

*The Gift of
Prayer*

Give Your Pastor the Gift of Prayer

Christmas 2016

GIVE YOUR PASTOR THE GIFT OF PRAYER THIS CHRISTMAS

We consider it an honor to share with you this Gift of Prayer, to equip you and your church to pray for your pastor(s). No other profession has such a difficult and demanding job, or higher calling, than do pastors.

Your pastor will be as successful in ministry as the church is committed to praying for him, so use this Gift of Prayer or simply use the idea and develop your own. Only pray!

God's blessing on you and your church as you pray together for His anointed.

Compliments of:

Isaiah 55 Pray-ers, i55pray.org, and
Grace Christian Fellowship, gracecfonline.org

PRAYER DOES NOT FIT US FOR THE GREATER WORKS;

PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK.

~ Oswald Chambers

Scripture references taken from the *New International Version*, 1996
By AMG International, Inc.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture prayer using Ephesians 4:11-16:

Father, consider my pastor, whom You have chosen to lead this church. May he employ the gifts You have given him and lead us in employing the gifts given us individually, that collectively, we might be prepared for works of service, that the body of Christ may be ...

- built up,
- reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God,
- become mature, and
- attain the whole measure of the fullness of Jesus Christ.

May my pastor speak the truth in love, and may we do likewise. As he grows up into the head, that is Christ, may we do likewise. As he follows Jesus, give us hearts to do likewise, that the whole body might be joined and held together by every supporting ligament, growing and building itself up in love, each part doing its work. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Haggai 2:7 *And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.*

Scripture prayer using selections from Haggai:

O Desire of Every Nation, Jesus Christ, be the desire of my pastor. Be his strength. Fill him with Your Spirit. Make him as Your signet ring, as a chosen vessel – that he may plant and harvest much; live not for the gold and silver of this world but for the Kingdom that will come; that every expectation would be in his God, in the LORD Almighty. Let Your voice be heard in every message sent to him, and give to us, the church, hearing ears and receptive hearts. O Desire of Every Nation, be the desire of our hearts. In Jesus' Name.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 3-4

Scripture prayer using Romans 12:9-12 and I Peter 5:2-4:

Father, I pray that my pastor's love would be sincere, that he would hate what is evil and cling to what is good. May he be devoted to fellow believers in brotherly love and honor others above himself. Grant him a zeal and spiritual fervor to continually serve You, Lord. May he be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and

faithful in prayer. May he shepherd God's flock placed under his care, serving as an overseer – not because he must but because he is willing, as You desire him to be; not greedy for money but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to him but as a humble shepherd example to the flock. And when Jesus, the Chief Shepherd, appears, he will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

John 14:1,13-14; 15:7,16; 16:23-26:

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me...

I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father...

You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it...

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish ...

Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name...

I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name...

Ask and you will receive... ask in my name...

Father, I pray that my pastor would be a man of prayer. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture prayer using Colossians 1:9-12:

Father, I pray for my pastor, asking that You would fill him with the knowledge of Your will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. I ask this in order that he might live a life worthy of the Lord Jesus and may please You in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of You, being strengthened with all power according to Your glorious might, that he may have great endurance and patience and joyful gratitude. In Jesus Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

I Timothy 6:15-16 *God, the blessed and only Ruler, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone is immortal and who lives in unapproachable light, whom no one has seen or can see. To him be honor and might forever. Amen.*

Scripture prayer using I Timothy 6:11-12,15-16:

Father, I pray that my pastor, Your man, would pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. May he fight the good fight of faith and lay hold of eternal life to which he was called, and may he testify to the one true God – the blessed and only Ruler, King of kings, and Lord of lords, Who alone is immortal, Who lives in unapproachable light, Whom no one has seen or can see, and to Whom belongs honor and might forever. In Jesus' Name.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture prayer using Acts 28:31 and I Thessalonians 1:5-6:

Father, I pray that my pastor will boldly and without hindrance preach the kingdom of God and of our Lord Jesus Christ, preaching the Gospel not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit, and with deep conviction. And may many welcome the message with joy and be saved. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Psalm 144:1 *Blessed be the LORD, my rock, Who trains my hands for war, And my fingers for battle.*

Father, as we grow together with our pastor, I pray that our expectations will not exceed Yours but that we will with grace and gratitude grow with him and his family. We trust You to train his hands for war and his fingers for battle – meticulously refined for the spiritual warfare and battles ahead. May he...

- love and communicate love;
- be full of grace, humility, gratitude, integrity, and generosity;
- be rich in faith and faithfulness, surrendered to Your will;
- have a servant's heart and be filled with the Spirit;
- bring blessings and not curses with his tongue;
- have strong health, enabled to serve;
- be a Jesus-loving, Great-Commission minded disciple and discipler of men;
- be a man of the Word and of private prayer;
- be a man of worship, bringing glory to You;
- be confident in his God and fearless, having the mind of Christ.

