

# **2025 Prayer Guide**

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful." – Colossians 4:2

# Pastoral Introduction: Cultivating Prayer

Prayer is a profound and universal human experience. From expressions of gratitude for life's blessings to desperate cries in moments of crisis, people instinctively turn to prayer. As Albert Einstein once challenged a student, "Find out about prayer." And why not? After all, we pray because we are wired for connection, to express gratitude, voice our anger at injustice, or seek help in our helplessness and brokenness. These are deeply human responses to life's highs and lows.

Yet, despite its widespread practice, prayer can often feel intimidating, confusing, or even boring. We might not know how to pray, get distracted, or feel awkward in its presence. We want to clear away any misconceptions:

Prayer is simply conversing with God.

It's an intimate relationship, not a performance. Whether you pray out loud or silently, through journaling or heartfelt praise, by yourself or with others, prayer is your direct line to the Creator. It's a space to ask questions, share frustrations, give thanks, and build a relationship with the One who listens.

This guide is designed to help you discover the richness and power of prayer, transforming it from a duty into a delightful and dynamic part of your daily life.

Use this guide individually, with your family, in your life group, or with a prayer partner. Let us grow into a praying church that expects God to move and rejoices when He does.

In His Grace,
Pastor Kyle - The Bridge Community Fellowship

#### **Ideas for Family Prayer Moments**

- **Mealtime Mondays:** Pray for a missionary, ministry or outreach before dinner.
- Worship Wednesdays: Sing a worship song or read a Psalm as a family.
- **Thankful Thursdays:** Share something each person is grateful for and pray together.
- **Scripture Saturdays:** Read the upcoming sermon text together to prepare for church.

# The Vision for The Bridge (Formation, Community, Mission)

- Formation That we would be increasingly transformed into the likeness of Christ. (Romans 8:29; John 15:4–5)
- **Community** That deep and meaningful relationships would grow within the church. (*Proverbs 17:17; Acts 2:42–47*)
- **Mission** That we would boldly live on mission in our neighborhoods and beyond. (*Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 1:8*)

#### **Prayer Challenges & Practices**

- Try the ACTS model: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. This provides a structured way to cover different aspects of prayer.
- **Set a daily 10-minute prayer time:** Designate a specific time (morning, lunch, or evening) to commit to prayer, helping to build consistency.
- Use 7:14 a.m. or p.m. as a reminder: Let the time 7:14 (AM or PM) serve as a prompt to remember and pray based on the promise in 2 Chronicles 7:14.
  - "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- Take a prayer walk in your neighborhood once a week: Combine physical activity with spiritual focus, praying for your community as you walk.
- Journal your prayers: Write down your prayers, concerns, and breakthroughs. This can help you track God's faithfulness and deepen your reflection.
- **Pray with a partner or life group:** Share prayer requests and pray together. There's power in corporate prayer, similar to what is mentioned in Matthew 18:20.
- Focus on one specific prayer request for a week: Dedicate your daily prayer time to a single, significant request to enhance focus and perseverance.
- Pray through a Psalm each day: Many Psalms are prayers themselves and can provide inspiration and language for your own communication with God.
- **Use a prayer app or guide:** Many apps offer guided prayers, daily devotionals, or prayer prompts to help you get started or deepen your prayer life.
- Incorporate worship into your prayer time: Play worship music or sing hymns to shift your focus to God's character and invite His presence.
- **Pray Scripture:** Take a passage of the Bible and turn it into a prayer, personalizing the words and applying them to your life or situation.

# July: Creating a Gospel Blueprint for Building a Healthy Church

Prayer Theme: Healthy Church

- For godly, qualified leadership to be raised up and empowered at the Bridge Community Fellowship in this new season. (Titus 1:5–9; 1 Peter 5:2–3)
- That sound doctrine would be taught and understood by our church culture and practiced through devoted discipleship. (Titus 1:9; 2 Timothy 4:2–4)
- That every household would live out the faith daily. (Titus 2:1–8; Deuteronomy 6:6–7)
- That our church would be marked by integrity, authenticity, and transparency in all things. (Proverbs 11:3; 1 Peter 2:12)
- For the Holy Spirit to empower our leaders with wisdom, courage, and discernment. (James 1:5; Acts 6:3-4)
- That every member would embrace their role in the body of Christ, using their spiritual gifts for the common good. (Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:7)
- That our worship services would be Spirit-filled, drawing people into deeper communion with God. (John 4:24; Psalm 29:2)
- For a strong commitment to evangelism and outreach, sharing the hope of Christ with our community. (Matthew 28:19-20; Romans 10:14)
- That new believers would be discipled effectively and integrated into the life of the church. (Acts 2:42; Ephesians 4:11-13)
- That our church would be financially healthy and stewarding resources wisely for God's kingdom. (2 Corinthians 9:7-8; Malachi 3:10)
- For protection from false teaching, division, and anything that would undermine the unity of the church. (Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 4:1)
- That our church would be a place of refuge, healing, and restoration for those who are hurting. (Psalm 34:18; Isaiah 61:1)
- That our church family would grow in love for one another, demonstrating Christ's love to the world. (John 13:34-35; 1 Peter 4:8)

