

# PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

## A Thirty One Day Course

By

**Andrew Murray**

### **Ephesians 6:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> **Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication.**

To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

### **1 Timothy 2:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, **I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,** <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.

### **James 5:16**

<sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another, and **pray for one another**, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.

From the original tract, PRAY WITHOUT CEASING: HELPS TO INTERCESSION, obtainable from Project Gutenberg at [www.gutenberg.org/files/29296/29296-h/29296-h.htm](http://www.gutenberg.org/files/29296/29296-h/29296-h.htm):

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Accordingly, the *Illawarra Prayer Network* of Australia provides this version of Andrew Murray's tract which has been reformatted for A4 page size, with minor language updates to the text and replacement of Scripture quotations with the NRSV.

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In the spirit of the original tract of 1898:

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# PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

## HELPS TO INTERCESSION

**Pray without Ceasing.** – Who can do this? How can one do it who is surrounded by the cares of daily life? – How can a mother love her child without ceasing? How can the eyelid without ceasing hold itself ready to protect the eye? How can I breathe and feel and hear without ceasing? Because all these are the functions of a healthy, natural life. And so, if the spiritual life be healthy, under the full power of the Holy Spirit, praying without ceasing will be natural.

**Pray without Ceasing.** – Does it refer to continual acts of prayer, in which we are to persevere till we obtain, or to the spirit of prayerfulness that should animate us all the day? It includes both. The example of our Lord Jesus shows us this. We have to enter our closet for special seasons of prayer; we are at times to persevere there in importunate prayer. We are also all the day to walk in God's presence, with the whole heart set upon heavenly things. Without set times of prayer the spirit of prayer will be dull and feeble. Without the continual prayerfulness the set times will not avail.

**Pray without Ceasing.** – Does that refer to prayer for ourselves or others? To both. It is because many confine it to themselves that they fail so in practising it. It is only when the branch gives itself to bear fruit, more fruit, much fruit, that it can live a healthy life, and expect a rich inflow of sap. The death of Christ brought Him to the place of everlasting intercession. Your death with Him to sin and self sets you free from the care of self, and elevates you to the dignity of intercessor – one who can get life and blessing from God for others. Know your calling; begin this your work. Give yourself wholly to it, and soon you will be finding something of this "*Praying always*" within you.

**Pray without Ceasing.** – How can I learn it? The best way of learning to do a thing – in fact the only way – is *to do it*. Begin by setting apart some time every day, say ten or fifteen minutes, in which you say to God and to yourself, that you come to Him now as intercessor for others. Let it be after your morning or evening prayer, or any other time. If you cannot secure the same time every day, be not troubled. Only see that you do your work. Christ chose you and appointed you to pray for others.

If at first you do not feel any special urgency or faith or power in your prayers, let not that hinder you. Quietly tell your Lord Jesus of your feebleness; believe that the Holy Spirit is in you to teach you to pray, and be assured that if you begin, God will help you. God cannot help you unless you begin and keep on.

**Pray without Ceasing.** – How do I know what to pray for? If once you begin, and think of all the needs around you, you will soon find enough. But to help you this little tract is issued, with subjects and hints for prayer for a month. It is meant that we should use it month by month, until we know more fully to follow the Spirit's leading, and have learnt, if need be, to make our own list of subjects, and can dispense with it. In regard to the use of these helps a few words may be needed.

**1. How to Pray.** – You notice for every day two headings – the one **What to Pray**; the other, **How to Pray**. If the subjects were only given, one might fall into the routine of mentioning names and things before God, and the work become a burden. The hints under the heading **How to Pray** are meant to remind of the spiritual nature of the work, of the need of Divine help, and to encourage faith in the certainty that God, through the Spirit, will give us grace to pray aright, and will also hear our prayer. One does not at once learn to take his place boldly, and to dare to believe that he will be heard.

Therefore take a few moments each day to listen to God's voice reminding you of how certainly even you will be heard, and calling on you to pray in that faith in your Father, to claim and take the blessing you plead for. And let these words about **How to Pray** enter your hearts and occupy your thoughts at other times too. The work of intercession is Christ's great work on earth, entrusted to Him because He gave Himself a sacrifice to God for men. The work of intercession is the greatest work a Christian can do. Give yourself a sacrifice to God for men, and the work will become your glory and your joy too.

**2. What to Pray.** – Scripture calls us to pray for many things: for all saints; for all men; for kings and all rulers; for all who are in adversity; for the sending forth of labourers; for those who labour in the gospel; for all converts; for believers who have fallen into sin; for one another in our own immediate Groups. The Church is now so much larger than when the New Testament was written; the number of forms of work and workers is so much greater; the needs of the Church and the world are so much better known, that we need to take time and thought to see where prayer is needed, and to what our heart is most drawn out.

The Scripture calls to prayer demand a large heart, taking in all saints, and all men, and all needs. An attempt has been made in these helps to indicate what the chief subjects are that need prayer, and that ought to interest every Christian.

It will be felt difficult by many to pray for such large spheres as are sometimes mentioned. Let it be understood that in each case we may make special intercession for our own circle of interest coming under that heading. And it is hardly needful to say, further, that where one subject appears of more special interest or urgency than another we are free for a time day after day to take up that subject. If only time be really given to intercession, and the spirit of believing intercession be cultivated, the object is attained. While, on the one hand, the heart must be enlarged at times to take in all, the more pointed and definite our prayer can be the better. With this view paper is left blank in which we can write down special petitions we desire to urge before God.

