

“And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven...”

Nehemiah 1:4

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 22

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(2 Corinthians 1:3)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS COMFORT

“Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort.”

2 Corinthians 1:3

God is a God of comfort. The Greek word for comfort literally means, “A calling near; thus, a summons for help.” When we are in need, we may call out to God and He will come near. He is the one, true source of comfort by providing the salvation and fellowship we need.

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His comfort. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, recognizing how much we need Him. Let us pray with complete dependence upon Him. Yet, let us also pray with boldness; for, God has promised to hear and answer our prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(1 Corinthians 1:2)

PRAY FOR THE HOLINESS OF THE CHURCH

“Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours.”

1 Corinthians 1:2

The words ‘sanctified’ and ‘saints’ come from the same root word – meaning, “Holy.” All Christians are holy – made pure and clean by the blood of Jesus. Thus, the church is holy. The church is a sanctuary (not the building or the auditorium, but the people). This demands that we live holy lives, cleansed from sin by walking in the light of God’s Word (1 John 1:7).

Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that we may appreciate what it means to be holy. Pray that we will seek to live lives of holiness. Pray that we will show to the world the holiness found in Jesus.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(1 Peter 3:7)

PRAY FOR THE HOME

“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honor unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”

1 Peter 3:7

“And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven...”

Nehemiah 1:4

The home stands in need of prayer. It is constantly attacked by the forces of evil. One’s home life affects his spiritual life. We need strong homes that believe and follow the Word of God. Let us pray for the home. Pray that God’s plan for it will be taught and followed. Pray for those homes that are facing difficult situations. Pray for the strength of each home that makes up the local congregation. Pray for your home – your spouse, children, parents, siblings.

PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS

(2 Thessalonians 3:10-13)

PRAY WITH OBEDIENCE

“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.”

2 Thessalonians 3:10

When we pray for our needs, we must do so with an understanding of our responsibility in meeting those needs. God provides our daily bread. However, He also expects us to work for it. We must pray with complete trust in God; yet, we must follow through with submissive obedience.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

(1 John 1:5-10)

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. ...If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

1 John 1:7, 9

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(Romans 14:19; 15:13; 2 Thessalonians 3:16)

PRAY FOR PEACE

“Now the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means. The Lord be with you all.”

2 Thessalonians 3:16

Peace comes from knowing that one is forgiven of sins – at peace with God. Only then can we be at peace with ourselves and make peace with others. Pray for deeper grasp of the peace that passes all understanding (Phil. 4:7). Pray for freedom from anxiety due to the peaceful assurance that God is in control and all is well with your soul.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Lamentations 3:21-27)

“This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the Lord’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

Lamentations 3:21-23