

January 2024 The ABC's of Prayer Link

A new year! Let's get back to some basics for our prayer links this month by using the letters of our alphabet to bring more CLB/North American Mission prayer links into *your* prayer time. And, as always, thanks for praying!

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1 All are invited, by Jesus, to his kingdom of grace and life. Pray for someone you know who needs to answer the invitation.

2 Biblical foundations are so important for all our discipleship efforts. Pray for clear understanding of the Gospel (the Law, too).

3 Congregations are key to living within the community into which Jesus leads us! Pray for grace for all our church families. (People being people, ya know?)

4 Disciple making is at the heart of a healthy congregation's mission. Pray we all embrace the direction Jesus takes us: outward!

5 Every Saturday pastors and leaders are often deep in thought about tomorrow. Pray for your church staff, that Jesus may bring truth through them to all of us. Name yours.

I can't resist. Here are two F's: Faith and Fellowship.

6 "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for" (Hebrews 11:1a). Do some things in our world seem hopeless to you? Will things ever feel normal again? In faith, pray for our nation's leaders... and citizens, too!

7 SUNDAY: Fellowship with other followers of Jesus is never to be taken for granted. Pray for your friends who encourage you in Jesus' grace. And pray for the ministry of our magazine, *Faith & Fellowship*.

8 God's love is our great motivator. Lord, help me show your love to someone in a real way today. (Mondays are hard sometimes!)

9 Harvest is at hand; Jesus said so. Pray for the Word to be heard in your town. Ask how you might help bring his grace to others.

10 Is there something going on at church tonight? Seek God's blessing over all that.

11 "Jesus is (still) the answer for the world today. Above him there is no other, Jesus is the way" (Andraé Crouch). Let's ask for help understanding the world's questions!

12 King of Kings... Lord, we pray for those who need a new leader in their life. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth...

13 Lord of Lords... Jesus, we pray for our nations and ask that you would revive us in truth, love, and life.

14 SUNDAY: Meeting with your people is such a good thing, Lord. Bring joy to your Church and love for the lost. Work that in me, Jesus.

15 "No one ever cared for me like Jesus" (Charles Weigle). Let's not be selfish. This is something we need to share all over the U.S. and Canada. Lord, guide us.

16 Open doors, Lord, for our church planters as they reach into their communities with the gospel. Give these good servants the encouragement they need to carry on this important work. We ask that you stir lost souls to believe and receive your life.

17 Pray! And when you do, remember who you are connected to! Ask for the impossible!

18 Questions? Wondering why the world is so messed up? Bring it to the Lord today.

19 Remembering past blessings helps remind us that God is in our future too. Give thanks for everything he has done. Make a list! Share that list with family and friends.

20 Sing a favorite worship song today, and then reflect on the words as you prepare your heart for tomorrow's worship service.

21 SUNDAY: Today is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it. Pray for your pastor in the pulpit.

22 Understanding isn't always necessary (but it often helps!). Pray for wisdom and grace for living your life today. Share it!

23 Victory over sin and death is found only in Jesus. Pray for people everywhere that they will run headlong into him, somehow, some way, today.

24 Wait upon the Lord. Sssshhhh... quiet now... for just a few moments. Let your heart and mind rest a while. Simply say thank you, Lord. Sing something if you can. He will like that (I'm pretty sure).

25 X marks the spot. Pick a spot on a map and pray for that area (U.S.? Canada? Elsewhere?). "For God so loved the WORLD..." (John 3:16).

26 You. Bring your needs to Jesus today. Let him into what is happening in your life. You won't be sorry you did.

27 Z (U.S.) Zed (Canada) ☺
Zero in on what is most important to you in reaching our nations for Jesus. Pray for churches and leaders (spiritual and political).

As we were ready to go to print with this month's "Link," I received the following requests from church planters, Pastor Carl and Emily Juhl in Lincoln, ND. This will be a good way to finish this month's prayer time!

28 SUNDAY: Pray that God would call more believers to join his mission in Lincoln.

29 Pray that God would open the hearts of the adults who bring their kids to Kid's Club each week.

30 Praise God for bringing people into Pastor Carl and Emily's life who want to grow closer to Jesus.

31 Pray for the five men who have shown interest in learning more about God but are hesitant to jump "all in."

Dear Praying Friends,

As I made my way through the ABC's of praying, I became more and more convinced of our need to enter into this daily "exercise" with reverence and care. God is great, majestic, and powerful beyond imagining. And still, he invites us into his presence to hear from and speak to him. Amazing.

There is great value in these quiet prayer times. I believe them to be wonderful links to the Father and even to each other. This is the Body of Christ at work...it's the best work we could ever hope for. Powerful work. Not because *we* are powerful, but because *he* is.

How grateful we are for you as you pray with and for us in our North American Mission. Blessings!

--Bruce

