# 40 DAYS OF PRAYER

## First Baptist Church, Tallassee

January 1– February 9, 2008

Student Edition

# Calendar of Prayer Events

- **New year's Eve: Pray in the New Year 11:00 PM until just after midnight**
- **Sunday, January 6: Solemn Assembly: Sunday Evening Service**
- **January 6-13: Prayer Room Vigil (pray through the telephone book, Upward basketball rosters, & church directory)**
- **Sunday Evening Service, January 13: Spiritual Warfare Training**
- **January 13-27: Cottage Prayer Meetings**
- **Sunday Evening Service, January 27: Lighthouses of Prayer Training**
- **Sunday afternoon, February 3, 3:00 PM: PrayerWalk Tallassee area neighborhoods (only PM service)**
- **January 9, 16, 23, 30 and February 6: Five Special Editions of Adult Prayer Meeting**
- **Friday-Saturday, February 8-9: Great Commission Prayer Conference, First Baptist Church, Montgomery**

## *There is a Way to Participate in Prayer Week… That Fits You*

**As a student, you can make a difference through your prayers. Praying is important for the whole church, not just those who have graduated from high school. You want God to work in our youth group. You want God to save your friends at school. James 4:2 says, "You do not have because you do not ask." So step up to the plate, and together with the rest of the Lord's church, let's ask Him to do big things!**

**In addition to the PrayerWalk and spending time in the church Prayer Room, there are ways to participate in the *40 Days of Prayer* emphasis that will fit your work schedule and your personality. You could:**

- **Spend a day (or half-day) alone with God**
- **Take a lunch break alone with God (one or more days during the work-week)**
- **Spend a day in prayer & fasting—or fast from watching television**
- **Go spend an afternoon on the prayer trail behind the church**
- **Do your own personal PrayerWalk**
- **Spend the week "souping up" your devotional times, getting your time alone with God up to speed.**

# IMPACT

***40 Days of Prayer** is a time for us as a church family to begin our year with vigorous prayer, asking God to mature us spiritually, to lead us in ministry, and to empower our witness.*

**The purpose of the 40 Days of Prayer emphasis is to impact our community and schools. We are not merely praying because we ought to pray; we want answers to our prayers! God can touch hearts we cannot reach. God can change the minds of people with whom we cannot reason. God can arrange circumstances to accomplish His purposes when we have absolutely no control over someone else's circumstances. Prayer is joining with God to accomplish His purposes.**

**We are seeking the spread of the Gospel in our area so powerfully it becomes the dominant influence in our community. As Paul asked the Christians at Thessalonica to prayer for his ministry, "Finally, pray for us, brothers, that the Lord's message may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you" (2nd Thessalonians 3:1).**

**We are not talking about business as usual or the church advancing at cruising speed. We are seeking not ordinary, but extraordinary, results. Thus, what is required is not ordinary, but extraordinary prayer.**

**The way 40 Days of Prayer is organized, you have a menu of options to choose from. You could participate in a myriad of combinations of events and prayer times. This is to help members accommodate their work schedules and family obligations and still take part. The numerous options also mean that none of us has an excuse for a lack of participation. However, please don't "phone it in." Give this prayer emphasis your very best effort.**

**Think about it.... What would you like to see happen in your family? What would you like to see happen for God at school? What would you like to see happen in First Baptist Church? Are those things mere preferences or are they deep heart burdens? Why not take those deep heart burdens to the Lord, bear down in prayer, and not back off until God answers your prayer or tells you no?**

**"The intense prayer of the righteous is very powerful" (James 5:16b)**

## *God Commands Us to Pray…*
## *God Invites Us to Pray*

John 16:24 "Until now you have asked for nothing in My name. Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be complete."

Colossians 4:2 "Devote yourselves to prayer; stay alert in it with thanksgiving."

I Chronicles 16:11 "Search for the LORD and for His strength; seek His face always."

Ephesians 6:18 "With every prayer and request, pray at all times in the Spirit, and stay alert in this, with all perseverance and intercession for all the saints."

Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart."

Jeremiah 33:3 "Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and wondrous things you do not know."

# *Overview of the Daily Devotionals*
## *Preparing for the 40 Days of Prayer*

Each day in this *Prayer Guide* you will be given a Scripture reading (the page number for the Holman Christian Standard Bible — the red hard back and pew Bible — will appear in parentheses).

Each day you will be asked for the reference for "the key verse for you." That doesn't necessarily mean the thesis sentence or anything technical like that. It simply means the verse that most speaks to your heart. It may be only a phrase and not the entire verse. Underline it or highlight it in your Bible and write the verse number in this booklet. If nothing else, it will help you think about what you have read.

You will also be asked questions about the daily passages as they apply to your life; if you don't feel you are dealing with an issue in a particular devotional, you can leave the line blank ...just try to be honest with yourself.

At the end of the devotional, there is "Today's Prayer Guidance." This is a suggestion about how to "pray back to God" what you are getting out of the devotional. You won't want to limit your prayer time to that guidance. You will find plenty of other suggestions for prayer in the back of this booklet (starting on page ). These give ideas on how to pray for our church and its mission, how to pray for our lost friends, and more.

**Assignment:** Right now, look through the resources in the back of this booklet and pick some tools that you think will fit your needs and be of help to you. Write down the page numbers of each resource below:

_____ _____

_____ _____

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# *Monday, December 31*

## *Preparing for the 40 Days of Prayer*

Today's Scripture Reading: I John 1:5-2:6 (1034)

Read I John 1:5-2:6. Ask God to speak to you. For you, what is the key verse in this passage? Mark it in your Bible. Write the chapter and verse number below:

I John _____

The Bible tells us often that if we are going to get answers to prayer, we are going to have to be right with God. Sin is like a clog in our fuel line, blocking our power from God. It hinders our fellowship with God — even though we never lose our salvation, our relationship to God. Here are some passages that drive this point home:

- Psalm 66:18, ESV "If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened."
- Proverbs 28:9 "Anyone who turns his ear away from hearing the law—even his prayer is detestable."
- Isaiah 1:15 "When you lift up your hands in prayer, I will refuse to look at you; even if you offer countless prayers, I will not listen…"
- James 4:3 "You ask and don't receive because you ask wrongly, so that you may spend it on your desires for pleasure."
- Psalm 24:3-5 "Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in His holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not set his mind on what is false, and who has not sworn deceitfully. He will receive blessing from the LORD…"
- I John 3:21-22 "Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us we have confidence before God, and can receive whatever we ask from Him because we keep His commands and do what is pleasing in His sight."

