



Join us in

10 days of PRAYER

JANUARY 8-18, 2014

www.TenDaysofPrayer.org

Teach Us to Pray

Ten Life-Changing Days in the Lord's Prayer

Welcome to Ten Days of Prayer 2014! God has worked thousands of miracles through the Ten Days of Prayer program since it began as Operation Global Rain in 2006. The Holy Spirit has wrought revival, conversions, renewed passion for evangelism, and healed relationships. Truly, prayer is the birthplace of revival!

We believe your life and the lives of those you pray for will be changed as you join your fellow church members in praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Here are what some of those who participated in Ten Days of Prayer 2013 had to say:

As we gathered every day in this ten days we experienced the visitation of the Holy Spirit like the apostolic days. There was genuine repentance and brokenness as members gave up their grievances and forgave one another. It was really a time of refreshing for us here in Strong Tower Outreach. ~ Ikenna Joseph, Nigeria

The last few days the prayers have really affected me, and I'm beginning to "get" what God can REALLY do—and it's a lot more than [finding] a parking space at Costco! I am overwhelmed by His grace. ~ From a newly baptized member, as shared with Loralyn Horning, USA

This is the first time we have the full program "10 days of prayer." We can see miracles: A little girl who prays for her parents told us that her father no longer wants a divorce. Another member who said he didn't often testify had the opportunity to offer the book The Great Controversy to a customer. A woman who prays every day for her colleagues had a colleague, a Muslim, ask her questions about Jesus. I feel so much closer with God. Taking the role of prayer leader is a big challenge, but I thank God for sustaining me every day. ~ Mylène Peronet, France

Thank You so much! We are already seeing the results and power of united prayer in our church members and youth. God is so good! ~ William Wolfgramm, New Zealand

Our Prayer Theme: The Lord's Prayer

During Ten Days of Prayer 2014, we will be praying through the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4. Our Savior's life was steeped in prayer. In communion with His Father He found His strength, His comfort, His power, and His joy. In these early morning hours of prayer, God gave Him guidance for the day.

The disciples were impressed by Jesus' habit of prayer and asked Him to teach them to pray. In answer, He repeated the prayer He had given in the Sermon on the Mount. There was much more to the simple prayer than they had yet understood, for it turned their attention away from themselves to God, as well as covering all their needs.

We too need to learn to pray as Jesus prayed. During these next ten days you will discover a depth of meaning in the Lord's Prayer that you never dreamed possible, find your heart drawn out to God in love and passion for His work, and see amazing answers to prayer.

Daily Prayer Requests

The daily supplication and intercession section includes a number of prayer requests listed that reflect the personal and corporate needs of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church. This section also highlights the initiatives and mission emphases of our world church in 2014.

Mission to the Cities (MTTC)

A special prayer focus for us this year is the MTTC initiative. MTTC is an emphasis of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on sharing Jesus' love and the hope of His soon return with people in urban settings. It envisions initiatives in more than 630 of the world's largest cities. These began in New York City last year and will continue throughout 2014, 2015, and beyond. Outreach activities are comprehensive (to address mental, physical, and spiritual needs) and ongoing, creating a lasting Seventh-day Adventist presence in the cities. Outreach methods include LifeHope Centers of Influence, community events, health seminars, small groups, prayer and other revival ministries, women's ministries, youth ministries, and reaping campaigns and outreaches.

Each day during these ten days of prayer, we will highlight one prayer need for the MTTC initiative. For a list of cities and more information, go to www.MissiontotheCities.org and www.RevivalandReformation.org/777

United Prayer

We've all prayed with others before, but you may not have experienced the blessing and power of united prayer. During these ten days you will be blessed beyond measure as you join your brothers and sisters in an open conversation with God. Here are a few tips to make united prayer more enjoyable for everyone:

- Keep your prayers short—just a sentence or two on one topic. Then give others a turn. You can pray as many times as you'd like, just as in a conversation.
- Silence is good, as it gives everyone time to listen to the Holy Spirit. And singing songs together as the Spirit leads is a blessing.
- Rather than using up valuable prayer time talking about your prayer requests, simply pray them. Then others can also pray for your requests and claim promises for your need.

