

**MONDAY—EVANGELISTIC PRAYER**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Romans 9-12*  
 Monday, December 4

*Isa. 30:19* For the people shall dwell in Zion at Jerusalem: thou shalt weep no more: he will be very gracious unto thee at the voice of thy cry; when he shall hear it, he will answer thee.

O Lord God:  
 You are my strength and my hope! I approach you through Jesus your Son with the audacity of hope, and thoughts of thanksgiving—because even though my current reality seems bleak, I am not ashamed of my hope.

*Psa. 125:1* They that trust in the LORD shall be as mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

I trusted in you with my insurmountable sins, and you threw them all behind your back, *Isa. 38:17*. I trusted in you when many haters surrounded me, while I was viciously whipped by temptation, and you brought me into a safe place. You set my feet on a Rock (*Psa. 40:2*), who is Jesus. I have trusted in you (alas, too feebly!) in the hours when I was troubled about earthly matters – and still you did not fail me, even when my faith wavered. Even when I disbelieved, you still remained faithful. You helped me, Lord. You were my strength and help all along. Now help \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ to trust you like I have!

† *Psa. 34:19* Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

At this moment, looking back on my past, I have nothing to do but adore you. I adore you for the consistency of your love, and admire you for the capacity of your grace. I am living in Zion to praise you.

Let a spiritual springtime come again to those who are faltering. Let me not get weary in witnessing and well doing for you, because I remember what you went through for my sake. Help me by your Spirit to lift the name of Jesus today, and magnify your word! Amen.

**TUESDAY—FOCUS ON CHRIST'S LIFE**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Romans 13-16*  
 Tuesday, December 5

*Luke 5:4* Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

Faithful Friend and Father:  
 If I ask to see what I get first (before I obey), that is just selfishness. Your word is its own argument for obedience.

- IT IS AN ARGUMENT TO KEEP PRAYING. I have asked you for years for certain people to get saved. I am tempted to say with Peter, *I have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing*. But let me go on to add with Peter, *Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net*. If I started praying for anyone, I will keep on praying as long as they live. I will knock at mercy's door. I will wrestle with the angel. If blessing does not come in the night, then it will come at break of day, *Gen. 32:24; Song 2:17*.
- IT IS AN ARGUMENT TO KEEP SERVING. I will stop for one moment to ask myself if I am acting according to your will. I will wait on you for guidance, because I do not want to choose my own path. If, as far as I can judge it is your will Master, then I will let down the net – and let it down whether I see any fish or not. Whatever the results from my effort, I will receive it at your pierced hand, and reckon it to be part of my reasonable service, my sacrifice of worship to you.

IT IS AN ARGUMENT FOR BLESSING BY GRACE. I do not thank you just for keeping me out of sin. I thank you for enabling me to do your will on any level and in any manner (even poorly). Virtue is its own reward, and so is sheer obedience to your word. To have simply been obedient to you Jesus, is one of the highest blessings you can bestow on any mortal – no matter how small their net. In keeping of your word is the *great reward (Psa. 19:11)* – reward of **usefulness** to others, **happiness** to myself, and **glory** to God. Faith in you means obedience to you. Let me offer you that sacrifice today so that Jesus may be lifted up. Amen.

**WEDNESDAY—REVIVAL PRAYING**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 21-23*  
 Wednesday, December 6

*Hos. 11:9* I will not execute the fierceness of mine anger, I will not return to destroy Ephraim: for I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee: and I will not enter into the city.

Holy One and Heavenly Father:  
 Sometimes it seems like every trial threatens a quick destruction. I cling to this verse like a life-vest, to hold my head above despair. Revive me again! If I am under your displeasure, then I know you are inviting me to consider my ways and confess my sins. If you were not such a friend and lover of my soul, you would have cut me off completely long ago. If you were now to act after the manner of men, it would be a word and a blow, and that would be the end. But it is not so,

*Psa. 103:11* For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.

I can tell when the Spirit is grieved and you are angry. But I thank you Lord for not keeping your anger forever. Because when I turn from my sin to Jesus, you turn from your wrath to mercy. And because you are God and not man, there is still forgiveness, pardon and cleansing for me (even though I feel up to my neck in iniquity).

I praise you that I have God as my Father to deal with, and not man. No human being could have such patience with me and my sins. I would have worn-out an angel and made a preacher cuss! But love is longsuffering and you are love.

Lord, there are others who need to come back to us and so return to you. I pray for their revival – oh, that they might try you today, confess, repent and turn from their evil way, because then they will find life and love everlasting.

Give us souls! Make us flower and flourish in the power of your Spirit. We crave to see you work among us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

**A DAILY PATTERN FOR PRAYER & BIBLE READING**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 24-26*  
 Thursday, December 7

*1 Pet. 4:1* Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin;

\*Tis the grandest theme through the ages rung;  
 \*Tis the grandest theme for a mortal tongue;  
 \*Tis the grandest theme that the world e'er sung,  
 "Our God is able to deliver thee."

\*Tis the grandest theme in the earth or main;  
 \*Tis the grandest theme for a mortal strain;  
 \*Tis the grandest theme, tell the world again,  
 "Our God is able to deliver thee."

\*Tis the grandest theme, let the tidings roll,  
 To the guilty heart, to the sinful soul;  
 Look to God in faith, He will make thee whole,  
 "Our God is able to deliver thee."

*He is able to deliver thee, He is able to deliver thee;  
 Though by sin oppressed, go to Him for rest;  
 "Our God is able to deliver thee."*

—William A. Ogden, 1887

**FRIDAY—CORPORATE PRAYER MINISTRY**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Acts 27-28*  
 Friday, December 8

*1 Sam. 17:37* David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the lion, and out of the paw of the bear, he will deliver me out of the hand of this Philistine.

