

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

1. COVID-19 Prayer Prompts:

Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body. (Proverbs 16:24 ESV)

- **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 all those affected, and for the spread to cease.**
- **Pray for a cure/treatment to be found.**
- **Pray for Foster Care families, agencies, and the church to be a source of safety and encouragement to the children.**

2. Pastor Bruce as he continues in the series "THIS MUST BE >THAT"

Therefore, we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. (Hebrews 2:1 ESV)

- **Pray for wisdom in the preparation of his sermons.**
- **Pray for boldness and clarity in the delivery of God's Word.**

3. Sunday services beginning 10/11/20

When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things. (Psalm 104:28 ESV)

- **Pray for wisdom as each service is planned.**
- **Pray for our people to be encouraged.**
- **Pray that by the power of the Holy Spirit even more lives will be changed as we share Christ's love with the lost.**

4. Ministry/Mission Opportunities

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (Matthew 5:14 ESV)

- **Pray for continued construction on the new West campus building.**
- **Pray for the relaunch of the West and Espanol campus.**
- **Pray for our continued 828Strong initiative.**
- **Pray for the MANNA Food Bank distribution opportunity.**
- **Pray for future opportunities to serve our communities.**
- **Pray for the Louisiana Disaster Relief trip, October 4-10**

5. Pray for Connect groups

So Jesus said to the Jews who believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples. (John 8:31 ESV)

- **Pray for wisdom for those who teach and disciple.**
- **Pray as we equip and encourage leaders during Covid-19.**
- **Pray for those in groups to have continued spiritual growth and encouragement.**
- **Pray for those not currently in a Connect Group or not connected into biblical community.**

6. Wisdom in decision making

For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6 ESV)

- **Government Officials**
- **Church Leadership**
- **Schools/Teachers/Parents**

7. Biltmore Church staff

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

Thank you for praying for the health and safety of all church staff during the month of October. Your fervent prayers are a source of great encouragement.

PRAYER GUIDE

October 2020

THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS

Take the time to go back through the seven major requests, articulating by faith, asking God to answer our prayers according to His divine will and purpose. Thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers, and for the continued blessings over Biltmore Church.