Praying and Claiming Scripture

Reading or praying a short portion of Scripture is a wonderful way to ensure that you are praying God's will. Praying God's promises back to Him is an incredible faith builder. God loves for us to pray His Word back to Him in expressions of praise or promises. *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"* (Colossians 3:16). You'll be amazed at how you can pray and enjoy it!

Here's an example of how to pray scripture back to God: 1 Thessalonians 3:13 says, *"May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones."* Then pray something like this: "Dear Lord, please strengthen my son's heart-level determination to do what is right. Give him your grace to make decisions that lead to holiness. Jesus, may he look forward to your return,... etc."

Pray for Five

During these ten days of prayer you are encouraged to especially intercede for five people in your circle of influence. These may be family members, friends, coworkers, neighbors, or someone else you are concerned about. During this first night, write their names and prayer need(s) on two notecards. One card is for you to keep to remind you to intercede for these individuals. Your prayer leader will collect the other card at the end of the night. Each following day, you will draw someone's card out of the box and pray for the people they have listed.



United Prayer Guidelines for Leaders

Welcome to Ten Days of Prayer 2014!

God has worked thousands of miracles through the Ten Days of Prayer program since it began as Operation Global Rain in 2006. The Holy Spirit has wrought revival, conversions, renewed passion for evangelism, and healed relationships. Truly, prayer is the birthplace of revival!

These guidelines are meant to help you as a leader. The first section covers topics related to Ten Days of Prayer 2014. The second part includes pointers that have been helpful to other prayer leaders and will help you and your prayer group. Remember that these are just resources and ideas. Feel free to change things as the Spirit leads you.

During the first Ten Days of Prayer, January 8-17, 2014, your group should meet daily in person or by phone for an hour of united prayer. The eleventh day, January 18, falls on Sabbath. This day is a celebration of all God has done in answer to united prayer. We hope these ideas and suggestions will be useful to you as a prayer leader and will help to make Ten Days of Prayer 2014 a powerful experience for your small group or church family.

As you embark on this journey, we'd like to share some testimonies from individuals who participated in Ten Days of Prayer 2013:

The noted attendance was beyond our experience. We saw the glory of God and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. We closed our Ten Days of Prayer program with a wonderful baptism which took place in our beautiful Lake Victoria. About 17 people were baptized, one of them being our fellow sister in Christ, Sunvy, from Finland. ~ Emmanuel Mgata, Mwanza, Tanzania

Prayers are being answered. . . . People are confessing, being healed. We thank God for every single day in this Ten Days of Prayer. All our centres are getting a blessing. People are witnessing. Members are coming up with strong prayer groups. ~ Christopher Chalo, Eldoret, Kenya

Last year, during the 10 Days of Prayer, we prayed for my wife's father, Petraq. He was a heavy smoker (for almost 50 years), but after we prayed, he got strength to quit, and in March or April, he quit totally! He was tempted a few times but didn't fall back. He was so sick from smoking and coughed heavily, but now he is a happy and healthy man! ~ Jan Johansson, Gothenburg, Sweden

We are already seeing the results and power of united prayer in our church members and youth. God is so Good! ~ William Wolfgramm, New Zealand

An amazing thing happened to our church during the 2012 Ten Days of Prayer. There were only three families left in our church last year, and my eldest son wasn't interested in going to church, since he was the only teenage boy in church. But after the Ten Days of Prayer, one family returned with their seven children, three of which are my son's age...my son is enjoying the fellowship.... Four other families have also joined our church. God is good! He is faithful ~ Sulueti Toga, Nadi English SDA Church, Fiji

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“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:20, 21).

General Ten Days of Prayer Items

Why Pray Through the Lord's Prayer?

During Ten Days of Prayer 2014, we will be praying through the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4. Our Savior's life was steeped in prayer, for it was in communion with His Father that He found His strength, His comfort, His power, and His joy. It was also here that He daily learned His Father's plans.

