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You will not be able to notice rhyme or wordplay in the psalms, but you will find them rich in parallelism, comparison, and contrast. As you read the psalms, notice how one idea is expressed in two (e.g., Psalm 10:1) or three (Psalm 16:9) different ways, sometimes by comparison (Psalm 24:1), other times by contrast (Psalm 24:4). Also notice how ideas often build or reach a climax (Psalm 24:7-10). These literary devices can be instructive (Psalm 34:11-14), and they can also evoke strong emotions (Psalm 42:9-10).

The same is true of the imagery in the Psalms. Simile (stated comparisons as in Psalm 131:2), metaphor (implied comparisons as in Psalm 23:1, 4), and other word pictures are designed to evoke images in your mind's eye and illustrate theological reality with concrete examples. The word pictures of the psalms bring truth to life, and help the believer connect their experience with God's truth (Psalm 91:1-4).

Above all, the psalms are about relationship: life lived in the presence of God. As you read the psalms, enter into the relationship between the psalm writer and his Lord. As you do, you will identify with believers of old and imitate their intimacy with God. Follow your Shepherd (Psalm 23:1). Rejoice in your king (Psalm 94:1). Get to know your Creator who knows you perfectly (Psalm 139:1-6) and loves you completely.

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#### Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** Pray that we as a church will exalt Jesus Christ to first place as individuals and as a local body.
- **Local Outreach:** The Walk for Life this month
- **Missions:** Akaki Kale Heywet Church and School: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

#### 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.



# prayer *life!*

## Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

**(Year ONE) October 2019**

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*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget any of His benefits.* –Psalm 103:1-2

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### Getting to Know God: Reading the Psalms

The book of Psalms is Israel's ancient hymnbook. It is a collection of songs used in the regular worship of God's chosen people. The book gives an intimate look at the relationship between God and His people, both corporately and individually.

As you read the Psalms, you will notice there are different kinds. Some are individual (Psalms 3, 4) and others are corporate psalms (Psalms 44, 80, 95). Wisdom psalms teach how to live the life of faith (Psalms 1, 37). Imprecatory psalms call down God's judgment on sin, at times with seething anger (Psalm 137). Prayer psalms cry to God for help in times of trouble (Psalm 61). Praise psalms rejoice in God's deliverance (Psalms 30, 34, 77) and thank Him for His goodness (Psalm 73). Other psalms cry out to Him in despair (Psalm 74). You will find psalms in which the writer instructs the community of faith in how and why to praise God (Psalms 103, 148, 150). The psalms address all the complex dynamics and emotions of human life.

As hymns of faith, the psalms are essentially positive, yet never are they artificial or sugar coated. Psalms 27 and 122 rejoice in the opportunity to engage in worship, yet Psalms 42-43 express loneliness and longs for God to reveal His presence. While the 23<sup>rd</sup> psalm eloquently describes God's care for the believer, Psalm 22 painfully complains of God's rejection in terms that were ultimately true only of Christ on the cross. Over all, though, the psalms assure us of God's abiding presence in everything we experience in life (Psalm 90) and of our final eternal hope (Psalms 16:10-11; 121:7-8).

# Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year ONE)

