

PRAYER JOURNAL

LIFE

Develop · Discover · Discern

Dear friend,

For the past year and a half, we, at MPCC, have sensed God's prompting on our hearts to have a greater spiritual influence with those who have yet to make a decision to follow Christ. We know that Jesus called all of us as believers to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them . . . and teaching them to obey everything He commanded (Matthew 28:19-20). While we are locally focused and globally engaged with an undeniable IMPACT for Christ, we now want to take this mandate even more personally as we begin to launch a new initiative that will change the direction and future of our church, called One Life.

We believe that in all our lives, there is one person with whom you have a natural influence, affinity, and relationship with that still needs to make a life changing decision for Christ. We are affectionately calling this person in our lives our "One Life." I'm sure we all can think of people in our life who have influenced us for Christ. We were probably their One Life. Now it is your turn. In no way are we seeing our One Life as a project, but we are simply being more intentional about responding to Christ's command to us to make disciples of the people with whom we already have a relationship and caring enough about their relationship with God, that we begin to invest our lives in them.

So, what is your part? Prayerfully consider who your One Life will be, and engage them by using the 3D1 strategy as your guide. This is what we mean when we say, "3D1"

- **Develop Friendship**
- **Discover Stories**
- **Discern Next Steps**

We believe this 3D1 strategy will change the trajectory of our church. You will be seeing 3D1 in all aspects of our communication and in our worship experiences. Our Core Four strategies (compelling worship, relational discipleship, spiritual influence and serving others) along with prayer allow us to fully respond to God's call on our lives here at Mount Pleasant. However, it all begins with prayer.

This prayer journal is a 30-day resource for you to utilize to help you pray for your One Life. It will also serve as a space where you can read the Word of God and listen to the Holy Spirit as He directs you; so prayerfully write down your thoughts, roadblocks, lessons learned, and even the breakthroughs you might have with your One Life. Each 10-day section of this journal corresponds with one of the 3Ds. May this help inspire you to live out the One Life Challenge. Let's also pray together for each other's One Life! Most importantly, let's give God the glory for what He is about to do through you.

Blessings!



Fred Meadows
Connections Pastor
One Life Point Leader

Develop Friendships

DAY 1

Then Jesus came to them and said, All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the end of the age. – Matthew 28:18-20

How passionate about evangelism are you? What steps could you take to grow your passion for evangelism?

Pray for those who don't know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Pray for God to develop a heart for those who don't know the Lord and are without hope. Pray for a passion to share the love and gift of salvation we have received.

DAY 2

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

– Romans 12:9-10

What causes your heart to grow cold toward non-Christians? What can you do to overcome this level of apathy?

Pray for your heart to be softened toward non-Christians so you may become friends with them. Pray for the humbleness of your heart, to consider others above yourself, and be willing to do whatever it takes to reach others for the sake of Jesus Christ.

DAY 3

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God. – 2 Corinthians 5:20

What motivates you to initiate and build authentic friendships with people far from God?

Ask God to draw your heart to the truth of Jesus Christ and His Word. Pray, as Christ's ambassadors, that we seek out those far from God so they may know Him through the work of the Holy Spirit and our actions.

DAY 4

Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good deeds and give glory to your Father who in heaven. – Matthew 5:15-16

What obstacles hinder you from developing friendships with non-Christians?

Pray for God to reveal the obstacles in you so they can be removed, allowing you to be the light of Christ.

DAY 5

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in it's blessings.

– 1 Corinthians 9:22-23

What fears and concerns might non-Christians have about being friends with Christians?

Pray for sensitivity to the fears and concerns of non-Christians. Pray for humility in your relationships and a clear reflection of the testimony of Jesus' work in your life.

DAY 6

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other; and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
– Colossians 3:12-14

What might your One Life need from you to ensure a safe and sincere friendship?

Pray for the opportunity to build trust with your One Life. Pray that through your Christlike attitude and actions, your One Life will begin opening up to a deeper friendship.

DAY 7

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry; because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. – James 1:19-20

What can you do to build a bridge of trust with your One Life? What could dismantle the bridge of trust between you and your One Life?

Pray for opportunities to build mutual trust. Pray for your One Life and the hurt from the past that destroys trust. Pray to be slow to speak and quick to hear.

DAY 8

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can lift the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. – Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

For you and your One Life, what areas of common interest can you identify? Based on those commonalities, what specific steps will you take to initiate time together?

Pray for a common passion around which to build a relationship. Pray for a mutual desire to grow in your friendship.

DAY 9

By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. – John 13:35

It has been said that people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. What are some ways you can authentically demonstrate care for your One Life?

Pray for opportunities to demonstrate how much you genuinely care for your One Life. Pray for opportunities to love the non-Christians in your life.

DAY 10

Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. – 1 Peter 4:8

How might you prioritize time in your daily life to pray about your heart and attitude toward your One Life, as well as your personal efforts to spend time with him or her?

Pray about how to simplify your life so you can invest more time in your One Life. Ask God to help you display the love of Christ.

Discover Stories

DAY 11

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise. – Proverbs 10:19

What does it mean to seek first to understand before seeking to be understood? In what ways would practicing this principle make a positive impact on the non-Christians in your life?

Pray that your first intention would be to listen and not speak. Pray that you seek to hear and understand so that you can find wisdom in the Word of God.