**3. Answers to Prayer.** – More than one little book has been published in which Christians may keep a register of their petitions, and note when they were answered. Room has been left on every page for this, so that more definite petitions with regard to individual souls or special spheres of work may be recorded, and the answer looked for. When we pray for all saints, or for missions in general, it is difficult to know when or how our prayer is answered, or whether our prayer has had any part in bringing the answer. It is of extreme importance that we should prove that God hears us, and to this end take note of what answers we look for, and when they come. On the day of praying for all saints, take the saints in your congregation, or in your prayer-meeting, and ask for a revival among them. Take, in connection with missions, some special station or missionary you are interested in, or more than one, and plead for blessing. And expect and look for its coming, that you may praise God.

**4. Prayer Groups.** – There is no desire in publishing this invitation to intercession to add another to the many existing prayer groups or networks. The first object is to stir the many Christians who practically, through ignorance of their calling, or unbelief as to their prayer availing much, take but very little part in the work of intercession; and then to help those who do pray to some fuller apprehension of the greatness of the work, and the need of giving their whole strength to it.

There is a prayer network which asks for prayer on the first day of every month for the fuller manifestation of the power of the Holy Spirit throughout the Church. I have given the words of that invitation as subject for the first day, and taken the same thought as keynote all through. The more one thinks of the need and the promise, and the greatness of the obstacles to be overcome in prayer, the more one feels it must become our life-work day by day, that to which every other interest is subordinated.

But while not forming a large prayer network, it is suggested that it may be found helpful to have small prayer groups to unite in prayer, either for one month, with some special object introduced daily along with the others, or through a year or longer, with the view of strengthening each other in the grace of intercession. If a minister were to invite some of his neighbouring brethren to join for some special requests along with the printed subjects for supplication, or a number of the more earnest members of his congregation to unite in prayer for revival, some might be trained to take their place in the great work of intercession, who now stand idle because no one has hired them.

**5. Who is sufficient for these things?** – The more we study and try to practise this grace of intercession, the more we become overwhelmed by its greatness and our feebleness. Let every such impression lead us to listen: **My grace is sufficient for thee**, and to answer truthfully: **Our sufficiency is of God.**

Take courage; it is in the intercession of Christ you are called to take part. The burden and the agony, the triumph and the victory are all His. Learn from Him, yield to His Spirit in you, to know how to pray. He gave Himself a sacrifice to God for men, that He might have the right and power of intercession. "He bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors."

Let your faith rest boldly on His finished work. Let your heart wholly identify itself with Him in His death and His life. **Like Him**, give yourself **to God** a sacrifice for men: it is your highest nobility, it is your true and full union to Him; it will be to you, as to Him, your power of intercession.

Beloved Christian! come and give your whole heart and life to intercession, and you will know its blessedness and its power. God asks nothing less; the world needs nothing less; Christ asks nothing less; let nothing less be what we offer to God.

## **FIRST DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Power of the Holy Spirit**

#### **Ephesians 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit,

#### **Acts 1:4**

<sup>4</sup> While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to **wait there for the promise of the Father**. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me;

Pray for the fuller manifestation of the grace and energy of the Blessed Spirit of God, in the removal of all that is contrary to God's revealed will, so that we grieve not the Holy Spirit, but that He may work in mightier power in the Church, for the exaltation of Christ and the blessing of souls.

God has one promise to and through His exalted Son; our Lord has one gift to His Church; the Church has one need; all prayer unites in the one petition – for the power of the Holy Spirit. Make it your one prayer.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – As a Child asks a Father**

#### **Luke 11:13**

<sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Ask as simply and trustfully as a child asks bread. You can do this because **"God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your heart, crying, Abba, Father."** This Spirit is in you to give you childlike confidence. In the faith of His praying in you, ask for the power of that holy Spirit everywhere. Mention places or Groups where you specially ask it to be seen.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## SECOND DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit of Supplication

#### Romans 8:26

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

#### Zechariah 12:10

<sup>10</sup> And **I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication** on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

The evangelisation of the world depends first of all upon a revival of prayer. Deeper than the need for men – ay, deep down at the bottom of our spiritless life – is the need for the forgotten secret of prevailing, world-wide prayer."

Every child of God has the Holy Spirit in him to pray. God waits to give the Spirit in full measure. Ask for yourself, and all who join, the outpouring of the Spirit of Supplication. Ask it for your own prayer circle.

### HOW TO PRAY. – In the Spirit

#### Ephesians 6:18

<sup>18</sup> Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

#### Jude 1:20

<sup>20</sup> But you, beloved, build yourselves up on your most holy faith; **pray in the Holy Spirit;**

Our Lord gave His disciples on His resurrection day the Holy Spirit to enable them to wait for the full outpouring on the day of Pentecost. It is only in the power of the Spirit already in us, acknowledged and yielded to, that we can pray for His fuller manifestation. Say to the Father, it is the Spirit of His Son in you is urging you to plead His promise.

