

Scripture Prayer Guide
Using the Word of God
To Pray for Short-Term
Missionaries

...Using the *New International Version* of the Bible...

Safety Issues

Pray for physical protection.

⁵ *The LORD watches over you — the LORD is your shade at your right hand;* ⁶ *the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.* ⁷ *The LORD will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life;* ⁸ *the LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.* Psalm 121:5–8

Pray for emotional and spiritual protection.

¹⁰ *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.* ¹¹ *Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.* ¹² *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.* ¹³ *Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.* ¹⁴ *Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,* ¹⁵ *and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace.* ¹⁶ *In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one.* ¹⁷ *Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* ¹⁸ *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.*

Ephesians 6:10–18

became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ *To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law* ²² *To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.* ²³ *I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.*

1 Corinthians 9:19–23

Pray for a genuine love for the people to whom they minister.

We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. 1 Thessalonians 2:8

Pray for open doors for ministry.

³ *And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains.* ⁴ *Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.* Colossians 4:3–4

Pray for boldness in witness.

Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel. Ephesians 6:19

Pray for a commitment to discipleship.

And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2

Pray for them to effectively report back to their churches after their return.

On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. Acts 14:27

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Growth Issues

Pray for spiritual growth.

¹⁰ *I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,* ¹¹ *and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.* Philippians 3:10-11

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen. 2 Peter 3:18

Pray for growth in their ability to trust God.

⁵ *Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;* ⁶ *in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.* Proverbs 3:5-6

² *Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds,* ³ *because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.* ⁴ *Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.* James 1:2-4

Pray for them to trust the Lord to provide their financial support.

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

Pray for a devotion to prayer.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2

Pray for the bearing of spiritual fruit.

²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,* ²³ *gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.* Galatians 5:22-23

Pray for a Christ-like attitude toward servanthood.

⁴² *Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them."* ⁴³ *Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant,* ⁴⁴ *and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all.* ⁴⁵ *For even the Son of Man did not come to be*

served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:42-45

¹ *If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,* ² *then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.* ³ *Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.* ⁴ *Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.* ⁵ *Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:* ⁶ *Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,* ⁷ *but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.* ⁸ *And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death- even death on a cross!* Philippians 2:1-8

Pray for a commitment to unity with other believers.

²⁰ *"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,* ²¹ *that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."* John 17:20-21

Pray for a commitment to love other believers.

³⁴ *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another"* ³⁵ *By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."* John 13:34-35

Pray for increased missionary vision.

³⁴ *"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."* ³⁵ *Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest."* John 4:34-35

Ministry Issues

Pray for appreciation of and sensitivity to their host culture.

¹⁹ *Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.* ²⁰ *To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I*