

*"...Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears:
behold, I will heal thee..."*

2 Kings 20:5

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 19

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Psalm 119:68)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS GOODNESS

"Thou art good, and doest good; teach me thy statutes."

Psalm 119:68

God is good. Everything that He does is good. He is morally excellent and pure in character. Like the psalmist, we should desire to learn God's statutes that we may be good in our character and conduct.

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His goodness. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, understanding that everything He does is good – even if we do not understand it fully. Let us also pray with boldness, knowing God will hear and answer our prayers – and the answer will be good.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(Romans 16:1)

PRAY FOR THE SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH

"I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchrea."

Romans 16:1

The church is to be filled with servants. All Christians are to be servants of God and of their neighbor. Note that service in the Lord's church is not limited to men. Women and men serve in different ways, but all must serve!

Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that we will be a people of service. Pray that we will embrace our role as servants and seek to do the work of God. Pray for those who serve – elders, deacons, preachers, teachers, evangelists, and every member who works in any capacity. Pray for their faith, strength, encouragement, and dedication.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(1 Corinthians 12:26; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4)

PRAY FOR THE GRIEVING

"Blessed by God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

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behold, I will heal thee..."*

2 Kings 20:5

When a brother or sister suffers, the church should show their love and support. The loss of a loved one causes a difficult time of grief and suffering. We may not know what to say, but we can always pray.

Let us pray for the comfort of the grieving. Pray that they may find comfort from God and the truth of His Word. Pray that they may grow closer to the Lord and not allow grief to cause them to drift away from Him. Pray that faith and time may help their hurt heal.

PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS

(Matthew 6:7-8)

PRAY WITH TRUST

"But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."

Matthew 6:7-8

When we pray, we must remember that God already knows our needs. Thus, we can pray with trust and confidence that He will answer with what is best for us. Let us learn to pray with complete trust in God.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

(Ephesians 1:3-7)

"To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace."

Ephesians 1:6-7

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(1 Corinthians 13:4-8)

PRAY FOR LOVE

"Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth..."

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

The greatest command is to love God above all else. The second is to love our neighbor as ourselves. Paul's description of charity (love) is both beautiful and challenging. Pray that we can learn to love as God desires.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Psalm 136)

"O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth forever."

Psalm 119:62