



ebenezer
BAPTIST CHURCH

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

*Six weeks of focused prayer
guided by the model Christ
gave in Matthew 6:9-13.*

And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Pray then like this:

***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.***

***Your kingdom come,
your will be done,***

on earth as it is in heaven.

***Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,***

as we also have forgiven our debtors.

***And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.***

(Matthew 6:7-13)

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... **Week 1**

(7/18-23)

7/18 Sermon Text:

“Pray then like this:

***‘Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.’”***

(Matt. 6:9)

..... **Week 1**

(7/18-23)

Monday, 7/19

In prayer, thank God for His transcendence (His “far-aboveness”) today. He is high and lifted up, the only true and sovereign God. He is never caught off-guard and never confounded or confused. He is omniscient (all-knowing), omnipresent (ever-present), omnipotent (all-powerful), and omni-benevolent (perfectly good). Praise Him as King and Lord of all!

Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created. (Revelation 4:11)

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. (Romans 11:33-36)

Tuesday, 7/20

Today, praise the Lord for His immanence (His “close-by-ness”). His wisdom, power, and holiness are not only inexplicable, but they are so far above us that we cannot even begin to grasp them. At the same time, He is not far off, is not hidden, and can be found. He is a God who is present. He is a God who is with us. Praise Him for allowing us to see Him and hear His voice!

Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord. (Jeremiah 23:24)

And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, (Acts 17:26-27)

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145:18)

Wednesday, 7/21

Pray that the Holy Spirit will give you daily focus to remember and recognize God's holiness, and that He will work within you an appropriate fear of Him. Ask for "guardrails" around your thoughts and actions - that every one of them would be filtered through the knowledge that you are called to be holy (set apart) for Him! Praise Him for the work He has already done to sanctify you.

but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, (1 Peter 1:15)

Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name. (Psalm 86:11)

Keep my statutes and do them; I am the Lord who sanctifies you. (Leviticus 20:8)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. (Romans 12:1)

Thursday, 7/22

Pray today prayers of thanksgiving for Jesus. While you are called to be holy, you cannot be holy enough to be reconciled with a perfect God. He decided to sacrifice His only Son, paying the full price for your redemption. Now, if you have trusted in Christ for salvation, the Holy Judge sees His Son when He looks at you - fully righteous, as one of His own! What amazing love and grace!

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. (2 Corinthians 5:21)

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved - and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:4-7)

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... Week 2

(7/25-30)

7/25 Sermon Text:

“Your kingdom come,”

(Matt. 6:10a)

..... **Week 2**

(7/25-30)

Monday, 7/26

Pray that you, as a servant of Christ, will increase in your desire to see God's Kingdom broaden and become increasingly established throughout the world in the here and now. Ask the Lord to work through you to advance His Kingdom in your immediate and extended family, your workplace/school, your church, your community, your city, state, country, and all around the world.

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. (Romans 14:17)

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." (Revelation 11:15)

Tuesday, 7/27

Today, ask your heavenly Father to help you in your own life to be a faithful, obedient, authentic, and effective Christian. You advance God's Kingdom not only with words but also through your actions and the observable qualities of your character. Pray that others will be pointed to Jesus when they see and hear from you, and that your very life would be your testimony!

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (1 Peter 2:9)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. (Romans 12:1)

Wednesday, 7/28

The Kingdom of God expands and is advanced as more people turn to Christ for salvation. Pray fervently that the Lord will open the hearts of your loved ones, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to receive His gift of salvation in Jesus Christ. Pray that Bible-believing and teaching churches will begin to experience exponential growth as He draws more and more people to Himself!

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. (2 Peter 3:9)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:16-17)

Thursday, 7/29

Pray today that God would increase your desire for His sovereign rule over your life here on earth, as you submit to His authority and yield to His control in every aspect of your existence. Pray for an earnest, passionate yearning for God's reign to be established throughout the whole earth and over every human being, and that apathy and laziness in the mission would be far from you.

for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (Philippians 2:13)

I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting! (Psalm 139:23-24)

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? (Psalm 42:1-2)

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... **Week 3**

(8/1-6)

8/1 Sermon Text:

“your will be done,”

(Matt. 6:10b)

..... **Week 3**

(8/1-6)

Monday, 8/2

Asking that God's will be done is a demonstration of our trust that He knows what is best. It is a statement of submission to God's ways and plans. Confess and repent of the ways in which you have not trusted and submitted to Him. Pray that He will work within you to conform your will to His. And pray the same for your family, your church and church leaders, and government and community officials (both local and national).

