

*The Gift of
Prayer*

Give Your Pastor the Gift of Prayer

Christmas 2018

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, i55pray.org, and
Grace Christian Fellowship, gracecfonline.org

Scripture used in The Gift of Prayer is from the New International Version unless otherwise noted

**“PRAYER DOES NOT FIT US FOR THE GREATER WORKS;
PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK.”**

~ Oswald Chambers

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 1-2

Romans 8:10-11

But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Scripture prayer for 'life' lived in the power of the Spirit, using selections from Romans 8:5-11:

Father, for our pastor, we pray that he would live not according to the flesh but in accordance with the Spirit, having his mind set on what the Spirit desires. For the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace – for life and peace we pray, for him and for his family. Though the body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And since the Spirit of Jesus Christ lives in our pastor, the Spirit Who raised Jesus from the dead, we ask this – so long as You give life and breath to his mortal body, accomplish through him all that is on Your heart by the power of Your Spirit. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“But the spirit, the precious soul, that is life; it is now spiritually alive, nay, it is life. Grace in the soul is its new nature; the life of the saint lies in the soul, while the life of the sinner goes no further than the body. When the body dies, and returns to the dust, *the spirit if life*; not only living and immortal, but swallowed up of life. Death to the saints is but the freeing of the heaven-born spirit from the clog and load of this body, that is may be fit to partake of eternal life.” ~**Matthew Henry**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

1 Peter 5:2-4

Shepherd the flock of God among you ... And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Scripture prayer using 1 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.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

2 Timothy 2:1-2

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.

Scripture prayer based on 2 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 5

Acts 19:13-20 (Paul in Ephesus)

13 Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, "In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out." 14 Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. 15 One day the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?" 16 Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.

17 When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. 18 Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. 19 A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. 20 In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.

Prayer for revival and a spiritual awakening in this region:

Father, make my pastor's joy complete by bringing revival to our church and to this region and by a spiritual awakening in our town and in the surrounding region. By whatever catalyst or means You choose, may believers confess their sins and unbelievers repent and put away their iniquities, however costly that may be, that the name of Jesus might spread widely and in power and be held in high honor. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

Romans 8:14

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

Prayer for the Spirit's leadership based on thoughts from Romans 8:5-17:

Father, we pray for our pastor as he leads us – that he would lead not according to the flesh with plans born of his own mind, for we desire to be led according to the Spirit, so that we would accomplish the work Your Spirit desires. Those who lead and live by the flesh cannot please You but rather those who live by faith. As he leads and we follow, we will not consider Your work enslaving but rather joy, for those who share in Christ's sufferings will also share in His glory.

And now, may Your Spirit lead our pastor, and may he submit to the Spirit's leadership – the Spirit Who brought about our adoption to sonship, Who made us heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, the Spirit of Him Who raised Christ from the dead. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

1 John 4:13

This is how we know that we live in him and he in us: He has given us of his Spirit.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

Psalm 46:10

*“Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.”*

Prayer to prioritize Biblical meditation in daily life, with thoughts from Psalm 46:10:

Father, in the hectic and frenetic pace of life, we pray that You would guide our pastor to prioritize and practice Biblical meditation – to be still and know that You are God, that You might be exalted in the heart of my pastor. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

“We need to embrace the notion that Biblical meditation is God’s mechanism to connect more deeply with us and to achieve His will in our life for success and spiritual prosperity... Meditation requires slowing down and spending regular time in quiet, contemplative consideration of scripture. This slower and deeper pursuit of God is in contrast to the frenetic, over-scheduled and non-stop lifestyle of most Americans and much of the rest of the world.” ~**Bill Haynes**

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 8-9

Matthew 21:13

“It is written,” he said to them, “My house will be called a house of prayer.”