October 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> Job 18 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to help people you know of with their concerns and to reveal His love to them.</p>	<p><b>2) Read:</b> Job 19 <i>Pray for ...</i> The checkers, stockers, &amp; baggers you see regularly at the grocery store, that God will save them and bless them in Christ Jesus.</p>	<p><b>3) Read:</b> Job 20 <i>Pray for ...</i> Revival of the Church &amp; a renewed desire in America for holiness, purity, righteousness, &amp; boldness in spreading the Gospel.</p>	<p><b>4) Read:</b> Job 21 <i>Pray for ...</i> Boldness and protection for Christians in the Muslim world. Ask God to enable them to be strong in their faith.</p>	<p><b>5) Read:</b> Job 22 <i>Thank God for ...</i> Life, God's first and most essential gift. Ask His blessing on today's Walk for Life and ask Him to bring the ravages of abortion to an end.</p>
<p><b>6) Read:</b> Job 23 <i>Pray for ...</i> Craig and Mike as they travel to train trainers in the Bible &amp; theology to equip the church &amp; its leaders to do the work of ministry &amp; build itself up in love.</p>	<p><b>7) Read:</b> Job 24 <i>Pray for ...</i> Your in-laws or families of your friends. May they love the Lord their God with all their heart, soul, mind, &amp; strength &amp; their neighbor as themselves.</p>	<p><b>8) Read:</b> Job 25 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to use you to reveal Himself to your friends and colleagues. Ask for opportunities, words, &amp; boldness for sharing the Gospel with them.</p>	<p><b>9) Read:</b> Job 26 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christ to be exalted in Home Gardens. May many people come to know Him in that part of Corona.</p>	<p><b>10) Read:</b> Job 27 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to protect marriage in our land and lead us to reject laws and practices that undermine Christian marriage and the family.</p>	<p><b>11) Read:</b> Job 28 <i>Pray for ...</i> God to raise up a new generation of missionaries from around the world to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth.</p>	<p><b>12) Read:</b> Job 29 <i>Rejoice evermore!</i> By God's grace, your name is written in the book of life.</p>
<p><b>13) Read:</b> Job 30 <i>Pray for ...</i> Bob Brown, Ministry Assistant, Communications. May God give him &amp; his wife power for ministry, protection from sin, growth in grace, &amp; guidance in life.</p>	<p><b>14) Read:</b> Job 31 <i>Pray for ...</i> Christian character to develop in everyone in your home (Galatians 5:22-23).</p>	<p><b>15) Read:</b> Job 32 <i>Pray for ...</i> The colleagues you have the most difficulty with. May they see the love of Christ in you and hear of His love from you.</p>	<p><b>16) Read:</b> Job 33 <i>Pray for ...</i> Ways to connect with &amp; reach your neighbors as they visit during Halloween. Ask God to show you how to use this opportunity.</p>	<p><b>17) Read:</b> Job 34 <i>Pray for ...</i> The spread of the Gospel and the study of God's Word among the people serving in the three branches of our government.</p>	<p><b>18) Read:</b> Job 35 <i>Pray for ...</i> The persecuted Church throughout the world. May their testimony of Jesus Christ win their persecutors to Him.</p>	<p><b>19) Read:</b> Job 36 <i>Thank God for ...</i> The bounty of harvest and His daily provision. Ask God to use Northpoint to lead our neighbors to Christ.</p>
<p><b>20) Read:</b> Job 37 <i>Pray for ...</i> Chelsae Grant,, Ministry Assistant, Special Needs to demonstrate in her work the love of God and the intrinsic value of every person to whom God gives life</p>	<p><b>21) Read:</b> Job 38 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Pray to be filled with God's love, to receive love from Him &amp; return it to Him. We love Him, because He loved us first. He enables us to keep the first &amp; greatest commandment.</p>	<p><b>22) Read:</b> Job 39 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> The second commandment is like the first. Ask God to create in your heart a love for your "neighbor," those around you, so He can use you to make them His.</p>	<p><b>23) Read:</b> Job 40 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Pray for the joy of the Lord to be your strength &amp; an example of how sweet it is to be loved by such a wonderful God &amp; receive the blessings we enjoy day after day.</p>	<p><b>24) Read:</b> Job 41 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to you you view the people you interact with each day as image bearers of God, whose eternal destiny depends on their response to His love.</p>	<p><b>25) Read:</b> Job 42 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to give us a vision for His kingdom, so we take part in His plan to win people from every nation, kindred, and tribe to Jesus Christ.</p>	<p><b>26) Read:</b> Psalms 1-3 <i>Pray for our Mission.</i> Ask God to direct your heart to specific individuals to reach out to with concrete examples of His love and clear expressions of the Gospel.</p>
<p><b>27) Read:</b> Psalms 4-6 <i>Pray for ...</i> Andria Brucks, Ministry Associate, Finance. Ask God for special grace in working with the church's finances, so we honor Him &amp; serve His kingdom with what He provides.</p>	<p><b>28) Read:</b> Psalms 7-8 <i>Pray for ...</i> Ask God to build your home. "Unless the Lord builds a house, those who build it labor in vain" (Psalm 127:1).</p>	<p><b>29) Read:</b> Psalm 9 <i>Pray for ...</i> A world-wide Reformation of God's Church that will bring the Biblical proclamation of Christ's atonement to the ends of the earth.</p>	<p><b>30) Read:</b> Psalm 10 <i>Pray for ...</i> Those you know who serve in the military: May they know Christ and His love and show it to others. Seek God's care &amp; protection for them and their families.</p>	<p><b>31) Read:</b> Psalms 11-13 <i>Pray for ...</i> A multiracial &amp; multi-national revival in the American Church, so we love God with all our heart, soul, &amp; strength &amp; our neighbors as ourselves.</p>	<p><i>Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together! —Psalm 34:3</i></p>	