

# **WEEK OF PRAYER**

At Bethany, we set aside one week at the start of each year for a special purpose. It's a time to seek the Lord with intention. Whether you decide to gather with us in person each night or participate faithfully from home, we invite you to join us in our Week of Prayer.

#### **SCHEDULE**

Sunday January 4<sup>th</sup> - **Worship Night** - 6:00 PM - Adrian Campus
Monday January 5<sup>th</sup> - **Prayer for Spiritual Growth** - 6:30 PM - Adrian Campus
Tuesday January 6<sup>th</sup> - **Prayer for Multiplication** - 6:30 PM - Clinton Campus
Wednesday January 7<sup>th</sup> - **Prayer for Serve Teams** - 6:30 PM - Adrian Campus
Thursday January 8<sup>th</sup> - **Prayer for Kingdom Builders** - 6:30 PM - Adrian Campus
Friday January 9<sup>th</sup> - **Prayer for Our Communities** - 6:30 PM - Downtown Adrian

If you can't make it to the in-person gathering on any given evening, you're not missing out—God meets with us in living rooms, cars, breakrooms, and bedsides. This weeklong devotional is filled with scriptures and prayer points aligned with the focuses our daily gatherings to help you participate when you can't make it to us. You can also use it to prepare your heart before joining us each evening.

Each daily devotional includes scripture, a short reflection, and guided prayer points so we can pursue God in unity as one church family. Try to find ten to twenty quiet minutes to read and pray. Come expectant. The Holy Spirit loves to respond to hungry hearts.

# SUNDAY

When Jesus taught his disciples to pray, he began his model prayer with reverent praise: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name." When King David instructed the people of God through Psalm 100, he told them, "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise." Praise is not just a service we offer God, but an attitude we should always approach him with. That's why we start our week of prayer with a night of worship. As you read the scriptures below, let them form your own attitude and demeanor toward the Lord, focusing on his greatness, his beauty, and his steadfast love toward us.

#### Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

#### Romans 11:33-12:1

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them? For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen. Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

- 1. Praise God for his greatness and majesty as creator and ruler of all.
- 2. Offer God thanks for the specific blessings he's given you.
- 3. Declare your surrender to God's will and ways, recognizing his lordship.
- 4. Ask God to show you specific ways in which he is calling you to worship him.
- 5. Invite God to work in your heart to make exalting him your joy.

## MONDAY

When the apostle Paul prayed for the churches he loved, he rarely asked first for changed circumstances—he asked for changed people. He prayed that they would know God more deeply, walk in wisdom, grow in spiritual strength, and become fruitful in every good work. Personal growth in Christ is not cosmetic improvement or self-help; it is the Spirit of God forming the character of Jesus in us. As you read the scriptures below, let them lead you to humility, hunger, and hope, trusting that the God who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it.

#### Colossians 1:9-12

For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.

#### Psalm 139:23-24

Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

#### **Galatians 65:22-25**

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

- 1. Ask God to reveal the next step he would have you take to grow.
- 2. Invite God to search your heart and reveal areas you need to yield to him.
- 3. Pray for a fresh work of the Spirit in your life that produces good fruit.

## **TUESDAY**

Jesus told his disciples to lift up their eyes and see the fields—ready for harvest. From the beginning, the heart of God has been to reach people and gather them into his family, and he often chooses to do that work through ordinary believers who are willing to pray, to go, and to invite. As we look forward to a new campus in Clinton, we're praying for the lost to find a home, for disciples to be made, for leaders to be raised up, and for the Kingdom to expand in that community. As you read the scriptures below, let them widen your faith for Clinton and deepen your compassion for the people God already knows by name.

#### **Matthew 9:36-38**

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

#### Acts 2:46-47

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

#### Isaiah 54:2-3

Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back; lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes. For you will spread out to the right and to the left; your descendants will dispossess nations and settle in their desolate cities.

- 1. Ask God to prepare hearts in Clinton to receive the gospel with faith.
- 2. Ask God to raise up the right people to help our new campus launch well.
- 3. Invite God to reveal how you can play a part in reaching the people of Clinton.
- 4. Pray for favor and wisdom throughout every step of the planting process.

# WEDNESDAY

Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve—and he calls his people to follow him in the same way. Every week at Bethany, God uses faithful volunteers to welcome guests, lead worship, teach kids, disciple students, create safe spaces, run tech, lead groups, and carry countless behind-the-scenes needs. Serve teams don't just "help the church run"; they help people encounter Jesus. That's why it matters how we serve—not out of guilt, pressure, or burnout, but from love, joy, and the strength God supplies. As you read the scriptures below, let them reshape your view of serving: not as a burden, but as worship; not as striving, but as Spirit-empowered ministry; not as mere tasks, but as opportunities to love people well.

#### Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

#### 1 Peter 4:10-11

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

#### Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- 1. Thank God for everyone who serves and for the blessing of service.
- 2. Ask God to fill our serve teams with joy, humility, and unity.
- 3. Pray for renewed strength for those who are tired and feel worn down.
- 4. Ask God to highlight the gifts he's given you to serve with.
- 5. Invite God to reveal new service opportunities he's calling you to.

# **THURSDAY**

God has always called his people to lift their eyes beyond themselves. The church is not meant to be a reservoir that collects blessings, but a river that carries grace outward to neighborhoods, schools, foreign mission fields, and those in need. At Bethany, Kingdom Builders represents resources and service that go beyond our church so others can experience the love of Christ in a variety of ways. This kind of generosity isn't about pressure or recognition; it's about worship, trust, and partnership in God's work. As you read the scriptures below, let them strengthen your faith in God's provision and stir your heart for what lasts: the Kingdom of God.

#### 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

#### Proverbs 19:17

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

#### Matthew 5:14-16

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- 1. Thank God for the ministries and charities we get to partner with.
- 2. Ask God to give our church a generous spirit, free of fear, guilt, or comparison.
- 3. Invite God to reveal ways he wants you to get involved with Kingdom Builders.
- 4. Pray for the people served through these partnerships: for real help, hope, and healing.

## **FRIDAY**

God cares deeply about the places we live—our neighborhoods, our towns, our schools, and the people who fill them. When God spoke to his people living in exile, he told them to seek the peace and prosperity of the city they were in, because their welfare was tied to the welfare of their community. Jesus echoed this heart when he called his followers the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Tonight we pray for our communities not as outsiders looking in, but as ambassadors of God's kingdom. As you read the scriptures below, let them stir compassion in you.

#### Jeremiah 29:7

Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.

#### Matthew 5:13-16

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

### 1 Timothy 2:1-2

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

- 1. Thank God for the community you live in and for the chance to be a light in it.
- 2. Pray for peace and flourishing in our villages, towns, and cities,
- 3. Ask God to instill wisdom, compassion, and integrity in our local leaders.
- 4. Ask God to make our church salt and light, blessing our community.
- 5. Pray for a great harvest of salvation in Lenawee, and ask God to make you part of it.