



Cultivating a Culture of Prayer

Eastpoint Christian
Church



CCP

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Culture of Prayer

Join us as we purpose to grow closer to God and become more like Jesus - this is what we've been called to. When we pray, we are in communication with God.

We must pray out of **relationship** with God, but we must also pray out of **partnership** with God.

In Matthew 7:24 we read, "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock."

In prayer, we find freedom from our pasts and the strongholds that keep us from living a victorious life.

We hear the voice of God, learn His will & find meaning as sons & daughters of the King.

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

James 5:13-16

The Lord's Prayer

In Matthew 6 the Lord answers the disciples' charge to teach them how to pray - known as the Lord's prayer.

Throughout scripture we see Jesus escaping away to be alone with His Father to pray. If Jesus held prayer in such high regard, how much more should we?

In prayer we pray for His Kingdom to come and overtake the darkness in the world around us. Through prayer, we find freedom from our pasts and the strongholds that keep us from living a victorious life. Prayer is how we hear the voice of God, learn His will and find meaning and purpose as sons and daughters of the King.

Jesus gave us a prayer template that helps us stay directed as we pray with Him. Let's break down the Lord's prayer and let it help us as we cultivate a culture of prayer in our own life as well as in our city. Insert the prayer points on the following pages into the most appropriate place on this template that Jesus gives us.

Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy. May your kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.

Matthew 6:9-13

The Lord's Prayer

¹*Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.*

Spend time honoring the Father, his holiness, his goodness, and his love. Recognize that as you embrace him as Lord of your life he makes you holy also. Thank him for this and recognize the freedom you now have to approach him.

²*May your Kingdom come soon.*

We declare that God would rule over our domain. We declare that righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit would be what dictates our thoughts and actions. We pray that the people around us as well as institutions would surrender to his Kingdom.

³*May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.*

Let's consider what we see around us: Broken families, addiction, crime, poverty, racism, sickness, homelessness, etc. Now consider what heaven's environment must be like and whether any of these things would exist in God's Kingdom - probably not. Jesus asks us to declare these wrongs to be righted as we pray according to his instructions.

4 *Give us today the food we need,*

Give thanks for the resources he has supplied for us. Continue to increase our dependency on his provision by asking on behalf of our neighbors as well. Notice the word “our” is used throughout this prayer. We must pray as a collective. Just as Jesus referred to himself as the “bread of life” ask him for spiritual nourishment as well.

Matthew 4:4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’

The Lord's Prayer

5 *And forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.*

We must never forget what Jesus has done for us. He died for our value by washing away our sins through the cross. Since He rose to be with the Father we also have access to the Father. But... not if we don't afford that same forgiveness to those who do us wrong. We must not hesitate to forgive, because we can't afford to be unforgiven. Pray for your brothers and sisters to grasp God's heart on this.

The Lord's Prayer

⁶ *And don't let us yield to temptation,*

Pray that we would avoid impure and unloving thoughts and acts by drawing our attention to the Father, fixing our eyes on Jesus and enjoying His holy presence. We forfeit the life Jesus suffered for us to enjoy if we indulge in our selfish desires.

⁷ *but rescue us from the evil one.*

Pray the veil of Satan's lies would be lifted from our eyes so we can clearly see the authority and power that Jesus makes available to us to make His Kingdom and love a reality on this earth. We must grasp that we are powerless against the enemy apart from our submission to God.

Prayer Guide for Greater Portland



Our Abiding would Increase

Actively sharing intimate times with Jesus, both speaking and hearing.

Rev. 3:20 Behold I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends.

John 5:19 I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees His Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

John 15:7 But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!

Be filled with the Holy Spirit more & more

We need the power of the Spirit continually coming upon us.

Eph. 5:18 Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts.

Eph. 3:16 I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit.

Rom. 15:13 I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We would hear from God

We must be listening so that we can obey.

Matt. 17:5 This is my dearly loved son, who brings me great joy. Listen to him.