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **THIRD DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For all Saints**

#### **Ephesians 6:18**

<sup>18</sup> Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

Every member of a body is interested in the welfare of the whole, and exists to help and complete the others. Believers are one body, and ought to pray, not so much for the welfare of their own church or society, but, first of all, for all saints. This large, unselfish love is the proof that Christ's Spirit and Love is teaching them to pray. Pray first for all and then for the believers around you.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In the Love of the Spirit**

#### **John 13:35**

<sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

#### **John 17:21**

[I pray] <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

#### **Romans 15:30**

<sup>30</sup> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,

#### **1 Peter 4:8**

<sup>8</sup> Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins.

If we are to pray we must love. Let us say to God we do love all His saints; let us say we love specially every child of His we know. Let us pray with fervent love, in the love of the Spirit.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **FIFTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – That God's People may be kept from the World**

#### **John 17:11, 15-16**

<sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ... <sup>15</sup> I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup> They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

In the last night Christ asked three things for His disciples: that they might be kept as those who are not of the world; that they might be sanctified; that they might be one in love. You cannot do better than pray as Jesus prayed. Ask for God's people that they may be kept separate from the world and its spirit; that they, by the Holy Spirit, may live as those who are not of the world.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Having Confidence before God**

#### **1 John 3:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup> and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

Learn these words by heart. Get them into your heart. Join the ranks of those who, with John, draw nigh to God with **an assured heart**, that **does not condemn** them, **having confidence toward God**. In this spirit pray for your brother who sins (1 John v. 16). In the quiet confidence of an obedient child plead for those of your brethren who may be giving way to sin. Pray for all to be kept from the evil. And say often, "**What we ask, we receive, because we keep and do.**"

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## SIXTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit of Love in the Church

#### John 17:23

[I pray] <sup>23</sup> ... that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

#### Galatians 5:22

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, **the fruit of the Spirit is love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,

Believers are one in Christ, as He is one with the Father. The love of God rests on them, and can dwell in them. Pray that the power of the Holy Ghost may so work this love in believers, that the world may see and know God's love in them. Pray much for this.

### HOW TO PRAY. – As a person who reminds God

#### Isaiah 62:6

<sup>6</sup> Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest,

Study these words until your whole soul be filled with the consciousness, I am appointed intercessor. Enter God's presence in that faith. Study the world's need with that thought – it is my work to intercede; the Holy Spirit will teach me for what and how. Let it be an abiding consciousness: My great life-work, like Christ's, is intercession – to pray for believers and those who do not yet know God.

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## SEVENTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Power of the Holy Spirit on Ministers

#### **Romans 15:30**

<sup>30</sup> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,

#### **2 Corinthians 1:10-11**

<sup>10</sup> He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, <sup>11</sup> as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

What a great host of ministers there are in Christ's Church. What need they have of prayer. What a power they might be, if they were all clothed with the power of the Holy Ghost. Pray definitely for this; long for it. Think of your own minister, and ask it very specially for him. Connect every thought of the ministry, in your town or neighbourhood or the world, with the prayer that all may be filled with the Spirit. Plead for them the promise, "**Tarry till you be clothed with power from on high.**" "**You shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you.**"

### HOW TO PRAY. – In Secret

#### **Matthew 6:6**

<sup>6</sup> But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

#### **Matthew 14:23**

<sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,

**John 6:15** <sup>15</sup> When Jesus realised that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Take time and realise, when you are alone with God: Here am I now, face to face with God, to intercede for His servants. Do not think you have no influence, or that your prayer will not be missed. Your prayer and faith will make a difference. Cry in secret to God for His ministers.

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## ***EIGHTH DAY***

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit on all Christian Workers**

#### **2 Corinthians 1:11**

<sup>11</sup> as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

What multitudes of workers in connection with our churches and missions, our railways and postmen, our soldiers and sailors, our young men and young women, our fallen men and women, our poor and sick. God be praised for this! What could they accomplish if each were living in the fullness of the Holy Spirit? Pray for them; it makes you a partner in their work, and you will praise God each time you hear of blessing anywhere.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – With definite Petitions**

#### **Luke 18:41**

<sup>41</sup> "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again."

The Lord knew what the man wanted, and yet He asked him. The utterance of our wish gives point to the transaction in which we are engaged with God, and so awakens faith and expectation. Be very definite in your petitions, so as to know what answer you may look for. Just think of the great host of workers, and ask and expect God definitely to bless them in answer to the prayers of His people. Then ask still more definitely for workers around you. Intercession is not the breathing out of pious wishes; its aim is, in believing, persevering prayer, to receive and bring down blessing.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **NINTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For God's Spirit on our Mission Work**

The evangelisation of the world depends first of all upon a revival of prayer. Deeper than the need for workers – ay, deep down at the bottom of our spiritless life, is the need for the forgotten secret of prevailing, world-wide prayer.

#### **Acts 13:2-4**

<sup>2</sup> While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." <sup>3</sup> Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. <sup>4</sup> So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia; and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

Pray that our mission work may all be done in this spirit – waiting on God, hearing the voice of the Spirit, sending forth men with fasting and prayer. Pray that in our churches our mission interest and mission work may be in the power of the Holy Spirit and of prayer. It is a Spirit-filled, praying Church will send out Spirit-filled missionaries, mighty in prayer.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Take Time**

#### **Psalm 109:4**

<sup>4</sup> In return for my love they accuse me, even while I make prayer for them.