The disciples were impressed by Jesus' habit of prayer and asked Him to teach them to pray. His answer, though simple enough for a child to understand, encompasses all our needs and turns our attention away from ourselves to God.

We believe that as Seventh-day Adventists, we too need to learn to pray as Jesus prayed. As you lead your prayer group through the various aspects of the Lord's Prayer, God will open a depth of meaning to you that you never dreamed possible. These prayers lead us to the heart of God and, if we are willing, will reveal to us His plans for our church around the world, for your local church family, and for each of us individually.

Daily Theme Sheets

A theme sheet has been prepared for each of the Ten Days of Prayer. The first page gives a suggested plan for united prayer and includes suggestions for prayer format, Scriptures to claim, ideas for items to pray about specifically, and songs to sing together. Included on the second page is a passage from Ellen White that adds insight into the night's theme.

We recommend that you copy the theme sheets so that each participant can have one. These could be done front to back. This will help guide each person attending the prayer meeting to know what to pray for during the prayer time.

Churches all around the world will be joining you in praying about each day's theme. So join them in united prayer and pray through the Scriptures, quotes, and prayer suggestions on each theme sheet. The more focused you can stay on the theme, the more meaningful the prayer time will be to all present. However, you are not constrained to stick solely to the theme sheet—simply let it help guide you. You don't have to pray through each point in order—they are just suggestions of things to include in your prayer time.

A separate leader's guide has not been provided this year, in an effort to streamline things and help everyone know how best to pray together.

Daily Intercession Requests

The daily intercession requests were selected to reflect our greatest personal and corporate church needs. They also highlight the initiatives and mission emphases of our world church in 2014. Feel free to add your own local needs that relate to the daily themes.

Mission to the Cities Prayer Requests

A special prayer focus this year is the Mission to the Cities initiative. Mission to the Cities is a major outreach of the Seventh-day Adventist Church to share Jesus' love and the hope of His soon return with people in urban settings. It envisions initiatives in more than 630 of the world's largest cities. These began in New York City last year and will continue throughout 2014, 2015, and beyond. Outreach activities are comprehensive (to address mental, physical, and spiritual needs) and ongoing, creating a lasting Seventh-day Adventist presence in the cities. Outreach methods include Centers of Influence, prayer and revival ministries, community events, health seminars, small groups, women's ministries, youth ministries and reaping

campaigns. In each place our members will be using Christ's method of mingling, sympathizing, meeting needs, winning confidence, and then calling people to accept Jesus. (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 143)

Each day during these Ten Days of Prayer, we will highlight one prayer need for the Mission to the Cities initiative. For a list of cities and more information, go to www.MissiontotheCities.org and www.RevivalandReformation.org/777

General Daily Format

Introduction: As the group leader, you have the privilege of setting the tone and focus of the prayer time. You can direct people's thoughts to God, His power and love, and His eagerness to answer prayer, or, you can allow the natural human tendency to focus on ourselves, keeping everyone talking about prayer requests that may really just be gossip or are limited only to our few very personal requests.

Your introductory remarks each day should accomplish three things: 1) Welcome everyone. 2) Give a brief overview of the day's theme and prayer goals. The day's EGW passage will give you a good basis for this introduction. You could mention highlights from the EGW passage, or read the passage through together. 3) Remind people of the basic principles of united prayer, such as praying in short sentences, agreeing with other's prayers, praying about the current topic, and praying Scriptures. These items are outlined in detail later in this guide, under the section "United Prayer Pointers." You may also want to go over the general prayer format outlined below at the first meeting or two.

Praise: Begin and end your group prayer time with praise and thanksgiving. You may want to choose an applicable psalm to pray through. For example, *"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name"* (Psalm 100:4). *"Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. . . . O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our maker"* (Psalm 95:2, 6, KJV).

It is a powerful experience to begin prayer time with thanksgiving and praise. Also, remember to mingle any requests with praise and thanksgiving. The prayers in the Bible, by men such as Daniel, Elijah, and others always began with praise, thanksgiving, or confession of who God is.

Confession: *"Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight"* (1 John 3:21, 22, KJV).

