

*"Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly."*

Jonah 2:1

## A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 27

### PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Isaiah 40:13-14)

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#### PRaise GOD FOR HIS FREEDOM

"Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being His counsellor hath taught Him? With whom took He counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of judgment, and taught Him knowledge, and showed to Him the way of understanding?"

Isaiah 40:13-14

God is a God of true freedom. He is not dependent upon anyone or anything else. No one has to teach or guide Him in any way. Thus, He is unlike any other being in the universe. And, He is the perfect guide and Father for humanity. *{He created men to be free. True, human freedom is found in a complete reliance upon God. He is the source of liberty!}*

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His freedom. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, recognizing that He is greater than us. Yet, let us pray with boldness; for, God is free to carry out His word, and to hear and answer our prayers.

### PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(1 Corinthians 16:1)

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#### PRAY FOR THE OBEDIENCE OF THE CHURCH

"Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye."

1 Corinthians 16:1

God is a God who gives orders. He teaches and guides; yet, He also commands and orders. When God gives an order, He expects it to be followed. And, one who respects the authority of God will obey the things He commands. The church must be obedient to the will of God.

Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that each congregation will be obedient and submissive to the instructions given by God. Pray that we may strive to know and to follow the Word of God. Thus, we may have unity among ourselves and be a light to the world.

### PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(1 Timothy 2:1)

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#### PRAY FOR ALL MEN

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men..."

1 Timothy 2:1

We must remember our duty to pray for all men. Each day, pray for someone you have never prayed for (or haven't prayed for in a long time) – someone you've just met, someone you happen

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upon in your daily affairs (even if you don't know their name), someone you hear about on the news, those in nations that you may never visit. Let us open our eyes to the world of humanity around us and involve God in the lives of our neighbors!

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**PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS**

**(Matthew 6:10; 26:42)**

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**PRAY, "THY WILL BE DONE"**

"He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done."

Matthew 26:42

When praying, God's will must always be remembered and honored. This must be kept in mind when we pray for physical needs. God will answer, but in harmony with His will.

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**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**(Matthew 26:26-28)**

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"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

Matthew 26:26-28

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**PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

**(1 Corinthians 9:25; Titus 2:2, 5)**

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**PRAY FOR TEMPERANCE**

"And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible."

1 Corinthians 9:25

Temperance is self-control - "the virtue of one who masters his desires and passions" (Thayer). Meekness is the governing of one's strength. Temperance is the control of one's desires.

Let us pray for temperance. Pray that we will learn to desire those things that God desires for us and defines as good and right. Pray that we may gain strength to resist temptation and sin.

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**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**(Matt. 15:36; Mark 8:6; John 6:11, 23; 1 Tim. 4:3-5)**

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"... [M]eats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer."

1 Timothy 4:3-5