

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH PRAYER DIARY — SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE TIMES 9:00 & 10:45 A.M.

MONDAY—EVANGELISTIC PRAYER

Chronological Bible Reading: *Romans 9-12*
Monday, December 3

Luke 8:47 *And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.*

Healing Lord and Helping Savior:

This woman was apparently misinformed. She thought your power came out magically, without direct knowledge or will. Since she was a stranger to your generous character she tried to steal a cure where you were ready to give it away. Yet how like _____ she is in her ignorance, and how like _____ in her superstition. My friends are in **misery**. Help me put them (even in intercession) in a right spot toward your **mercy**!

They can likewise get saved, then rejoice with trembling. Give them the assurance of salvation, knowing you will never retract the blessing of forgiveness. Help them understand the fullness of your love!

My network of lost neighbors, family and friends do not have as clear a picture of your cross as I want them to. They need to know the heights and depths of your love for them. Little may be their knowledge, little may be their faith, but if it is real faith it can save even them, and do it instantly!

Mustard seed faith of the smallest quantity brings them eternal life of the greatest consequence. Like me, they may be the slowest in the slow class, but they can still be heirs of eternal life through faith, and adopted into God's family! Then no power, human or demonic, can eject or reject them from salvation.

I cannot hold you in my hands like Simeon. I cannot lean my head on your chest like John. But if I can venture into the crowd behind, and just touch the hem of your garment, my faith will make me whole. Give courage to the timid today, so they seek you and find peace. Do it for Jesus' sake. Amen.

TUESDAY—FOCUS ON CHRIST'S PRAYER LIFE

Chronological Bible Reading: *Romans 13-16*
Tuesday, December 4

Luke 11:9 *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

Merciful Father and Holy Lord:

I am determined to make my faith forsake all dependence anywhere else except you. Make my cries grow more and more passionate as we more and more grow, and seek your face in revival. Not **every** knock at mercy's door will open it—but **one** will! If I want to prevail in prayer I have to handle the knocker well. Give me courage to smack it down today, again and again, and even again.

Matt. 11:12 *And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.*

The old Puritan said, **Cold prayers ask for a denial; it is red-hot prayers that prevail.** I will use my prayer like a battering-ram against the gate of heaven, and force it open with sacred violence. Make the army of my entire thoughts, feelings and emotions enter into that conflict, because this proves the strength of my faith. I will dare besiege the mercy seat. Make me determined to win the day by how I pray, because then I will prevail!

When there are delays, let me take them in good stride. They are sound advice to remind me to be even firmer in my faith, and more fervent in my cry.

Even the cross could not prevent the resurrection. That is so like your power! **Maybe I will have to know the death of my request before I receive it.** It is with that confidence I pray and bring every request before you.

Among all the gifts you give me, I need a devotion to prayer the most, because that is the powerhouse of triumphant, living faith. Back up that faith by visible signs of your love, your presence, and your power **this season**. Give me great drops of rain as the foretaste of great revival. In Jesus' name I plead. Amen.

WEDNESDAY—REVIVAL PRAYING

Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 21-23*
Wednesday, December 5

Phil. 4:6-7 *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

Christ Jesus My Lord:

Why do I let anxiety keep gnawing at my heart? It weakens my power to focus, to help myself, and especially my ability to glorify you. A heart full of care keeps me from seeing **anything** clearly! It's like I take off my glasses, breathe the hot breath of worry on the lenses, then put them on only to see steam. I'll never see clearly as long as I fog-up my vision with distrustful fretfulness.

Make me calm, quiet and self-possessed so I can do the right thing! Make me "all there" in time of trial. Give me presence of mind through the presence of your Spirit. If I forget to pray, no **wonder** I worry. That's when I do the first thing that comes to mind (usually the worst thing that could be done) instead of waiting on you, and trustfully believing you, so I can do what you show me, and do it as in the sight of God. **Worry is fatal to revival.**

My cares are multiplied. Once I become anxious and fretful I am never able to calculate my problems accurately. Cares always multiply on those who are "care-full." Once I give-in to worry I find another crop around the corner.