What a difference it makes to spend a few minutes near the beginning of your prayer time clearing the path for God to hear your prayers as a group. Allow God to impress your mind with any sin you need to confess. This should generally be a silent time for each person to pray individually.

Intercession and Supplication: Here is where we take God at His Word. He tells us to ask, to seek, to knock. *"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. . . . If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"* (Luke 11:9, 10, 13). So let's take Him at His Word and ask!

Don't be afraid to ask large things of God. He tells us to! So plead for the Holy Spirit, for people's salvation, for God to reveal Himself to you, for open doors for the gospel. And then praise Him as He answers your prayers. Pray Scriptures and promises throughout your prayers also.

Thanksgiving: Return to praise and thanksgiving of God at the end of your prayer time. This is time to specifically thank God for the many gifts He has given us—salvation, life, family, friends, etc. Answers to prayer can be shared as thanksgiving to God during this time. Also, praise and thank God in faith for hearing and answering the prayers you have just prayed during the supplication time. Praying the Psalms and other Scriptures back to God is a wonderful way to thank God.

“We do not pray any too much, but we are too sparing of giving thanks. If the loving-kindness of God called forth more thanksgiving and praise, we would have far more power in prayer. We would abound more and more in the love of God, and have more bestowed to praise Him for” (Testimonies, vol. 5, p. 317. Read pages 315-317. It is so good!).

Ellen White Passage on the Lord’s Prayer

We have included a passage from the pen of Ellen G. White for each night. These are mostly taken from *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing* and bring out the true depth and meaning of each part of the Lord’s Prayer. We suggest that you read it together at some point during the prayer time. This could be done at the beginning of the prayer time—to set the stage for the day’s prayer theme, or between the confession and supplication sections.

Suggested Times for Each Prayer Section

How much time you spend with each section of the prayer will probably vary somewhat each time you pray together. The following time frames are suggestions for what typically works well in a united prayer time.

- Welcome/Introduction: 2-5 minutes
- Reading of Ellen White passage: 3 minutes
- Praise: 5-10 minutes
- Confession: 5-10 minutes
- Supplication and Intercession: 30 minutes
- Thanksgiving: 5 minutes

Twos or Threes

It is nice to have more people, but you only need two or three. Whether you have a lot of people for Ten Days of Prayer 2014 or just a few, be assured that your prayers will be heard and answered in heaven. *“Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”* (Matthew 18:19, 20, KJV).

“Our Saviour follows His lessons of instruction with a promise that if two or three should be united in asking anything of God it should be given them. Christ here shows that there must be union with others, even in our desires for a given object. Great importance is attached to the united prayer, the union of purpose” (Testimonies, vol. 3, p. 429).

If you have a lot of people attending Ten Days of Prayer 2014, make sure to give people some time each day to pray in small groups of two to four people. This can be time to intercede on behalf of the people listed on the intercession cards. Encourage people not to pray with the same small group each night but to deepen their relationships with others in the church by praying with a variety of people.

Intercede for Five

Encourage each person to ask God to show them five people to pray for during the ten days. These may be family members, friends, coworkers, church members, etc. Have them ask God what they should pray about for these individuals, then make a list of these individuals, pray for them daily, and reach out to them as God leads.

Intercession Cards

Give each person five 3 x 5 cards on the first night. On each card they are to write the name and prayer needs of the five people they have chosen to pray for during the ten days. (Participants may wish to write only a first name or refer to the person in some other way if privacy is an issue.) At the end of the first meeting, collect these cards and place them in a general intercession box to be kept at your meeting place. During the prayer time each day, have people come and take a card out of the box and pray for those people and their situation. If God impresses someone with a specific Scripture to claim for that individual, the verse or passage can be written on the card for future reference. Make sure that cards are returned to the box at the end of the prayer time.

Final Friday Night

There are several options for the final Friday. You may want to simply meet as you have on the other days. Or, you may want to plan a special communion and foot-washing service to be held after a fellowship meal together. Another option is to coordinate an all-night prayer vigil, with various church members each leading out in an hour of prayer time. See the Night of Prayer sheet for suggestions on hourly prayer themes.