Eternal Lord and Master:  
 David spoke a word, and you backed it up by making it come true. Can we do what he did today? We desire to argue from past deliverances that we should receive help for every treacherous way we face right now – and so we pray!

*2 Cor. 1:20* For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

In Jesus, all your previous dealings with your believing people will be repeated. Can we not recall your former loving-kindnesses? There were times when we had no hope to be delivered by our own power, yet you saved us. Will you not save again? We are sure of it. As David ran to meet his foe, let us do so also! You have been with us, you are with us, and you say,

*Heb. 13:5* I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Why do we tremble? Was our past deliverance a dream? Let us remember back to the dead bear and the dead lion. Yes...who IS this Philistine? True, he is not quite the same as the bear, and he is bigger than the lion. But God is the same – only circumstances change. Lord, your honor is as much bound-up with our deliverance now as we move as was back then when you brought us to Blue Springs. You did not save us from wild beasts just to let a giant slay us. No, we can be of good courage because the credibility of your holy word is at stake!

Lord, your glory shows. So help us use every trial, and every resulting deliverance, as a stepping-stone of witness to the lost and to the brethren abroad. We not only want to be alive – we want to bear fruit for you in living to your purpose for eternity. Father, magnify thy word through us, *Psa 138:2*. Amen.

**SATURDAY—IN THE PSALMS**  
 Chronological Bible Reading: *Galatians 1-3*  
 Saturday, December 9

*Psa. 16:11* Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

Eternal God in Everlasting Light:  
 How I long for that day when my sorrows cease. This world of weeping has to be over soon. It seems like the more time passes, the more life becomes a valley of tears.

One day our expanding universe will collapse, and out of that catastrophe will come a new cosmos (so says the first verse of *Rev. 21*). If this earth is scrapped and we get a new one, there will be nothing left to weep over. No fall. No curse. No consequent miseries and death. Just a bride and her marriage, *Rev. 21:2*.

The Lamb's wedding will not be a time for sorrow. Tears of sadness would be out of place on the part of your bride, the church. The third verse says God himself will live with his people. Tears can no longer flow because,

*Rev. 21:4* God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

What will it be like when sorrow is eliminated? No more crying, because no more pain. It is beyond my imagination, because right now it seems my eyes never stop being red from tears over something. But no one can wipe them away like the God of love can! You tell me in advance,

*Psa. 30:5* For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

Even so, come, Lord Jesus, *Rev. 22:20!* Tarry not another day when I must weep. Return for your bride that you love. In the meantime, **weeping** may endure, but make **me** endure even though weeping. And do it now for Jesus' sake. Amen.

HARVEST BAPTIST CHURCH

DECEMBER 3, 2023

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**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) TITHE—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**

**THIS WEEK'S CARE PRAYER LIST**

Please submit prayer requests and updates online at [hbcbbluesprings.org](http://hbcbbluesprings.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@hbcbbluesprings.org](mailto:dhill@hbcbbluesprings.org)

**Bereavement**

Families who have lost loved ones during this time:  
 Deitra McGaughy Conley – Sister-in-Law of Lance Conley  
 Joyce Jackson – Mother of Ralph Tucker

**Pray for Members, Family & Friends**

Donna Harris – Mother of Jodi Contreras  
 Fred Tonty – Brother of Jim Tonty  
 Clarice Archie – Mother of Stephanie Archie  
 Carletta – Sister of Sandra Cardwell  
 Richard Freeouf Sr – Father of Richard Freeouf  
 Ruth Guffey – Mother of Bart Guffey  
 Jeree Campbell – Granddaughter of Marjorie Major  
 Ruth Woodward – Sister of Becky Johnson  
 Kynette Campbell – Daughter of Marjorie Major  
 Dorothy Brockmeyer – Mother of Tom Brockmeyer  
 Michelle Hawn – Daughter of Jim and Lin Tonty  
 Girlette Tarrecumpo – Sister of Daylyn Delaney  
 Nolan Brown (age 3) – Nephew of Sarah Crossland  
 Teri Beasley- sister of Sherri Cathcart  
 Maria Cargill - Sister of Joe Contreras  
 Rona Amundson- Mother of Jennifer Mullins  
 Jim and Verla Baker  
 Sandy Cardwell Family  
 Rachel Litle

Linda Greer  
 Karen Matthews  
 Lee Wendleton  
 JoAnn Rothacher  
 Bess Wadleigh  
 Jamie Harris  
 Jim & Lin Tonty  
 Jeanie Angle  
 Ethel & Chloe Maze  
 Andrea Davis  
 Gracie (8yr old)  
 Bart Lockwood  
 Jerline Revels  
 Troy Skinner  
 Scott Bell  
 Mike Schorr  
 Laura Peterson  
 Ed Hale  
 Dan Gonzales

**Soft Touch (Cancer Treatment)**

Tameka Bedell – Friend, Starks family  
 Ginger Brown – Sister, Elaine Bredehoft  
 Helen Keune – Mother of Kim Huber  
 Heather Dismuke – Niece of Dave Rosetti  
 Mike Broker - Uncle of Vince Broker  
 Ray Fanning – Son-in-Law of Bev Guerrero  
 Vicki Hefner  
 Jacob Deal

Brittany Nieves  
 Kim Fagan  
 Karen Allen  
 Sharon Schell  
 Deb Molder  
 Dorothy Williams  
 Beverly Pittman

**Active Duty Military**

Mark Johnson - Davaile Durham - Josh Ryan - Taj Selectman –  
 Jeremiah Garrett

**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*