

# PRAYER DIARY

July 2009

***“When a believing person prays,  
great things happen”***

*James 5: 16 (NCV)*

The problem with the verse on the front cover is that we have to believe it – it doesn't work unless we do! So I find one of the best ways is to use what the Bible says – God's promises to us.

This month, although the cover verse is from James, we're going to be using verses from Ephesians as the basis of our prayer focus.

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### Remember the 3 P's:

- **Praise:** give thanks for answered prayer
  - **Petition:** request His help in every situation
  - **Proclamation:** declare His greatness and the promises of Scripture
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#### 1 July – Wednesday

***"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ"*** – Ephesians 1:3 (TNIV). God has invested so much in us; we are so privileged; we have all the resources of heaven behind us. Pray for confidence, authority and success in whatever you do today

#### 2 July – Thursday

***"For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world"*** – Ephesians 1:4a (TNIV). We have been chosen by God – isn't that amazing? Thank God for His plan for us and that He knows all about us (Psalm 139:13-14)

#### 3 July – Friday

***"For He chose us ... to be holy and blameless in His sight"*** – Ephesians 1:4b (TNIV). Ask God for His strength today against temptation and to be righteous in every situation

#### 4 July – Saturday

***"God decided in advance to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ"*** – Ephesians 1:5 (NLT). We are adopted into God's family – our faith is primarily about a relationship with the living God. Ask for a deepening of this relationship

#### 5 July – Sunday

***"In Him (Jesus) we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace"*** – Ephesians 1:7 (TNIV). As we come to worship today, recognise the depth of love Jesus has for us, the cost of the sacrifice He made and what we have received as a result – forgiveness, redemption, freedom

#### 6 July – Monday

***"He (God) has showered His kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding."*** – Ephesians 1:8 (NLT). One of the other translations uses 'lavished' (plentiful, abundant, sumptuous) to describe the extent of God's kindness towards us. Let's allow this thought to sink into our spirits today!

#### 7 July – Tuesday

***"It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for"*** – Ephesians 1:11 (The Message). There is a purpose and a plan for our lives. Ask for Holy Spirit inspired wisdom today to know how we can fulfil that purpose and who we are in Christ – individually and collectively

#### 8 July – Wednesday

***"I have heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God's people. So I never stop being grateful for you, as I mention you in my prayers."*** – Ephesians 1:15-16 (CEV). Praying for one another is vital. Pray someone in the church today that you that you know needs a special touch from God

#### 9 July – Thursday

***"I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better"*** – Ephesians 1:17 (TNIV). This verse is for each of us today. Wisdom is more than knowledge – it includes knowing HOW to implement our understanding. Ask God to reveal something you didn't know previously (it could be about Him, yourself or someone else) and then do something about it

#### 10 July – Friday

***"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He***

**has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His people, and His incomparably great power for us who believe**” – Ephesians 1: 18-19a (TNIV). One day can't do justice to these verses. Thank God we have an eternal hope; we have a glorious inheritance (eternal life) and that His power is so vast it's incomparable

## **11 July – Saturday**

**“And God placed all things under His (Jesus’) feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.”** – Ephesians 1: 22-23 (TNIV). As we prepare ourselves to come together in church tomorrow, remember who we are – His body on earth now, today – and that Jesus is the head of the church. Ask Him to fill us in every way to serve Him

## **12 July – Sunday**

**“In the past you were spiritually dead because of your sins and the things you did against God”** – Ephesians 2: 1 (NCV). Let's face, most of the world is still in the place we were and we're the primary way they are going to find out about God's love for them. Ask God for an opportunity this week to share your faith with someone you know needs Him in their lives

## **13 July – Monday**

**“It is by grace you have been saved”** – Ephesians 2: 5b (TNIV) Grace is about being treated as we don't deserve. Today someone is likely to 'rub you up the wrong way'. It could be at home, work, school or in a social relationship. Ask God for His help to be gracious so we can share His love in a practical way

## **14 July – Tuesday**

**“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do”** – Ephesians 2: 10 (TNIV). We prayed about knowing our purpose last Tuesday but once is not enough! Today ask for the ability to put that purpose into practice, i.e. to be Jesus to someone else