A prayer that God would make His house, a house of prayer:

Father, thank you that my pastor values and prioritizes prayer. I pray for prayer itself, that You would incline his heart all the more to make us a house of prayer. For You did not call Your house, a house of worship or a house of teaching and preaching. You called Your house, a house of prayer. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

“When God’s house on earth is a house of prayer, *then* God’s house in Heaven is busy and all potent in its plans and movements, *then* his earthly armies are clothed with the triumphs and spoils of victory, and his enemies defeated on every hand.” ~**E.M. Bounds**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10

Exodus 17:12-16

12 When Moses' hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. 13 So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword... 15 Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner [Jehovah-Nissi]. 16 He said, "Because hands were lifted up against the throne of the LORD, the LORD will be at war against the Amalekites from generation to generation."

Prayer to unite in prayer for our pastor for the sake of this generation, with thoughts from Exodus 17:12-16:

Father, we stand together in prayer, lifting up the hands of our pastor. We desire the victory that comes to those who pray, who lift up holy hands in prayer. Against the evil one's war being waged for this generation, we lift our pastor's hands and ours. We cannot lose this generation for lack of prayer. Make us a house of prayer. Renew our tears for the lost. Revive us, O Father. Spread Your banner over this generation and prime them for a spiritual awakening, this generation that has exhausted itself searching for purpose and meaning. And all they need is Jesus, in Whose Name we pray, Amen.

"A changed world begins with us ... and a changed us begins when we pray." ~**Eugene Peterson**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11

2 Timothy 3:17

So the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4:5

Do the work of an evangelist.

Scripture prayer for faithfulness in the ministry, based on 2 Timothy 3:5, 4:1-5,17; Philippians 2:15-16:

Father, we give thanks for our pastor, Your servant, whom You have equipped for the work of the ministry. In view of Jesus' appearing and His coming kingdom, may our pastor be faithful to preach the Word, season after season – amid a crooked and warped generation, who turn to myths,

who have a form of godliness but deny its power, who surround themselves with those who pacify their itching ears. In a day when sound doctrine is not tolerated, may our pastor remain faithful – continue to correct, rebuke, equip and encourage, with great patience and careful instruction; do the work of an evangelist; fulfill all the duties of the ministry – that the message of the Gospel might be fully proclaimed, that he and all of us might shine like stars in the sky as we hold fast to the Word of life. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“Pastoral ministry is a business unlike any other. It is a dangerous business. A sacred business. A business where the souls of people are at stake.” ~**Stephen Altrogge**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

Judges 2:7-10

The people served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel. Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten... After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel.

Scripture prayer for our generation to pass on the baton of faith to the next generation, using Psalm 145:3-7:

Great are You, Lord, and most worthy of praise. Your greatness no one can fathom. May our pastor lead us to commend Your works to the younger generation – to tell of Your mighty acts, to speak of the glorious splendor of Your majesty, to meditate on Your wonderful works, to tell of the power of Your awesome works, and to proclaim Your great deeds – that all of our sons and daughters might celebrate Your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of Your righteousness. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“Whatever the reasons may have been, someone somewhere dropped the baton of faith.... and a great big God became so small in the eyes of his people that an entire generation could no longer see him. Yes, we have a tremendous responsibility. Hand off the baton well and we represent God as big to the world around us. Hand off poorly ... [and] all of the ground we have taken can be quickly lost as an entire generation is left unreached.”

~**Christine Caine**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

Psalm 34:15

The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their cry.

Psalm 4:1

Answer me, when I call to you, O my righteous God.

Scripture prayer for a life of worship and prayer, using Psalm

34:1-5:

Father, may my pastor extol You at all times, Father, your praise being continually on his lips. May his soul boast in You; let the afflicted hear and rejoice. May he glorify You, Lord, alongside us, as we exalt Your name together. May our pastor seek You, Lord. Answer him and deliver him from all his fears. Those who look to You are radiant; may his face never be covered with shame. In Jesus Name, Amen.

Psalm 64:1

Hear me, O God, as I voice my complaint; protect my life from the threat of the enemy.

Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

Acts 15:32-35

Judas and Silas, who themselves were prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the believers. After spending some time there, they were sent off by the believers with the blessing of peace to return to those who had sent them. But Paul and Barnabas remained in Antioch, where they and many others taught and preached the word of the Lord.