#### **Acts 6:4**

<sup>4</sup> while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word."

#### **Ecclesiastes 5:2**

<sup>2</sup> Never be rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be quick to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven, and you upon earth; therefore let your words be few.

#### **Luke 6:12**

<sup>12</sup> Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God.

Time is one of the chief standards of value. The time we give is a proof of the interest we feel. We need time with God – to realise His presence; to wait for Him to make Himself known; to consider and feel the needs we plead for; to take our place in Christ; to pray till we can believe that we have received. Take time in prayer, and pray down blessing on the mission work of the Church.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## TENTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For God's Spirit on our Missionaries

What the world needs to-day is, not only more missionaries, but the outpouring of God's Spirit on everyone whom He has sent out to work for Him in the foreign field.

#### Acts 1:8

<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

God always gives His servants power equal to the work He asks of them. Think of the greatness and difficulty of this work, – casting out Satan out of his strongholds, – and pray that everyone who takes part in it may receive and do all his work in the power of the Holy Ghost. Think of the difficulties of your missionaries, and pray for them.

### HOW TO PRAY. – Trusting God's Faithfulness

#### Hebrews 10:23

<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for **he who has promised is faithful.**

#### Hebrews 11:11

<sup>11</sup> By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because **he considered him faithful** who had promised.

Just think of God's promises to His Son, concerning His kingdom; to the Church, concerning the heathen; to His servants, concerning their work; to yourself, concerning your prayer; and pray in the assurance that He is faithful, and only waits for prayer and faith to fulfil them. **"Faithful is He that calls you"** (to pray), "who also will do it" (what He has promised).

Take up individual missionaries, make yourself one with them, and pray till you know that you are heard. Oh, begin to live for Christ's kingdom as the one thing worth living for!

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **ELEVENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For more Labourers**

#### **Matthew 9:38**

<sup>38</sup> therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."

What a remarkable call of the **Lord Jesus** for help from His disciples in getting the need supplied. What an honour put upon prayer. What a proof that God wants prayer and will hear it. Pray for labourers, for all students in theological seminaries, training homes, Bible institutes, that they may not go, unless He fits them and sends them forth; that our churches may train their students to seek for the sending forth of the Holy Spirit; that all believers may hold themselves ready to be sent forth, or to pray for those who can go.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In Faith, nothing Doubting**

#### **Mark 11:22-23**

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered them, "Have faith in God. <sup>23</sup> Truly I tell you, if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' and if you do not doubt in your heart, but believe that what you say will come to pass, it will be done for you.

**Have faith in God!** Ask Him to make Himself known to you as the faithful, mighty God, who works all in all; and you will be encouraged to believe that He can give suitable and sufficient labourers, however impossible this appears. But, remember, in answer to prayer and faith.

Apply this to every opening where a good worker is needed. The work is God's. He can give the right workman. **But He must be asked and waited on.**

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## TWELFTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit to convince the World of Sin

#### John 16:7-8

<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement:

God's one desire, the one object of Christ's being manifested, is to take away sin. The first work of the Spirit on the world is conviction of sin. Without that, no deep or abiding revival, no powerful conversion. Pray for it, that the gospel may be preached in such power of the Spirit, that men may see that they have rejected and crucified Christ, and cry out, What shall we do? Pray most earnestly for a mighty power of conviction of sin wherever the gospel is preached.

### HOW TO PRAY. – Stir up yourself to take hold of God's Strength

#### Isaiah 27:5

<sup>5</sup> Or else let it cling to me for protection, let it make peace with me, let it make peace with me.

#### Isaiah 64:7

<sup>7</sup> There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

#### 2 Timothy 1:6

<sup>6</sup> For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands;

First, take hold of God's strength. God is a Spirit. I cannot take hold of Him, and hold Him fast, but by the Spirit. Take hold of God's strength, and hold on till it has done for you what He has promised. Pray for the power of the Spirit to convict of sin.

Second, stir up yourself, the power that is in you by the Holy Spirit, to take hold. Give your whole heart and will to it, and say, **I will not let Thee go except You bless me.**

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **THIRTEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit of Burning**

#### **Isaiah 4:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> Whoever is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy, everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem, <sup>4</sup> once the Lord has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and cleansed the bloodstains of Jerusalem from its midst by a spirit of judgement and by a spirit of burning.

A washing by fire! a cleansing by judgement! He that has passed through this shall be called holy. The power of blessing for the world, the power of work and intercession that will avail, depends upon the spiritual state of the Church; and that can only rise higher as sin is discovered and put away. Judgement must begin at the house of God. There must be conviction of sin for sanctification. Beseech God to give His Spirit as a spirit of judgement and a spirit of burning – to discover and burn out sin in His people.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In the Name of Christ**

#### **John 14:13-14**

<sup>13</sup> I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

Ask in the name of your Redeemer God, who sits upon the throne. Ask what He has promised, what He gave His blood for, that sin may be put away from among His people. Ask – the prayer is after His own heart – for the spirit of deep conviction of sin to come among His people. Ask for the spirit of burning. Ask in the faith of His name – the faith of what He wills, of what He can do – and look for the answer. Pray that the Church may be blessed, to be made a blessing in the world.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **FOURTEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Church of the Future**

#### **Psalm 78:8**

<sup>8</sup> and that they should not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

#### **Isaiah 44:3**

<sup>3</sup> For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my spirit upon your descendants, and my blessing on your offspring.