#### **August: Healthy Discipleship, Witness & Unity**

Prayer Theme: Healthy Christians

- That grace would transform our speech, service, and witness. (Titus 2:11–12; Colossians 4:6)
- For unity among believers and peace in our relationships. (Titus 3:9–11; Ephesians 4:3)
- That our good works would reflect the goodness of Jesus to our community. (Titus 3:1–8; Matthew 5:16)
- That we would be quick to forgive and eager to reconcile, fostering true peace within the body. (Ephesians 4:32; Matthew 5:9)
- That every believer would embrace their role as a witness for Christ in their daily lives. (Acts 1:8; 1 Peter 3:15)
- For wisdom and boldness to share the Gospel clearly and winsomely with those who don't know Jesus. (Colossians 4:3-4; Romans 1:16)
- That our lives would be a compelling testimony to the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. (2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:22-23)
- That our church would be a welcoming and inclusive place, reflecting the diverse body of Christ. (Galatians 3:28; Romans 15:7)
- For increased spiritual maturity and discernment in all aspects of our lives. (Hebrews 5:14; 1 Corinthians 14:20)
- That we would consistently put off our old self and put on the new self, created after the likeness of God. (Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:9-10)
- That we would be diligent in applying God's Word to every area of our lives, from personal habits to public interactions. (Psalm 119:11; James 1:22)
- That our homes would be centers of healthy discipleship and places where Christ is honored. (Deuteronomy 6:6-7; Proverbs 22:6)
- That God would raise up new leaders and equip existing ones to shepherd the flock in healthy ways. (Ephesians 4:11-13; 1 Peter 5:2-3)

#### **Praying the Word**

- "Lord, fill us with the knowledge of Your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding." (Colossians 1:9)
- "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts." (Psalm 139:23)
- "May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace as we trust in Him." (Romans 15:13)
- "We pray, O God, that You may give us the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of You, having the eyes of our hearts enlightened, that we may know what is the hope to which You have called us, what are the riches of Your glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of Your power toward us who believe." (Ephesians 1:17-19)
- "And it is our prayer, Lord, that our love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that we may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11)
- "May the Lord make us increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that He may establish our hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints." (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13)
- "Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer." (Psalm 19:14)
- "Father, we pray that they may all be one, just as You, Father, are in me, and I in You, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that You have sent me." (John 17:21)
- "To this end, we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of His calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Prayer Gathering: Sunday, August 31, 2025 (directly after the service)

#### **December: Advent (Hope, Peace, Joy, Love)**

Prayer Theme: Preparation

- That we would live in hopeful expectation of Christ's coming. (Isaiah 9:2–7; Romans 15:13)
- That peace, joy, and love would overflow in our church and families. (John 16:33; Luke 2:10–11; 1 John 4:9–11)
- That many would come to know Jesus this Christmas season. (Luke 2:10–14; John 3:16–17)
- That our hearts would be filled with wonder and awe at the incarnation of Jesus. (Philippians 2:5-8; John 1:14)
- That we would reflect the light of Christ to those around us during the holiday season. (Matthew 5:14-16; Isaiah 60:1)
- That we would remember and care for the less fortunate, embodying Christ's compassion. (Matthew 25:35-40; Proverbs 19:17)
- That any stress or busyness of the season would not distract us from the true meaning of Christmas. (Luke 10:41-42; Psalm 46:10)
- That our worship services during Advent would be filled with the Holy Spirit and draw people closer to God. (Psalm 95:6-7; John 4:24)
- That our church would be a beacon of Christ's love and truth in the community. (Ephesians 4:15-16; 1 Peter 2:9)

\*\*Prayer Gathering: Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025 (directly after the service)

