

# 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 prayer and their plea, and maintain their cause. (1 Kings 8:49 ESV)*

## Prayer for Anxious Times:

**Sovereign God, I rejoice today that You are good and You are great. You care and You can. Help me to walk by faith and not by fear. For the glory of my Savior and King. In Jesus' Name. Amen**

## COVID-19 Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that God's people will continue to draw close to Him.
- Pray for the lost - to be desperate for a relationship with Jesus.
- Pray for health and protection of our members, our community, our country, and our world.
- Pray for the countless people working to keep our communities safe.
- Pray for our leaders.
- Pray for all those affected.
- Pray for the spread to cease.
- Pray for a cure/treatment to be found.
- Pray for Biltmore Church as we minister and reach out to those in need in our communities.

## 1. Pray for Pastor Bruce as he continues in our teaching series: "What To Do When Life Gets Hard"

*In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. (Ephesians 2:22 ESV)*

Boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he continues to preach and proclaim the truth of God's Word through our online services.

## 2. Online Services

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

- Pray for the preparation of our online services.
- Pray that the message will spur on God's people.
- Pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit even more lives will be changed as we share Christ's love with the lost.
- Pray that each week, every online service will reach further and wider to more people than ever before.

## 3. Connect Groups

*Teach me, and I will be silent; make me understand how I have gone astray (Job 6:24 ESV)*

- Thanksgiving for technology to meet online during COVID-19.
- Pray that now more than ever, those that are not in a group to find connectivity.
- Pray that the lost will be ministered to through the teaching and gathering because of changed hearts.

- Pray for new online communities to be formed.
- Pray for new leaders to rise up for new online communities.

#### 4. Foster Care – May is National Foster Care Month:

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

- Pray for the workers within the system as they navigate COVID-19.
- Pray for the birth families that are unable to have face to face visitation with their children.
- Pray for the foster families as they are homeschooling and unable to use the respite care resource during COVID-19.
- Pray for the children to know that they are loved, valued, and prayed for.
- Pray fervently for every foster family during this COVID-19 season.

#### 5. Pray for 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)*

- #828Strong Initiative – continuing to provide funds needed to minister to those without work.
- Blood Drive on May 11 – to yield donors that will be saving lives through their blood donations.
- Pray for doors to open for us to have more opportunities to serve our community.

#### 6. Pray for the Biltmore Church staff

*Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. (March 16:15 ESV)*

Prayer/Women’s Ministry/Assimilation Coordinator:

**Kelly Williams, Renee Hammond**

Resource Center/Coffee Counter/Generosity Pastor:

**Dottie Setran, Dot Bumpus, Dylan Crawford**



# PRAYER GUIDE

May 2020

