

*The Gift of
Prayer*

Give Your Pastor the Gift of Prayer

Christmas 2014

GIVE YOUR PASTOR THE GIFT OF PRAYER THIS CHRISTMAS

We consider it an honor to share with you this Gift of Prayer, to equip you and your church to pray for your pastor(s). No other profession has such a difficult and demanding job, or higher calling, than do pastors.

Your pastor will be as successful in ministry as the church is committed to praying for him, so use this Gift of Prayer or simply use the idea and develop your own. Only pray!

God's blessing on you and your church as you pray together for His anointed.

Compliments of:

Isaiah 55 Pray-ers, www.i55pray.org, and

Grace Christian Fellowship, www.gracecfonline.org

274 Park Street SE; Abingdon, VA 24210

PRAYER DOES NOT FIT US FOR THE GREATER WORKS;

PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK.

~ Oswald Chambers

Scripture references taken from the *New American Standard Bible: 1995 update*.
(1995). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

“...he revered Me and stood in awe of My name. True instruction was in his mouth and unrighteousness was not found on his lips; he walked with Me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many back from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.” Malachi 2:5-7

Father, fill my pastor with Your Spirit, that he may revere You and stand in awe of Your name. Teach him, that true instruction may be in his mouth and nothing false on his lips. Guide him, that he may walk with You in peace and uprightness and turn many from sin. Preserve him, that his lips might preserve knowledge and that we might seek instruction from him, Your messenger, a messenger of the LORD Almighty. In Jesus' Name Amen

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture prayer using I Corinthians 13:12-13:

Father, I pray today for my pastor, Your servant. Even now, as he sees but a poor reflection as in a mirror, even now, as he knows in part though one day he will be fully known, even now, may he excel in these three things: faith, hope, and love, excelling all the more in the greatest of these, love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3

“Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.” James 1:12

Scripture prayer based on James 1:12:

Oh Father, I pray for my pastor, a man under much pressure, a man persevering under trials. I pray that he may stand in times of testing, encouraged in knowing that a crown of life awaits him, as You promised, and all those who love You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture prayer based on I Peter 5:8-10:

Father, I pray that my pastor might, by the power of Your Spirit, be self-controlled and alert, kept from the enemy. May my pastor stand firm in the faith and resist the evil one who prowls about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. O God of all grace, who called my pastor to eternal glory in Christ, grant that he might bear up under every testing and all suffering and be made strong, firm, and steadfast. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all." Ephesians 4:4-6

Scripture praying using Ephesians 3:7-11,21:

Father, I pray for my pastor, a servant of the gospel by the gift of Your grace through the working of Your power. Clothed in Christ, may he preach the unsearchable riches of Christ and make plain to everyone this mystery of the Gospel, hidden in ages past but now revealed through the church. To You be all glory in Your church, in this church, and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEKEND PRAYER DECEMBER 6-7

Scripture prayer using I Timothy 1:12; 4:13-16:

Father, I thank You, Who has given my pastor strength and considered him faithful, appointing him to Your service. May he remain devoted to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching, to teaching, to making Jesus known, neglecting not this gift but continuing in diligence, giving himself wholly to Your Word, so that his progress might be seen by all who watch his life and ministry. May he continue in perseverance, knowing that when he does, he will save both himself and his hearers. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

"I have made Your name known to them, and will make it known." ~ From John 17:26, Jesus prayer for believers

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

“the administration of God which is by faith.” I Timothy 1:4

Scripture prayer based on I Timothy 1:4-5,11-12,18-19:

Father, I pray that my pastor would complete Your work, the work that comes by faith, the work You prepared for him even before You laid the foundations of the earth. Fill him with the love that comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith, as he teaches sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious Gospel, the Gospel You entrusted to him. I thank You Father, for giving him strength, considering him faithful, and appointing him to Your service. I pray now for a fighting spirit within him, a spirit that holds onto faith and, with a good conscience, fights the good fight, and keeps on keepin’ on for Jesus, in Whose Name I pray, Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” II Timothy 2:1-2

Scripture prayer based on II Timothy 2:2-6:

Father, I thank You for my pastor, for his reliability, and that he is qualified to teach others. I pray for prayer itself: that **we** might **daily** encamp about him in prayer that he may continue strong *in* You and *in* the grace of Christ Jesus.

