



prayer *life!*

Weekly Prayer Focus

July 15, 2018

The Body of Christ

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

—Ephesians 4:11-16

What God does with Northpoint Church has more to do with us as a body of believers than with the men we choose to lead us. Our prayer is for Christ to do His work in us, more than for us to be successful.

We can run successful programs and still not have the hand of Christ on our ministry, but all growth comes from Christ. Remember Jesus' words to His disciples, *on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it* (Matthew 16:18).

Father, please align our prayers with your methods, your purpose, and your plans. Draw us close to you and be glorified in us, your church.

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers: Gifted leaders are God's gift to the Church. Ask God to call leaders after His heart, who follow His will in leading Northpoint.

For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry: The leaders' job is to equip the Church to do the work of the ministry. Give yourself to Christ for what He would have you to do in serving Him through our church body.

For the edifying of the body of Christ: Growth is our goal. Pray that God will build us up as a church both spiritually (our quality) and in numbers (our quantity), as Christ makes us grow.

Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God: God's purpose for His Church is to make us united in our knowledge of Jesus Christ. This is the quality He seeks in us. Give yourself to God's purpose to know Christ better and love His people more.

To a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: God's aspirations for His Church are infinitely high. He wants to form the perfect image of Christ in us. Confess your inability and Christ's ability to accomplish His perfect work in us His people, and rejoice in what God will do.

That we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting: Pray for spiritual stability based on the truth of who Christ is and what He's accomplished. This is the foundation of maturity

But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ: Truth is the food that makes the Body of Christ grow. Ask God to give us leaders who will teach us His truth clearly, accurately, and lovingly.

From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share: Pray for increased prayer and dependence on Christ at Northpoint along with a growing spiritual maturity. A healthy church is a beautiful thing.

Causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love: A healthy church is a growing church. Ask God to make Northpoint grow, as people come to know Christ as Savior and Lord through our ministry.

Our Plan Moving Forward

Pray for Northpoint's plan moving forward as a church, to keep seeking God, as we work to ...

Restore (Phase 1)

- Relationships with people who have been hurt or alienated
- Staff confidence in their call from Christ, their connection to the elders, and their leadership role in our body
- Our health as a body of believers in open, loving communication, both listening and speaking

Rediscover (Phase 2)

- Who we are as a body: Our uniqueness. Our call for the community.
- Who God would have us to be: Qualities we can build on. Things we need to change.
- The drives, passions, and priorities God is calling us to

Rebuild (Phase 3)

- Own, embrace, and communicate who we are as a local church
- Define, refine, and extend our vision for serving Christ
- Follow God's call on us as a congregation, as our passions become our priorities and determine our direction.

Prayer for Northpoint

Ask God to speak to us as a church, so we hear His voice and follow His leading. Pray for ...

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Brent Whitefield, Scott Williams, Terilyn Brown, Geoff Grant, Taylor Mendoza, Tamene Menna, and Marti Wiegman.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Tim East, Steve Flood, Mark Kiker, Mike Russell, and Vinoj Zechariah.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, Andria Brucks, Jacob Williams, Carolee Jefferson, Josh Figureoa, Amber McEwen, Mark Norland, Corie Saunders, and Teri Vaughn
4. **Northpoint as a Body of Believers:**

Pray that we will serve Christ's kingdom and honor Him in all aspects of our life as a church.

- Also pray for **John Sloan, Brent Whitefield and their families** to receive God's Grace and guidance and blessing as they serve God where He has called them.

Prayer Record

Note when and how God answers your prayers. It will help you to see that He really is paying attention.

Date	Request	Date	Answer

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. –Ephesians 5:25-28