



# prayer *life!*

## Weekly Prayer Focus

January 11, 2015

### The Word of Prayer

*For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. —Romans 8:15-16*

Christmas can be a lot like a trip to camp—a spiritual high. January, then is like the bus ride back down the mountain, back to the grind—the mundane challenges of daily life. But life's challenges are more than humdrum. There are vicious things in this world that seek to destroy us. The same serpent who tempted Eve in the first book of the Bible is the dragon in its last book, who sought to devour her Child, just as He was born. Satan was present in the Christmas story, when Herod sent soldiers to slaughter innocent children in Bethlehem, trying to kill the Christ.

The tranquility in this life lies only on the surface. Going to work means entering a world of backbiting and pressures to compromise, where the lusts of the flesh, the eyes, and heart drive every-day operations. Attending school means entering an idol's temple, where "Knowledge" is worshiped and God's truth denied. The trip to work brings hazards that could take away our money, our health, even our lives in one distracted instant. Are we even safe in our own skin, as disease and aging threaten our bodies, and depression and stress dominate our minds?

Go to God. Through our daily prayers, as humble, frightened children, we slip our hand into the hand of our Father. By faith, we take hold of His might, and His strength becomes ours. When we put on the armor of God and endeavor to stand, our primary tactic is "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints" (Ephesians 6:18).

The Christian life is a battle that has been waged by millions for millennia. And God is faithful. One man, who stood up to the powers of darkness that ruled the powers that be in his day, testifies of God's ultimate triumph, which all believers share.

And though this world, with devils filed, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God has willed His truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him.  
His rage we can endure, for, lo, his doom is sure.  
One little word shall fell him.

That word is our quiet prayer, uttered in faith to the "Word above all earthly powers," who entered our world at Christmas and walks with us in every challenge we face, every day that we live.

**Prayer for Northpoint:** The first and greatest commandment is to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, and strength. Anything less is idolatry. Pray that God will teach you to love Him. After all, He loved us first.

**Prayer for the United States:** There is much concern in America that our freedoms are slipping away. As salt and light in this great nation, the task of Christians is to bring conviction over how we use and abuse our freedoms as a culture. Ask God to move the American Church to stand for righteousness, whatever the cost. Pray that He will again make His people the North Star to our nation, to show them the way of Christ and the way to Christ.

**Prayer for the World:** Terror is a shockwave echoing around the globe. It resounded violently in Europe this past week. Ask God to open eyes in France to their need. Yes, they need resolve and strong leadership. Yes, they need to find and hold accountable the perpetrators of violence. But before all, the people of France, Europe, and the world need to see our need of God. Ask God to reveal Himself through the crises that terror brings.

### Prayer Supporting Ministry:

- *Winter Camps:* Ask God to be present in power at our camps for children and youth. Ask Him to build His truth into young lives and to overwhelm them with His love.
- *Women's Conference:* Ask God to speak peace to the women who attend the upcoming Women's Conference, as they learn to trust God to bear fruit in their lives.
- *Congregational Meeting:* Ask God to lead us in unity as a church body at this next all-church meeting.

## Prayer for the Week

**Sunday Church & Ministry:** Ask God to use Scott Williams, Adult Pastor to equip us for service & cultivate our fellowship as Christians.

***Monday Home & Family:*** Pray for God to protect your spouse (or your parents) and children (or siblings) and keep them in His will.

***Tuesday*** *School or Job:* Pray for the integrity and success of your school or workplace: May God's Spirit use you to lead others to follow in His ways.

**Wednesday Neighbors & Community:** Pray for the salvation of your neighbors across the street. Ask God for opportunities to connect with them.

**Thursday Nation:** Ask God to bring the Gospel to every household in America. Ask Him to guide you to someone He wants to reach through you.

**Friday World & Kingdom:** Pray for the nations of Europe, North, Central, & South America: May Lord reign in the affairs of men throughout these regions.

**Saturday** *Praise for God's Blessings:* Give Praise to God for the beauty of creation and His sovereign goodness in your life.

## Prayer Record

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