



# prayer *life!*

## Weekly Prayer Focus

September 29, 2019

### Seen and Unseen

*Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.* –2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 6:16

One morning, Elisha's servant stepped outside and suffered a terrible shock. The humble servant of an obscure prophet living in a vassal state lifted his eyes to behold an enemy army—soldiers, spears, horses, chariots, and all—surrounding his city. I've never had a gun pointed straight in my face, but if I ever do, I'm pretty sure I'll feel like he did at that moment. Oh-No.

Utterly dismayed, he called out to Elisha, *Alas, my master! What shall we do* (2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 6:15)?

Sometimes reality hits us so hard that we can no longer deny our danger. A cancer diagnosis or an IRS notice or a sudden job loss makes us drop everything and go into panic mode. We no longer have the luxury of pretending that evil's at a safe distance. It's right at our door and needs to be dealt with—somehow.

But Elisha, the man of God, lived in total reality. Well aware of the surrounding threat and knowing the army was there for him, the prophet simply prayed, *"O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see."* So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha (2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 6:17).

God was there with him, and He was in total control of the situation.

Faith isn't a vague hope for "pie in the sky bye and bye." We believe in the Great I Am—the God of the eternal "Now," who orders all of life's events. In life or death, in joy or struggle, He is the deciding factor. And He is with us. Prayer does not deny reality. It opens our eyes to all of reality—physical and spiritual, on earth and in heaven.

The people who live in denial are the ones who look only to the world around them. Blind to spiritual reality, they suppose that nothing matters more than what can be seen. They trust in knowledge and strength and look for a triumph of the human spirit to resolve every dilemma and fix every problem.

But there's something these hardened "realists" can't seem to avoid. They smuggle into every situation a vague reassurance that has no reasonable basis. They irrationally assume that everything will be all right, without any reason why.

Elisha worshiped the LORD, who made heaven and earth, and he knew that God was with him. He knew the One who was in control of the events around his city, and his prayer opened his servant's eyes to God's presence and protection.

Christians worship Jesus Christ, the same God Elisha worshiped, *who works all things according to the counsel of His will* (Ephesians 1:11). We pray to Emanuel—God with Us. Through prayer, we engage eternal and total and present reality.

Prayer doesn't pretend. It obtains. By prayer to the unseen God who is with us, Christians bring unseen reality to the visible world and make a difference now and for eternity.

To the praise of God's glory.

## Prayer for Our New Pastor

Through prayer, let's obtain the leadership God had for our church.

- Skilled in faithfully proclaiming the truth of God's word
- Proven as a leader who is able to direct God's people in effective ministry
- A man of God who commits his gifts and efforts to God and trusts Him to accomplish His purpose
- A strong leader who makes himself accountable to God and church leadership

## Prayer for Our Leaders

Ask God to lead our leaders, directing their steps to accomplish His purpose for Northpoint.

Pray for ...

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Scott Williams, Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Terilyn Brown, Geoff Grant, and Marti Wiegman.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Tim East, Steve Flood, Mark Kiker, Mike Russell, Vinoj Zechariah, and new elders who will soon come onto the board.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, Andria Brucks, Chelsae Grant, Carolee Jefferson, Amber McEwen, Tamene Menna, Mark Norland, Corie Saunders, and Teri Vaughn.

## Praise 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

*Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. —Joshua 1:9*