

PRAYER SUNDAY
28 October 2018

PRAYERS FOR EMPOWERING OF THE SPIRIT

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus tells us in John 14 "If you love me obey my commandments. And I will ask the Father and he will give you another advocate who will never leave you. He is the Holy Spirit who leads into all truth."

Paul tells us in Ephesians 5:18 "be filled with the Holy Spirit".

As believers filled with the Holy Spirit we are in a personal relationship through the Holy Spirit with Jesus our Lord who redeemed us at the Cross.

Let us pray. Lord God as believers we acknowledge the gift of your Holy Spirit who by your grace indwells us. We long Lord Jesus for your return and as we do so we pray that you will act in our lives through your Spirit bringing us closer to you. The desire in our hearts is to be empowered by your Holy Spirit. Fill each one of us Lord Jesus this morning with your Holy Spirit. Empower us Lord God by the presence of your Holy Spirit within us to worship you in spirit and in truth. Empower us Lord by the presence of your Spirit within us to hear your word, to know your will, to be obedient to your will, enabled by the gifts of the Spirit that you have given us. Empower us Lord by the presence of your Spirit within us to overcome sinful behaviour and to reflect the fruits of the Spirit in our lives. Empower us Lord by the presence of your Spirit within us to reflect Jesus, to be a testimony for Jesus as missionaries in our daily lives. Empower us Lord by the presence of the Holy Spirit within us to love with the love of Christ. Thank you Lord that by the presence of your Holy Spirit within us we overflow with faith, hope and power. Amen.

Malcolm Brown

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

Lord we thank you that You are a healing God. You knit us together in our mother's womb and you know the blue print of how we are put together in our inmost being. So today we ask for physical healing for every member and loved one of this congregation present or not. We know You are able to not only correctly diagnose but also to restore our physical bodies so where people have been incorrectly diagnosed would you bring wisdom and correction. When we have relied on our own wisdom to try and heal ourselves please would you correct us if we have not diagnosed our condition correctly. Where we fallen into depending on over the counter medication or other methods rather than on You helping us to know what Your will is forgive us. We thank You for the doctors, nurses and the medication you have provided to heal us.

We also know that Your healing is not only limited to only our bodies but to our souls which is our mind, will and emotions. O Lord where these are not in accordance to Your will help us to bring them before You. Help us to recognise when our mind, will or emotions are sick and what You want us to do about this. Where we have come to the end of us in this area please help us to learn to rest in You. To stop stretching ourselves so thin we are in danger of becoming sick. If we are already in that dark place please send Your light, truth and healing in the area of our mind, will and emotions.

Then Lord I'd like to pray for your healing touch on those this morning whose spirits needs your tender touch. The Bible speaks of a crushed spirit or broken spirit. Would You Lord do a mighty work today in the people who need healing in their human spirit.

Lord I also ask that we would seek You first as it is often easier to seek the healing rather than the Healer. So Lord as I pray for the physical, emotional and spiritual healing of all who need it I ask that we never lose sight of the Healer and His great love for us. Amen.

Charlotte McBride

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

EXALTATION AND THANKSGIVING

Thank you, Lord, for being our Father and our everything. We thank you for your grace and mercy. We thank you for your love for us and for our salvation. And we thank you for the privilege to pray for your church and for other (5:16).

THE BODY OF CHRIST

We hold up your church to you God and we pray for unity within the body of Christ. We pray that your church may be a true reflection of Christ, that we may experience genuine love with one another, and that the world may know that indeed we are Christ's disciples (John 13:35).

We pray that your church will not lose its stand in Christ but will stand to be a city on a hill, a city that cannot be hidden (Matthew 5:13-16). We pray for all Christians that are being persecuted all around the world, because of Christ and His gospel. Strengthen them in their faith and encourage them to persevere to the end. Would you protect them and meet them at the point of their need.