Sabbath Services During Ten Days of Prayer 2014

Have a special prayer focus and share testimonies of answered prayer during the church services on both Sabbaths. Be creative—there are many ways to share with the church family what is happening during the daily prayer meetings.

Final Sabbath Celebration

The final Sabbath, especially, should be designed as a time of great rejoicing in all that God has done throughout the ten days. Include ample time for testimonies of answered prayer, biblical teaching/preaching on prayer, and singing. Lead the congregation in a time of united prayer so that those who have not attended the daily meetings can experience the joy of praying with others. See the Day 11 materials for more ideas.

Follow-up to Ten Days of Prayer 2014

Pray much about how God wants your church/group to continue what God has begun during Ten Days of Prayer 2014. Perhaps you will continue with a weekly, united prayer meeting. Or perhaps God wants you to begin a new ministry in your church or an outreach to the community. Be open and follow where God leads. You're sure to be amazed as you walk with Him.

Testimonies

Please share stories of how God has worked through Ten Days of Prayer 2014! Your stories will be an encouragement to many others. Testimonies may be sent to stories@ministerialassociation.org or submitted online at www.tendaysofprayer.org.

United Prayer Pointers

Agree Together

When someone prays a request to God, be sure some others pray for that same request and agree together—this is powerful! Don't think that because one person has prayed about the request, no one else needs to. *"Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven"* (Matthew 18:19, KJV). How encouraging it is to be lifted up in prayer!

Bible Promises

Ask God to lead you to promises in His Word that you can claim for the people and situations in your prayers. We are told to put our finger on the promise and bring it before the Lord, thanking Him in advance for the answer according to His will.

"He is pleased with the faith that takes Him at His word. The mother of Augustine prayed for her son's conversion. She saw no evidence that the Spirit of God was impressing his heart, but she was not discouraged. She laid her finger upon the texts, presenting before God His own words, and pleaded as only a mother can. Her deep humiliation, her earnest importunities, her unwavering faith, prevailed, and the Lord gave her the desire of her heart. Today He is just as ready to listen to the petitions of His people. His 'hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy that it cannot hear'" (Testimonies, vol. 5, pp. 322, 323).

Encourage people to write down the promises He leads them to so they can remember to claim them in the future.

Fasting

Invite those joining you in Ten Days of Prayer to consider some type of fasting, such as fasting from TV, secular music, movies, the Internet, sweets, or other types of food. Use the extra time to pray and study the Bible, asking God to reveal Himself to your congregation.

Holy Spirit

Be sure to ask the Holy Spirit to show you how or what you should pray for in a person's life or in a particular situation. Claim Romans 8:26: *"Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."*

Physical Togetherness

As you begin a united prayer session, invite everyone to come close together. When people move close together to form a tight circle, it helps to promote a spirit of unity, which is very important for united prayer. If people are spread out in a room, it is also difficult to hear each other's prayers.

Pray Scriptures

Reading or praying a short portion of Scripture is a wonderful way to ensure you are praying God's will. Praying God's promises back to Him is an incredible faith builder. God loves for us to pray His Word in expressions of praise or promise. *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"* (Colossians 3:16). You'll be amazed at how long a group can pray and enjoy it!

Here's an example of how to pray Scripture back to God: 1 Thessalonians 3:13 says, *"May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus*

comes with all His holy ones" (NIV). Then pray something like this: "Dear Lord, please strengthen my son's heart-level determination to do what is right. Give him your grace to make decisions that lead to holiness. Jesus, may he look forward to your return . . ." and so on.

Journaling

Keeping a prayer journal during the Ten Days of Prayer can be a good way for participants to internalize the daily prayer theme, make concrete commitments to God, and recognize His blessings to them. Writing out our prayers and keeping a record of God's answers is a proven path to encouragement.

There are several ways journaling could be included in the Ten Days of Prayer if you desire. You could provide time during the prayer meeting for people to journal their responses to God in their private prayer journal. Or you could keep a group journal of prayer requests and answers—either in a notebook, on a large poster, or online. A simple way to do this is to draw a line down the middle of the paper. Write requests in the left column and answers in the right. It is exciting and faith-building to look back and see how God has answered prayers!