Pray for the rising generation, who are to come after us. Think of the young men and young women and children of this age, and pray for all the agencies at work among them; that in association and societies and unions, in homes and schools, Christ may be honoured, and the Holy Spirit get possession of them. Pray for the young of your own neighbourhood.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – With the Whole Heart**

#### **Psalm 20:4**

<sup>4</sup> May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfil all your plans.

#### **Psalm 21:2 (NRSV)**

<sup>2</sup> You have given him his heart's desire, and have not withheld the request of his lips.

#### **Psalm 119:145**

<sup>145</sup> With my whole heart I cry; answer me, O LORD. I will keep your statutes.

God lives, and listens to every petition with His whole heart. Each time we pray the whole Infinite God is there to hear. He asks that in each prayer the whole man shall be there too; that we shall cry with our whole heart. Christ gave Himself to God for men; and so He takes up every need into His intercession. If once we seek God with our whole heart, the whole heart will be in every prayer with which we come to this God. Pray with your whole heart for the young.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **FIFTEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For Schools and Colleges**

#### **Isaiah 59:21**

<sup>21</sup> And as for me, this is my covenant with them, says the LORD: my spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouths of your children, or out of the mouths of your children's children, says the LORD, from now on and forever.

The future of the Church and the world depends, to an extent we little conceive, on the education of the day. The Church may be seeking to evangelise the heathen, and be giving up her own children to secular and materialistic influences. Pray for schools and colleges, and that the Church may realise and fulfil its momentous duty of caring for its children. Pray for godly teachers.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Not Limiting God**

#### **Psalms 78:41**

<sup>41</sup> They tested God again and again, and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

#### **Matthew 13:58**

<sup>58</sup> And he did not do many deeds of power there, because of their unbelief.

#### **Genesis 18:14**

<sup>14</sup> Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."

#### **Jeremiah 32:17 & 27**

<sup>17</sup> Ah Lord God! It is you who made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you. ... <sup>27</sup> See, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too hard for me?

Beware, in your prayer, above everything, of limiting God, not only by unbelief, but by fancying that you know what He can do. Expect unexpected things, above all that we ask or think. Each time you intercede, be quiet first and worship God in his glory. Think of what He can do, of how He delights to hear Christ, of your place in Christ, and expect great things.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## SIXTEENTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Power of the Holy Spirit in our Sabbath Schools

#### Isaiah 49:25

<sup>25</sup> But thus says the LORD: Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken, and the prey of the tyrant be rescued; for I will contend with those who contend with you, and I will save your children.

Every part of the work of God's Church is His work. He must do it. Prayer is the confession that He will, the surrender of ourselves into His hands to let Him, work in us and through us. Pray for the hundreds of thousands of Sunday-school teachers, that those who know God may be filled with His Spirit. Pray for your own Sunday school. Pray for the salvation of the children.

### HOW TO PRAY. – Boldly

#### Hebrews 4:14-16

<sup>14</sup> Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

These hints to help us in our work of intercession – what are they doing for us? Making us conscious of our feebleness in prayer? Thank God for this. It is the very first lesson we need on the way to pray the effectual prayer that avails much. Let us persevere, taking each subject boldly to the throne of grace. As we pray we shall learn to pray, and to believe, and to expect with increasing boldness. Hold fast your assurance: it is at God's command you come as an intercessor. Christ will give you grace to pray aright.

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **SEVENTEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For Kings and Rulers**

#### **1 Timothy 2:1-2**

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.

What a faith in the power of prayer! A few feeble and despised Christians are to influence the mighty Roman emperors, and help in securing peace and quietness. Let us believe that prayer is a power that is taken up by God in His rule of the world. Let us pray for our country and its rulers; for all the rulers of the world; for rulers in cities or districts in which we are interested. When God's people unite in this, they may count upon their prayer effecting in the unseen world more than they know. Let faith hold this fast.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – The Prayer before God as Incense**

#### **Revelation 8:3-5**

<sup>3</sup> Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that is before the throne. <sup>4</sup> And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel. <sup>5</sup> Then the angel took the censer and filled it with fire from the altar and threw it on the earth; and there were peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning, and an earthquake.

The same censer brings the prayer of the saints before God and casts fire upon the earth. The prayers that go up to heaven have their share in the history of this earth. Be sure that thy prayers enter God's presence.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **EIGHTEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For Peace**

#### **1 Timothy 2:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

#### **Psalm 46:9**

<sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.

What a terrible sight! – the military armaments in which the nations find their pride. What a terrible thought! – the evil passions that may at any moment bring on war. And what a prospect the suffering and desolation that must come. God can, in answer to the prayer of His people, give peace. Let us pray for it, and for the rule of righteousness on which alone it can be established.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – With the Understanding**

#### **1 Corinthians 14:15**

<sup>15</sup> What should I do then? I will pray with the spirit, but I will pray with the mind also; I will sing praise with the spirit, but I will sing praise with the mind also.

