

*“And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.”*  
Acts 16:25

## A YEAR OF PRAYER

### WEEK 40

#### PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Numbers 14:18; 2 Peter 3:9)

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#### PRaise GOD FOR HIS LONGSUFFERING

“The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

2 Peter 3:9

God is longsuffering. This word means, “To be patient in bearing the offenses and injuries of others; to persevere patiently and bravely in enduring misfortunes and troubles; not to lose heart.” Imagine all that God has to “put up with” from sinful humanity. Yet, He still has not brought destruction upon the world.

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His longsuffering. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, recognizing that He is patient with us in our sins and longs to forgive. Yet, let us pray with boldness, for His longsuffering assures us that He will hear and answer our prayers.

#### PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(2 Thessalonians 1:4)

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#### PRAY FOR THE FAITHFULNESS OF THE CHURCH

“So that we ourselves glory in you in the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that ye endure.”

2 Thessalonians 1:4

As God is longsuffering, so the church must learn to endure patiently. Faithfulness to God in the midst of troubles and trials is a demonstration of maturity. The church must be faithful no matter what she faces – even unto death!

Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that each congregation will seek to be faithful to the Lord. Pray that we will stand for the right even if it brings ridicule, rejection, or persecution. Pray that the church may be a light in a world of darkness.

#### 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"**

"After this manner therefore pray ye: ...Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."  
Matthew 6:10

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** (Ephesians 2:4-9)

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"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.... For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."  
Ephesians 2:4-6, 8-9

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**PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS** (Hebrews 6:12; James 5:10-11)

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**PRAY FOR LONGSUFFERING**

"Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy."  
James 5:11

Longsuffering is patience and forbearance. God is longsuffering toward man and his sins. He is patient and grants new opportunities for repentance and growth. We must learn to be patient toward others. Pray to be more longsuffering.

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**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (2 Corinthians 9:6-11)

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"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor; his righteousness remaineth forever...) Being enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9:8, 9, 11