Is there a controversy between you and God? Is there any unconfessed, unforsaken sin? Is there any reason God would disregard your prayers? List these sins below and begin repenting of them immediately:

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Claim I John 1:9 and confess every sin in your life of which you are conscious.

## *Tuesday, January 1*

Today's Scripture Reading: Romans 12 (965)

Read the twelfth chapter of Romans. Ask God to speak to you. For you, what is the key verse in the chapter? Mark it in your Bible. Write the verse number below:

Romans 12: _____

Is God prompting you to take action to apply this verse to your life? Jot down any action-steps the Lord is leading you to take below:

1. _____

2. _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Read the list of activities on page 2. Ask God to lead you in deciding which ways you should be involved in ***40 Days of Prayer***.

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## *Wednesday, January 2*

Today's Scripture Reading: Re-read Romans 12 (965)

Re-read Romans 12. Again, ask God to speak to you. For you, what is the second most important verse in this chapter? Mark it in your Bible. Write the verse number below:

Romans 12: _____

As you look to the year ahead, how would you like for your life to more closely reflect this passage? Jot down any actions steps the Lord is leading you to take below:

1. _____

2. _____

Be sure and call the church office to sign up for ***40 Days of Prayer*** events you decided on yesterday.

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to empower your growth in the areas you listed above this year. Pray as honestly and as specifically as possible.

## *Thursday, January 3*

Today's Scripture Reading: Romans 13 (966)

The twelfth through sixteenth chapters of Romans represent the life application section of the book, while the first eleven chapters are more doctrinal in nature. Read Romans 13. For you, what is the key verse in the chapter? Mark it in your Bible. Write the verse number below:

Romans 13: _____

Jot down any actions steps the Lord is leading you to take below:

1. _____

2. _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for our city and county leaders. Ask God to give them wisdom. Their decisions have an impact, not only on the progress of our area, but on the climate for the spread of the Gospel.

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## *Friday, January 4*

Today's Scripture Reading: Romans 14-15 (966)

Read Romans 14-15. It discusses our example and how we should take weaker Christians into consideration. It considers these issues in light of our greater mission. What is God saying to you in this passage? Mark the verse in your Bible. Write the verse number below:

Romans _____

For you is there something, legitimate in itself, but which presents temptation to you? An area of weakness in which you need to take the attitude, "It may be OK for others to do this, but I cannot"? Is there anything you should avoid to keep a weaker brother or sister from stumbling? List these things below:

1. _____

2. _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for a Christian you know who is weak and who struggles to stay on track spiritually. Ask God to give them power and perseverance. Make yourself available to God to help them.

## *Saturday, January 5*

Today's Scripture Reading: Romans 16 (968)

You may be tempted to skip Romans 16, but don't! Don't worry about pronouncing the names, but underline *how each person is described*. You will find the "Great Commission of Romans" in verses 25-27. Mark your key verse and write its verse number below:

Romans 16: _____

List life application steps you should take below:

1. _____

2. _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Think of fellow-Christians who are helping you in your Christian growth and service. Consider how each one contributes to your life and thank God for them by name.

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## *Sunday, January 6*

*Prayer Room Vigil Starts Today*

Today's Scripture Reading: Genesis 18:17-33 (13)

In this passage, we see Abraham, the man of faith in prayer. God reveals to him that judgment is about to fall on Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham intercedes for God's remnant. For you, what is the key verse in the chapter? Mark it in your Bible. Write the verse number below:

Genesis 18: _____

Jot down the key principle of prayer you learn from this passage below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Think about people you know without a relationship with Jesus Christ. Intercede for them. Pray for God to intervene in their lives and bring them to salvation.

## *Monday, January 7*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:1-32 (27)

Jacob has left the employment of his father-in-law Laban and is heading back home. His brother Esau, whom he tricked out of both his inheritance and blessing—and who threatened to kill Jacob — is ahead. God initiates a spiritual wrestling match with Jacob, but Jacob refuses let go until he is blessed. God won't do so until Jacob admits his name (Jacob literally, means "grabber" and describes his character as one who lived by hook and by crook). Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Genesis 32: _____

If your name described your true character, what would your name be? Write it below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Think of your personal struggles and confess them to God. Consider how, in spite of your sins and struggles, God has taken the initiative in your life and continued to be faithful. Ask God to bless you in those struggles.

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## *Tuesday, January 8*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: Exodus 32:1-14 (73)

The children of Israel have fallen into idolatry, making a graven image to worship and partying their way into sin. Hurt and angry, God tells Moses He is going to destroy them and start over with the descendants of Moses. Moses rejects the opportunity and pleads for the children of Israel, claiming God's own promises.

Genesis 32: _____

What promises are you claiming from God's word? List them below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

you pray today, think about your heart-burdens and dreams. Claim again the promises of Scripture that apply to your situation. Plead those promises to God afresh.

## *Wednesday, January 9*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: I Samuel 1:1-2:10 (226)

Hannah was unable to bear children. She was often teased about her infertility by her husband's other wife. When the family took their annual trip to Jerusalem to worship, Hannah took the opportunity to pray. You will notice she did so with great passion and a specific commitment. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

1st Samuel _____

What is the "big one thing" on your heart which you would like God to do something about?:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray about your heart burden today. Ask the Lord if there is a commitment He would have you make on your part before He answers your prayer about your heart burden. As you pray, do so with fervency. God gets serous about answering our prayers when He sees that we are serious about having them answered.

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## *Thursday, January 10*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: II Samuel 7:1-32 (259)

David wanted to build the temple for the Lord. At first he is told by the prophet Nathan to go ahead, but then God steps in to say no. In place of His "no," God gives David a promise. David sits down, overcome with gratitude and awe at God's promise. Resting in the promise, David praises the Lord.

