



THE PROOF IS IN THE PUDDING

MATTHEW 6:14-15

40 DAYS OF PRAYER

JOURNEYING WITH FAITH,
ONE PRAYER AT A TIME
LEIGHTON BAPTIST CHURCH
LEIGHTON, AL

O U R F A T H E R
WHO ART IN HEAVEN HALLOWED
BE THY NAME THY KINGDOM
COME THY WILL BE DONE ON
EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN GIVE
US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD
AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES
AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO
TRESPASS AGAINST US AND
LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION
BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL
FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM
THE POWER AND THE GLORY
FOR EVER AND EVER
A M E N



INSTRUCTIONS

As followers of Jesus, we are called to a life of prayer, as seen in 1 Thessalonians 5:17. Paul also reminds us of the importance of corporate prayer, as seen in Acts 1:14. As a church, we would like to spend the next 40 days in prayer, both individually and corporately. We will spend this time asking God to do a mighty work in our lives, our families, our church, and around the world.

Each day, we would like to dig a little deeper into Bro. Mark's sermon on the Disciples' Prayer. We will have a few statements and supporting Scripture verses to read and meditate on as we embark on this journey together to be *FULLY DEVOTED FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST*.

We will end each day by joining together in prayer for one of the following spiritual needs:

- **Yourself**
- **Your Family**
- **Your Church**
- **The Lost World**

We are excited for you to join us during these 40 days of prayer, and we eagerly anticipate how God will move in our lives, both personally and as a church family here at Leighton Baptist Church.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."

Acts 1:14 "These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer..."

Philippians 3:14 "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know."

DAY 26: “When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us”

Matthew 6:14-15

“¹⁴For if we forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Is God saying in this passage that if we do not forgive others, then He won’t forgive us? No, if God has forgiven you of your sins unto salvation, you are justified, and there is nothing that can separate you from the love of God. Romans 8:35-39

But when we have an unforgiving heart, it reveals a deeper issue. It shows that we are operating out of pride – measuring wrongs, keeping score, and withholding the grace that was freely given to us.

Matthew 18:32-25

“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger, his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured until he should pay back all that he owed.

“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”



To be a **Christian** means to **forgive** the **inexcusable** because **God** has forgiven the inexcusable in you.

Colossians 3:13

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone, forgive as the Lord forgave you.



- C. S. Lewis

Matthew 5:23-24

“Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Have you noticed how having an unforgiving heart affects your relationships? If you are holding on to bitterness, resentment, or anger, ask the Lord to help you forgive.

TODAY, we ask
that you pray
for **YOURSELF**

DAY 27: “When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us”

Matthew 6:14-15

“¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

When we truly consider what our sin did to Jesus, it should bring us to a place of humility and heartbreak; the beatings, the scourging, the crown of thorns, the nails driven into His flesh, the physical torture He endured.

2 Corinthians 5:21a

“He who knew no sin became sin for us...”

The perfect Son of God took on the FULL consequence of our rebellion, lust, pride, hatred, and every sin that we have ever committed...past, present, and future. He endured the wrath of God that belonged to us, and as the nails were being driven into His hands, He spoke not of revenge but of forgiveness.

Luke 23:34

Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”

He chose love over wrath, forgiveness over condemnation. Can the same be said of us? The wrongs that we have endured pale in comparison to what we have done to Christ, and still He forgave. Because of this, we are to forgive others, not because they deserve it, but because we have been forgiven.

Matthew 7:2

For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

Forgiveness sets us free. Is there someone whom the Lord has laid on your heart that you need to forgive today?

TODAY, we ask
that you pray for
YOUR FAMILY

DAY 28: “When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us”

Matthew 6:14-15

“¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

“It is better to be divided by truth than to be united in error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and then kills. It is not love, and it is not friendship if we fail to declare the whole counsel of God. It is better to be hated for telling the truth than to be loved for telling a lie. It is better to stand alone with the truth than to be wrong with the multitude.” -Adrian Rogers

Jesus taught His followers to confront believers who have strayed spiritually, and sometimes, if necessary, this includes practicing tough love, so that you can win them back to Him.

Matthew 18:15-17

“¹⁵If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. ¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.”

1 Corinthians 5:11

But now I am writing to you that you must not associate with anyone who claims to be a brother or sister but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or slanderer, a drunkard or swindler. Do not even eat with such people.