Reverence

Encourage and model a reverent attitude. We are approaching the throne room of the King of the universe. Let's not treat this prayer time carelessly in our posture or mannerisms. However, it is not necessary that everyone kneel continuously. You want people to be comfortable for an hour, so encourage people to kneel or sit or stand as God leads and as they are comfortable.

Sentence Prayers

Prayers should be short and to the point. This gives others an opportunity to pray as well. Try to limit your prayers to a few sentences. Each person can pray multiple times. Short sentence prayers keep the prayer time interesting and allow the Holy Spirit to impress the group how to pray. You don't need to open and close each short sentence prayer with phrases such as "Dear God" and "Amen." It is an ongoing conversation with God.

Silence

As a leader, don't dominate the prayer time. The goal is to get others praying. Times of silence are wonderful, as they give God time to speak to our hearts. Allow the Holy Spirit to work, and give everyone time to pray.

Singing

Spontaneous group songs, mingled between prayers, add beauty to the prayer meeting. Appropriate songs are listed at the end of each theme sheet. Do not feel that you need to use all the songs—these are simply suggestions. Singing is also a good way to transition from one prayer section to another.

Taking Prayer Requests

Don't ask for prayer requests from the group. Instead, tell people to pray their requests and encourage others to join in agreement and prayer for those requests. Here's why: time! Talking about the requests will take up most of your prayer time. Satan is thrilled if he can keep us talking about the problem instead of praying about the problem. Group members will often begin counseling and suggesting solutions. The power is from God! The more we pray, the more His power is unleashed.

Your Daily Time

This is so important! Make sure that you as a leader are spending time daily at the feet of Jesus, talking with Him and reading His Word. If you will make knowing God a first priority in your life, it will open such a beautiful experience to you. *"From the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the*

Great Reformation. There, with holy calmness, the servants of the Lord set their feet upon the rock of His promises" (The Great Controversy, p. 210).

***"It is a part of God's plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that which He would not bestow did we not thus ask."
(The Great Controversy, p. 525)***

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A Night of Prayer

Optional All-Night Prayer Meeting for Day 10

This optional all-night prayer meeting for the tenth day of Ten Days of Prayer 2014 is broken up into 14 hours and themes. We suggest that a different person or different couples lead out for an hour each. They would be responsible for providing material for that hour. Below are the themes for each hour which could include prayer, singing, and Scripture texts.

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|----------|--|
| 7 P.M.: | Praying for our Children and Youth |
| 8 P.M.: | Praying for our Marriages and Families |
| 9 P.M.: | Praying for Members to Know Jesus Personally |
| 10 P.M.: | Praying for a Revival of Prayer and Bible Study |
| 11 P.M.: | Praying for Adventist Education |
| 12 A.M.: | Praying for our Mission to Reach the World |
| 1 A.M.: | Praying for Financial Support of God's Work |
| 2 A.M.: | Praying for a Burden for Souls and Boldness to Witness |
| 3 A.M.: | Praying for our Church Leaders |
| 4 A.M.: | Praying for Former Members |
| 5 A.M.: | Praying for the Mission to the Cities Initiative |
| 6 A.M.: | Praying for our Health Ministries and the Sick |
| 7 A.M.: | Praying for Unity in the Church |
| 8 A.M.: | Praying for the Outpouring of God's Spirit |



Day One – The Secret of His Power

Suggested Format for United Prayer

“Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples” (Luke 11:1).

Praise (Approximately 10 minutes)

- Begin your prayer time by praising God for teaching us to pray more effectively.
- *“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us...” (Romans 8:26).*
- Take time to praise God for who He is (His character) and for what He does.