II Samuel 7: _____

God always answers prayer—sometimes with yes, but other times with no or wait. Has God given you a "no" or a 'wait." If so, what can you praise Him for in the meantime? Write it below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Praise God for His goodness and blessings even when some prayers are not yet being answered.

## *Friday, January 11*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: I Kings 3:5-15 (282)

One day God gave Solomon a blank check. Solomon could ask for anything he wanted. What would you ask for? The passage records what Solomon requested and why.

Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Kings 3: _____

Consider why you would need wisdom in your circumstances. List them:

_____ _____

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to give you wisdom to deal with each circumstance in your life. Claim James 1:5 — "Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without criticizing, and it will be given to him."

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## *Saturday, January 12*

*Prayer Room Vigil Continues: Is Today Your Day?*
Today's Scripture Reading: I Kings 8:22-61 (287)

Solomon was allowed to build the temple that David was not. When it was completed, He dedicated it and prayed this prayer. Write the reference for the key verse for you below:

I Kings 8: _____

Solomon spoke of different prayers for different occasions. Which kind of prayer and which type occasion are you most to relating today? Write it below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Nowadays, the temple isn't the dwelling place of God; His people, the church, are. Yet, we don't want our gatherings to be a place of grace helping people with all kinds of needs and in all kinds of circumstances. Pray that God would make that true of First Baptist.

## *Sunday, January 13*

*Final Day of Prayer Room Vigil: Is Today Your Day?*
*Spiritual Warfare Training Tonight in the Evening Service*
Today's Scripture Reading: II Chronicles 20:1-30 (377)

After Solomon, Israel split into two kingdoms, a northern kingdom (Israel) and a southern kingdom (Judah). Jehoshaphat was king of Judah when several nations allied themselves together to attack Judah. Judah was so vastly outnumbered, they didn't stand a chance. So Jehoshaphat called a prayer meeting. Write the verse number of your key verse below:

II Chronicles 20: _____

Is there a battle you are fighting that you should turn over to the Lord. If so, name it:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Regarding the big battle of your life, pray along these lines: "I am powerless against this, but it can destroy me (us). I do not know what to do, but look to You."

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## *Monday, January 14*

Today's Scripture Reading: I Kings 17:1; 18:1-45, especially 41-45 (299)

The New Testament holds up Elijah as a model of a praying person. James 5:16-18 says, "...The intense prayer of the righteous is very powerful. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours; yet he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the land. Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its fruit." I Kings records the details of that story. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Kings 18: _____

When we pray as the Lord prompts us, He answers our prayers and changes the situation. In what way is the Lord prompting you to pray about our community?

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

What do you sense the Holy Spirit leading you to pray about in the Tallassee area? It may be a social issue, a city government matter, to pray for sister churches, etc.. Pray about it today.

## *Tuesday, January 15*

Today's Scripture Reading: I Kings 18:19 - 19:36 (300)

The prophet Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel. It was a stunning victory. But just after this big moment, Elijah receives a death threat from Jezebel... and the prophet who single-handedly defeated 450 false prophets... runs. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Kings _____

Are you feeling resentful, unappreciated, like you are having to do all the work by yourself, or that you are all alone? If so, list these feelings below:

_____ _____ _____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

God spoke to Elijah with short questions and sentences. As you pray always be alert to the voice of God. Usually, God speaks in short sentences and often asks questions.

_____

## *Wednesday, January 16*

Today's Scripture Reading: II Kings 20 (328)

Sometimes we can fail to grasp the lessons we should learn from answered prayers. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

II Kings 20: _____

Can you think of a time you pray and insisted on your own will until God gave you what you wanted—and then you wished you had accepted His answer the first time? If so, when:

_____

Can you remember in your life a great answer to prayer followed by a great failure? When?

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to enable you to accept His answers to your prayers and to remember the right lessons from them.

## *Thursday, January 17*

Today's Scripture Reading: Ezra 9:1-10:6 (401)

The children of Israel had sinned significantly, long, and unrepentantly — so the judgment of God had come. After seventy years of being exiled from the Promised Land to the Babylonian empire, a remnant was able to return. Even then, they had trouble consistently living godly lives. They began to intermarry with pagans. Ezra the scribe intercedes for the sins of the people. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Ezra _____

List the ways people are forsaking God today which disturb you:

_____ _____ _____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for those away from God, for those who seem to have forgotten God, and for those who are living as if God did not exist. Intercede and confess the sins of our generation.

_____

## *Friday, January 18*

Today's Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 9 (411)

Though Nehemiah was a was a Jew, God had placed him in a place of political influence. He was not a priest or prophet, but he was a great spiritual leader. He was the central figure in rebuilding the defensive walls of the city. He dealt with the same issues with which his contemporary, Ezra, dealt. Nehemiah 9 records a "personal rededication service." Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Nehemiah 9: _____

Nehemiah 9 ends with a signed commitment. Write any commitment you need to make to God:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Set your sights on where you want to be spiritually—what you would like to become, what you would like to be like, the difference you would like to make. Ask God to guide you, transform you, and empower you to get there.

## *Saturday, January 19*

Today's Scripture Reading: Daniel 9:1-19 (757)

The book of Daniel tells the story and the visions of Daniel the prophet who lived during the Babylonian exile. The prayer in today's passage is his prayer of intercession for the people. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Daniel 9:_____

List some parts of this prayer that stand out to you:

_____

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Even prayers of confession should begin with praise. It all starts with God, originates from God, and is all about God. Work on developing your praise life today.

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## *Sunday, January 20*

Today's Scripture Reading: Habakkuk 3:1-19 (794)

The prophet Habakkuk lived in Judah in the days of King Josiah. He was upset that God seemed to delay in righting wrongs and administering justice. After God reassures him, Habakkuk prays for mercy and revival among His people. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Habakkuk 3: _____

In Habakkuk 2:3, God tells the prophet, "For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it testifies about the end and will not lie. Though it delays, wait for it, since it will certainly come and not be late." What are you waiting on God for. Write your answer below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Psalm 37:34 says, "Wait for the LORD and keep His way, and He will exalt you to inherit the land. You will watch when the wicked are destroyed." Pray to maintain your composure and make the right choices while you wait for God to come through.

