

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer."

1 Peter 4:7

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 51

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Ephesians 1:17)

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS PERSONHOOD

"That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him."

Ephesians 1:17

God, who is eternal, invisible, and spirit is also a person. He is God; but, He is also Father. Thus, man is able to know Him. The word for 'knowledge' in this verse means, "Recognition; full discernment; precise and correct knowledge." God is not a force, a power, or a feeling - He is a person.

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His personhood. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, calling upon Him as our Father. Yet, let us pray with boldness, for our Father loves us and longs to hear and answer our prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(Revelation 22:16-17)

PRAY FOR THE INVITATION OF THE CHURCH

"I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. ...And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Revelation 22:16-17

The church is made up of those who have received and accepted the invitation of the Lord to come unto Him (cf. Matt. 11:28-30). The church has a responsibility to extend that invitation to others - to "whosoever will" - to the whole world. The bride (the church) must say, "Come."

Let us pray for the church - locally and worldwide. Pray that each congregation will reach out to the world with the invitation of Christ. Pray that we may have a love for souls who are thirsting for the water of life. May we offer it to them freely.

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.

"But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer."

1 Peter 4:7

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

(Revelation 1:4-6)

"...Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Revelation 1:5b-6

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(Revelation 2:19)

PRAY FOR WORK

"I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first."

Revelation 2:19

The Christian life is one of labor and work. We should pray for the proper attitudes and motivations that will cause us to do that which the Lord has asked of us. Pray that we will not be just hearers of the word, but doers of the work – abounding in every good work.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Hebrews 13:15)

"By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

Hebrews 13:15