Confession (Approximately 5 minutes)

- Confess our lack of prayer and intercession—both personally and as a people—and ask God to forgive us for failing to commune with Him in prayer and intercession. *“Far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you” (1 Samuel 12:23).*
- Ask God to show you any other sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

Supplication and Intercession (Approximately 35 minutes)

- Pray for God to give us the Holy Spirit to teach us how to pray like Jesus and truly intercede for others. *“I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication” (Zechariah 12:10).*
- Pray for a passion for prayer, a conviction of how much we need to pray, and a realization of the power available to us through prayer.
- Pray for prayer groups to spring up everywhere. Ask God how to have more prayer in your church.
- Pray that we will learn to pray for God’s guidance before making plans.
- MTTC: Church leaders working with initiatives in the 630 cities to be wise, Spirit-filled, servant leaders who seek and follow God’s plans and demonstrate successful soul-winning.
- Pray for Adventists, and all Christians, to experience true revival and reformation in their walk with God. Pray that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit, personally know Jesus through the Bible and prayer, and live holy lives. Pray this for yourself, your local church’s members and pastor, and the following groups of people: church leaders at all levels, parents, children/youth, singles, teachers, pastors, health workers, and missionaries.
- Ask God which five people to pray for during these ten and let the Holy Spirit bring people to mind. Write their names (if appropriate) and prayer needs on two index cards. Carry one with you, and put the other in the group box, to be prayed over each night.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

Thanksgiving (Approximately 10 minutes)

- Rejoice that God hears and answers our prayers. See Jeremiah 33:2, 3.
- Thank Him for answering our prayers before we can even see the results.

Songs to Sing (sing these songs, or others, as God impresses you to during the prayer time.)

“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Spirit of the Living God” (SDA Hymnal #672); “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord (SDA Hymnal #684); “I Need the Prayers” (SDA Hymnal #505), “For You I am Praying” (SDA Hymnal #284).

Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

"After this manner therefore, pray ye..." (Matthew 6:9).

The Lord's Prayer was twice given by our Savior, first to the multitude in the Sermon on the Mount, and again, some months later, to the disciples alone. The disciples had been for a short time absent from their Lord, when on their return they found Him absorbed in communion with God. Seeming unconscious of their presence, He continued praying aloud. The Savior's face was irradiated with a celestial brightness. He seemed to be in the very presence of the Unseen, and there was a living power in His words as of one who spoke with God.

The hearts of the listening disciples were deeply moved. They had marked how often He spent long hours in solitude in communion with His Father. His days were passed in ministry to the crowds that pressed upon Him, and in unveiling the treacherous sophistry of the rabbis, and this incessant labor often left Him so utterly wearied that His mother and brothers, and even His disciples, had feared that His life would be sacrificed. But as He returned from the hours of prayer that closed the toilsome day, they marked the look of peace upon His face, the sense of refreshment that seemed to pervade His presence. It was from hours spent with God that He came forth, morning by morning, to bring the light of heaven to men. The disciples had come to connect His hours of prayer with the power of His words and works. Now, as they listened to His supplication, their hearts were awed and humbled. As He ceased praying, it was with a conviction of their own deep need that they exclaimed, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).

Jesus gives them no new form of prayer. That which He has before taught them He repeats, as if He would say, You need to understand what I have already given. It has a depth of meaning you have not yet fathomed.

The Savior does not, however, restrict us to the use of these exact words. As one with humanity, He presents His own ideal of prayer, words so simple that they may be adopted by the little child, yet so comprehensive that their significance can never be fully grasped by the greatest minds. We are taught to come to God with our tribute of thanksgiving, to make known our wants, to confess our sins, and to claim His mercy in accordance with His promise.

~ Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, pages 102, 103.

Day Two – Children of the King

Suggested Format for United Prayer

"Our Father in heaven..." (Matthew 6:9).

Praise

- Praise God for being your loving Heavenly Father. *"Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!" (1 John 3:1).*
- How has God shown you His love recently? Praise Him for this revelation of His love.
- Praise God for what He has done in your life today, this past week, etc.