## *Monday, January 21*

Today's Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:9-15 (817)

What we call *The Lord's Prayer* could probably be better called *The Model Prayer*. It is a sample prayer that serves as a pattern for our own prayers. As you read it, try to mark each section of the pattern and the order in which they come. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Matthew 6:_____

You will notice the stress Jesus lays on forgiveness in verse 12 and in verses 14-15. Is there anyone you need to forgive? If so, write their names below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Sometimes it is hard to forgive. We want to. We try to. But the feelings keep coming back. Ask God to show you what steps you should take to be able to forgive any such persons in your life.

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## *Tuesday, January 22*

Today's Scripture Reading: Luke 6:12-16 (873)

Luke often traces the theme of the prayer life of Jesus. On this occasion, He is about to choose from among all His disciples and name the twelve apostles. He spent an entire night in prayer before making such an important decision. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Luke 6: _____

Do you have any big decisions before you? List one or two major decisions you will have to make this year:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God for insight, discernment, and wisdom to make the decision(s) you listed above. Pray as specifically as possible that God might answer specifically.

## *Wednesday, January 23*

Today's Scripture Reading: John 17 (918)

John 17 records the prayer Jesus prayed for His church—at that time, and for all time to come. Some Bible teachers have stated this is the prayer we should call *The Lord's Prayer* because it is the prayer the Lord prayed. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

John 17:_____

What are some things that stand out to you that Jesus prayed for the church?:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Take this prayer that Jesus prayed for us and use it as a guide to pray today for the people in your Sunday School class (or Titus 2 Group or the youth group—whoever you choose).

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## *Thursday, January 24*

Today's Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:36-46 (841)

Another well-known prayer of Jesus is the one he prayed at the Garden of Gethsemane. The time of His crucifixion was at hand. He was struggling in prayer and His disciples were struggling to pray at all. Jesus' prayer identifies a mark of good praying; choosing to align ourselves with God's will, regardless of the cost. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Matthew 26: _____

Do you have an area in which you are struggling to accept God's will? What is it; write it below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God for the grace and the courage to accept and obey His will for your life. Choose to align your life with His plan.

## *Friday, January 25*

Today's Scripture Reading: Acts 4:15-31 (928)

The Holy Spirit has not long fallen on the church at Pentecost. The Gospel is beginning to spread. People in Jerusalem are coming to Christ. But now… the religious establishment cracks down. The Apostles are threatened and released. They find fellow-believers and begin to pray. Now, notice what they pray. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Acts 4:_____

Are there times, places… people around whom you are afraid to speak up for Christ? Write you answer below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for boldness to stand for Christ—winsomely, courageously, and effectively.

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## *Saturday, January 26*

Today's Scripture Reading: Acts 12:1-19 (937)

Persecution of the church has continued. Peter is arrested. On the eve of his execution the church is praying and God is sending an angelic extraction team to carry out a jailbreak. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Acts 12: _____

Which of these historical biblical figures are you most like: Peter sleeping on the eve of his execution, the church giving itself to prayer, or the church refusing to believe the answer to prayer when it comes?

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Who do you know who urgently needs prayer? Earnestly pray for them today.

## *Sunday, January 27*

Today's Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 (994)

When Paul wrote Ephesians, he prayed for the believers from Ephesus twice. The first prayer is found in the first chapter. Now, notice what he prayed—that would get it in regard to what they had in Christ. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Ephesians 1:_____

Do you know someone who needs a deeper appreciation of what they have in Christ? Write their names below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for the expanded understanding of those fellow-Christians you have listed above.

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## *Monday, January 28*

Today's Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:14-21 (995)

In Paul's second prayer for the Christians at Ephesus, he prays for them to have spiritual power and to experience the expansive love of God. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Ephesians 3: _____

Do you know believers who are in dire need of spiritual power? Serving the Lord in a challenging circumstances? In a situation where love will be hard to give? In a trial where God's love will be hard to feel? Don't forget to consider missionaries. Write their names below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray today for the believers you listed above to experience God's love and spiritual power.

## *Tuesday, January 29*

Today's Scripture Reading: Luke 11:5-13 (881)

Jesus teaches that, in our praying, we should be, not only consistent, but also persistent. We are to We should *keep asking, keep seeking*, and *keep knocking*. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Luke 11:_____

Do you have a prayer God has yet to answer? Have you given up on getting an answer? If so, list that desire below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray again today the prayer you have prayed the longest. Bring to God the request that is the oldest. Ask God again.

_____

## *Wednesday, January 30*

Today's Scripture Reading: Luke 18:1-7 (889)

Are you praying to overcome God's lack of desire to answer or to lay hold of his desire to answer? Jesus tells a story in Luke 18 to make the point that God is not like indifferent to our needs, but is more like a loving parent. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Luke 18: _____

Do you have deep desires in your heart about which you strain to believe that God wants to bless you? If so, list that desire below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

As you pray, determine to trust God's goodness and His interest in you. Say, "I believe Your plan for my life is a good plan and, if I knew all the facts, I would choose Your plan for my life."

## *Thursday, January 31*

Today's Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17 (917)

John 15 is about abiding in Christ. To abide in Christ is to *Reside in Christ* (to be plugged in to Jesus), to *Rely on Christ* (depending on His power), and to *Remain with Christ* (to *stay* plugged in). In verse 7, Jesus tells us, "If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you want and it will be done for you." The part about His words remaining in us refers to each specific command and promise. Notice how the condition is followed by a promise. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

John 15:_____

Would you say that you are abiding in Christ or that you occasionally visit with Him, or what? How would you describe your relationship? Write your answer below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to enable you to stay plugged in to Jesus. Consciously choose to rely on His power in an area of your life where you have been winging it on your own.