Prayer for the accomplishing of all that is in the heart of God:

Father, just as New Testament believers were *sent* to strengthen and instruct the churches, we believe that you *sent* our pastor and his family to us. And so, we first give thanks to You for Your care and sovereign hand over the life of our church, for sending our pastor and his family to us to strengthen and instruct us. In turn, may we be faithful to pray for the strength of our pastor, rather Your strength working through him by the

power of Your Spirit, that his labor among us would be in Your strength and not his own.

Bring him and his family to our minds, and often, that in partnership with Your Spirit, we may never be remiss by failing to fervently pray for Your grace and peace and strength in him, that You may accomplish through him all that is in Your heart. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. I ended up by asking Him to do His work through me.” ~**Hudson Taylor**

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 15-16

Romans 8:26-27,34

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God... Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Scripture prayer for faith and fervency and confidence in prayer, using Romans 8:26-27,34:

Father, we pray for our pastor, for the help of Your Spirit in his weakness. Even the Apostle Paul said, “*We do not know what we ought to pray for.*” When our pastor does not know what to pray, may he pray still – standing in the confidence that the Spirit Himself intercedes through wordless groans and that Christ Jesus is at Your right hand also interceding and that these intercessions will therefore be made in accordance with Your will. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“[Paul] puts himself among the rest. Folly, and weakness, and distraction in prayer, are what all the saints are complaining of. If so great a saint as Paul knew not what to pray for, what little reason have we to go forth about that duty in our own strength! ... It is not the rhetoric and eloquence, but the faith and fervency, of our prayers, that the Spirit works, as an intercessor, in us.” ~**Matthew Henry**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17

Acts 13:42-52

As Paul and Barnabas were leaving the synagogue, the people invited them to speak further about these things on the next Sabbath... When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy... Then Paul and Barnabas answered them boldly... When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord... But the Jewish leaders... stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region... And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Prayer to stand firm in the faith, imploring others to be reconciled to Christ:

Father, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news. May our pastor continue to speak Your Word of Truth, the good news, even when the flesh and the Spirit collide as in our text in Acts, where Your Word sparked jealousy, boldness, gladness, honor, persecution, and the joy of the Spirit. May our pastor continue to stand firm in the face of opposition and resistance, holding out the Word of Life, imploring others to be reconciled to Christ, until the day of Jesus' return. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Acts 13:48

When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and honored the word of the Lord; and all who were appointed for eternal life believed.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18

Romans 8:37-39

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Scripture prayer to remember the love of God for His people, using Romans 8:37-39:

Father, You have declared our pastor to be more than a conqueror through You, Who loves him. You have said in Your Word that nothing can separate him from Your love – neither death nor life, neither angels nor

demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation. May he, and his sweet family, feel Your love today – the love that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. In His Name, Amen.

“A review of this wonderful chapter [Romans 8] shows that the Christian is completely victorious. We are free from judgment because Christ died for us and we have His righteousness. We are free from defeat because Christ lives in us by His Spirit and we share His life. We are free from discouragement because Christ is coming for us and we shall share His glory. We are free from fear because Christ intercedes for us and we cannot be separated from His love.” ~**Warren Wiersbe**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19

1 Thessalonians 5:18

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Prayer of thanksgiving for pastor and family:

Father, we give thanks for our pastor who is committed to speaking the Truth, who is captive to the Word of God. We give thanks for his family, who stands with unwavering support behind and beside him. We give thanks for the love expressed by them, for they love not with words or speech alone but in actions and in truth. We pray your blessings of love, joy, and peace in their home; for a healthy marriage and relationships with their children; and for hilarious laughter, good times, and countless sweet memories for this family. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

1 John 3:18

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20

Psalms 68:3

But may the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; may they be happy and joyful.