When I indulge the habit of anxiety it takes over my life. Pretty soon life is not worth living (nor should it be without you). If my worries are manifold, let my prayers be more manifold this week! **Help me turn everything that is a care into a prayer.** That is the way to revival! Let my stresses become the raw material of my prayer power, because then I can turn lead into gold, and weave spiritual treasures out of earthly annoyances. Today I baptize every worry into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and so make it a blessing! Amen.

A DAILY PATTERN FOR PRAYER & BIBLE READING

Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 24-26*
Thursday, December 6

Luke 1:38 *And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.*

LET earth and Heaven combine, angels and men agree,
To praise in songs divine the incarnate Deity,
Our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made Man.

He laid His glory by, He wrapped Him in our clay;
Unmarked by human eye, the latent Godhead lay;
Infant of days He here became, and bore the mild Immanuel's Name.

See in that Infant's face the depths of deity,
And labor while ye gaze to sound the mystery
In vain; ye angels gaze no more, but fall, and silently adore.

He deigns in flesh t'appear, widest extremes to join;
To bring our vileness near, and make us all divine:
And we the life of God shall know, for God is manifest below.

—Charles Wesley, 1745



FRIDAY—CORPORATE PRAYER MINISTRY

Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 27-28*
Friday, December 7

Luke 11:13 *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

Grace-Giver of Christmas:

WE CRY OUT TO YOU! GIVE US MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. We need him to be inside us more and more mightily as the *spirit of prayer*, making intercession in us with groanings that cannot be uttered. **We do not want our church to miss your blessings for lack of intentionally asking for them!**

WE CRY OUT TO YOU! GIVE US MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. That he may be our advocate—not with God, because we have that in Jesus Christ—but with men and women! Your indwelling is the "standing miracle" of our lives.

Acts 4:14 *And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.*

Make this so in our own lives Lord, and in our church, so all the opposition has to admit Jesus' work is real, because they see it in changed lives. We can conquer every doubt when we are in contact with you.

WE CRY OUT TO YOU! GIVE US MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Because we want to see you work today just like "back in the day." Why do we need **new inventions** when we have the Holy Spirit's power? And what have we to do with **old limitations**—Oh Spirit of God—if you go with us?

WE CRY OUT TO YOU! GIVE US MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. We need you for holiness, so make us more like Jesus. We need you for a heart of compassion that cares for the poor and loves the fallen! **We need you to freeze our native unbelief.** Let us not be distrustful of Jesus as we plan.

WE CRY OUT TO YOU! GIVE US MORE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Only his anointing will do for this hour. That is our list. Answer us to Jesus' glory. Amen.

SATURDAY—IN THE PSALMS

Chronological Bible Reading: *Galatians 1-3*
Saturday, December 8

Psa. 73:15 *If I say, I will speak thus; behold, I should offend against the generation of thy children.*

Gracious God:

Did I not learn this year it is not smart to speak all my thoughts? If I keep them within they hurt me only, but once spoken they often wound others. My complaint and faultfinding can bring disappointment to the whole family of God.

Lord, I repent! Help me watch out for the consequences of what I say to others. Hasty, undigested, and inconsiderate comments cause a whole heap of trouble. Help me bridle my tongue in those cases, especially this Christmas season.

If I am suspicious of being wrong, then help me stay silent. Hasty opinions of you, especially, are like dangerous campfires among dry stubble. A forest of people is sure to be affected by talk like that. It will only give them reason for even greater distrust of your power.

Yet many times my seething inner thoughts cause me agony and bring me into bitterness. Help my heart find eternity where **you** dwell! Enable me to peer within the veil, and stand before your throne, and get a divine perspective on my problems. For I know, **a wider outlook will change my point of view and bring peace.**

Psa. 73:24 *Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.*

False philosophy tortures the mind. Give me true faith. Even wise men and women ruin themselves unless your grace prevents it. So I ask to be led, and agree to follow you. All my former mistakes are a blessing if they just drive me to you. When I come to the end of my wits, that is the beginning of being wise.

Afterward! I can put up with the present problem when I foresee the future reception in glory. Give me such vision today for Jesus' sake I ask. Amen.