_____

## *Friday, February 1*

Today's Scripture Reading: I Peter 5:5-11 (1031)

Pride takes a number of forms. Some have an "in-your-face" kind of pride. Others have a smirky arrogance. Still others have a quiet kind of pride that doesn't make waves—or submit. But the key to getting anywhere with God is submission. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Peter 5: _____

Describe the kind of pride you have to beware of below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

As you pray, reaffirm Christ's ownership and Lordship over your life. Make yourself available to follow His commands.

## *Saturday, February 2*

Today's Scripture Reading: I John 5 (1036)

Often God's promises have a condition for us to meet. God says, If you do this then I will do that. In verse 14-15 is another condition is followed by a promise. Mark the key verse in this chapter for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I John 5:_____

What additional insight on prayer do you find in this chapter that stands out most to you?:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Claim the promise in verses 14-15 today concerning a request for someone in your family, someone in your Sunday School class, and someone at work or school.

_____

## *Sunday, February 3*

*PrayerWalk Today at 3:00 PM*

Today's Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:11-14 (663)

In previous devotionals we have seen how the children of Israel continued in sin until God exiled them to Babylon. One of the prophets who warned the people of this danger was Jeremiah. He foresaw not only their exile, but also their restoration. These verses discuss their restoration. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Jeremiah 29: _____

Describe the good plan God has for someone for whom you are praying. What will it look like when your prayers are answered? Write a short, but clear mental picture below:

_____

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to make that picture above a reality. Also, Ask God to restore people who have gotten away from God through the prayers of those who PrayerWalk today.

## *Monday, February 4*

Today's Scripture Reading: I Thessalonians 5:14-28 (1005)

The New Testament describes the normal Christian life as a supernatural life. That doesn't necessarily mean a miracle a minute, but it does mean you are staying in communication with God and have His power for living. Notice in this passage how that is assumed in different ways. Mark the key verse in this chapter for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Thessalonians 5:_____

Are you satisfied that your life is being lived on a supernatural plane?

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Today, ask God to enable you to move to a higher plane of supernatural living.

_____

## *Tuesday, February 5*

Today's Scripture Reading: Philippians 4:4-9 (1000)

Prayer greatly influences our disposition. We all want to experience peace, to have joy, and be patient in our relationships. Verse 6 in today's passage tells us prayer can set the tone in our attitudes. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Philippians 4: _____

What specific attitudes would you most like to develop in your life? List them below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Take your deepest concerns, fears, and worries to the Lord. Describe these problems in detail. Ask Him to take charge of these matters and then trust Him to do so.

## *Wednesday, February 6*

Today's Scripture Reading: Psalm 37 (472)

Sometimes we have to trust God to handle things in His own way and in His own time. We cannot take matters into our own hands. Mark the key verse in this chapter for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Psalm 37:_____

Are tempted to take matters into your own hands regarding a specific problem? If so, write it below:

_____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to give you the patience and the trust in Him to back away and to give Him room to work.

_____

## *Thursday, February 7*

Today's Scripture Reading: Proverbs 3:1-12 (534)

One aspect of prayer is getting God's plan and rejecting our own plan. It is recognizing that God really is wiser than we are and knows what is best. Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Proverbs 3: _____

What specific attitudes would you most like to develop in your life? List them below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Ask God to show you His plan for a big challenge you are facing, whether at work (or school) or in your family.

## *Friday, February 8*

Today's Scripture Reading: I Timothy 2:1-8 (1008)

We are commanded to pray for government leaders for the purpose of creating a climate in which the gospel can spread. Mark the key verse in this chapter for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

I Timothy 2:_____

List some of your elected government officials and representatives below:

_____ _____ _____

_____ _____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Pray for each of these government leaders by name.

_____

## *Saturday, February 9*

*Final Day of the 40 Days of Prayer*

Today's Scripture Reading: Mark 11:12-26 (857)

Do you believe these forty days of prayer will impact Tallassee? If you say, "I hope so" or "I wish it would" you haven't prayed the way Jesus told us to pray. He said, "Believe that you have received them, and you will have them." Mark the key verse for you in your Bible and write the verse number below:

Mark 11: _____

What do you really believe God is going to do as a result of the prayers of yourself and others in our congregation? List those things below:

_____ _____

### *Today's Prayer Guidance*

Thank God in advance for what He is about to do, for what you are trusting Him to do this year.

# *Evaluating My Priorities*

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,*
*and all these things will be provided for you. — Matthew 6:33*

Our priorities are not what we say they are just because that's what we say they are. We can say, God comes first, family second, work third, or something like that. But is it the truth? Our actual priorities are revealed in our day-in, day-out affections and choices. Below is a test to determine what your priorities are in practice.

The four-part test to determine your real priorities:

1. *What do you talk about?*
2. *What do you think about?*
3. *Where do you spend your money?*
4. *When it comes down to a choice, what do you choose?*

When you hear yourself talk, does what you most enjoy talking about reveal that you have placed a greater value on things that do not merit that much enthusiasm?

What do you find yourself thinking about in your spare moments? Does your thought-life generally support the priorities you want to have?

If you went through your check book, would you discover that you are under-spending on higher priorities in order to over-spend on what you would list as a lower priority?

Do you find yourself able to make excuses to justify choosing a lower priority over something you would list as a higher priority?

Based on the four-part test above, list the top priorities in your life, in practice, below:

1. _____ 3. _____

2. _____ 4. _____

Are these what you want your priorities to be? Do you need to make some adjustments? If so, what adjustments are you going to make and how?

_____

_____

_____

# *One-Sentence Testimonies Worksheet*

Fill in a blanks below when it gives you an idea for a one-sentence testimony

***Before I became a Christian...***

I struggled with: _____

I was looking for: _____

I thought: _____

I felt: _____

I was afraid: _____

My goal was: _____

I was always disappointed by: _____

I gave almost religious devotion to: _____

I tried finding _____ in _____

***Since I became a Christian...*** *(Or, Since I began to take my faith more seriously...)*

I feel more: _____

I fear _____ less

I continue to struggle with _____ , but one of the things that has really helped me is: _____.

When I went through _____, I learned _____ about myself.