Scripture prayer for the canopy of God's blessing over the home and family, using Psalm 115:12-15:

May You, Lord, remember my pastor and bless him. May You bless him and his family, all the people of his house. Even so, bless all of our church, all who fear Your name – small and great alike. May You cause my pastor to flourish, both him and his children. May he and his family be happy today, his home filled with joy and laughter – a blessing from You, the Maker of Heaven and earth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“It is the consciousness of the threefold joy of the Lord, His joy in ransoming us, His joy in dwelling within us as our Saviour and Power for fruitbearing and His joy in possessing us, as His Bride and His delight; it is the consciousness of this joy which is our real strength. Our joy in Him may be a fluctuating thing: His joy in us knows no change.” ~**Hudson Taylor**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21

Acts 4:23-29

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them... Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.”

Scripture prayer for courage and boldness in preaching God's Word, based on thoughts from Acts 2:31-36, 4:12-13,29 and Philippians 2:9-11:

Father, we give thanks for the record of Acts at the pen of Luke, that we might read how, at Jesus' resurrection and ascension, the church was born and the name of Jesus mightily preached under the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus, under whose feet His enemies were placed, took His place at Your right hand and now governs the affairs of His church. Even now, at the mere *name* of Jesus, every knee must bow in heaven and earth and under the earth.

Like the early church, may our church pray together and fast and, in unity, ask that You would fill our pastor with great courage and boldness, with the anointing of Your Spirit, that he might preach Your Word boldly. Even so, may all of our church speak Your Word boldly, until many in this

generation call on the name of the Lord and are saved. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Acts 4:31

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 22-23

Psalm 103:17-18

From everlasting to everlasting

the LORD's love is with those who fear him,

and his righteousness with their children's children—

with those who keep his covenant

and remember to obey his precepts.

Scripture prayer remembering the love and benefits of God, based on thoughts from Psalm 103:

Father, Your Word gives assurance that Your love is with my pastor and his family, always and forever, from everlasting to everlasting, without pause or interruption. How could we ever forget Your benefits? You forgive, heal, redeem, crown, satisfy, renew, work righteousness, have compassion, and extend grace. So great is Your love toward my pastor and his family. So far, as far as the east is from the west, have You removed their transgressions, for they love, serve, and follow You. Bless this sweet family in the midst of their everyday circumstances. Give them pause to remember, experience, and be satisfied in Your love – inseparable love, ever-present *now*, boundless, spanning from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

Isaiah 61:11

For as the soil makes the sprout come up

and a garden causes seeds to grow,

so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness

and praise spring up before all nations.

Scripture prayer for joy, with thoughts from Isaiah 61:10-11 and Psalm 46:10:

Father, I pray that our pastor would delight greatly in You, that his soul would rejoice in his God. You have equipped him for ministry, having clothed him in garments of salvation and a robe of righteousness. As he tills, plants, waters, prunes, and cultivates, may the seeds planted in the hearts of our church erupt in sprouts, take in the dew of morning and Sonshine of day, and grow and mature until righteousness and praise spring up, until we experience personal and corporate revival, until its fire spreads far beyond our borders, until the nations observe and worship our God.

May You nourish our pastor in the quiet times before You, in stillness in the closet of prayer during this Holy Season, that he may not miss the joy in the journey and the heightened awareness of Your presence. Be exalted, O God, in him. Be exalted at our church. Be exalted among the nations. Be exalted in all the earth. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“The church, when she is pleasing herself with the righteousness and salvation that Jesus Christ has clothed her with, rejoices to think that these inestimable blessings shall both spring for future ages and spread to distant regions. They shall spring forth for ages to come, as the fruits of the earth which are produced every year, from generation to generation.”

~**Matthew Henry**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Isaiah 11:2

The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.

Isaiah 11:9b

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

Scripture prayer for the filling of the Spirit, using Isaiah 11:2,9:

Father, we ask that you would fill our pastor with Your Spirit – the Spirit of the Lord, the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord. As we celebrate the birth of Christ, our Savior, through Him, may our pastor teach and preach with such power and effectiveness, that all of our church would be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. I ended up by asking Him to do His work through me.” ~**Hudson Taylor**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26

Isaiah 64:1-2

*Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!
As when fire sets twigs ablaze
and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!*

Scripture prayer for God's Name to be made known among the nations, based on Psalm 67:

Father, set ablaze the hearts of my pastor and all of Your church. There's a Name to be made known – Your Name. May our pastor and all of us, Your church, praise You. May all the people praise You. Let us be glad and sing for joy, for You reign in Heaven and You guide the nations of the earth. May the people of this church praise You, God. May all the people praise You, that when Your blessing comes and the nations of the earth see it, then all the ends of the earth will fear Your Name.