Confession

- Confess your lack of love for God and His children. Ask Him to forgive you for doubting His love for you and for not really caring about other people's salvation.
- Ask God to show you any sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

Supplication and Intercession

- Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit. *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:13).*
- Ask God to discipline you as a loving Father so you can grow to be like Him.
- *"This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).* Ask God to give you His love for: your family, church members, enemies, neighbors, friends, and all the pre-Christians in your circle of influence. Especially ask God to help you care about people's salvation and pray that you will know how to love them to God.
- Pray that your life and your church will demonstrate God's love to all those around you.
- Pray for loving relationships within Adventist families and churches. Especially pray for children, youth, and new church members to experience God's love.
- Pray that we will make God and His work our highest priority.
- MTTC: For Seventh-day Adventists in the cities to a) experience revival and reformation so they can reveal God's love and righteousness in their lives; b) be actively involved in ministry to their neighbors; c) be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- Take an intercession card from the box and intercede for those five individuals and the five people you have chosen to pray for especially during these ten days of prayer with several other people. Pray *Ephesians 3:14-19* for them.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

Thanksgiving

- Thank God that *"you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:26).*
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

Suggested Songs to Sing

"Come, Holy Spirit"; "Father, I Adore You"; "I'm So Glad I'm a Part of the Family of God"; "Family, We Are Family"; "A Child of the King" (SDAH #468); "Blessed Assurance" (SDAH #462); "Jesus Loves Me."

Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

"When ye pray, say, Our Father" (Luke 11:2).

Jesus teaches us to call *His* Father our Father. He is not ashamed to call us brethren. Hebrews 2:11. So ready, so eager, is the Savior's heart to welcome us as members of the family of God, that in the very first words we are to use in approaching God He places the assurance of our divine relationship, "Our Father."

Here is the announcement of that wonderful truth, so full of encouragement and comfort, that God loves us as He loves His Son. This is what Jesus said in His last prayer for His disciples, Thou "hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me." John 17:23.

The world that Satan has claimed and has ruled over with cruel tyranny, the Son of God has, by one vast achievement, encircled in His love and connected again with the throne of Jehovah. Cherubim and seraphim, and the unnumbered hosts of all the unfallen worlds, sang anthems of praise to God and the Lamb when this triumph was assured. They rejoiced that the way of salvation had been opened to the fallen race and that the earth would be redeemed from the curse of sin. How much more should those rejoice who are the objects of such amazing love!

How can we ever be in doubt and uncertainty, and feel that we are orphans? It was in behalf of those who had transgressed the law that Jesus took upon Him human nature; He became like unto us, that we might have everlasting peace and assurance. We have an Advocate in the heavens, and whoever accepts Him as a personal Savior is not left an orphan to bear the burden of his own sins.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God." "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together." "It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:17.

The very first step in approaching God is to know and believe the love that He has to us (1 John 4:16); for it is through the drawing of His love that we are led to come to Him.

The perception of God's love works the renunciation of selfishness. In calling God our Father, we recognize all His children as our brethren. We are all a part of the great web of humanity, all members of one family. In our petitions we are to include our neighbors as well as ourselves. No one prays aright who seeks a blessing for himself alone.

The infinite God, said Jesus, makes it your privilege to approach Him by the name of Father. Understand all that this implies. No earthly parent ever pleaded so earnestly with an erring child as He who made you pleads with the transgressor. No human, loving interest ever followed the impenitent with such tender invitations. God dwells in every abode; He hears every word that is spoken, listens to every prayer that is offered, tastes the sorrows and disappointments of every soul, regards the treatment that is given to father, mother, sister, friend, and neighbor. He cares for our necessities, and His love and mercy and grace are continually flowing to satisfy our need.

But if you call God your Father you acknowledge yourselves His children, to be guided by His wisdom and to be obedient in all things, knowing that His love is changeless. You will accept His plan for your life. As children of God, you will hold His honor, His character, His family, His work, as the objects of your highest interest. It will be your joy to recognize and honor your relation to your Father and to every member of His family. You will rejoice to do any act, however humble, that will tend to His glory or to the well-being of your kindred.

"Which art in heaven." He to whom Christ bids us look as "our Father" "is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased." In His care we may safely rest, saying, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee." Psalm 115:3; 56:3.

~ *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 103-106