***As I have worked on my Christian commitment, I have grown...***

In _____

And had to face my _____

I have discovered a new _____

I realized that _____

***Being in church...***

Has helped me _____

Made a big difference for me when _____

# *Things for Which to Praise the Lord*

**Praise God for His Holiness**

**You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness. Habakkuk 1:13**

**Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. Revelation 15:4**

**Praise God for His Mercy**

**For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, And abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You. Psalms 86:5**

**But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth. Psalms 86:15**

**Praise God for His Faithfulness**

**"Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments" — Deuteronomy 7:9**

**Praise God for His Power**

**Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, That it cannot save; Nor His ear heavy, That it cannot hear. Isaiah 59:1**

**Praise God for His Compassion**

**In all their affliction He was afflicted, And the Angel of His Presence saved them; In His love and in His pity He redeemed them; And He bore them and carried them All the days of old. — Isaiah 63:9**

**Praise God for His Gentleness**

**He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young. Isaiah 40:11**

**Praise God as Creator**

**You alone are the LORD; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and everything on it, The seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You. Nehemiah 9:6**

**Praise God for His Justice**

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; For all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.

**Praise God for His Love for Us**

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us

1 John 3:1 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!

**Praise God for Being Sovereign (the supreme ruler over all)**

1 Chronicles 29:12 Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all.

Isaiah 46:10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, `My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'

Psalms 103:19 The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.

**Praise God for Being All Seeing / All-Knowing**

Psalms 147:5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.

Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good.

Hebrews 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Psalms 139:2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off.

Matthew 6:8 "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

**Praise God for Being All-Present**

Jeremiah 23:24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

Psalm 139:7-10 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me.

**Praise God for Being a Jealous God**

Exodus 34:14 for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God

1 Kings 14:22 Now Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy with their sins which they committed, more than all that their fathers had done.

James 4:5 Or do you suppose that it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "The Spirit which He has caused to dwell in our hearts yearns jealously over us"? (Weymouth)

**Praise God for His Condescension**

Psalms 138:6 Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; But the proud He knows from afar.

Psalms 113:6 Who humbles Himself to behold The things that are in the heavens and in the earth?

Psalms 136:23 Who remembered us in our lowly state, For His mercy endures forever

**Praise God for Being Gracious - God gives people that which they do not deserve**

Psalms 84:11 For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD will give grace and glory; No good thing will He withhold From those who walk uprightly.

**Praise God for Being Exalted - God is above us, in power and righteousness and glory**

Psalms 47:9 The princes of the people have gathered together, The people of the God of Abraham. For the shields of the earth belong to God; He is greatly exalted.

Isaiah 33:5 The LORD is exalted, for He dwells on high; He has filled Zion with justice and righteousness.

# *Praying for Myself*

**Spiritual Condition:** *Uncertain/Find Out* *Lost* *Backslidden* *Saved & Growing*
(Circle one)

**Character Qualities I'm Asking God to Develop**
(Circle all that apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ability to control tongue | Graciousness | Not self-centered | Respectfulness |
| Considerate, thoughtful | Humility | Outgoing, friendly | Responsible |
| Courage | Initiative | Patience | Self-control |
| Diligence | Joy | Peace | Self-discipline |
| Faithfulness | Kindness | People skills | Teachable spirit |
| Good listener | Love | Pure thought-life | Uncritical spirit |
| Goodness | Not harsh | Reasonable | Unselfish |

Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

**Protection From:**

*Accidents* *Evil People* *Wrong Friends* *Temptation* *False Thinking*

**Special Heart Burdens:**

_____

_____

**Specific Challenges on the Job or at School:**

_____ _____ _____ _____

**People I Want to See Come to Christ, Opportunities to Witness:**

_____ _____ _____ _____

**My Place(s) of Christian Service:**

_____

_____

# *Praying for My Future Spouse*

**My Commitments:**

*To marry only a committed, growing Christian. To date only committed, growing Christians as I seek a life partner.* (Circle one) YES NO

Regardless of anything that my have happened in my past, and as an expression of love to God and to my future spouse, from this day forward, I am committed to saving sexual activity for marriage. (Circle one) YES NO

**Character Qualities I am Seeking to Develop in Myself to Be a Better Spouse**
(Circle all that apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ability to control tongue | Graciousness | Not self-centered | Respectfulness |
| Considerate, thoughtful | Humility | Outgoing, friendly | Responsible |
| Courage | Initiative | Patience | Self-control |
| Diligence | Joy | Peace | Self-discipline |
| Faithfulness | Kindness | People skills | Teachable spirit |
| Good listener | Love | Pure thought-life | Uncritical spirit |
| Goodness | Not harsh | Reasonable | Unselfish |

Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

**Protect My Future Spouse From:**

*Accidents Evil People Wrong Friends Temptation False Thinking*

**Requests for My Future Spouse and Myself:**

*Give us patience to wait for each other Prepare us for each other*
*Make us unwilling to settle for anyone else To value the qualities the other has to offer*
*Bless the marriage of his/her parents Guide his/her parents*
*That my future spouse will grow to be strong in the Lord*

**Other Requests Regarding My Future Spouse:**

_____

_____

# *Praying for My Friends*

**Name:**_____

**Spiritual Condition:** *Uncertain/Find Out* *Lost* *Backslidden* *Saved & Growing*
(Circle one)

**Character Qualities I'm Asking God to Develop in Him or Her**
(Circle all that apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Ability to control tongue | Graciousness | Not self-centered | Respectfulness |
| Considerate, thoughtful | Humility | Outgoing, friendly | Responsible |
| Courage | Initiative | Patience | Self-control |
| Diligence | Joy | Peace | Self-discipline |
| Faithfulness | Kindness | People skills | Teachable spirit |
| Good listener | Love | Pure thought-life | Uncritical spirit |
| Goodness | Not harsh | Reasonable | Unselfish |

Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

**Protection From:**

*Accidents* *Evil People* *Wrong Friends* *Temptation* *False Thinking*

**School/Job:**

_____

**Specific Needs, Problems, & Challenges:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

# *Praying for My Friends*

**Name:**_____

**Spiritual Condition:** *Uncertain/Find Out* *Lost* *Backslidden* *Saved & Growing*
(Circle one)

**Character Qualities I'm Asking God to Develop in Him or Her**
(Circle all that apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
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Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