We need to pray with the spirit, as the vehicle of the intercession of God's Spirit, if we are to take hold of God in faith and power. We need to pray with the understanding, if we are really to enter deeply into the needs we bring before Him. Take time to apprehend intelligently, in each subject, the nature, the extent, the urgency of the request, the ground and way and certainty of God's promise as revealed in His Word. Let the mind affect the heart. Pray with the understanding and with the spirit.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **NINETEENTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Holy Spirit on Christendom**

#### **2 Timothy 3:5**

<sup>5</sup> holding to the outward form of godliness but denying its power. Avoid them!

#### **Revelation 3:1**

<sup>1</sup> "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These are the words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works; you have a name of being alive, but you are dead.

There are five hundred millions of nominal Christians. The state of the majority is unspeakably awful. Formality, worldliness, ungodliness, rejection of Christ's service, ignorance, and indifference – to what an extent does all this prevail. We pray for the heathen – oh! do let us pray for those bearing Christ's name, many in worse than heathen darkness.

Does not one feel as if one ought to begin to give up his life, and to cry day and night to God for souls! In answer to prayer God gives the power of the Holy Ghost.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In deep Stillness of Soul**

#### **Psalm 62:1**

<sup>1</sup> For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

Prayer has its power in God alone. The nearer a man comes to God Himself, the deeper he enters into God's will; the more he takes hold of God, the more power in prayer.

God must reveal Himself. If it please Him to make Himself known, He can make the heart conscious of His presence. Our posture must be that of holy reverence, of quiet waiting and adoration.

As your month of intercession passes on, and you feel the greatness of your work, be still before God. Thus you will get power to pray.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTIETH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For God's Spirit on the Heathen**

#### **Isaiah 49:12**

<sup>12</sup> Lo, these shall come from far away, and lo, these from the north and from the west, and these from the land of Syene.

#### **Psalm 68:31**

<sup>31</sup> Let bronze be brought from Egypt; let Ethiopia hasten to stretch out its hands to God.

#### **Isaiah 60:22**

<sup>22</sup> The least of them shall become a clan, and the smallest one a mighty nation; I am the LORD; in its time I will accomplish it quickly.

Pray for the heathen, who are yet without the word. Think of China, with her three hundred millions – a million a month dying without Christ. Think of Dark Africa, with its two hundred millions. Think of thirty millions a year going down into the thick darkness. If Christ gave His life for them, will you not do so? You can give yourself up to intercede for them. Just begin, if you have never yet begun, with this simple monthly school of intercession. The ten minutes you give will make you feel this is not enough. God's Spirit will draw you on. Persevere, however feeble you are. Ask God to give you some country or tribe to pray for. Can anything be nobler than to do as Christ did? Give your life for the heathen.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – With Confident Expectation of an Answer**

#### **Jeremiah 33:3**

<sup>3</sup> Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.

#### **Ezekiel 36:37**

<sup>37</sup> Thus says the Lord God: I will also let the house of Israel ask me to do this for them: to increase their population like a flock.

Both texts refer to promises definitely made, but their fulfilment would depend upon prayer: God would be inquired of to do it. Pray for God's fulfilment of His promises to His Son and His Church, and expect the answer. Plead for the heathen: plead God's Promises.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-FIRST DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For God's Spirit on the Jews**

#### **Zechariah 12:10**

<sup>10</sup> And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the one whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

#### **Romans 10:1**

<sup>1</sup> Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved.

Pray for the Jews. Their return to the God of their fathers stands connected, in a way we cannot tell, with wonderful blessing to the Church, and with the coming of our Lord Jesus. Let us not think that God has foreordained all this, and that we cannot hasten it. In a divine and mysterious way God has connected His fulfilment of His promise with our prayer. His Spirit's intercession in us is God's forerunner of blessing. Pray for Israel and the work done among them. And pray too: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

### **HOW TO PRAY. – With the Intercession of the Holy Spirit**

#### **Romans 8:26**

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

In your ignorance and feebleness believe in the secret indwelling and intercession of the Holy Spirit within you. Yield yourself to His life and leading habitually. He will help your infirmities in prayer. Plead the promises of God even where you do not see how they are to be fulfilled. God knows the mind of the Spirit, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Pray with the simplicity of a little child; pray with the holy awe and reverence of one in whom God's Spirit dwells and prays.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-SECOND DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For all who are in Suffering**

#### **Hebrews 13:3**

<sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

What a world of suffering we live in! How Jesus sacrificed all and identified Himself with it! Let us in our measure do so too. The persecuted and oppressed, the famine-stricken, the hidden slavery, the poverty and wretchedness of our great cities – and so much more: what suffering among those who know God and who know Him not. And then in smaller groups, in ten thousand homes and hearts, what sorrow. In our own neighbourhood, how many needing help or comfort. Let us have a heart for, let us think of the suffering. It will stir us to pray, to work, to hope, to love more. And in a way and time we know not God will hear our prayer.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Praying always, and not fainting**

#### **Luke 18:1**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

Do you not begin to feel prayer is really the help for this sinful world? What a need there is of unceasing prayer? The very greatness of the task makes us despair! What can our ten minutes of intercession avail? It is right we feel this: this is the way in which God is calling and preparing us to give our life to prayer. Give yourself wholly to God for men, and amid all your work, your heart will be drawn out to men in love, and drawn up to God in dependence and expectation. To a heart thus led by the Holy Spirit, it is possible to pray always and not to faint.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-THIRD DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Holy Spirit in your own Work**

#### **Colossians 1:29**

<sup>29</sup> For this I toil and struggle with all the energy that he powerfully inspires within me.

