

## Preparing to pray

Throughout the ages people have approached God in many different ways (Acts 17:23). As Christ followers we approach God our Father through Jesus Christ His Son, and God's Word in Matthew 6 gives guidance and instruction. Prayer is about spending time with our Father, trusting Him, and acknowledging His greatness and our need of Him; focusing our thoughts and glorifying our Father as we pray before going through specific, targeted prayer requests.

### CONFESSION

Means admit – and agree with God about the sin in our lives; admitting it, confessing it, and turning away from any and all things that dishonor and displease God.

*Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7 ESV)*

### ADORATION

Means worship – recognizing and acknowledging God for who He is.

*Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he! (Psalm 99:5 ESV)*

### THANKSGIVING

Means thankful – spending time with God and thanking Him for the forgiveness of sins, and the blessing of being His child, and the privilege of serving Him; thanking Him and naming the blessings one by one.

*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV)*

### SUPPLICATION

Means request – making requests to God on behalf of others, praying for God's will in the lives of family, extended family and friends, people in your sphere of influence: school, workplace and neighborhood, as well as people around the world.

*Then hear in heaven your dwelling place their prayers and their plea, and maintain their cause. (1 Kings 8:49 ESV)*

## 1. Pray for Pastor Bruce as he continues in the summer teaching series, Colossians – Exalted Over All

*For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell. (Colossians 1:19 ESV)*

- Boldness, wisdom and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God's Word.
- That by the power of the Holy Spirit even more lives will be changed at every Biltmore Church location as we share Christ's love with the lost.

## 2. Pray for the REACH Initiative

*Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground! (Psalm 143:10 ESV)*

- Thanking God for answered prayers with our permanent facilities and that we will be missionaries in the circle of influence where we live, work, and play.
- East - Praising God for the April 7<sup>th</sup> launch date. Continued prayer as they seek to reach their local community.
- Franklin – Pray for continued progress, allowing us to move along quickly to the launch.
- Español - Pray that the many new connect groups started will impact and minister to their communities.
- Continued prayer for the families who will be impacted through these projects, fulfilling the mission of making disciples of Jesus who Reach In, Reach Up, and Reach Out.

## 3. Pray for our mission and ministry opportunities

*If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him. (John 12:26 ESV)*

- Disaster Relief, Lumberton; June 30-July 6
- Discipleship Training, South Asia, July 25-August 3
- Disaster Relief/Rebuild, Lumberton, NC July 28-August 3
- Student Camp, July 22-26
- Brooklyn, London, Ecuador, and South Asia Church Plants

## 4. Upcoming Events

*Follow me and I will make you fishers of men (Matthew 4:19 ESV)*

- Arden Starting Point, July 31
- Serve 828, August 10
- Outdoor Baptism, August 25
- 21 Days of Prayer (more details to come)

## 5. Foster Care:

*I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (John 14:18 ESV)*

- The workers, the children, and families to know they are loved.
- The church to have passion, compassion and a heart of prayer.

## 6. Pray for the Biltmore Church staff

*In whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. (Ephesian 2:21 ESV)*

### Student Ministry

Tyler Littrell, Zack Trantham, Emanuell Sloan, Allen Ebert, Jacob Payne, Ben Knisley, Daiquan N'Kere, Daniel Aylett, Avery Bowman, Hallie Canada



# PRAYER GUIDE

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