And may we, along with his wife and family, communicate how he is truly loved, cherished, and respected. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 10-11

Scripture prayer using selections from II Corinthians 9:8-15:

Father, I pray that You would make all grace abound to my pastor, so that in all things, at all times, having all that he needs, he will abound in every good work. May his service supply the needs of this church. And may he overflow in expressions of gratitude to You, as we lavish our prayers on him. For Your surpassing poured-out grace and indescribable gift, fill his heart and ours with gratitude. In Jesus Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture prayer using Ephesians 3:14-21:

I kneel before You, Father, from Whom the whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name, and I ask that out of Your glorious riches, You may strengthen my pastor with power through Your Spirit in his inner being, so that Christ may dwell in his heart through faith. I pray that he would be rooted and grounded in love and may have power together with all of the body of Christ, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to *know* this love that surpasses knowledge – that he might be filled to the measure of all Your fullness. And now to You, Who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine, according to Your power that is at work within us, to You be glory in this church and in Christ Jesus – in this generation and then forever and ever. Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture prayer using selections from Hebrews 11 through 12:3:

Father, I pray for the faith of my pastor, that he would be:

- sure of what he hopes for and certain of what he does not see;
- an heir of righteousness that comes by faith;
- looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God;
- longing for that better country – a heavenly one, the city prepared for the saints.

May he throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and run with perseverance the race marked out for him, fixing his eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of his faith, Who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. May my

pastor consider Him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that he will not grow weary and lose heart. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture prayer using Ephesians 4:1-2,12-16,23-24:

Father, I pray that my pastor would live a life worthy of the calling You have given him. May he be completely humble, gentle, and patient, bearing with one another in love. For we desire that under his leadership, You would prepare us as Your people for works of service, so that this church, the body of Christ, may be built up until we reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, until we become mature, until we attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ – from Whom this church is joined and held together by every supporting ligament, growing and building itself up in love, as each part does its work. Grant now my pastor peace, love, faith, grace, and an undying love for our Lord Jesus Christ. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

“Pray alone. Let prayer be the key of the morning and the bolt at night. The best way to fight against sin is to fight it on our knees.” ~Philip Henry

Scripture prayer using selections from Psalm 22:22-31:

Father, I pray that my pastor might declare Your name to the brethren; in the congregation, may he praise You, fear You, and honor You. Let all this body of Christ revere You along with him! O that we might be at the fulcrum of Your plan to take the Gospel to the ends of our community, even the ends of the earth. May Your Spirit fill the breadth and depth of his ministry until even future generations know You as a result. Let Your righteousness be proclaimed even to a people yet unborn. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Psalm 68:19 *“Praise be to the LORD, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens.”*

Scripture prayer using selections from Psalm 68:

Father, I pray for my pastor, for a heart of worship as he lives a life full of light in a world full of darkness. May he extol You, Who rides on the clouds; worship the One, Who daily bears his burdens; live fully in Your power, doing Your work in Your strength. May my pastor proclaim the power of our God, Who is full of majesty. You are awesome, O God, in Your sanctuary. You give power and strength to Your people; give power and strength to my pastor. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 17-18

Hebrews 12:1 *Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.*

Scripture prayer using Hebrews 11:23,35; 12:3:

Father, as we consider the opposition to the cross from our culture, we pray that our pastor will not grow weary, lose heart, or throw away his confidence. As we pray for revival and a spiritual awakening, let us together hold unwaveringly to this hope we profess. And as we wait on You, may we spur one another on toward love and good deeds. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Romans 8:8 *... it is not the natural children who are God's children, but it is the children of the promise*

Scripture prayer based on I John 3:19:

Father, amid all the frenzy and busyness, bubbling priorities, and interrupting distractions that blur our lives, may my pastor set time aside to set his heart at rest in Your presence. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Romans 9:26 *It will happen that in the very place where it was said to them, 'You are not my people,' they will be called 'sons of the living God.'*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

I John 3:1 *How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!*

Proverbs 18:10 *“The name of the LORD is a strong tower; The righteous run into it and is safe.”*

Psalm 27:14 *“Wait for the LORD; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the LORD.”*

Psalm 18:1-2 *“I love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, My God, my rock, in whom I take refuge; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.”*

Scripture prayer using selections from Psalm 27:

Father, be to my pastor his Light and Salvation, the Stronghold of his life, that he would fear no man. When evil men advance, let them stumble and fall. Should the army of the enemy besiege him, should war break out against him, keep his heart from fear and steady his confidence. May he dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of his life; gaze upon Your beauty; seek You in Your temple; remain strong; take heart; wait patiently on his God; and hold fast to the confidence that he will see Your goodness in the land of the living. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

“It is absolutely necessary for the preacher to pray. And it is an absolute necessity that the preacher be prayed for.” ~E.M. Bounds

Scripture prayer based on Luke 18:1:

Father, I pray that my pastor would always pray and not give up. And may we, as the body of Christ, pray always for him. Acquit us not of the charge to pray without ceasing. Compel us to never give up. In Jesus' Name, Amen

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Isaiah 30:15 ... *in quietness and trust is your strength.*

Scripture prayer using Romans 15:5-6,13:

