

# PRAYER DIARY

**August 2010**

***“Now all of us can come to  
the Father through the same  
Holy Spirit because of what  
Christ has done for us”***

*Ephesians 2:18 (NLT)*

During the first 3 years of August we're looking at some of the helps and hindrances to prayer – the keys to receiving from God. Then we're going to consider some of the things Jesus prayed for us in John 17! Receive them as promises and claim them over your life and the lives of all of us.

Use the letters in the boxes to remind you of the surnames of people in the church for whom to pray. Unless indicated Bible references are taken from NIVUK.

## Keys to answered prayer

### 1 August – Sunday

Maarten & Elodie

***"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective"*** – James 5:16 (TNIV). Confession and repentance (turning our lives and thinking around) helps us to be right with God and takes away any barrier there may be to His blessing on our lives. As we meet together today remember to pray that each of us will be righteous in what we do and say

### 2 August – Monday

A

***"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil"*** – 1Peter 3:12. Continuing on the theme from yesterday: righteousness gets God's attention – see Genesis 6:9 (Noah) & Genesis 15:6 (Abraham). We're always on God's radar screen – ask Him to ensure you walk righteously today and see Him work in your life

### 3 August – Tuesday

Ba-Bi

***"Who may stay in God's temple or live on the holy mountain of the LORD? Only those who obey God and do as they should. They speak the truth and don't spread gossip; they treat others fairly and don't say cruel things"*** – Psalm 15:1-3 (CEV). Obedience means doing what God says – remember: *"we only believe those parts of the Bible we put into practice in our lives"*. Ask God to show you what you need to be doing today

### 4 August – Wednesday

Bl-Bo

***"Give your worries to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will never let good people down"*** – Psalm 55:22 (CEV). Hopefully we've got the message by now that righteousness is a major key in receiving answers to prayer. Receive this as a promise today – God is faithful and will not let us down when we are living according to His ways

### 5 August – Thursday

Br-Bu

***"But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit"*** – Jude 1:20 (NLT). There are 3 elements here: faith is communal – we should speak into each other's lives; faith is sacred – i.e. there should be no deceit or impurity; prayer when directed by the Holy Spirit is powerful. Which aspect are you being challenged by? Pray about it today

### 6 August – Friday

Ca-CI

***"In every place of worship, I want men to pray with holy hands lifted up to God, free from anger and controversy"*** – 1Timothy 2:8 (NLT). This is a challenge for some of us men but it is the Word of God! Personal holiness is a major key in receiving God's blessing so we have to examine ourselves carefully and ensure we're not holding grudges, anger or unforgiveness. Ask for God's help today walk in line with His will for us

### 7 August – Saturday

Co-Da

***"Pray continually"*** – 1Thessalonians 5:17. This is the second shortest verse in the Bible – and it's a command not a suggestion! Prayer is a life style not an act. Remember Jesus said, ***"When you pray..."*** not *"if you pray"*. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you to have an open communication channel with Him today

### 8 August – Sunday

Thompson & Glenda

***"Those who doubt should not think they will receive anything from the Lord"*** – James 1:7 (TNIV). Doubt is a faith-killer; it paralyzes us spiritually. We should start from the place of faith that God loves us and wants the best for us (Matthews 7:11). So what do you want your Heavenly Father to do for you today? Come with confidence to Him

### 9 August – Monday

De-Du

***"Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers"*** – 1Peter 3:7 (TNIV). Guys: if it seems God has turned a deaf ear to your prayers and they aren't being answered, this may be a clue. Pray for marriages today and that the men in this church will always honour and treat our wives with respect

## 10 August – Tuesday

E-F

***“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God”*** – Philippians 4:6. Worry is another faith-killer because it puts the focus on the problem rather than the One who is the problem solver – God. 1Peter 5:7 says, ***“Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you”***. So even if you’re in the midst of a problem come with thanksgiving and give it over to God

## 11 August – Wednesday

Ga-Go

***“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer”*** – Romans 12:12. There are 3 character traits here we need to take on board: joyfulness; patience; faithfulness. Remember they are 3 of the 9 *“Fruit of the Spirit”* from Galatians 5:22-23. Ask God that today your life will reflect all 3 of these attributes

## 12 August – Thursday

Gr-Gw

***“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer”*** – Acts 2:42. The key here is being *“devoted”* – to understanding God’s Word, meeting with other Christians, celebrating communion and seeking God’s will. How devoted are we to prayer – i.e. making it a priority? If we have a *“when I feel like it; take it or leave it”* attitude it’s unlikely we’ll get far. Pray today for a new passion for prayer

## 13 August – Friday

Ha-He

***“Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man”*** – Luke 21:26. We need to watch with spiritual eyes what’s happening around us so we can pray not just intelligently (i.e. out of what we know) but that we’ll have Holy Spirit inspired discernment, i.e. wisdom and understanding that’s from above. Ask God to make you more spiritually aware