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**School/Job:**

_____

**Specific Needs, Problems, & Challenges:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

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**Name:**_____

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**Character Qualities I'm Asking God to Develop in Him or Her**
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**Protection From:**

*Accidents* *Evil People* *Wrong Friends* *Temptation* *False Thinking*

**School/Job:**

_____

**Specific Needs, Problems, & Challenges:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

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Other: _____ _____ _____ _____

**Protection From:**

*Accidents* *Evil People* *Wrong Friends* *Temptation* *False Thinking*

**School/Job:**

_____

**Specific Needs, Problems, & Challenges:**

_____

_____

_____

_____

# *Praying for The Lord's Church*

**Things for Which I am Thankful in Our Church:**

_____ _____ _____ _____

**Protect:**

*The Unity of the Church* *The Staff of the Church* *The Mission of the Church*
*The Spirit of the Church* *The Power of the Church*

**Specific Goals and Challenges of Our Church:**

_____ _____ _____ _____

**Special Heart Burdens for the Church:**

_____

_____

**Ways I Contribute to the Work of the Church:**

_____ _____ _____ _____

**My Sunday School Class:**

| NAME: | TELEPHONE: | NAME: | TELEPHONE: |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

# *Praying for the Ministry of First Baptist Church*

**The Church**
**Pray daily for the evangelistic impact, ministry, unity, and spiritual protection of First Baptist Church.**

**The Student Ministry**

- **Pray for the deacons who as they prepare to nominate a search committee to seek the right person to serve as Minister of Students.**
- **Pray that God will guide the search committee and give them wisdom.**
- **Pray that God will prepare the next Student Minister for us and prepare us for the next Student Minister.**
- **Pray for the Youth Ministry Team during the interim period as they carry on the work.**
- **Pray for the youth group during the interim period, that each Christian in the group will assume responsibility for the success of the student ministry. The measure of a student ministry is not the youth minister, but the youth group.**
- **Pray for the future of the student ministry of First Baptist, that it will be effective at reaching students evangelistically and in making committed disciples.**

**Revival Services, March 8-12**
**Preaching: D. L. Lowrie**
**Retired pastor, First Baptist Church, Lubbock, Texas**

**Upward Basketball**
**Pray for players, cheerleaders, & parents who need Jesus. Remember game-day halftime devotionals for parents, mid-practice devotionals for participants, and the February 24 awards program. We are desiring to see players, cheerleaders, and parents saved this season.**

**Budget**
**With the new building, the budget will increase. Ask God to lead us all in our stewardship so that everyone does his share. Ask God to send buyers for the commercial property across the road in 2008.**

**Teachers**
**Pray that God will raise up the right teachers as we move into the new building. We will need new teachers for children's classes and new adult classes.**

# *How to Pray for the Lost*

*"He said, 'This is why I told you that no one can come to Me unless it is granted to him by the Father.'" — John 6:65*

## *Salvation is an Inside Job.*

The Holy Spirit must work to change what a person really, truly believes, to make him see the seriousness of sin, the goodness of Jesus, and the urgency of repentance. Unless the Holy Spirit convicts them and draws them to Christ, they will not decide to be saved on their own. Here are some ways you can pray for your lost friends:

### *Ask God to Open their Spiritual Eyes (to make them "get it")*

II Corinthians 4:4 "Regarding them: the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers so they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God."

### *Ask God to Overcome Their Hardness of Heart*

John 12:38-40 "But this was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet, who said: *Lord, who has believed our message? And who has the arm of the Lord been revealed to?* This is why they were unable to believe, because Isaiah also said: *He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, so that they would not see with their eyes or understand with their hearts, and be converted, and I would heal them."*

Acts 16:14 "...The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was spoken by Paul."

### *Ask God to Call Them to Himself (to attract them to Jesus)*

John 6:44 "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him..."

### *Ask God to Free Them from Bondage to Old Habits and Ways of Thinking*

II Timothy 2:25-26 The Lord's servant must instruct "...his opponents with gentleness. Perhaps God will grant them repentance to know the truth. Then they may come to their senses and escape the Devil's trap, having been captured by him to do his will."

### *Ask God to Give them the Repentance they Do Not Have*

Acts 11:18 "...So God has granted repentance resulting in life to even the Gentiles!"

### *Ask God to Give You the Opportunity to Share Christ Winsomely, Boldly, and Clearly*

Colossians 4:3-4 "Pray also for us that God may open a door to us for the message, to speak the mystery of the Messiah—for which I am in prison—so that I may reveal it as I am required to speak."

# MY OUTREACH PLAN FOR _____

**What is this person's religious background?** _____

**What is this person's attitude toward Christ? (circle one)**

Very Interested  Open to talk about it  Private & Hard to Read  Hostile  Clueless

**What does this person seem to understand about Christianity?** _____

_____

**What does this person seem to misunderstand about the Gospel?** _____

_____

**What are the interests of this person?** _____

_____

**What are the problems this person faces?** _____

_____

**How can I help this person with his or her felt needs?** (help with some practical need, give book or tape, take to seminar)

_____

**Where could I invite this person to see a group of Christians relating with each other?**

_____

**Who in my network of Christian friends knows this person best?** (OK to list more than one)

_____

**What other Christians does this person know?** _____

**Would this person feel comfortable in our church?**  Yes  No

**Which kind of Gospel presentation would be most effective with this person?**

Napkin chasm diagram  Several long conversations  Book giving reasons to believe  Booklet

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_____

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_____

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Napkin chasm diagram  Several long conversations  Book giving reasons to believe  Booklet

# *A Prayer Offensive*
## *Praying for Our Community and Nation*

**Jesus said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against you." Since the gates to a city wall were defensive in nature, that can mean only one thing—the church is the one on the attack. We are on offense, not defense. Instead of merely praying about problems, we can look in the Scriptures and see God's ideal for the way things ought to be and pray that His will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. We don't have to hunker down in our bunkers and bemoan the state of the world. God can change the present reality. We–God's people–can seize the initiative by listening to the promptings of the Spirit, relying on His power, and pray!**

