

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH PRAYER DIARY — SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE TIMES 8:30 & 10:00 A.M.

MONDAY—EVANGELISTIC PRAYER

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 3-5
Monday, January 4

Matt. 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

Eternal God and Mighty Spirit:

If I want a harvest I must pay attention to the seed. I want to see people saved this year! So I must buy and sow the very best seed. Father I need to talk, walk, exhort, and instruct with the best doctrine: your holy word!

- So give me your word when people come asking my advice
- So give me your word when people ask my opinion on anything

The **result** is not in my hands, but a lot depends on what I sow, both by instruction and example. Guide me into all truth in 2021. Help me live what I know.

If I want the gospel to spread I have to feel a need to tell it. I cannot make others sense an urgency to get saved, if I do not feel an urgency for eternity. Lord you know how slow I am – make me feel! Make me believe their danger; make me see their helplessness. Make me see only Jesus can save, and recognize he is returning for us at any moment. **Then make me talk to them as if I mean it.**

I have to admit Lord, the Holy Ghost will not move them until I first let Him move me! If I can rest without them **being** saved, then they can rest without **getting** saved. Oh Lord, **fill me with an agony that will make them uneasy.**

Gen. 30:1 And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.

You will not put me through the pain of pregnancy without giving me children, but you also will not give me children without labor-pains of birth. Maybe there will only be revival when I am in agony for it, and not until then. If I am not willing, then make me willing in an evangelistic small group as I join a Harvest Team, and by the tender movements of your Holy Spirit on my heart. Amen.

TUESDAY—FOCUS ON CHRIST'S LIFE

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 6-7
Tuesday, January 5

John 12:28 Father, glorify thy name.

My God and Father:

I am in great pain left-over from last year. I face both outward problems and inward anxiety (which seems worst of all). Water leaking into the ship is worse than waves outside. I have used the pumps of human reason but cannot keep it bailed. What can I do but turn to you and cry, *Father, glorify thy name?*

If I lose my **property**, then glorify your name by my **poverty**. If I have to be **bereaved**, then glorify your name in my **grief**. If I even **die**, then glorify your name at my **departure**. I have received of so much mercy; get some glory out of me!

† *Luke 9:23-24* And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

The secret is this: **I live by dying**. Help me kill self, so Christ can live through me, because then I am truly alive! The way up to true life and honor is by going down in self-humility, not up in self-esteem. If I renounce everything, I am rich. When I own nothing, I have all things. If I try to be something, I always end-up nothing. This is the lesson you try to teach, and I am so slow to learn. **Let me lead by going lower!** The practical plea I make is this:

Glorify your name in me by preventing my **impatience** in suffering. Glorify your name in me by keeping me from **fainting** in serving. Destroy my selfishness. Crush my pride. Overcome every sinful habit that prevents you from getting glory out of me.

In your providence, arrange my position and condition this year to glorify your name. By your grace, so sustain and sanctify me that I glorify you. I cannot do it, but you can! Father, glorify your name. Amen.

FRIDAY—CORPORATE PRAYER MINISTRY

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 12-13
Friday, January 8

2 Sam. 7:27 For thou, O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, hast revealed to thy servant, saying, **I will build thee an house:** therefore hath thy servant found in his heart to pray this prayer unto thee.

O LORD of Hosts:

Look at our condition. We see the miry clay from which we have come.

Eph. 2:3 ...and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Well do we remember what we were before we got saved. The bitterness and gall that was in our mouths. All our thoughts were engrossed in a sense of stress and dread. But then you delivered us by leading us to look to the crucified One. You brought us out of the horrible pit and put a new song in our mouths. Through discipleship our feet were put on the rock, and our goings established. It has been a long way since then for some, but the path has been strewn with mercies. Despite this past year, we want right now to record,

Psa. 103:2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

We thank you in retrospect even for the trials we have endured. You were always faithful, whether we were brought low by physical sickness or mental stress or emotional anxiety. In losses and crosses and persecutions you never failed us ever. Everything has been well-ordered by your providence, we confess. There was even a need for every swat of the rod.

Let others worship what they want, and seek the objects of love that please them. God you are our God now and forever. Be our guide even unto death. You are our Father and Friend, and our hearts worship you. We adore you, glorious Lord! Make us vessels unto honor in your service this year. Use us to build up your house by bringing new believers into your body in a Year of Harvest. In Jesus' name we have found it in our hearts to pray for these things. Amen.

WEDNESDAY—REVIVAL PRAYING

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 8-9; Psalm 12
Wednesday, January 6

Job 22:22 Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

Job lived on God's word.

He ate it (23:12). This is an art that some do not understand. Some look at the surface of the Scriptures, some pull the Scriptures, some dice the heavenly bread into pieces to show their cleverness. Some pick it over for plums. But blessed is he that makes it his meat and drink! He takes the word of God to be what it is and says, "God is speaking to me in this, and I will make my soul satisfied with it. I do not want anything better than this, anything truer than this, anything safer than this, but having got this I will abide in it and be content. It will be weaved within the warp and woof of my being."