Matt. 4:4 'People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

Jer. 33:3 Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

Be obedient to the commands of Jesus

Because we love Him, we obey Him.

John 14:21 Those who accept my commandments and obey them are the ones who love me. And because they love me, my Father will love them. And I will love them and reveal myself to each of them.

1 John 5:3 Loving God means keeping His commandments, and His commandments are not burdensome.

John 14:23 Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them."

We would overcome the enemy

There is only one way we can overcome the enemy.

Rev. 12:11 And they have defeated him by the blood of the Lamb and by their testimony.

Matt. 12:29 For who is powerful enough to enter the house of a strong man and plunder his goods? Only someone even stronger—someone who could tie him up and then plunder his house.

Rom. 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. May the grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

Build relationships with those far from God

What better way to show someone how much God loves them.

Col. 4:5 Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

1 Peter 3:15 Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your Hope.

Matt. 5:16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise Your Heavenly Father.

Walk in power and authority to heal and deliver

It is the only way that we will be able to heal and deliver.

Luke 10:9 Look, I have given you authority over all the power of the enemy, and you can walk among snakes and scorpions and crush them. Nothing will injure you.

Acts 10:38 And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

Matt 10:1 Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them authority to cast out evil spirits and to heal every kind of disease and illness.

We would be bold for the Gospel

What if you were the one who had not heard about Jesus?

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes.

Mark 8:38 If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son Of Man will be ashamed of that person when He returns in the glory of His Father with the Holy Angels.

Rom. 15:19 They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ...

More laborers would join the movement

Don't be surprised if this means you and don't be surprised with how much joy you'll have.

Luke 10:2 These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields.

Rom. 10:15 And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? Just as it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of good things.

Mark 16:15 And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to everyone."

We would have protection from the enemy

God is the only one who can provide this protection.

Psalms 91:2 - 4 This I declare about the Lord: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; He is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection.

Psalms 23:4 Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.

2 Thess. 3:3 But the Lord is faithful. He will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one.

Make disciples that multiply

God would bring in a bountiful harvest that reproduces supernaturally.

Acts 9:31 The church then had peace throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria, and it became stronger as the believers lived in the fear of the Lord. And with the encouragement of the Holy Spirit, it also grew in numbers.

Acts 6:7 So the Gospel continued to spread. The number of believers greatly increased in Jerusalem and many of the Jewish priests were converted too.

Acts 5:14 Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord - crowds of both men And women.

Church Unity

Through our abiding, churches in Greater Portland would become one in purpose.

John 17:23 I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

Phil. 2:2 Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.

Phil. 1:27 Above all, you must live as citizens of Heaven, conducting yourselves in a manner worthy of the Good News about Christ. Then, whether I come and see you again or only hear about you, I will know that you are standing together with one spirit and one purpose, fighting together for the faith, which is the Good News.

Cultivate a Culture of Prayer among believers

It is the only way to see God's Kingdom displayed among us.

Col. 4:2 Devote yourselves to prayer with an alert mind and a thankful heart. Pray for us, too, that God will give us many opportunities to speak about his mysterious plan concerning Christ.

1 Thess. 5:16-18 Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

James 5:16 The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful fruit.

True Gospel transformation & peace for Greater Portland

Whole families, sobriety, justice, education, prosperity, health, employment, racial unity, purity, mental and spiritual health.

Jeremiah 29:7 And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare.

