



prayer *life!*

Weekly Prayer Focus

August 28, 2022

Where the Spirit of the Lord Is

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. And God said ... —Genesis 1:1-3a

The first chapter of Genesis clearly portrays the Triune God at work in creation, but it makes a point of mentioning the presence of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit helped to shape the undefined possibilities of the world's dark and formless emptiness, and His mark is on all creation. God's Spirit is integral to His Church, and He's the essential actor in the prayers of the saints. Look for the Spirit's mark on the prayers you pray.

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is ...

- **Light in the darkness:** *And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light (Genesis 1:3). Spirit-led prayer brings light and clarity.*
- **Order from chaos:** *And God separated the light from the darkness, ... And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. ... And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. (1:4a, 7, 9). Clear distinctions define God's creation.*
- **Fruitfulness:** *And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so (1:11). The work of the Holy Spirit bears all different kinds of fruit.*
- **Steady, reliable predictability:** *And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. (1:14-16). God's work is characterized by rule and regularity.*
- **Abundance:** *And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm ... and every winged bird (1:20-21). O LORD, how manifold are your works! ... the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).*
- **Life:** *And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth ... And God made the beasts of the earth ... and the livestock ... and everything that creeps on the ground ... And God saw that it was good (1:24-25). God is the Lord of Life. His Spirit is the Spirit of Life (Romans 8:2).*
- **Humanity in God's image:** *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them (1:27). God made Man male and female in His image. Our in-born sexuality is essential to who we are as humans made in God's image. God also created us to rule the world. We do not worship or serve the earth. We worship the God who made it.*
- **All that is very good:** *And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good (1:31). All God does is categorically and undeniably Good. We know good when we see God in His works.*

... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints. —Ephesians 6:18

Praying in the Spirit isn't about an ecstatic experience. It's having God's presence with you when you pray, following His guidance, and believing His power is at work. The fruit Christians bear when we pray in the Spirit reflects the order of God's creation. Jesus promised to build His Church. Learn to see God's hand working as you pray, bearing fruit in you and all you do.

To the praise of God's glory!

Continued Daily Bible Reading

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Bible in 1 Year	Amos 3-5	Amos 6-9	1 st Timothy 1-4	1 st Timothy 5-6; 2 nd Timothy 1	2 nd Timothy 2-4	1 st Chronicles 10-12	1 st Chronicles 13-15
Year 1	Deuteronomy 34	Romans 1	Romans 2	Romans 3	Romans 4	Romans 5	Romans 6
Year 2	Proverbs 11	Proverbs 12	Proverbs 13	Proverbs 14	Proverbs 15	Proverbs 16	Proverbs 17
Year 3	Jeremiah 52	Lamentations 1	Lamentations 2	Lamentations 3	Lamentations 4	Lamentations 5	2 nd Peter 1

Prayers for Our Time

Pray for God's truth to be proclaimed and believed in His Church and throughout the world. Pray for an awakening in the Church..

Daily Prayer

Sunday (Church): Pray for Woody Armstrong, non-staff elder, to have spiritual insight into the life of our church, so he can give Godly counsel to individual members.

Monday (Home and Family): Pray for God to use you to influence your family to love and follow Jesus Christ as Lord through faith, especially those with the greatest need.

Tuesday (Job/School): Pray for the love and character of Christ to shine through you in every aspect of your life.

Wednesday (Neighborhood and Community): Pray for Settlement House. May the Gospel of Jesus Christ transform the lives of the homeless.

Thursday (Our Nation): Pray for a keen awareness of our utter dependence on God that drives us constantly to our knees before Him.

Friday (The World): Pray for strength and growth in the Church in China, so it thrives, despite persecution and the lack of religious freedom.

Saturday (Praise and Rejoicing): Give praise for the abundance, security, and freedom we enjoy in America. May we use them responsibly for God's kingdom.

Prayer for Our Leaders

Ask God to fill our leaders with the Holy Spirit.

1. **Our Pastors and Directors:** Tony Chute, Taylor Mendoza, Tamene Menna, Terilyn Brown, Steve Dahlgren, and Amber McEwen.
2. **Our Lay Elders:** Woody Armstrong, Steve Flood, Craig Hawkins, Perry Schaefer, and Vinoj Zechariah.
3. **Our Church Staff:** Michelle Balga, Bob Brown, John Cordill, Colin Cordill, Megan Cordill, Laura Flood, Noah Gauderman, Nolan Golightly, Carolee Jefferson, Nick Juarez, Cade MacRitchie, Sam Nguyen, Lauren Sanner, Corie Saunders, Dani Tiqui, Micah Valdez, Tyler Van Horsen, Christina Vasquez, and Holli Worthington.

Power to Love

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. –2nd Corinthians 3:17-18