

FOCUS ON PRAYER

For the Church *by Linda Corbin*

Pray the book of Ephesians for your church! This book describes Christ as the Lord of the Church whose plan is to complete His work through the Church. There are seven basic themes to pray. (Use the suggestions below or just pray through the Scriptures!)

Sunday – Praise God for His glorious plan for His Church (Ephesians 1:3-14)

- ⌚ He blessed us with every spiritual blessing and He chose us to be holy! (1:3,4)
- ⌚ He gave us His grace and He lavished wisdom and understanding on us! (1:6,8)
- ⌚ He revealed to us His will and He gave us the Holy Spirit! (1:9,13)

Monday – Thanks for God's gifts to the Church (1:15-2:10)

- ⌚ He gives us wisdom to know Him better (1:17)
- ⌚ His power that raised Christ from the dead is available to us (1:19-20)
- ⌚ He is the head over the Church (1:22)
- ⌚ He gave us His love and mercy (2:4)
- ⌚ He made us alive with Christ and He sat us in the heavenly realm with Christ (2:5,6)
- ⌚ He made us His workmanship ☩■☩ He created us to do good works (2:10)

Tuesday – Prayer for unity in the Church (2:15-22; 4:1-6; 5:22-6:9)

- ⌚ He makes us one and has destroyed the barrier of hostility (2:14)
- ⌚ He is the chief cornerstone of this holy temple (2:21)
- ⌚ Live worthy of our calling and be humble, gentle, patient, loving (4:1,2)
- ⌚ Do everything possible to keep unity (4:3)
- ⌚ Wives submit to your husbands as to the Lord (5:22)
- ⌚ Husbands love your wives as your own body (5:25,28)
- ⌚ Children obey your parents so you can have a long life (6:1)
- ⌚ Fathers, train and instruct your children in the Lord. (6:4)

Wednesday – Pray for the Church to reach the lost (3:1-13)

- ⌚ Be a servant of the Gospel (3:7)
- ⌚ Receive grace to preach Christ's riches to the lost (3:8)
- ⌚ Make this mystery clear to those who can't understand (3:9)
- ⌚ God's intent is that rulers and authorities know His wisdom (3:10)
- ⌚ Only by faith in Jesus can people approach God (3:12)
- ⌚ Don't be discouraged (3:13)

Thursday – Pray for holiness and purity in the Church (3:14-21; 4:17-5:21)

- ⌚ Let love be rooted and established in you (3:17)
- ⌚ Be filled with the fullness of God (3:19)
- ⌚ Put on the new self that is holy - like God (4:24)
- ⌚ Don't give the devil a foothold (4:27)
- ⌚ Don't say anything unwholesome; but build others up (4:29)
- ⌚ Get rid of bitterness and anger and be kind and forgiving (4:31,32)
- ⌚ Imitate God (5:1)
- ⌚ Be thankful (5:4)
- ⌚ Be filled with the Spirit (5:18)

Friday – Pray for all Church leaders (4:7-16)

- ⌚ Pastors and teachers are to prepare God's people to serve (4:11,12)
- ⌚ Teach with the goal of maturity and so all will have the fullness of Christ (4:13)
- ⌚ May believers no longer be confused as infants (4:14)
- ⌚ Avoid cunning, crafty, deceitful teaching ☩■☩ teach the truth in love (4:14,15)
- ⌚ Goal: body is to grow and build itself in love ☩■☩ each person is to do his/her work (4:16)

Saturday – Pray for the Church involved in spiritual warfare (6:10-20)

- ⌚ Be strong in the Lord and His power (6:10)
- ⌚ We are not fighting people – but satanic powers of darkness (6:12)
- ⌚ Put on God's armor so you will be prepared (6:13)
 - Belt of truth and breastplate of God's righteousness (6:14)
 - Shoes to teach the gospel of peace (6:15)
 - Shield of faith to extinguish Satan's flaming arrows (6:16)
 - Helmet of salvation and sword of the Spirit – God's Word (6:17)
- ⌚ Pray always for all people (6:18)
- ⌚ Pray for God's Word to be spoken fearlessly (6:20)