You have your own special work; make it a work of intercession. Paul laboured, striving according to the working of God in him. Remember, God is not only the Creator, but the Great Workman, who works all in all. You can only do your work in His strength, by Him working in you through the Spirit. Intercede much for those among whom you work, till God gives you life for them.

Let us all intercede too for each other, for every worker throughout God's Church, however solitary or unknown.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In God's very Presence**

#### **James 4:8**

<sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

The nearness of God gives rest and power in prayer. The nearness of God is given to him who makes it his first object. "Draw nigh to God"; seek the nearness to Him, and He will give it; "He will draw nigh to you." Then it becomes easy to pray in faith.

Remember that when first God takes you into the school of intercession it is almost more for your own sake than that of others. You have to be trained to love, and wait, and pray, and believe. Only persevere. Learn to set yourself in His presence, to wait quietly for the assurance that He draws nigh. Enter His holy presence, tarry there, and spread your work before Him. Intercede for the souls you are working among. Get a blessing from God, His Spirit into your own heart, for them.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-FOURTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit on your own Congregation**

#### **Luke 24:47**

<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, **beginning from Jerusalem.**

Each one of us is connected with some congregation or circle of believers, who are to us the part of Christ's body with which we come into most direct contact. They have a special claim on our intercession. Let it be a settled matter between God and you that you are to labour in prayer on its behalf. Pray for the minister and all leaders or workers in it. Pray for the believers according to their needs. Pray for conversions. Pray for the power of the Spirit to manifest itself. Band yourself with others to join in secret in definite petitions. Let intercession be a definite work, carried on as systematically as preaching or Sunday school. And pray, expecting an answer.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Continually**

#### **Isaiah 62:6**

<sup>6</sup> Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest,

#### **Luke 18:7**

<sup>7</sup> And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them?

#### **1 Thessalonians 3:10**

<sup>10</sup> Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

#### **1 Timothy 5:5**

<sup>5</sup> The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day;

When the glory of God, and the love of Christ, and the need of souls are revealed to us, the fire of this unceasing intercession will begin to burn in us for those who are near and those who are far off.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-FIFTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For more Conversions**

#### **Hebrews 7:25**

<sup>25</sup> Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

#### **Acts 6:4 & 7**

<sup>4</sup> while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." ...

<sup>7</sup> The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Christ's power to save, and save completely, depends on His unceasing intercession. The apostles withdrawing themselves from other work to give themselves continually to prayer was followed by the number of the disciples multiplying exceedingly. As we, in our day, give ourselves to intercession, we shall have more and mightier conversions. Let us plead for this. Christ is exalted to give repentance. The Church exists with the Divine purpose and promise of having conversions. Let us not be ashamed to confess our sin and feebleness, and cry to God for more conversions in Christian and heathen lands, of those too whom you know and love. Plead for the salvation of sinners.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – In deep Humility**

#### **Matthew 15:27-28**

<sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

You feel unworthy and unable to pray aright. To accept this heartily, and to be content still to come and be blessed in your unworthiness, is true humility. It proves its integrity by not seeking for anything, but simply trusting His grace. And so it is the very strength of a great faith, and gets a full answer. "Yet the dogs" – let that be your plea as you persevere for someone possibly possessed of the devil. Let not your littleness hinder you for a moment.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-SIXTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Holy Spirit on Young Converts**

#### **Acts 8:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus).

#### **2 Corinthians 1:21-22**

<sup>21</sup> But it is God who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us, <sup>22</sup> by putting his seal on us and giving us his Spirit in our hearts as a first instalment.

How many new converts who remain feeble; how many who fall into sin; how many who backslide entirely. If we pray for the Church, its growth in holiness and devotion to God's service, pray specially for the young converts. How many stand alone, surrounded by temptation; how many have no teaching on the Spirit in them, and the power of God to establish them; how many in heathen lands, surrounded by Satan's power. If you pray for the power of the Spirit in the Church, pray specially that every young convert may know that he may claim and receive the fulness of the Spirit.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Without Ceasing**

#### **1 Samuel 12:23**

<sup>23</sup> Moreover as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you; and I will instruct you in the good and the right way.

It is sin against the Lord to cease praying for others. When once we begin to see how absolutely indispensable intercession is, just as much a duty as loving God or believing in Christ, and how we are called and bound to it as believers, we shall feel that to cease intercession is grievous sin. Let us ask for grace to take up our place as priests with joy, and give our life to bring down the blessing of heaven.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – That God's People may Realise their Calling

#### Genesis 12:2-3

<sup>2</sup> I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

#### Psalms 67:1-2

<sup>1</sup> May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, *Selah*  
<sup>2</sup> that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Abraham was only blessed that he might be a blessing to all the earth. Israel prays for blessing, that God may be known among all nations. Every believer, just as much as Abraham, is only blessed that he may carry God's blessing to the world.

Cry to God that His people may know this, that every believer is only to live for the interests of God and His kingdom. If this truth were preached and believed and practised, what a revolution it would bring in our mission work. What a host of willing intercessors we should have. Plead with God to work it by the Holy Spirit.