Father, I pray that You would give my pastor strength, endurance, and encouragement, and grant a spirit of unity within this church, the body of Christ, as we follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth we may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. And now may You, the God of all hope, fill my pastor with all joy and peace, as he trusts in You, so that he may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. In Jesus Name, Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Hebrews 13:9 *It is good for our hearts to be strengthened by grace.*

Scripture prayer using Hebrews 13:9,15,20-21:

Father, strengthen my pastor with grace; strengthen my pastor with peace; strengthen my pastor with the continual offering of praise – the fruit of lips that confess Your name. May You, the God of peace, Who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip my pastor with everything good for doing Your will. Work in my pastor all that pleases You, through Jesus Christ, to Whom belongs glory for ever and ever, Amen.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 24-25

Psalms 135:1-2 *Praise the LORD. Praise the name of the LORD; praise him you servants of the LORD, you who minister in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God.*

Scripture prayer using Amos 4:13; 5:8; 9:6:

Father,

- To You, Who formed the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals Your thoughts to man, Who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth, may my pastor know this full well and be filled with joy.
- To You, Who made the Pleiades and Orion, Who turns blackness into dawn and darkens day into night, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the earth, may my pastor know this full well and be filled with wonder.
- To You, Who builds a lofty palace in the heavens and sets its foundation on the earth, Who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out over the face of the land, may my pastor know this full well and be filled with worship.

In Jesus' Name.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Amos 3:7 *Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.*

Scripture prayer based on Amos 3:7 and Proverbs 2:7-8:

Father, we trust You to reveal Your plans to Your servant, our pastor – for this church, the body of Christ, and for his family. You hold victory in store for the upright and are a shield to those whose walk is blameless. Guard and direct the course of our pastor and protect the way of his faithful family. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Deuteronomy 33:12 *Let the beloved of the LORD rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the LORD loves rests between his shoulders.*

Scripture prayer based on Deuteronomy 28:3-14, 33:12:

Father, bless my pastor, Your servant and his family in their home, as they go out, as they come in. Establish them and also us as a holy people unto Yourself. Keep his family safe from all enemies. Grant them abundant prosperity from the storehouse of Your bounty. Send rain in season and bless all the work of their hands. May he, as a steward of Your grace and blessings, pay attention to all Your commands, be careful to follow them, and turn not aside to the right or to the left. And may he rest secure in You, the One Who shields him all day long. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Luke 7:38 *As she stood behind him at his feet weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears. Then she wiped them with her hair, kissed them and poured perfume on them.*

Father, as we stand in Your Kingdom court, which is never out of session, we pray for prayer itself. Stir up prayer – among Your people in this nation, among the family of believers in this church, and in the life of my pastor. The heavy-lifting in the Kingdom begins there and is our greatest life's work. So I pray for my pastor's time at Jesus' feet and for sweet fellowship there in prayer. Refresh him there. Grant him springs of gratitude. Be pleased with his thanksgiving offerings. Counsel his heart as he quiets himself before You. Forgive his sins. And may the desires of his heart be poured out intercessions that reflect the pure desires of Your own heart. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Jeremiah 3:15 *Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.*

Scripture prayer based on Jeremiah 3:15:

Father, thank you for my pastor, this man You have chosen, a man after Your own heart. Fill him with Your Spirit and Your power and may he lead with knowledge and understanding. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture prayer using Isaiah 11:2-3 and selections from John 14:12-21:

“delight in the fear of the LORD.” Isaiah 11:3

Father, I pray that I might be led in prayer by Your Spirit of prayer: the Comforter; the Spirit of truth; the One Who is not only *with* the saints of the body of Christ but *in* us forever; the One Whom Jesus spoke of when He said, *“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you... I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.”* I pray that through Your Spirit's presence in my pastor's life, that You might bring glory to the Son, that the Son might bring glory to You. I pray that You would fill my pastor with Your Spirit and with the seven-fold ministry of the Spirit: a Spirit of Lordship; the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding; the Spirit of counsel and of power; the Spirit of knowledge; and the Spirit of the fear of the Lord. Yes Father, fill him with such a sense of Your glory, splendor, holiness, and majesty that his soul is overwhelmed with delight in the fear of the Lord. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

WEEKEND PRAYER, DECEMBER 31

“Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, ‘I find no guilt in this man.’ But they kept on insisting, saying, ‘He stirs up the people, teaching all over Judea, starting from Galilee even as far as this place.’” Luke 23:4-5

Scripture prayer based on Colossians 1:28-29; I Peter 4:11, 5:4, Ephesians 1:6:

Father, I pray that my pastor might stir up this body of believers, a stirring that extends well beyond her borders. I pray that he would admonish and teach everyone with all wisdom, laboring in the strength and energy of Your Spirit that so powerfully works in him. May he speak as one speaking the very words of

God and serve in the strength You provide, so that in all things You might be praised through Jesus Christ. And may he serve as a humble Shepherd example to all, knowing that when the Chief Shepherd appears, he will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away. Amen, so be it, to the praise of the glory of Your grace, which You so freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

“PRAYER DOES NOT FIT US FOR THE GREATER WORKS;
PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK.”

By: Oswald Chambers

