

WEEK ONE

# prayers OF hope

## tuesday - PRAY FOR PEACE

Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

***philippians 4:6-7***

I don't know about you, but my heart and mind could sure use some guarding right about now. As everything is changing so quickly and about every aspect of life seems up in the air, we desperately need God's peace. When Paul was telling us "don't worry", I imagine it's not out of shame or some unrealistic standard. We can't WILL our way out of worry. However, he is offering an alternative to worry...prayer and thanksgiving. When we take this posture, something amazing happens, God's peace...which doesn't make any sense at all, washes over our hearts and minds, freeing us from the grip of anxiety. In times of uncertainty, this can be a moment by moment process; however, He is faithful to fulfill His end of the bargain. Every time.

### TODAY'S ACTION STEPS

Breathe.

Tell God what you need and spend time remembering the ways God has come through for you in the past. Thank Him for his faithfulness.  
Check in on a friend who is prone to anxious thoughts.

## wednesday - PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

I love you, Lord; you are my strength. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety.

***psalm 18:1-2***

Let's pray for a giant dose of strength for our brave healthcare workers. As most of us are asked to stay home, they are gearing up and preparing for an unknown future. Virus or not, healthcare workers put their health on the line for others each day.

### TODAY'S ACTION STEPS

Pray for our healthcare workers. Write an note of encouragement and send it in the mail.  
(note: it's not wise to bring gifts to doctors offices or hospitals)

## *thursday* - **PRAY FOR PROVISION**

You take care of the earth and water it, making it rich and fertile. The river of God has plenty of water; it provides a bountiful harvest of grain, for you have ordered it so. You crown the year with a bountiful harvest; even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.

***psalm 65:9,11***

When we walk through the aisles of the grocery store lately it can feel like resources are scarce. However, we serve a God of ABUNDANCE. God wants to richly bless our lives...even in these circumstances. Even the hard pathways overflow with abundance. Let's be on the lookout for the ways God is pouring out His blessings. Let's also be looking for ways that we can be the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing His provision to those around us.

### **TODAY'S ACTION STEPS**

Pray for God to meet our needs and the needs of the most vulnerable in our community. Donate to your favorite food pantry. If you don't have one, New Life has a U-Pick Food Pantry that you can donate to...even fresh produce and refrigerated goods.

## *friday* - **PRAY FOR GOD TO ACT**

Please listen, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph's descendants like a flock. O God, enthroned above the cherubim, display your radiant glory to Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh. Show us your mighty power. Come to rescue us!

***psalm 80:1-2***

The Psalms are full of cries from God's people for Him to ARISE. Like King David and the Israelites, now is the time for some bold prayers! We want to see God display His radiant glory and mighty power in THIS situation. God is not surprised by what is going on and He has the power and authority to change the course, in His timing. We are doing our part...the possible. Pray for God to do the impossible!

### **TODAY'S ACTION STEPS**

Pray some bold prayers today.

Pray for areas in our nation and in the world that are the hardest hit by COVID-19.

Pray that God would miraculously stop and slow the spread.

Pray a bold prayer for a friend and then call or text them to let them know you prayed for them.



## *saturday* - **PRAY FOR UNITY**

"I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

***john 17:22-23***

Jesus prayed specifically for you and me and for our churches today! Here he is praying for "but all who will ever believe in me through their message." That's us! And the BIGGEST prayer request that He has is that we would be ONE. Unity doesn't mean uniformity...in fact we are going to disagree on a lot of things, even how to respond in this COVID-19 situation. However, that doesn't mean that we still can't be an example of unity. Our world right now is desperate for some constant in the chaos, for some hope in the darkness and we have the opportunity to point people to the Source of hope and as this verse says, they will KNOW who that is and how loved they are by how we treat each other, even when we disagree.

### **TODAY'S ACTION STEPS**

Pray for unity among believers, in the 5-cities and throughout the world. Pray that the world will come to know how much God sees them and loves them through how we respond in a crisis. Take a pause and say a prayer before you post something on social media or respond to someone you disagree with.

## *sunday* - **PRAY FOR PASTORS**

As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you.

Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words!

***2 corinthians 9:13-14***

Believe it or not, we have not pastored through a global pandemic before. We are in uncharted territory and we would covet your prayers for wisdom and discernment and strength for the coming days as we are needing to make tough decisions.

### **TODAY'S ACTION STEPS**

Pray for your pastor and the other pastors in the area.  
Write a pastor or church staff member a card of encouragement.