He esteemed it more than his necessary food.

Not more than a snack only. Job would sooner they took the bread out of his mouth than the word of God out of his heart. I suppose it was because meat would only sustain his body for a while, but the word of God feeds the soul forever. **He who lives near to God always has an appetite for the Bible, and the more he eats of it the more he can eat.** I have grown hungry in proportion as I have felt satisfied. It has qualities that our necessary food does not.

You cannot be holy in public unless you live on the word of God in secret. Get the Bible to be more than a book to you. Read it with that goal. For it is while reading, meditating, studying, and seeking to immerse yourself in its spirit that it changes from a written book into a talking book. It's as though God hides himself among its pages and speaks directly to your condition. Ask Jesus to cause his word to come fresh from his mouth to your soul, for then your feet will take hold on his steps and you will keep to his way. —C.H. Spurgeon

SATURDAY—IN THE PSALMS

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 14-16
Saturday, January 9

Psa. 99:5 Exalt ye the LORD our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy.

Eternal, Exalted God and Father:

You are King. The mercy seat is your throne. The scepter you hold is holy like yourself. Yet you never exert power tyrannically. Your might delights in right.

Your saints in the past were sure what you did was always just. Instead of questioning your love they submitted humbly to your will. They confidently rejoiced that your power was devoted to promoting righteousness and justice for all. So let me be as certain of that today. Remove all distrust from my mentality!

Even if no one else adores and trusts you Lord, I at least will give you my worship from my heart, no matter what you do with me or to me. Because I experience your loving-kindness I should praise you in every circumstance. I blush at being so backward about it. It is my daily delight to acknowledge your hand and adore it. No matter how confused I may be, you are always full of untainted righteousness, unswerving goodness, and unbounded love.

Holiness brings harmony to all other virtues. You do not have just one glorious attribute – you are equally glorious in all! This is the honor of your crown. All your creatures should delight in your moral excellence. Certainly, it would help keep me from being distrustful of you during "rough providences."

Psa. 99:6 Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among them that call upon his name; they called upon the LORD, and he answered them.

Lord, you are as accessible to me now as you were to them! They made it their life's work to call on you in prayer. By doing so they "brought down the blessing." Be true to your promises today. Answer me from the mercy seat! They asked you for great things, and so can I. You cannot be false to your offer, for you are holy. So I praise you because I know that I do not pray in vain. Amen.

A DAILY PATTERN FOR PRAYER & BIBLE READING

Chronological Bible Reading: Genesis 10-11
Thursday, January 7

Rom. 2:16 In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

JESUS! and shall it ever be! A mortal man ashamed of Thee?

Scorn'd be the thought by rich and poor; O may I scorn it more and more!

Ashamed of Jesus! sooner far let evening blush to own a star.

Ashamed of Jesus! just as soon let midnight blush to think of noon.

'Tis evening with my soul till He, that Morning Star, bids darkness flee;

He sheds the beam of noon divine o'er all this midnight soul of mine.

Ashamed of Jesus! shall yon field blush when it think who bids it yield?

Yet blush I must, while I adore, I blush to think I yield no more.

Ashamed of Jesus! of that Friend on whom for heaven my hopes depend!

It must not be! be this my shame, that I no more revere His name.

Ashamed of Jesus! yes, I may, when I've no crimes to wash away;

No tear to wipe, no joy to crave, no fears to quell, no soul to save.

Till then (nor is the boasting vain), till then I boast a Saviour slain:

And, oh, may this my portion be, that Saviour not ashamed of me!

—Joseph Grigg, 1765



HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH

HOW TO BUILD A BALANCED LIFE

1) TIME—WORSHIP

Mark 1:35 *And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.*

GIVE GOD THE FIRST PART OF EVERY DAY. The first commitment is to a daily quiet time with God. Our weekly Prayer Diary provides a *template* for daily devotions.

2) TIME—WORK

1 Cor 16:2 *Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.*

GIVE GOD THE FIRST DIME OF EVERY DOLLAR—no questions asked. Ten percent is a miniscule amount in our affluent society, but it must come off the top in order to show that God is our priority. We want the blessing of the firstfruits (first devotion, first dime and first day) to flow out to the rest of our resources.

3) TEAM—WORD

Heb 10:25 *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

GIVE GOD THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY WEEK. You should fellowship with a group of believers around the word of God every Sunday in our church.

