

"...When Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven."

1 Kings 8:54

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 16

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Titus 2:11; 2 Corinthians 9:15)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GRACE

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

Titus 2:11

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

2 Corinthians 9:15

God is a God of grace. The word 'grace' refers to favor or kindness bestowed upon another. God's grace is amazing because it is favor given to men in spite of their many sins and failures. Furthermore, it is amazing because the favor God bestowed upon the wicked world was the sacrifice of His sinless and holy only-begotten Son!

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His grace. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, acknowledging that we do not deserve His grace. Yet, let us also pray with confidence - knowing that He loves us and will hear and answer our prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(Acts 15:3)

PRAY FOR THE JOY OF THE CHURCH

"And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren."

Acts 15:3

The church is to have joy! The salvation found in Christ causes joy. The fellowship in His body should produce joy. The spiritual blessings received in Him create joy. The good news of good works throughout the brotherhood should cause joy.

Let us pray for the joy of church - locally and worldwide. Pray that we will count our blessing and take none of them for granted. Pray that we will do good and win souls for the Lord. Pray that we will live daily with the assurance of Heaven and find joy in our journey to that home.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28)

PRAY FOR ENEMIES

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you."

Matthew 5:44

“...When Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.”

1 Kings 8:54

We must remember our duty to pray for those who oppose us. We must desire good for all men – even those who hate and harm us. Pray for our enemies to become friends by obeying the Gospel of Christ.

PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS

(1 Timothy 6:8)

PRAY FOR CLOTHING

“And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.”

1 Timothy 6:8

Of the many things that we call necessities, God instructs us to pray for two – food and clothing. The clothes we wear are often taken for granted because they are so easily and abundantly available. Yet, we must be grateful and – just as we ask for food – we should ask God to supply us with suitable clothing. We should also remember those who are in need and give to them.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

(Acts 13:38-39)

“Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins: And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the Law of Moses.”

Acts 13:38-39

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(Colossians 3:12)

PRAY FOR HUMILITY

“Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering...”

Colossians 3:12

Humility is lowliness, modesty, or “a deep sense of one’s littleness” (Thayer). Humility is the opposite of pride. Humility causes us to realize our dependence upon God. Humility helps us seek what is best for the church, our brethren, and our neighbor – rather than what we desire for ourselves. Pray that we may be humble in our service to God and to others.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Psalm 118:1-6)

“O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth forever. ...I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place. The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?”

Psalm 118:1, 5-6