## 14 August – Saturday

Ho-Hu

***“If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer”*** – Matthew 21:22. *“If”* is such a small but powerful word yet it is a key to receiving. What prevents us from believing? Ask God today to enlighten you about any areas in which you have a lack of faith and ask Him to give you His confidence to *“believe and receive”*

## 15 August – Sunday

The Bryan family

***“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land”*** – 2Chronicles 7:14. We are God’s people and we are called by His name but we still have to humble ourselves, pray and seek God and turn away (repent) from sin. As we come together today pray that each of us will commit our ways to God again and truly determine to follow Him and be led by the Holy Spirit in all we do

## 16 August – Monday

J

***“But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you”*** – Matthew 6:6. There are many examples of where Jesus practices what He preached – He prayed early in the morning; late at night; alone up a mountain and withdrew into lonely places. Find a quiet place today, away from everyone else and all the pressures of life and pray

## 17 August – Tuesday

K-Le

***“And when you pray, don’t be like those people who don’t know God. They continue saying things that mean nothing, thinking that God will hear them because of their many words”*** – Matthew 6:7 (NCV). Psalm 139:4 says, ***“Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely”*** so lengthy prayers aren’t going to impress God. We don’t need to be ostentatious or repetitive – just sincere and submissive to God’s will. Give this day to Him

## 18 August – Wednesday

Li-Lo

***“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven”*** – Matthew 5:44-45a. Praying for those who are antagonistic about our faith or who have hurt us in some way is another key to receiving God’s blessing because it takes the focus off ourselves. Pray for and forgive anyone who has caused you difficulty in the past and confess any situations where you have done the same to others

## 19 August – Thursday

Ma-Me

***“The end of all things is near. Therefore be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray”*** – 1Peter 4:7 (NCV). The CEV says we should be ***“serious and be sensible enough to pray”***. We have such an amazing privilege to seek God to bring His Kingdom to earth and change the course of history and people’s eternal destiny. Ask God today who and what you should pray for – and trust Him that He will achieve His purposes in your and their lives

20 August – Friday

Mo-Mu

**"Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honourably in every way"**– Hebrews 13:18. In "Sharing the Vision" I said that we are as strong as our weakest link. Pray today for yourself and someone else in the church that you will be **"Strong in the Lord and in His mighty power"** (Ephesians 6:10) with a clear conscience living an honourable life

21 August – Saturday

P

**"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ"** – Philemon 1:6. I chose this verse because I believe unless we're active in sharing our faith we won't experience the full power of God working within us. Pray for a fuller experience of all we have **"in Jesus"**

Jesus prayed for us!

22 August – Sunday

Willowdene

**"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you"** – John 17:20-21. We're together today to worship, celebrate, learn and share. Pray that as we do our love for each will grow and demonstrate our unity in Christ

23 August – Monday

R

**"May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me"** – John 17:21b. This is the acid test of our faith – that as we are united with Christ so others will believe. Pray it will become a reality

24 August – Tuesday

Sa-Sc

**"I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one"** – John 17:22. This is amazing – we have the glory of Jesus in us! Colossians 1:27 says, **"Christ is in us, the hope of glory"**. Pray that His glory will be revealed in you today so that others can see it and respond to it

25 August – Wednesday

Se-Sw

**"Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory"** – John 17:24a. Where is Jesus? In one sense seated in heavenly places but in another, within each of us. Jesus in you and Jesus in me equals a majority so pray for His glory will be seen in us all

26 August – Thursday

T

**"I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours"** – John 17:9. We belong to God (see Romans 14:8) so we have the authority to act as His ambassadors. 1John 1:13 says, **"This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit"**. Pray for more of His Spirit

27 August – Friday

V-Wh

**"Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name"**– John 17:11a. If Jesus felt the need to pray for our protection, then we should pray for it too. Ask that He will protect us and **"deliver us from evil"**

28 August – Saturday

Wi-Wo

**"Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth"** – John 17:17. Jesus said that when we know the truth it sets us free (John 8:32) and that our worship needs to be **"in spirit and in truth"** (John 4:23). Sanctification means **"being set apart for a purpose"** so ask that today to be commissioned to act in integrity for Him

29 August – Sunday

Leadership Team

**"May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me"** – John 17:23. Pray this as a blessing over us all but especially the Leadership Team as if we are not in **"complete unity"** then the life and ministry of the church will be adversely affected. We need your prayer!

30 August – Monday

Ian & Elaine Campbell

**"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent"**– John 17:3. This is Jesus' definition of eternal life – to know Him and our Heavenly Father. If anyone asks – you now know what to tell them! And remember Jesus is **"the way, truth and life"** (John 14:6)

31 August – Tuesday

Other local Churches

**"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world"**– John 16:33. Take these words of Jesus as a personal and a corporate promise – He is with us and because He overcame we can be more than conquerors (see Romans 8:37)!