The goal is not to alienate people, but with love and compassion, lead them back to Christ. We do this with biblical truth, brotherly love, encouragement, and accountability (Proverbs 27:17)

And sometimes we learn that they did not have a true conversion experience to begin with. In this case, we pray, and pray, and pray some more, and ask God to open their eyes to see their need for Him as Savior and Lord.

Who can you pray for today?

TODAY, we ask
that you pray for
YOUR CHURCH

DAY 29: "When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us."

Matthew 6:14-15

"¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

"Forgiveness is the key that unlocks the door of resentment and the handcuffs of hatred. It is a power that breaks the chains of bitterness and the shackles of selfishness."

-Corrie Ten Boom

An unforgiving heart leads to a life of bitterness and resentment

Hebrews 12:14-15

"¹⁴Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many."

It has been said, "Unforgiveness is like drinking poison yourself and waiting for the other person to die."

Ephesians 4:31

Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

An unforgiving heart keeps records of wrongs.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

⁴Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."

It has been said that 'to forgive is to set a prisoner free, and then to discover that the prisoner was you.' Who do you need to set free today?

TODAY, we ask
that you pray for
THE LOST WORLD

DAY 30: “When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us.”

Matthew 6:14-15

“¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

When we have been wronged, it is natural for us to want justice, and our flesh desires to see immediate results. We live in a fast-food society where we want everything our way and we want it now. God’s justice, however, is characterized by righteousness, fairness, and truth. And He ensures us that wickedness will be punished, and righteousness will ultimately be upheld.

Isaiah 30:18

Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore, he will rise up to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Romans 12:19

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.

God’s word tells us that He will fight for us.

Exodus 14:14

The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still,

When we’ve truly grasped the mercy and grace God extended to us, we no longer look at others, even those who have wronged us, with a desire for revenge or destruction. Instead, we begin to see them through the eyes of Christ, lost and in need of the same mercy we received.

Matthew 5:44

But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Who can you pray for today?

TODAY, we ask
that you pray for
YOURSELF

DAY 31: “When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us.”

Matthew 6:14-15

“¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Forgiveness is crucial for fostering Unity within the church. It creates a foundation for healthy relationships that allow us to flourish together as the body of Christ. On the other hand, unforgiveness leads down a path of Disunity.

We see Paul confronting this very issue with the church at Philippi.

Philippians 4:1-3

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, you whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends! I plead with Euodia and I plead with Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you, my true companion, help these women since they have contended at my side in the cause of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

We see two sisters in Christ who will forever be known throughout history as women who could not get along with one another. Somewhere in their story, there was an unforgiving, divisive spirit.

Ephesians 4:3

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Like wildfire, disunity can spread uncontrollably. If forgiveness, grace, and mercy are not practiced, a small matter can quickly lead to major discord within a church.

Vance Havner once said, “Snowflakes are frail, but if enough of them get together, they can stop traffic.”

Colossians 3:13-14

Bear with one another and forgive each other if anyone has a grievance against another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Are you passionately pursuing unity within the body of Christ?

TODAY, we ask
that you pray for
YOUR FAMILY

DAY 32: "When we forgive others, our Heavenly Father forgives us."

Matthew 6:14-15

"¹⁴For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."

It has been said that you may be the only bible some people read, and you may be the only Jesus some people see. We as believers have an example to set; the world is watching, our neighbors are watching, and our children are watching.

Matthew 5:14

You are the light of the world. A City on a hill cannot be hidden.

We, as the body of Christ, should stand out from the world, not blend in with it. We are called to be different. May our prayer be that people would be drawn to Jesus because of the difference they see in us.

We are to set an example for other believers as well.

Colossians 3:16

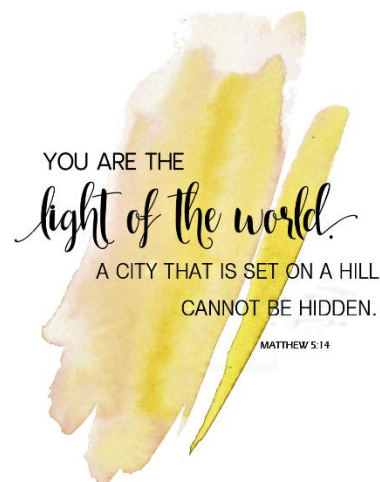
Let the world of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing songs, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

Finally, the most vulnerable of us all —our children- are always watching us. They notice how we treat each other, how we respond in tough situations, and they will imitate what they see in us.

Ephesians 5:1-2

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us.

If you were the only bible someone read, what would they believe about God?



TODAY, we ask that
you pray for
YOUR CHURCH