Digging Deeper in Prayer for Our Children and Schools

The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayer. I Peter 3:12

Pray our schools will be a safe place Job 1:10

Pray for unbelievers to be saved Acts 26:18

Pray that believers of all ages in our schools:

- Will put God first. Proverbs 3:6
- Will be "light" in darkness. Philippians 2:15-16
- Will trust in the Lord in times of trouble. **Psalm 50:15**
- Will be safe from "bullies." Psalm 31:20
- Will have courage in difficult tasks. I Chronicles 28:20
- Will not be fearful. **Deuteronomy 31:6**
- Will be a peacemaker. James 3:18
- Will listen to parents. Proverbs 1:8-10 and 6:20-23
- Will make healthy choices. Romans 13:14
- Would pray this prayer:
 - Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word. Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared. Psalm 119: 33-38

Pray for children with special needs:

They would know they are wonderful just the way they are. **Psalm 139:13-16, John 9:1-3** They would be encouraged when they are anxious. **Proverbs 12:25, Philippians 4:6-8** They would know the Lord has a plan for their future. **Jeremiah 29:11, Matthew 6:25-34**

Pray for prodigals:

- Salvation. Ezekiel 11: 9-20, Acts 26:18, Romans 13:11-12
- Repentance. Joel 2:12-13, Proverbs 8:13
- Keep them safe. Psalms 121:5-8, Psalms 139:7-10
- Deliverance. Psalm 144:7-8, Ezekiel 34:11-12, John 8:32, II Corinthians 6:17-18, Isaiah 43:1-13
- Hope for Christian parents of prodigals. Jeremiah 31:16-17, Luke 1:37

Week Five: Week of Prayer for Our Lost Friends and Family (September 23-29)

Begin this week by writing down the names of your lost friends and familyand plan to cover them in prayer this week.

Day 1 Sunday, September 23, 2012 - Pray for Our Hearts to be Passionate for the Lost

Pray that we will be willing to be the "workers in the field" to share the light of Jesus with our lost friends and family.

- On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." 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." Matthew 9:12-13, 37-38
- You are the light of the world. A city 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 men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

Day 2 Monday, September 24, 2012 - Pray Our Mouths will be Open to be a Witness

Thank God that He has anointed us to share the good news and has given us power to be witnesses.

- 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 1:8
- The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. Isaiah 61:1

Day 3 Tuesday, September 25, 2012 - Pray for the Lost to be Drawn to Jesus

Pray that the lost will seek after God and that the Father would draw them to Himself.

- But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you look for him with all your heart and with all your soul. Deuteronomy 4:29
- No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. John 6:44

Day 4 Wednesday, September 26, 2012 - Pray for the Lost to be Protected from Satan

Pray that the minds of the lost would be guarded from the lies of Satan so that they can understand the Good News.

- And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians 4:3-4
- But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Day 5 Thursday, September 27, 2012 - Pray for Conviction of Sin and Repentance

Pray that God's kindness will convict them of sin and lead them to repentance.

- Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, tolerance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness leads you toward repentance? Romans 2:4
- > Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Psalm 51:2-4

Day 6 Friday, September 28, 2012 - Pray for the Lost to Understand God's Truth and Love

Pray over your lost friends or family by inserting their names into the scriptures below.

I ask that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give the Spirit of may know Him better. I pray also that the eyes of their heart wisdom and revelation, so may be enlightened in order that may know the hope to which He has called the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms Ephesians 1: 17-20

I pray that out of His glorious riches he may strengthen ______with power through His Spirit in ______ 's inner being, so that Christ may dwell in ______ hearts through faith. And I pray that , being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--,may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do that immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. Ephesians 3: 16-20

Day 7 Saturday, September 29, 2012 - Pray for the Lost to Have a New Life in Christ

Pray for the lost to leave their old life behind and experience a complete rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.

- > Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12: 1-2
- > But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. Titus 3: 4-7

Digging Deeper:

Our witness (Matthew 9: 12-13, Colossians 4: 5-6) Lost will:

- Come to Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30) - Hear and Obey (Luke 11:28) - Hear the Truth (Romans 10:17)
- Realize they have sinned (Romans 3:23)
- Confess and believe (Romans 10:9-10)
- Follow Christ and grow strong (Colossians 2:6-7)
- Be set free from the power of sin (Romans 6:6-7)
- Conform to the image of Christ (2 Cor. 3:17-18)
- No longer remain in the dark (John 12:46-47) God will restore and strengthen (1 Peter 5:10)

Write out your testimony and be ready to share it when God opens the door of opportunity. Consider using <u>www.mostimportantthing.org</u> as a tool to share your testimony.