

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)

1. Pray for Pastor Bruce as he teaches

Then my soul will rejoice in the Lord, exulting in his salvation. (Psalm 35:9 ESV)

- **Boldness and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God's Word; protection for Pastor and his family.**

2. Pray for the new preaching series “Love Your Neighbor”

Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. (Colossians 1:28 ESV)

- **Pray that God's people will allow themselves to be radically changed for the kingdom.**
- **Pray that God's people with love with passion and be the hands of feet of Jesus.**

3. Pray for our campus facilities

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 prayer with our permanent facilities.**
- **Continued prayer for our East and Franklin campuses as they reach their communities in their new buildings.**
- **Pray the Espanol campus will continue to impact their communities with each new connect group.**
- **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.**

4. Pray for our mission and ministry opportunities

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

- **Prison Ministry and Vertical**
- **Wednesday activities that kicked off - September 11**
- **Family Fun Fest - October 31**
- **Disaster relief/mission trips:**
 - **Lumberton - September 29 – October 5**
 - **Ecuador - October 11-18**

5. Pray for upcoming Starting Points

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. (Ephesians 5:1 ESV)

- **All campuses - October 9**

6. 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)

- **Wisdom for those teaching and discipling**

- **Encouragement for those getting connected to grow in their faith and develop Biblical friendships *and* our new D Groups that are formed throughout our Connect Groups.**

7. Pray for our continuing Foster Care Ministry

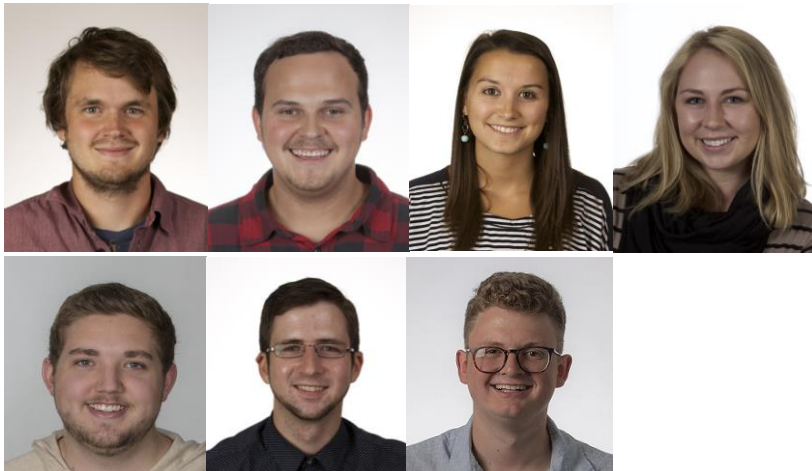
To you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless. (Psalm 10:14b ESV)

- **Thanksgiving for answered prayers with the growth of our Foster Care Ministry.**
- **Prayer of additional families for Support Care as they invest fully in the foster families they are supporting.**
- **Continued prayer for families interested in Foster Care and for the children to know they are loved.**

8. Pray for the Biltmore Church staff

So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love. (Ephesians 3:17 ESV)

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PRAYER GUIDE

OCTOBER 2019

THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS

Take the time to go back through the 8 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.

"The one who offers thanksgiving as his sacrifice glorifies me; to one who orders his way rightly I will show the salvation of God!" (Psalm 50:23 ESV)