#### **September: Called to Mission (Jonah Series)**

Prayer Theme: The Mission of God

- That we would respond to God's call with obedience and humility, even when it's uncomfortable. (Jonah 1:1–3; Micah 6:8)
- That our hearts would be softened to extend God's mercy and compassion to others, just as He does. (Jonah 4:1–3; Matthew 5:7)
- That our community would encounter God's compassion and transforming power through our witness. (Jonah 3:10; Colossians 3:12)
- That we would trust God's sovereign plan, even when it diverges from our own desires. (Jonah 1:17; Proverbs 3:5-6)
- For the courage to repent quickly when we disobey or run from God's will. (Jonah 2:1-10; Psalm 51:17)
- That we would have a burning passion for the lost, mirroring God's heart for all nations. (Jonah 4:11; Matthew 28:19-20)
- That our church would be equipped and empowered to share the Gospel effectively, locally and globally. (Acts 1:8; Romans 10:14-15)
- For a spirit of conviction and repentance to fall upon those who do not know Christ. (Jonah 3:5-9; John 16:8)
- That we would overcome fear and prejudice in engaging with people from different backgrounds. (Jonah 4:1-4; Galatians 3:28)
- That our lives would be a testament to God's faithfulness and His ability to use imperfect people. (Jonah 2:9; Romans 8:28)
- For wisdom for our pastors as they preach through the book of Jonah, that the message would resonate deeply. (James 1:5; 2 Timothy 2:7)
- That we would learn to intercede for our city and the nations, just as Jonah eventually prayed. (Jonah 2:7-9; 1 Timothy 2:1-4)
- That we would understand and embrace God's patience and longsuffering towards humanity. (Jonah 4:2; 2 Peter 3:9)
- That our church's mission efforts would bear much fruit, leading to genuine transformation. (John 15:16; 1 Corinthians 3:6)

\*\*Prayer Gathering: Sunday, Sept. 28, 2025 (directly after the service)

## October: Emotionally Healthy Discipleship (Pumpkin Patch Outreach)

Prayer Theme: Outreach

- For courage to face hidden wounds and past pain. (Exodus 20:5–6; Psalm 139:23–24)
- That we would grow in emotional maturity, rooted in Christ. (1 Corinthians 13:11–13; Galatians 5:22–23)
- For deep inner transformation and rhythms of rest and renewal. (Mark 1:35; Exodus 20:8–10; Matthew 11:28–30)
- That we would learn to lament honestly before God and trust Him with our pain. (Psalm 42:11; Lamentations 3:22-23)
- That our church would be a safe place for vulnerability and authentic community. (Romans 12:15; Galatians 6:2)
- For freedom from anxiety, fear, and unhealthy coping mechanisms. (Philippians 4:6-7; 2 Timothy 1:7)
- That we would develop healthy boundaries and relationships that honor God. (Proverbs 4:23; Romans 12:18)
- That the Holy Spirit would reveal and heal generational sins and strongholds. (Numbers 14:18; Ezekiel 36:26-27)
- That we would extend grace to ourselves and others, remembering God's mercy. (Ephesians 4:32; 1 John 1:9)
- That through our healing, we would become ministers of healing to others. (2 Corinthians 1:3-4; Isaiah 61:1)
- Pumpkin Patch Specific Prayers:
  - That the Pumpkin Patch would be a welcoming and joyful outreach to our community.
  - o For safety and good weather throughout the Pumpkin Patch event.
  - That volunteers would be filled with energy, patience, and the love of Christ as they serve.
  - That conversations would spark interest in our church and the Gospel.
  - That seeds of faith would be planted through every interaction at the Pumpkin Patch.

### November: Thankfulness, Scripture, and Abiding in Christ

Prayer Theme: Gratitude

- That we would hunger for God's Word and build our lives around it. (2 Timothy 3:16–17; Psalm 119:105)
- For thankful hearts that remember God's faithfulness. (Deuteronomy 8:10–18; 1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- That our church would grow in abiding intimacy with Jesus. (John 15:1–8; Psalm 1:2–3)
- That we would develop a daily habit of engaging with Scripture and applying it to our lives. (Psalm 1:2; James 1:22)
- That a spirit of genuine gratitude would permeate our homes and workplaces. (Colossians 3:17; Philippians 4:6-7)
- That we would be quick to acknowledge God's blessings, even in challenging circumstances. (Job 1:21; Romans 8:28)
- That our understanding of God's character would deepen through His Word, leading to greater trust. (Psalm 33:4; Isaiah 40:8)
- That we would bear much fruit as we remain connected to Christ, the true vine. (John 15:5; Galatians 5:22-23)
- That any areas of ingratitude or bitterness in our hearts would be replaced with thankfulness and peace. (Hebrews 12:15; Ephesians 4:31-32)
- That our worship, both individually and corporately, would be marked by profound thankfulness. (Psalm 100:4-5; Hebrews 13:15)

\*\*Prayer Gathering: Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025 (directly after the service)

<sup>\*\*</sup>Prayer Gathering: Sunday, October 26, 2025 (directly after the service)