FAMILIES IN THE CHURCH

We pray for protection of marriage and honouring of the sanctity of marriage. That husbands would love their wives as Christ loves the church, that wives would submit to their husbands as to the Lord, and that children would obey their parents that all may be well with them (Ephesians 5:22-33; 6:1-3). We pray that parents would raise their children in the way of the Lord and that children would be given wisdom and discernment to avoid the cunning strategies of the enemy.

INDIVIDUALS

We pray that each one of us may live a life worth of the gospel. That we would not be anxious about anything, but that the peace of God would rule in our hearts (Colossians 3:15), and guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:7), despite whatever season we are going through.

In Christ Jesus,
Amen.

Sungie Liwewe

PRAYERS FOR MERCY AND MISSION

Ephesians 3:20-21 New International Version (NIV)

²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

My prayer:

Father God

We thank you that through what you have done for us we can approach Your Mercy Seat in prayer. And Lord as we do that now, our desire for your mercy grows, not only because we see our shortcomings in the light of your perfection, but because knowing You, is knowing that You are merciful.

And so Lord we join the Psalmists in crying out to You for Your Mercy:

Answer me when I call to You,

O my righteous God.

Give me relief from my distress;

be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

– [Psalm 4:1](#)

O Lord, see how my enemies persecute me!

Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death.

– [Psalm 9:13](#)

Hear my cry for mercy

as I call to You for help,

as I lift up my hands toward Your Most Holy Place.

– [Psalm 28:2](#)

To You, O Lord, I called;

to the Lord I cried for mercy.

– [Psalm 30:8](#)

And we thank you Father, for the assurance in your Scripture that You do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to your power that is at work within us.

But Father, we live in a world where there are so many hurting people that at times it can become overwhelming and we find ourselves stepping back, and almost hoping that the problem will go away. And yet you, Jesus demonstrated a life that overflowed with deep-compassion and tender-mercy towards all those who were wounded and abused, troubled or hurt. Help us to stretch out willing arms of comfort, when we see other people hurting or in pain, and may we extend Godly mercy that only comes from You, to those who are the unlovely or the unlovable.

And Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Hear our prayer for those who do not know You.

We ask that they may come to a saving knowledge of the truth and that Your Name may be praised among all peoples of the world.

Sustain, inspire and enlighten Your servants who bring them the Gospel.

Bring fresh vigor to wavering faith; sustain our faith when it is still fragile.

Bring renewal of missionary zeal in us and in our congregation today, right now; raise up new missionaries who will follow You to the ends of the world.

Make us witnesses to Your goodness;

full of love, strength and faith –

for Your glory and the salvation of the entire world.

In Jesus name we pray.

Amen

Sue Hay

PRAYERS FOR VISION

*No eye has seen
nor ear has heard
no mind has conceived
what God has prepared for those
who love him.*

But God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. 1 Cor 2:9,10

Michel Quoist once wrote:
"Lord I would like to rise high
Above our city, above the world
Above time
I would like to purify my glance
And borrow your eyes."

- Lord, with the apostle Paul we long for the day when you will wipe every tear from humanity's eyes when there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.
- We long for the day when weapons of war are turned to ploughshares and the lion lays down with the lamb when wars will cease and peace will reign.
- That day will surely come
But until it does, grant us a vision of the world as it is now –
To see the world as you see it.
To look at others through the eyes of Christ.

A vision untainted by self and sin
with everyone a person not simply
a statistic or nameless number
As you stretch our hearts and widen our horizons
to see those who live in sprawling townships,
crowded and cramped
alongside those in neat suburbia with
manicured lawns and armed response
for those who work in factory shop floors and spaza shops,
corporate board rooms and executive offices,
homemakers and captains of business,
frail shut in's and fleet of foot
those with the world at their feet and
those battered by defeat and despair.

Enable us to see your church as you see it

- a city on a hill which cannot be hid
- a safe mooring in the midst of tsunami waves
- a steady voice when others are silent or shrill
- a family where each has a place at the table

And then Lord through the help of your Word and Spirit – enable us to be that church – knowing that we are doing your will.

Amen

Alan Cameron