QUALITY CHRISTIANITY INVOLVES THREE THINGS

- Keeping Christ at the center (your **core** relationship of *worship* to God)
- Keeping the body of Christ a priority (your **congregational** relationship of *walking* with us)
- Basing beliefs and actions on the mind of Christ (your **church** relationship in the *Word*)



MAKING DISCIPLES

JANUARY 3, 2021

THIS WEEK'S CARE PRAYER LIST

Please submit prayer requests and updates online at hbcblesprings.org or by placing a prayer card in the offering plate. Send updates by Tuesday at Noon for inclusion in the prayer diary. Questions? dhill@hbcblesprings.org

Bereavement

Families who have lost loved ones during this time
 Matthew Hill Jr – Grandson, Dave Hill
 Mary Tackett – Mother, Sandy Fox
 Ina Knox – Sister of Dave Hill
 Carolyn Drury – Grandmother, Sarah Ortiz

Pray for Members, Family & Friends

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| Erica Stogsdill – Daughter in law, Gene & Brenda Stogsdill | Marilynn Duckett |
| Leona M Brown – Mother, Luther & Sharon Brown | Lillie McClendon |
| Pearl Dorsey – Mother, Jackie Dorsey | Elaine Bredehoft |
| Esther Ryan – Daughter, Troy & Andrea Ryan | Jeannie Slinkerd |
| Brooklyn Lee – Baby, Brian and Whitnee Lee | Judith Cox |
| Kevin McCarthy – Nephew, JoAnn Rothacher | Carol Clyce |
| Laurell Starks – Sister in law, Brandon Starks | JoAnn Rothacher |
| Freddie Jean Webster – Mother, Rodney Webster | Sarah Armstrong |
| Aaron Johnson – Son, Rick & Becky Johnson | Allison Wangler |
| Valori Sanders – Daughter, Marjorie Major | Brenda Stogsdill |
| Stephen Solomon – Father, Courtney O'Neil | Tom Sansoni |
| Larry Farnham – Husband, Mary Farnham | |
| Leslie & Sandra Washington – Sibling in law, Sharon Brown | |
| Edwin Rogers – Friend, Gene McGill | |
| Richard McGuire – Brother in law, Tammy Henson | |
| Del Ray Little – Father, Kioni Wigglesworth | |
| Jeremiah Keatts – Son, Josh & Hilary Keatts | |
| Rosie Hill – Wife, Dave Hill | |
| Leann Venable – Friend, Liz Clary | |

Soft Touch (Cancer Treatment)

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| Linda Brown – Sister, Ronnie Starks | Melissa McGhee |
| Tameka Bedell – Friend, Starks family | David Rosetti |
| Brittany Nieves – Niece, Jim & Lin Tonty | Sherri Moore |
| Ginger Brown – Sister, Elaine Bredehoft | Randy Cross |
| Bob Newton – Brother, Herb Newton | Manuel Estebane |
| Noah Mason – 4 years old | Mark Trotter |
| Buck Stutton – Uncle, Jodi Harris | |
| Dean Stanley – Brother, of Lisa Kitley | |
| Larry Lovelace – Brother, Greg Lovelace | |
| Mark Shelby – Brother, Alan Shelby | |
| Rose Shelby – Sister-in-law, Dalona Shelby | |
| Dennis Harris – Father, Jodi Harris | |

Active Duty Military

Mark Johnson - Davaile Durham - Josh Ryan - Zion Hotchkins

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH

PRAYER DIARY

- INTERCEDE WITH GOD INSTRUCT SAINTS
 PROMPT PETITIONS KICKSTART DEVOTION

INSTRUCTIONS:

Baptists tend to ridicule liturgical churches that use "prepared prayers" because they lack spontaneity. But for many Baptists, their prayers are so predictable they are no more spontaneous than written-out prayers. The result is we end up praying the same things over and over.

This daily Prayer Diary will prompt you on a wide range of prayer requests you might not normally think of, while forcing you to articulate a deeper devotion to God. We have included a daily Bible reading schedule. This plan will take you through the Bible *chronologically* in a year.

Do not read ahead and do not try to catch up. Use each day as it comes. Then you can know that on any given day, dozens of other people are lifting their hearts in the same mind to God. Pray what is written, but use what is prayed as a springboard for your own relationship with God. You learn to pray by praying.

—Alan

Secret prayer is the secret of prayer, the soul of prayer, the seal of prayer, the strength of prayer. If you do not pray alone you do not pray at all. Our Lord Jesus Christ would go nowhere till He had prayed. He would attempt nothing till He had prayed.

"Oh," says one, "I live in the spirit of prayer, and therefore I do not need times and seasons for prayer." And do you think that Christ did not live in the spirit of prayer? Yet He had to have his special time and place to pray. Do not fall under the injurious notion that because your spirit cries to God in prayer all day long, therefore there must not be some season for more immediately coming into God's presence. If you imagine this, I am afraid that it will prove a snare to your feet. The Lord Jesus Christ, who knew better than you do that the main thing is the spirit of prayer rather than the act of prayer, yet Himself retired into desert places to maintain the act and exercise of prayer. Be spiritual. Be baptized into the spirit of prayer. But do not be deceived by the enemy, who can steal a spirit away while we dream that we only spiritualize it. We had better preserve the very bones of prayer—the posture, the time, place—rather than let it all ooze away into an impalpable mental condition. God keep us prayerful. He will do so if He makes us like His dear Son.

Charles H. Spurgeon, 1834-92

