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*Giving:* God doesn't need our money, but He uses our meager resources to accomplish His incredible plans. Giving allows us to contribute from the material goods God gives us to the work of His kingdom. We need to give. It is so easy to trust our possessions and not God, but everything we have is from Him (Romans 11:36). Our trust easily centers on what we have rather than the One who provided it. We love the gift more than the Giver. Soon, we find ourselves "worshipping and serving the creation rather than the Creator" (Romans 1:25), which is the essence of idolatry.

Giving helps us to own our possessions without letting our possessions own us. In Scripture, God links a promise of blessing with a command to give (Malachi 3:10-11; 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9:6-10). The idea is not that giving allows us to manipulate God into giving us more stuff, but that God always provides for His children. We can trust Him at all times for all things (Philippians 4:19).

Giving helps us to see our possessions and all the things of earth in a different way. Everything the world has to offer loses its grip on our lives, making us free to live for heaven. Temporal investments pay eternal dividends, as God uses us to build His kingdom.

*Gathering:* Humanity is a race, not a collection of individuals. The people of God form a body of different members working together to accomplish His great purposes (Ephesians 4:11-16). That's why the Church gathers together (Acts 2:42-43; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 11:18), worships together (Hebrews 10:22-25), prays together (Matthew 18:19-20), and works together (Acts 13:2; cf. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). We are mutually dependent (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 12:14-20).

God delights in His Body, united and working together in love, because this activity represents His nature to the world (John 17:20-21). It gives us the opportunity to model what Christ said, "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

Four habits help us know God and grow in His grace: regular Bible reading, consistent prayer, giving to God's work, and gathering with the saints. As you devote yourself to these practices, trust God to reveal Himself to you and make you grow.

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### Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray for dynasties of faith in the families at Northpoint, so they serve His kingdom for generations.
- **Local Outreach:** Steve and Karen Hydanus (AWANA California Golden West)
- **Missions:** Doug and Cynthia Peters: Los Angeles, CA

### Need to pray with someone?

It is our privilege to pray for you personally. Share your prayer requests

- By email at [prayer@northpointcorona.org](mailto:prayer@northpointcorona.org)
- By phone, at 951.734.1335
- On a Response Card in the pew during the worship service

Prayer Team members are available after every worship service.

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# prayer *life!*

## Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

**(Year TWO) July 2019**

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*You will be a good servant of Christ Jesus, constantly nourished on the words of the faith and of the sound doctrine, which you have been following. But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness. —1 Timothy 4:6-7*

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### Essential Practices

The Christian life is not passive. Neither is Christian growth. There are habits we need to form and practices we must pursue in order to grow. In particular, God uses four tools to grow His children.

*Bible Reading:* Scripture is spiritual food. We need a regular intake of God's Word, reading it, reflecting on it, studying it, and connecting it to our lives, so we can live it. Taking in Scripture regularly helps protect us from sin (Psalm 119:11). It guides us through life's decisions (Psalm 119:105). Its stories reveal human weaknesses and demonstrate God's ways of delivering us from ourselves (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:11). Reading the Bible through helps us to gain God's perspective on history, so we see the benefits of righteousness and the consequences of disobedience (Proverbs 14:34), as well as His unfolding plan for redemption. Then we can connect the way He worked with His people in the past to the way He works with us today.

The Bible gives insight into human nature and hidden motives of the heart (Hebrews 4:12). It is the primary weapon of spiritual warfare, by which we confront the lies that dominate our world (Ephesians 6:17). Most important, God's Word is the seed that creates new life and causes us to be born again (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:23). Like milk to a newborn, God's Word gives life (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2:2).

*Prayer:* While reading the Bible is the receptive side of communing with God, prayer is expressive. When we pray, we enter into the very presence of God and find fullness of joy (Psalm 16:11). Through prayer, we can tell God everything on our hearts—our every concern or need. As God answers our prayers according to His wisdom, we come to know Him, and knowing God is eternal life (John 17:3). Prayer guides us in our decisions and comforts us with God's presence (Psalm 23:4; 32:8). Through prayer, we access God's power, so God can accomplish what He wants in and through us. God gives us boldness for witness (Ephesians 6:19), wisdom for trials (James 1:5), and deliverance from fear (Psalm 34:4).

# Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year TWO)

July 2019

<b>Sunday:</b> Church & Ministry	<b>Monday:</b> Home & Family	<b>Tuesday:</b> School or Job	<b>Wednesday:</b> Neighbors & Community	<b>Thursday:</b> Nation	<b>Friday:</b> World & Kingdom	<b>Saturday:</b> Praise for God's Blessings
	<p><b>1) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 17 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your parents and brothers and sisters to have holiness, love, and joy defining their relationships.</p>	<p><b>2) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 18 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to reveal His character in you, so others will see His grace, love, integrity, &amp; humility and be attracted to Him.</p>	<p><b>3) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 19 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to be known and exalted in our local schools, districts, and school boards. Pray for strength for the Christian clubs at our local schools.</p>	<p><b>4) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 20 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to give our leaders wisdom that begins with "the fear of the Lord." Pray for God's guidance &amp; provision in next year's elections.</p>	<p><b>5) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 21 <i>Pray for ...</i> Divine protection over those who suffer for their faith in Christ. Seek the comfort of His presence and assurance of their certain hope in Christ.</p>	<p><b>6) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 22 <i>Bless the Lord ...</i> He has blessed us with abundance, security, &amp; freedom in the United States &amp; dealt patiently with our sin. May God keep blessing America.</p>
<p><b>7) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 23 <i>Pray for ...</i> Corie Saunders, Administrator &amp; Finance to exhibit the heart of Christ as she administers the funds God provides for Northpoint's ministries.</p>	<p><b>8) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 24 <i>Pray for ...</i> Take refuge in this reality: "Unless the Lord builds a house, those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1).</p>	<p><b>9) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 25 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to meet the needs of your colleagues and use their struggles to draw them to Himself.</p>	<p><b>10) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to use VBS this week to reach our community. Ask God to fill our leaders with His Spirit &amp; prepare hearts to receive His Word.</p>	<p><b>11) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 2 <i>Pray for ...</i> A movement of the Spirit among our lawmakers, so they honor Christ &amp; follow His Word. Seek spiritual protection &amp; moral integrity for Congress.</p>	<p><b>12) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 3 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to be honored as Lord in all denominations of the Church, so they define right &amp; wrong, true &amp; false according to God's Word.</p>	<p><b>13) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4 <i>Praise God ...</i> For the beauty of His creation and His sovereign goodness in your life.</p>
<p><b>14) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5 <i>Pray for ...</i> Teri Vaughn, Ministry Assistant, Missions &amp; Community, to foster our sense of community &amp; keep us focused on our outreach as a church.</p>	<p><b>15) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 6 <i>Pray for ...</i> A dynasty of faith to come from your home that will influence people to turn to Christ for generations.</p>	<p><b>16) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 7 <i>Pray for ...</i> The quality and effectiveness of your work to exalt Christ.</p>	<p><b>17) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 8 <i>Pray for ...</i> Integrity in the elected officials of our community. May Christ reign in their hearts, control their minds, &amp; influence their work.</p>	<p><b>18) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to help, comfort, &amp; care for victims of violent crime and social unrest in our nation, so they seek the peace of Christ in their lives.</p>	<p><b>19) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 10 <i>Pray for ...</i> Boldness &amp; protection for Christians in the Muslim world. Ask God to bring stability &amp; hope to those regions &amp; to put down terrorist regimes.</p>	<p><b>20) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 11 <i>Rejoice ...</i> In the miracle of nourishment, God's abundant provision, and the enjoyment of the sustenance we need.</p>
<p><b>21) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 12 <i>Pray for ...</i> Mark Norland, Ministry Support, Facilities to bring glory to Christ in the smooth function &amp; order of our facilities, so our campus displays God's excellence.</p>	<p><b>22) Read:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 13 <i>Pray for ...</i> Holiness, love, &amp; joy to define your family relationships. Ask God to help you model His character and love to others.</p>	<p><b>23) Read:</b> Psalms 51-52 <i>Pray for ...</i> The colleague or friend you work with most closely or whom God has put on your heart. Bring their concerns to Christ.</p>	<p><b>24) Read:</b> Psalms 53-54 <i>Pray for ...</i> The churches of Corona to be united in purpose &amp; committed to know Jesus Christ &amp; make Him known in our community.</p>	<p><b>25) Read:</b> Psalm 55 <i>Pray for ...</i> The spiritual, physical, and personal safety of our military and their families. Pray for wisdom for our military leaders.</p>	<p><b>26) Read:</b> Psalm 56 <i>Pray for ...</i> Our bond to grow stronger with the Akaki church in Ethiopia. Seek protection from terrorist groups such as Boko Haram.</p>	<p><b>27) Read:</b> Psalms 57-58 <i>Rejoice!</i> The Lord our God is king of all creation! His glory is our joy.</p>
<p><b>28) Read:</b> Psalms 59-60 <i>Pray for ...</i> Tim East: Non-staff Elder. Ask God use him to spread the love of Christ to others in all he does with his family, at work &amp; at Northpoint Church.</p>	<p><b>29) Read:</b> Psalms 61-63 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your spouse and children or your closest friends to display Christ's character, so His holiness, love, &amp; joy will draw others to Him.</p>	<p><b>30) Read:</b> Psalms 64-65 <i>Pray for ...</i> Leaders, coworkers and friends at work or school to come to know Christ &amp; His love.</p>	<p><b>31) Read:</b> Psalms 66-67 <i>Pray for ...</i> The salvation of those you interact with in the community: neighbors, workers at stores, gas stations, and other places you visit.</p>	<p><i>Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"</i> —Hebrews 13:5-6</p>		