As a soldier ... I pray for Your strength, that my pastor might endure hardship like a good soldier of Christ Jesus – for no one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs – he wants to please his commanding officer.

As an athlete ... I pray for Your perseverance, that he might compete as an athlete, according to the rules, and receive the victor’s crown on that Day.

As a farmer ... Until then, grant him a farmer’s heart, that out of patient endurance, he would enjoy the first fruits share of Your harvest.

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture prayer based on Psalm 46:

Father, when life is a series of rupturing events, the earth giving way, mountains falling into the heart of the sea, waters roaring and foaming, and mountains quaking with their surging, may my pastor enter swiftly and with confidence into the Holy Place where You, the Most High, dwells; where Your streams make glad the city of God. Therein, he shall not be moved. O LORD Almighty, grant him a sense of Your presence as he waits in stillness before You, that he might know that You are God, exalted among the nations, exalted in the earth. Be exalted in the heart of my pastor. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

“God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

John 4:24

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end... I, Jesus ... I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.”

Revelation 22:13-16

Father, meet my pastor at the point of worship. Meet him with the personal-ness of Jesus. In the alone time, in the quietness, in the morning hours, and at night upon his bed, fill him with worship, fill him with Your Spirit. May his prayer room become Your Altar and be filled with Your presence as he worships You in spirit and in truth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

“Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he responded and said, ‘Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!’ Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego came out of the midst of the fire... and saw in regard to these men that the fire had no effect on the bodies of these men nor was the hair of their head singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had the smell of fire even come upon them.”

Daniel 3:26-27

Father, I pray for my pastor, that You might fill Him with Your Spirit and with faith and grace. When the PSI* is turned up in his life, pour from him rivers of faith and grace, by the power of Your Spirit, by the power of Christ, Who lives in him. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

*Pressure Per Square Inch

WEEKEND PRAYER DECEMBER 13-14

“Walk by the Spirit.” Galatians 5:16

“If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.” Galatians 5:25

“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.” Ephesians 4:30

“Be filled with the Spirit.” Ephesians 5:18

“Pray at all times in the Spirit.” Ephesians 6:18

“Do not quench the Spirit.” I Thessalonians 5:19

“[God] gives the Spirit without measure.” John 3:34

Father, grant that my pastor might be filled with Your Spirit – boundless and without limit. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“May the God of hope fill you ... that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

“He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive. John 7:38-39

“He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who is seeking the glory of the One who sent Him, He is true.” John 7:18

Father,

The world seems saturated with so many things but the one thing most needful, Jesus. I pray for the saturation of Your Spirit in my pastor.

The world seems driven by the need for fame, to be noticed. I pray that my pastor would work for the honor of the One Who called him.

The world seems thirsty for hope; they need Living Water. I pray that my pastor would be filled with Living Water, leading many to drink.

Turn many, even those looking for a reason *not* to believe, to faith.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

"Some were saying, 'He is a good man.'" John 7:12

"But many of the crowd believed in Him." John 7:31

"Some of the people ... were saying, 'This certainly is the Prophet.'" John 7:40

"Others were saying, 'This is the Christ.'" John 7:41

"As He spoke these things, many came to believe in him." John 8:30

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

"The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary." Isaiah 40:28

Scripture prayer based on selections from Isaiah 40:

Just as the grass withers, the flowers fail, youth grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; so goes my pastor, Father, unless You extend strength to him and instill Your power within.

I beseech You,

the unfathomable God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth,

Who brings out the starry host

one by one,

night after night,

calling them each by name...

By Your great power and mighty strength,

not one is missing...

I implore You,

My God, who takes hold of my pastor's right hand,

Who says to him, 'Do not fear; I will help you'...

Grant strength to my pastor and increase Your power in his weakness. Sustain him with hope; renew his strength; cause him to soar on wings of eagles, to run and not grow weary, to walk and not be faint. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

“[Jesus] got up from supper, and laid aside His garments; and taking a towel, He girded Himself. Then He poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.” John 13:4-5

Father, may my pastor lead by serving and serve by leading, following in the footsteps of Jesus. In His Name, Amen.

“Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me.” Matthew 25:40

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

“Shepherd the flock of God among you ... And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.” I Peter 5:2-4

Scripture prayer using I Peter 4:7-11:

Father, I pray that my pastor would be clear-minded and self-controlled, so that he can pray. Above all, may he love deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. May the gifts You have given him to serve others be employed to faithfully administer Your grace in its various forms. When he speaks, may he do so as one that speaks the very words of God. When he serves, may he do it with the strength You provide, so that in all things You might be praised through Jesus Christ, to Whom belongs all glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

“Blow a trumpet ... sound an alarm ... for the day of the LORD is coming. Surely it is near... rend your heart and not your garments. Now return to the LORD your God.” Joel 2:1,13

Father, when the way of faith seems perilous, steady the heart of my pastor. As he steps out to walk on what seems a tightrope of faith, spread the ground before him – broad, level, and firm with each stride. Reward his faith, and grant him the

desires of his heart: to reach the lost, to stir the desire of this body of believers, to recognize the times and know what we should do. For the lives of the multitudes hang in the balance, and the message we hold must not be restrained: *“whoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered.”* (Joel 2:32). Grant him, Father, these desires of his heart. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.” Joel 3:14

WEEKEND PRAYER DECEMBER 20-21

“Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time? Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.” Matthew 24:45-47

Scripture prayer based on Matthew 11:29-30 and II Timothy 3:16, 4:2:

Father, I pray that no yoke will be placed upon my pastor except the yoke of Your choosing. Your yoke is easy and Your burden light. Resolve every heaped up expectation, leaving only Your calling to preach the Word, to be prepared in season and out of season, to rebuke, to teach, to correct, and to train in righteousness, that we, the Body of Christ, might be thoroughly equipped for every good work. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

“And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold... The kingdom of God is like a man who casts seed upon the soil; and he goes to bed at night and gets up by day, and the seed sprouts and grows—how, he himself does not know. The soil produces crops by itself” ... With many such parables He was speaking the word to them, so far as they were able to hear it.” Mark 4:20-33

Scripture prayer based on Mark 4:8,20,28-29,33:

Father, bless and multiply the words of my pastor, like seeds that produce the stalks, then the heads, then the full kernels, and then comes the harvest. Enlarge our understanding, that we might receive these words as seed into good soil that

produces a thirty, sixty, and even hundred fold harvest. I pray for the laborers, and I pray for the harvest. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23

“You will be hearing of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not frightened, for those things must take place, but that is not yet the end. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.” Matthew 24:6-7

Scripture prayer based on Ephesians 3:16; II Timothy 3:16-17, 4:2:

Father, as my pastor sees soberly the day and time in which we live, I pray that You would strengthen him with power through Your Spirit in his inner being. May no yoke be placed on him except the yoke of Your choosing – to preach the Word in season and out of season, to teach, rebuke, correct, encourage, and train us in righteousness, with great patience and careful instruction, that we might be thoroughly equipped for every good work. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away.”
Matthew 24:35

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.” Luke 22:31-32

Scripture prayer using Philippians 4:19; Ephesians 6:10; Psalm 126:2:

Father, supply my pastor with all his needs according to Your glorious riches in Christ Jesus. May he be strong in You and in the power of Your might, being strengthened and turning to strengthen others. Grant him the desires of his heart, and fill his mouth with laughter and his tongue with songs of joy, the joy of the Lord, and may it be said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.” ... yes, the Lord, and no other. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“And He said to them, ‘When I sent you out without money belt and bag and sandals, you did not lack anything, did you?’ They said, ‘No, nothing.’” Luke 22:35

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

*“Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, ‘I find no guilt in this man.’ But they kept on insisting, saying, ‘**He stirs up the people**, teaching all over Judea, starting from Galilee even as far as this place.’” Luke 23:4-5*

Scripture prayer based on Colossians 1:28-29; I Peter 4:11, 5:4, Ephesians 1:6: Father, I pray that my pastor might stir up this body of believers, a stirring that extends well beyond her borders. I pray that he would admonish and teach everyone with all wisdom, laboring in the strength and energy of Your Spirit that so powerfully works in him. May he speak as one speaking the very words of God and serve in the strength You provide, so that in all things You might be praised through Jesus Christ. And may he serve as a humble Shepherd example to all, knowing that when the Chief Shepherd appears, he will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Amen, so be it, to the praise of the glory of Your grace, which You so freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.