Heb. 13:15 Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

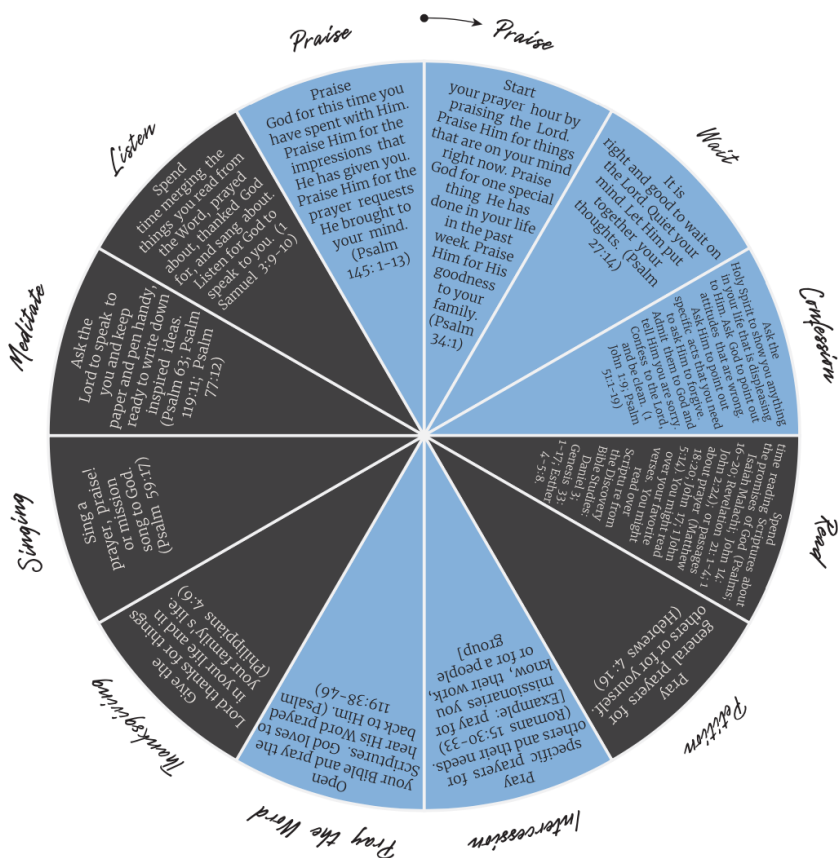
1 Tim. 2:1-2 I urge, then, first of all that petitions, prayers, intercession be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

Catalyst to Abiding



Elevate A PRAYER CYCLE

Devote approximately five minutes per segment in focused prayer.
You will spend 30 minutes in prayer if you pray through only the BLUE segments.
If you include the GRAY segments, you will have spent sweet hour in prayer.



Catalyst to Abiding cont.

01. PRAISE

Praising the Lord for things that are on your mind. Praise Him for one special thing He has done in your life the past week, for His goodness to your family. (Psalm 34:1)

02. WAIT

It is right and good to wait on the Lord. Be still and silent, let Him put together your thoughts. (Psalm 27:14)

03. CONFESS

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you anything in your life that might be displeasing to Him. Ask Him to point out attitudes that are wrong, and specific acts for which you have not yet made a prayer for confession. Now confess that to the Lord so that you might be cleansed. (1 John 1:9, Psalm 51:1-19)

04. READ

Spend time reading in the Psalms, prophets, and passages on prayer in the New Testament.

05. ASK

Make requests on behalf of yourself. (Hebrews 4:16)

06. INTERCESSION

Make requests on behalf of others. (Romans 15:30-33)

07. PRAY THE WORD

Open your Bible and pray the Scriptures. God loves to hear His Word prayed back to Him. (Psalm 119:38-46)

08. THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to the Lord for the things in your life, on behalf of others and your church. (Philippians 4:6)

09. SING

Sing songs of praise or worship or another hymn or spiritual song. (Psalm 59:17)

10. MEDITATE

Ask the Lord to speak to you, have a pen and paper ready to record impressions He gives you. (Psalm 63, Psalm 119:11)

11. LISTEN

Spend time merging the things you've read, things you've prayed and sung, and see how the Lord brings them all together. Listen for God to speak to you. (1 Samuel 3:9-10)

12. PRAISE

Praise the Lord for the time you have had to spend with Him and the impressions He has given you. Praise Him for His glorious attributes. (Psalm 145:1-13)

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Join Cultiv8 Prayer

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