Let our church be the piece of the puzzle in Your grand design to bring fame to Your Name. In the heart of my pastor and in our hearts, may no desire surpass this one desire, for the fame of Your Name, that all the ends of the earth will fear Your Name. In the sweet Name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

Psalm 67:1-2

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face shine on us—*

*so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture prayer for enduring faith using selections from Hebrews 11 through 12:3:

Father, I pray for the faith of my pastor that he would be:

- sure of what he hopes for and certain of what he does not see;
- an heir of righteousness that comes by faith;
- looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God;
- longing for that better country – a heavenly one, the city prepared for the saints.

May he throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and run with perseverance the race marked out for him, fixing his eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of his faith, Who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. May my pastor consider Him Who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that he will not grow weary and lose heart. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

Psalm 46:4-5

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day.

Scripture prayer for unshaken confidence in the Lord, based on thoughts from Psalm 46:

Father, when life is a series of rupturing events, when it seems the earth is giving way, mountains are falling into the heart of the sea, waters are roaring and foaming, and mountains are quaking with their surging, may my pastor rise at break of day and enter confidently into the Holy Place of Your dwelling. Where Your streams make glad the city of God, make glad his heart also.

Lord God Almighty, grant my pastor the sense of Your presence as he centers down in silence before You. Erect in him a quiet center. Grant him unshakeable confidence, knowing You are God. Be exalted among the nations and in all the earth, but also be exalted in his heart and in the home of my pastor. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“The prayer offered to God in the morning during your quiet time is the key that unlocks the door of the day. Any athlete knows that it is the start that ensures a good finish.” ~**Adrian Rogers**

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 29-30

Proverbs 29:25

But he who trusts in the LORD will be exalted.

Scripture prayer for peace and rest, using Psalm 37:3-8; Matthew 11:28-30:

Father, I pray that my pastor and his family would trust in You, Lord, and do good; dwell in the land; enjoy the gentle pastures of Jesus. Fill them with delight in You and with the desires of Your own heart, then grant them the desires of their hearts. May all their ways be committed to You, entrusted to You, knowing that You will do this: make Your righteousness shine through them like the dawn and the justice of Your cause like the noonday sun.

Grant that they might be still before You, wait patiently on You. When others appear to succeed in wicked ways, keep them from fretting, from anger, from wrath, that leads not to the glory of God. Grant them spiritual rest, spiritual strength, and spiritual refreshment. When they are weary, may they come to Jesus and find rest, take on His yoke, and learn from Him – the Gentle Shepherd, humble in heart, Who says, *“My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”*

Yes, grant my pastor and his family rest in You. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

John 15:15-16

No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have

heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.

Scripture prayer for spiritual growth and refining using John 15:1-4,8:

Father, Jesus being the true vine and You the gardener, we trust You for the growth and refining of our pastor – to cut off every branch that bears no fruit and prune the fruitful branches to bear even more fruit. He is already clean because of Your Word. As You remain in him, may he remain in You, knowing he cannot bear fruit by himself but only through Jesus, the vine, and only in remaining in Him. Be glorified through him as he humbles himself before You, as he prays, as discipleship and faith abound and Your glory, all the more. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

“Behind every work of God you will always find some kneeling form.”
~**Dwight L. Moody**

PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR – JANUARY 1, 2019

Luke 23:4-5

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.”

Scripture prayer based on Colossians 1:28-29; 1 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.

**“It is absolutely necessary for the preacher to pray.
And it is an absolute necessity that the preacher be prayed for.”
~E.M. Bounds**