### HOW TO PRAY. – As One who has Accepted for Himself what he Asks for Others

#### Acts 3:6; 11:15 & 17

<sup>6</sup> But Peter said, "I have no silver or gold, but **what I have I give you**; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." ... <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, **the Holy Spirit fell upon them** just as it had upon us at the beginning. ... <sup>17</sup> If then **God gave them the same gift that he gave us** when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"

As you pray for this great blessing on God's people, the Holy Spirit taking entire possession of them for God's service, yield yourself to God, and claim the gift anew in faith. Let each thought of feebleness or shortcoming only make you the more urgent in prayer for others; as the blessing comes to them, you too will be helped. With every prayer for conversions or mission work, pray that God's people may know how wholly they belong to Him.

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – That all God's People may know the Holy Spirit**

#### **John 14:17**

<sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

#### **1 Corinthians 6:19**

<sup>19</sup> Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?

The Holy Spirit is the power of God for the salvation of men. He only works as He dwells in the Church. He is given to enable believers to live wholly as God would have them live, in the full experience and witness of Him who saves completely. Pray God that every one of His people may know the Holy Spirit! – That He, in all His fulness, is given to them! that they cannot expect to live as their Father would have, without having Him in His fulness, without being filled with Him! Pray that all God's people, even away in churches gathered out of heathendom, may learn to say: I believe in the Holy Ghost.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Labouring fervently in Prayer**

#### **Colossians 4:12**

<sup>12</sup> Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus, greets you. He is always wrestling in his prayers on your behalf, so that you may stand mature and fully assured in everything that God wills.

To a healthy man labour is a delight; in what interests him he labours fervently. The believer who is in full health, whose heart is filled with God's Spirit, labours fervently in prayer. For what? That his brethren may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God; that they may know what God wills for them, how He calls them to live, and be led and walk by the Holy Ghost. Labour fervently in prayer that all God's children may know this, as possible, as divinely sure.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## **TWENTY-NINTH DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit of Intercession**

#### **John 15:16**

<sup>16</sup> You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name.

#### **John 16:24 & 26**

<sup>24</sup> Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. .. <sup>26</sup> On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf;

Has not our school of intercession taught us how little we have prayed in the name of Jesus? He promised His disciples: In that day, when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, ye shall ask in My name. Are there not tens of thousands with us mourning the lack of the power of intercession? Let our intercession to-day be for them and all God's children, that Christ may teach us that the Holy Spirit is in us; and what it is to live in His fullness, and to yield ourselves to His intercession work within us. The Church and the world need nothing so much as a mighty Spirit of Intercession to bring down the power of God on earth. Pray for the descent from heaven of the Spirit of Intercession for a great prayer revival.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Abiding in Christ**

#### **John 15:7**

<sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Our acceptance with God, our access to Him, is all in Christ. As we consciously abide in Him we have the liberty, not a liberty to our old nature or our self-will, but the Divine liberty from all self-will, to ask what we will, in the power of the new nature, and it shall be done. Let us keep this place, and believe even now that our intercession is heard, and that the Spirit of Supplication will be given all around us.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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## THIRTIETH DAY

### WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Holy Spirit with the Word of God

#### 1 Thessalonians 1:5

<sup>5</sup> because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

#### 1 Peter 1:12

<sup>12</sup> It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look!

What numbers of Bibles are being circulated. What numbers of sermons on the Bible are being preached. What numbers of Bibles are being read in home and school. How little blessing when it comes "in word" only; what Divine blessing and power when it comes "in the Holy Ghost," when it is preached "with the Holy Ghost sent forth from heaven." Pray for Bible distribution, and preaching and teaching and reading, that it may all be in the Holy Ghost, with much prayer. Pray for the power of the Spirit with the word in your own neighbourhood, wherever it is being read or heard. Let every mention of "The Word of God" waken intercession.

### HOW TO PRAY. – Watching and Praying

#### Colossians 4:2-3

<sup>2</sup> Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. <sup>3</sup> At the same time pray for us as well that God will open to us a door for the word, that we may declare the mystery of Christ, for which I am in prison,

Do you not see how all depends upon God and prayer? As long as He lives and loves, and hears and works, as long as there are souls with hearts closed to the word, as long as there is work to be done in carrying the word – **Pray without ceasing. Continue steadfastly in prayer, watching therein with thanksgiving. These words are for every Christian.**

### SPECIAL PETITIONS

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## **THIRTY-FIRST DAY**

### **WHAT TO PRAY. – For the Spirit of Christ in His People**

#### **John 15:4-5**

<sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.

<sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

#### **John 13:15**

<sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.

As branches we are to be so like the Vine, so entirely identified with it, that all may see that we have the same nature, and life, and spirit. When we pray for the Spirit, let us not only think of a Spirit of power, but the very disposition and temper of Christ Jesus. Ask and expect nothing less: for yourself, and all God's children, cry for it.

### **HOW TO PRAY. – Striving in Prayer**

#### **Romans 15:30**

<sup>30</sup> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf,

#### **Colossians 2:1**

<sup>1</sup> For I want you to know how much **I am struggling for you**, and for those in Laodicea, and for all who have not seen me face to face.

All the powers of evil seek to hinder us in prayer. Prayer is a conflict with opposing forces. It needs the whole heart and all our strength. May God give us grace to strive in prayer till we prevail.

### **SPECIAL PETITIONS**

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