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. (Matthew 7:21)

Tuesday, 8/3

It is the will of God that people respond to the call to trust in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. When our will is aligned with His, we will want the same thing. In fact, it will become the thing that drives us. Pray today that you (and we as a church) grow to be heartbroken over that which breaks God's heart, to rejoice over that which He rejoices, and to burn with passion to see others enter into a relationship with Jesus.

But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)

I am speaking the truth in Christ - I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit - that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. (Romans 9:1-3)

Wednesday, 8/4

It is God's will for us that we remain in an attitude of thanksgiving for all that He is and all that we are/have in Him. Pray today that the Lord will remove any pride, bitterness, anger, depression, or anything else that gets in the way of your thankfulness. Then enter into a time of praise and thanks as you consider His goodness, His faithfulness, His long-suffering, His mercy, His grace, His love ...

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! (Psalm 107:1)

Thursday, 8/5

Sanctification (being made holy) is the will of God for you. Positionally, He has already accomplished this. If you have trusted in Christ as Savior and Lord, you have been set apart as holy. In another sense, you are *being* sanctified progressively as you submit to Him and grow to be more like Jesus. Pray that you will submit to His work of sanctification and ask Him to reveal anything that is standing in the way of that work.

For this is the will of God, your sanctification: (1 Thessalonians 4:3a)

You shall be holy to me, for I the Lord am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine. (Leviticus 20:26)

So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. (Hebrews 13:12)

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

Friday, 8/6

If you have trusted in Christ as Savior and Lord, your salvation is secure by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. But it is the will of God that you therefore *do* good. Confess and repent of anything that in your life that does not qualify as *good* before the Lord, and pray that He will continue to make you more like His Son in your words and actions, both when you are alone and in the presence of others.

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. (Psalm 37:3)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Ephesians 2:10)

So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (James 2:17)

For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. (1 Peter 2:15)

NOTES FROM WEEK 3

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... Week 4

(8/8-13)

8/8 Sermon Text:

“Give us this day our daily bread,”

(Matt. 6:11)

..... **Week 4**

(8/8-13)

Monday, 8/9

The bread that sustains life is not physical bread alone, but the Word of God (Matt. 4:4). Pray first today that the Lord will give you a passionate desire for His Word, and that it will be opened up to you in ways it never has before. Then, in a spirit of humble dependence, hand to Him your physical needs for provision, for health, etc. He sees and cares for you!

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. (Psalm 23:1)

If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him! (Matthew 7:11)

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

Tuesday, 8/10

Worry and anxiety comes from a lack of faith in God, a fear that He either cannot or will not take care of us. Pray today that God will forgive your lack of faith and help you to trust Him as a righteous King and perfect Father. Ask Him to help you find peace and joy in the fact that He always hears the prayers of His children, and He both can and will provide all that you need!

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. (Matthew 6:31-32)

Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24)

Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! (Luke 12:24)

Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

Wednesday, 8/11

So much of our lives, especially in this country, is about chasing after and obtaining more: more money, more stuff, more comfort, more fun. Satisfaction is often hiding somewhere on the other side of “more.” But there is contentment to which we are not only called, but that is available to the children of God. Repent of any attempt to find satisfaction in the world, and pray that He will help you be content in Him.

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” (Hebrews 13:5)

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. (1 Timothy 6:6-7)

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (Philippians 4:11)

Better is a little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble with it. (Proverbs 15:16)

Thursday, 8/12

We do not receive from the Lord in order that we may fill our earthly storehouses. It is God’s will that His children will generously give away what He provides. In His economy, to give is gain! Pray that He will break within you any ties to material things that keep you from giving them away. And then pray that the Holy Spirit will daily open your eyes to opportunities to give.

