

*"Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer:
...for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."*

Isaiah 56:7

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 25

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(1 John 3:1)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS FATHERHOOD

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not."

1 John 3:1

God is a Father. He is the Father of all men because He is Creator. Yet, He is Father is a special sense to those who become His children through the blood of Jesus. What a wonderful privilege, that God would adopt us into His family and claim us as His children! Then, as a loving Father, provide for, protect, care for, and encourage us to a home with Him in Heaven!

In prayer, let us seek to honor God as a loving Father. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, recognizing that He is our Father and we are His children. Yet, let us pray with boldness; for, God, our Father, promises to hear and answer our prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(1 Corinthians 11:22)

PRAY FOR THE HONOR OF THE CHURCH

"What? Have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? Or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I praise you not."

1 Corinthians 11:22

It is tragic when the church is despised by those who are members of it. The church should be held in honor by every Christian. That means we love it as the body of Christ. It also means that we love and care for one another as brothers and sister in Christ.

Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that each congregation will honor the church. Let us all strive to make it what God wants it to be.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(John 15:13)

PRAY FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:13

In this verse, Jesus was speaking to His apostles about His death upon the cross – emphasizing that they were His friends. Yet, the principle applies to other situations. First Responders willingly risk their lives in order to help, protect, and save others.

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Isaiah 56:7

Let us pray for our First Responders – Police Officers, Firefighters, and other law enforcement and security officers. Pray that they may have safety in their daily work. Pray for the strength of their families. Especially remember those who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS

(Luke 11:3)

PRAY FOR FOOD

“Give us day by day our daily bread.”

Luke 11:3

Our true needs are actually small. Food is essential to life; yet, God wants us to pray for it ‘day by day.’ Trust Him to provide, but be content with one day’s supply at a time. Let us pray for our daily food and remember to give thanks for God’s blessings.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

(Matthew 11:28-30)

“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:28-30

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(Romans 15:14)

PRAY FOR GOODNESS

“And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.”

Romans 15:14

Goodness refers to uprightness of heart, virtue, or kindness. To be good, one must know what is good and what is evil. God defines what is good and reveals it in His Word. We must choose to accept and obey His will.

God is good in His nature. He is good toward us. Everything that He does is good. All that He commands is good. Let us pray to become more like God in our character and our actions. Let us be good toward Him and toward our fellowman. Pray for goodness.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Jonah 2)

“Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly, And said, I cried by reason of my affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; ...When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple. ...I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving.... Salvation is of the LORD.”

Jonah 2:1-2, 7, 9