## **15 July – Wednesday**

**“For Christ himself has brought peace to us”** – Ephesians 2: 14 (NLT). We are called to be both peacemakers and peacekeepers (Matthew 5:9 Amplified). Christ reconciled us to God and now we have been given us the 'ministry of reconciliation' (see 1Corinthians 5:18-19). Pray for someone who needs to be reconciled to God

## **16 July – Thursday**

**“And because of Christ, all of us can come to the Father by the same Spirit”** – Ephesians 2: 18 (CEV). God doesn't want anyone to miss out on salvation (2Peter 3:9) – all can come. Pray for someone you know that doesn't know Jesus as their saviour

## **17 July – Friday**

**“You are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of His household”** – Ephesians 2:19 (TNIV). Sometimes we think are children are the church of tomorrow – but they are part of the church of today. As the Rainbows Away Weekend commences pray that these young 'fellow citizens and members' will develop a greater understanding of, and a personal relationship with, Jesus

## **18 July – Saturday**

**“Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone”** – Ephesians 2:20 (TNIV). Jesus is the foundation of our faith – pray that all of us will be built up as we care for, receive from and submit to one another. Continue to pray for the Rainbows Away Weekend

## **19 July – Sunday**

**“In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit”** – Ephesians 2:21-22 (TNIV). This Sunday pray that we will be joined together, grow together and be built together so we experience God's Spirit working among us all

## **20 July – Monday**

**“I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being”** – Ephesians 3:16 (TNIV). This is one of the famous “3:16” verses in the Bible. Where do you need

God's strength? If there is any inner turmoil in your life pray that you will be strengthened. And pray for someone else you know who is 'going through it' at this time

## 21 July – Tuesday

**"I pray that... Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith"** – Ephesians 3:16-17a (TNIV). Praise God for the faith you already have and ask that it will grow. But remember the only way faith grows is when we put that faith in action and we take a risk. What step of faith are you prepared to take today?

## 22 July – Wednesday

**"I urge you who have been chosen by God to live up to the life to which God called you"** – Ephesians 4:1 (NCV). We are ambassadors for Christ – His representatives. We are called to live lives that honour Him. Ask for the ability to do that today and every day

## 23 July – Thursday

**"Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love"** – Ephesians 4:2 (NLT). Humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, love – characteristics that will demonstrate the change having God in our lives makes. Pray for these today

## 24 July – Friday

**"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you"** – Ephesians 4:32 (TNIV). This is absolutely vital – don't allow anything to thwart God's blessing. Forgive as (i.e. because or in the same way) you have been forgiven!

## 25 July – Saturday

**"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up"** – Ephesians 4: 29a (TNIV). Pray that our mouths may declare God's praises (1Peter 2:9) and that our tongues will only be used to bless God (James 1:26) and others (Psalm 15)

## 26 July – Sunday

**"Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ."** – Ephesians 4:11-12 (NLT). Pray for the Leadership Team and everyone else who is involved in areas of leadership in the church

## 27 July - Monday

**"... united by our faith and by our understanding of the Son of God. Then we will be mature, just as Christ is, and we will be completely like him."** – Ephesians 4:13 (CEV). Growing in maturity has to be a key objective for us all. In what areas would you like to grow? Pray about it

## 28 July – Tuesday

**"He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love"** – Ephesians 4:16 (NLT). Together Everyone Achieves More – a definition of **TEAM**. As the Holy Spirit leads you pray for a specific area of church activity, e.g. Small Groups, Children & Young People, Mission, Pastoral Care

## 29 July – Wednesday

**"Be very careful, then, how you live... making the most of every opportunity"** – Ephesians 5:15-16 (TNIV). Ask God today for an opportunity for you to share His love with someone

## 30 July – Thursday

**"Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God"** – Ephesians 5:2 (TNIV). Jesus is our example and we are called to follow Him, loving God and other people. Ask God for a new intensity of love for others

## 31 July – Friday

**"With God's power working in us, God can do much, much more than anything we can ask or imagine"** – Ephesians 3:20 (NCV). Our prayers enable God to release His blessing; thank Him for exceeding our expectations as we've prayed this month