One gives freely, yet grows all the richer; another withholds what he should give, and only suffers want. Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered. (Proverbs 11:24-25)

But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? (1 John 3:17)

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Hebrews 13:16)

Friday, 8/13

Our God is able to and will provide all that we need and we therefore need not worry. More than that, God gave the greatest gift, His only Son, to redeem us from our sins! Confess and repent today of any complaining, grumbling, and discontent, and joyfully thank Him for giving you your daily bread! Thank Him for providing for you, your family, and your church, and ask Him to help you remain thankful before Him.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! (Psalm 100:4)

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1:17)

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? (Romans 8:32)

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift! (2 Corinthians 9:15)

NOTES FROM WEEK 4

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... Week 5
(8/15-20)

8/15 Sermon Text:
***“and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven
our debtors”***
(Matt. 6:12)

..... **Week 5**

(8/15-20)

Monday, 8/16

There are sins we sometimes refer to as presumptuous sins. These are intentional and deliberate, requiring a suppression of God-given conscience. If there are presumptuous sins that you have yet to confess before God and repent of, do so now. And then pray that God, in His work of sanctification, will help you look to Him when opportunities to rebel present themselves.

So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. (James 4:17)

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. (Romans 6:12)

Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. (Psalm 19:13)

Tuesday, 8/17

Unlike presumptuous sins, we sometimes commit what we might call sins of ignorance. These are any acts that are contrary to the perfection of God, but not intentionally rebellious. Any sin is an affront to God and requires confession and repentance. Pray that the Lord will reveal any sins that you have committed, and deal with them appropriately once He has. Then pray that He will keep you from sins of ignorance.

If anyone sins, doing any of the things that by the LORD's commandments ought not to be done, though he did not know it, then realizes his guilt, he shall bear his iniquity. (Leviticus 5:17)

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it? (Jeremiah 17:9)

Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. (Psalm 19:12)

Though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, (1 Timothy 1:13)

Wednesday, 8/18

Though we know that we are dependent upon the mercy of a holy God for forgiveness, we often find ourselves holding back forgiveness from others. Today, search your heart to find where this might be true. Repent of holding on to unforgiveness and make a choice to forgive! Pray for God's help in doing so, and ask Him to continually remind you of the sacrifice He made to forgive even before you knew to ask for it (Rom. 5:8).

And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. (Mark 11:25)

Bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Colossians 3:13)

Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. (Matthew 18:21-22)

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. (Matthew 5:7)

Thursday, 8/19

The Bible says that we have all sinned (Rom. 3:23), that we therefore all deserve death (Rom. 6:23a), but that God loves us so much that He gave Jesus to pay that death penalty in our place (Rom. 6:23b; 5:8; John 3:16). There would be *no* forgiveness of sin without the sacrifice of Jesus! In prayer today, thank God for making a way to pay the ransom for you!

I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist; return to me, for I have redeemed you. (Isaiah 44:22)

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name! (Psalm 111:9)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, (Ephesians 1:7)

For you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body. (1 Corinthians 6:20)

40 DAYS OF PRAYER GUIDE

..... **Week 6**

(8/22-27)

8/22 Sermon Text:

***“And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.”***

(Matt. 6:13)

..... **Week 6**

(8/22-27)

Monday, 8/23

There is no way that we, by our own resolve or in our own strength, can avoid giving into temptation. As sinful people, we are naturally *inclined* to sin. That is why we must stay in a position of humble dependence upon the Lord. He can provide shelter from temptation, He can point us to the way out when we do face it, and He can work in our hearts to draw us to Himself and away from evil. Pray for all of this!

Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies. (Psalm 141:4)

Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways. (Psalm 119:37)

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. (1 Corinthians 10:13)

Tuesday, 8/24

We are drawn quickly toward idols. Our eyes, minds, and hearts are prone to wander. Pray today that the Lord will help you keep focused on Him, and then pray the same for your family and your church. Pray for an increased desire to read, study, and meditate on Scripture, to spend time in prayer, and remain dedicated to unified fellowship with other believers. These are the three methods of spiritual growth ordained by God.

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. (Colossians 3:2)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:16)

Wednesday, 8/25

Many temptations face us as individuals, and many temptations face us as a church. Pray that God will guard and protect your pastors, deacons, other leaders, and all of the congregation from temptation to focus anywhere but on the Lord. Pray that the church will constantly seek to glorify and honor Him in all things and at all times. Pray that it will *never* be about us, but *always* about Him!

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:17)

And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:9-11)

So that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:27)

Thursday, 8/26

Today, pray a prayer of thanksgiving that we have a Lord and Savior who understands the battle against temptation. Thank Jesus that He not only came to die, but first to take on humanity and all that it brings. When we go before God for guidance, for forgiveness, for grace and mercy, for comfort and love, and for deliverance from evil, we go before a God who has experienced every bit of it Himself. Praise Him for that!

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15)

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)

Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. (Hebrews 2:17)

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, (1 Timothy 2:5)

