



# prayer *life!*

## Weekly Prayer Focus

January 5, 2020

### Seek and You Will Find

*Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ... For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. –Isaiah 55:6-7, 12*

So often, what we need the most is what we seek the least, while treasures untold lay right before us untouched and neglected. The central story of the Bible is the all-wise and all-powerful God who made us offering His love to people who refuse to notice Him and who will exist eternally without Him, except for the work of His omnipotent grace. This self-revealing God calls us to seek Him and promises that when we do, we will find all we need.

Let's learn from Isaiah what it looks like to "seeking the LORD."

*Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near (55:6):* Seek Christ now. We dare not presume upon His grace and assume He will always be available. Seek Him as a habit.

*Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts (55:7):* There's always a choice between following Christ and going our own way, which is sin. Cultivate obedience and confession of sin. Trust God and believe that what He has for you is better than anything else you may desire.

*Let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon (55:7):* Turn away from sin and toward God. Forsake pride and receive His abundant forgiveness. Learn to practice repentance.

*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts (55:9):* We understand that a holy God demands justice. But His redeeming grace—which saves even sinners like us—is beyond our comprehension.

*For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, ... so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose (55:10-11):* God superintends physical and spiritual systems that are certain to accomplish His eternal purposes. God's Word brings His blessings to all the earth, and He calls His people to take His truth throughout the world (Acts 1:8).

*For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands (55:12):* Along with all creation, we will enjoy the blessings of God's favor and goodness. Our hope is certain, because we have God's promise.

Make 2020 a year of seeking God through His Word and in prayer. Let the Living Lord be the object of your daily search. Live in the hope of Jesus' promise: *And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened (Luke 11:9-10).*

And we seek the LORD to the praise of His Glory.

## Prayer for the Week

**Faith Is:** Seeing God keep His promises in answer to your prayers.

**Sunday (Church):** Ask God to use Tony Chute, our Interim Pastor, to point us to Christ, unite us as a congregation, and equip us to serve His kingdom.

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

**Tuesday (Job/School):** Pray for the salvation of your neighbors across the street. Ask God for opportunities to connect with them.

**Wednesday (Neighborhood and Community):** Pray for the integrity and success of your workplace or school: May God's Spirit use you to lead others to follow in His ways.

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

**Friday (The World):** Pray for the Lord to reign in the affairs of the nations of Europe, and North, Central, and South America.

**Saturday (Praise and Rejoicing):** Praise God for the beauty of creation and His sovereign goodness in your life.

## Prayer for Our Leaders

- 1. Our Pastors and Directors:** Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Terilyn Brown, and Marti Wiegman.
- 2. Our Lay Elders:** Tim East, Steve Flood, Mark Kiker, Vinoj Zechariah, and new elders who will soon come onto the board.
- 3. Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, Carolee Jefferson, Amber McEwen, Tamene Menna, Mark Norland, Corie Saunders, Karen Sherwood, Dani Tiqui, and Teri Vaughn.

## Prayer Record

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

Date	Request	Date	Answer

*What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! –Luke 11:11-13*