DAY 12

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. – Philippians 2:3

What are some of the benefits behind sincerely showing interest in hearing another person's story?

Pray you value your One Life's story and the journey God has brought them on. Pray you set aside biases or preconceived notions so you can love them as Christ loves us.

DAY 13

The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. – 2 Peter 3:9

Think about your One Life. How well do you know his or her life story? ...his or her spiritual story? What steps could you take to get to know your One Life better?

Pray for opportunities to ask and hear about the deeper story of your One Life. Pray for patience as God orchestrates the meetings and conversations with the desire to share the love of Jesus Christ through you.

DAY 14

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes – Romans 1:16

What are the benefits of asking good questions?

Pray that God leads you in the questions to ask of your One Life. Pray to be sensitive yet bold in your personal faith as an example of how Jesus Christ works.

DAY 15

But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. 'Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened.' But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect – 1 Peter 3:14-15

Generally speaking, how well do you engage in conversations using sincere questions? How might you grow in this area?

Pray for a deeper understanding in your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and the hope you have. Pray as your relationship deepens, God engages your One Life in transformational questions.

DAY 16

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love, – Ephesians 4:2

What are the benefits of listening well?

Pray that as you listen, with humility, gentleness, and patience, your heart will be drawn to God in directing your One Life conversations.

DAY 17

Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone. – Colossians 4:5-6

How would you rate your ability to listen well? How might you improve your listening skills?

Pray that as you walk with Christ, you sense His presence and the peace He brings to the journey of life. Pray that God's peace affects your ability to listen well and bring the wisdom of God.

DAY 18

How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! – Romans 10:14-15

In the past, what opportunities to discuss spiritual things have you either leveraged or let slip by? How did you feel about those lost opportunities? How can you ensure you make the most of every opportunity in the future?

Pray for boldness to share spiritual things when God provides opportunities. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you the words and courage to fully engage with your One Life as they explore what it means to follow Christ.

DAY 19

Man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. – Matthew 4:4

What prevents you from feeling more confident to initiate and carry on spiritual conversations with your One Life?

Pray that as you spend time in God's Word, He will bring to mind Scripture to help with your spiritual conversations.

DAY 20

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. – John 15:12-15

What are some safe ways you could sincerely initiate spiritual conversations with your One Life?

Pray that just as Christ loves you, His love would flow through you into the spiritual conversations with your One Life.

Discern Next Steps

DAY 21

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. – James 1:22

Define the word “discern”. What process could you follow to be able to discern the best next steps to take with your One Life?

Pray for wisdom and discernment for the next steps you can take with your One Life. Pray for boldness to do what the Word of God says.

DAY 22

And we urge you, brothers, warn those who are idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else. – 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15

What aspects of the above verse can be applied to discerning the next steps with your One Life?

Pray in confidence that as you ask for God's guidance, help, strength, and timing, He will answer your prayers.

DAY 23

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

How can you safeguard against ever viewing your One Life as a project?

Pray for a thankful heart, for your One Life relationship, and for the journey God has you on.

DAY 24

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. – Philippians 4:6-7

How do you balance the tension between the urgency of the Gospel and honoring people in the process?

Pray for trust and peace in God's timing. Pray God will provide the right time for sharing the Gospel with your One Life.

DAY 25

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love.

– Galatians 5:13

What ideas come to mind as you pray about taking a next step in your friendship with your One Life?

Pray for occasions to serve and then serve alongside your One Life. Pray these opportunities would reveal to your One Life God's heart for others.

DAY 26

The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and cannot understand them because they are spiritually discerned. – 1 Corinthians 2:14

What guidelines (do's and don'ts) come to mind as you consider the process of inviting non-Christians to take spiritual next steps?

Pray for God's guidance as to when and how to invite your One Life to church. Pray that as you have spiritual conversations, the Holy Spirit reveals the things of God so your One Life may gain understanding.

DAY 27

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. – Galatians 6:2

What factors suggest that you have earned the right to invite your One Life to attend a church service with you?

Pray for your One Life to have an open heart to eventually attend a church service with you. Pray that as you journey in life together, there will be opportunities to take greater risks in being open and transparent with each other.

DAY 28

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under Heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved. – Acts 4:12

What signals tip you off that it's time to back away from trying to engage in a spiritual conversation with your One Life? What indicators suggest the opposite—that you could respectfully challenge your One Life in an in-depth spiritual discussion?

Pray for a clear direction from God for when to slow down or speed up the pace of spiritual conversations. Pray for confidence that salvation is found in no one other than Jesus Christ so when the time comes you can confidently proclaim the name of Jesus Christ.

DAY 29

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16

How confident are you in your ability to clearly articulate the Gospel and assist a person in receiving Jesus Christ into his or her life?

Pray for God to continually bring to mind Scripture you need as you share the message of Christ. Pray that your One Life receives the love displayed through the life, sacrifice, and eternal life provided by Jesus Christ.

DAY 30

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, – Romans 3:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. – Romans 6:23

If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. – Romans 10:9

What steps could you take to better prepare yourself to clearly articulate the Gospel message?

Pray for knowledge and the wisdom of Scripture. Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you clearly articulate the Gospel and all may celebrate your One Life joining the family of God.

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