- **Pray that the Gospel will spread freely and will prevail in the Tallassee area. Ask God to tear down the walls people have put up to keep Christ out of their lives. Pray that God will overcome with the truth lies people have believed — lies that keep them from Jesus. Ask God to show people their need of Him and to attract people to Himself in powerful ways.**
- **Pray for our city and county leadership, that God will give them wisdom in structuring plans for the right kind of progress in this area. Pray for an environment that is conducive to the spread of the Gospel and that strengthens churches. Pray that God will keep the wrong businesses away from our town.**
- **Pray against the people that organize and sell illicit drugs in the Tallassee area. Pray that these people will be converted to Christ, move far away, or be arrested and convicted. Pray that any corrupt law enforcement officers (of whatever agency) will be exposed.**
- **Pray against the demonic forces that stir up terrorists to harm innocent civilians and against American armed forces. Pray that demonic deceptions will be overcome by the truth. Pray that God will destroy the influence of the Islamic religious leaders who incite terrorism, including those in their schools. Pray against terrorist leaders and recruiters, that they will lose their influence. Pray for young people on the path to becoming terrorists or homicide bombers, that God will intervene in a powerful way to intercept their life-path and bring them to Christ, instead. Pray that God will turn this whole thing on its head, and convert vast multitudes out of Islam.**
- **Pray that God will send revival to the United States, that He will reawaken His church and renew repentance in His people.**

## PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITY

My Assigned Day:_____ Date:_____ Time: _____

**What Exactly Am I Being Asked to Do?**
You are being asked to take a time slot and spend up to one hour in the prayer room at the church, praying for our church and community.

**Do I have to Pray for an Entire Hour?**
You are being asked to take "up to" an hour. If you spend less time, that will be OK. However, if you follow some of the suggestions below, you may be surprised at how long you spend praying—and enjoying it!

**Basically, What Will We Be Praying For?**
We will be praying through the church roll and the Tallassee telephone directory, but you can also bring your own prayer list or use the Prayer Week Guide.

**How Will This Work?**
First, call the church office, identify yourself, and ask for the combination to the prayer room door. It has a keypad lock. Then, you will find a copy of the church roll and a copy of the Tallassee telephone directory. There will be a whiteboard showing where the last person left off in praying through the church roll and telephone directory. When you finish praying, please update the note on the whiteboard to show where you left off.

**Suggestions for Your Time in the Prayer Room**
Carry your Bible with you. You may wish to carry a devotional book or a book on prayer. Spend a few minutes reading God's Word as you prepare to pray. You may want to read the devotional for the day in your devotional book or read a little in your book on prayer. Be careful, though, not to spend too much time reading.

As you pray through the church roll and telephone directory, pray for each person by name whether you know them or not; some people will not have anyone else praying for them all year. At the minimum, mention every name to God you see.

You will know many of the people whose names you see; pray as specifically for them as possible. When you run across names of people you do not know, be still and quiet a few seconds and ask God to impress you with anything He would have you to pray for that person. Don't worry about praying the wrong thing; just pray it. If you are mistaken, God will know how to "translate" the prayer. If you don't sense any specific leadership, then pray the name to God and tell Him you don't know how to pray, but that you are asking Him to work in that person's life in 2008.

Feel free, also, to pray through your family prayer list, Sunday School roll, etc.

Thank you for volunteering to participate in unleashing the most powerful force on earth in Tallassee, the power of prayer.

# *How to Conduct a Cottage Prayer Meeting*

***Relax…. Things you don't have to do:***

- Provide a spacious and luxurious home; this is a prayer meeting, not a Parade of Homes.
- Prepare a lot of food; fasting would be more appropriate than feasting. Soft drinks and a few cookies are OK, but not necessary.
- Present a Bible study; we are there to talk to God, not listen to a study.

***Sign Up!***

- Cottage Prayer Meetings may be held *anytime* between January 13 and January 27 (inclusive).
- You can host the prayer meeting on any night at any time, except when church is meeting.
- You can sign up in the foyer to host a Cottage Prayer Meeting. That way, we can help people publicize your prayer meeting. If you have a specific purpose (to pray for such and such neighborhood or to pray for fellow employees at the Tallassee Widget Company), state that on the sign up-list.
- You can enlist people from your neighborhood, your Sunday School class, your Titus 2 Group, the Youth Group, etc. Feel free to be creative.

***In the Prayer Meeting***

- Once everyone arrives, read (or have someone read) a brief passage of Scripture.
- Explain that the purpose of this prayer meeting is to pray for the *spiritual* well-being of your school or graduating class or team-mates, or whatever.
- Take prayer requests that are on point for the prayer meeting. Explain when you begin taking requests, that you are seeking requests that are related to the purpose of the prayer meeting.
- Don't allow the prayer request time to drag out too long. You may even wish to use an egg timer and end requests when the bell rings. Otherwise the prayer meeting may end up being all requests and no prayer.
- Tell people they can pray more than once. If they forget something, they can pray again.
- Try to see that the meeting ends at the time you advertised.

# *PrayerWalking*

*Praying On-site with Insight*

**PrayerWalking is Spending Time in Fellowship with God**

**"Enoch walked with God, and he was not there, because God took him."—Genesis 5:24**

**PrayerWalking is Receiving Territory from God**

**God told Abraham… "Get up and walk from one end of the land to the other, for I will give it to you."—Genesis 13:17**

**In PrayerWalking, we ask God to impact that area for Jesus and we claim it for Him.**

**PrayerWalking is Claiming the Promises of God**

**Caleb claimed his portion of the land of Israel by reminding Joshua… "On that day Moses promised me, 'The land where you have set foot will be an inheritance for you and your descendants forever, because you have remained loyal to the Lord my God.'" – Joshua 14:9**

**We Never Know What God Might Do When We PrayerWalk!**

**"In the early evening, Isaac went out to walk in the field, and looking up, he saw camels coming [carrying his wife from God, Rebekah]." – Genesis 24:63 Walk – i.e. for prayer or meditation**

# *How to PrayerWalk Your Neighborhood or School*

1. **Walk the streets of your neighborhood. If you live out in the country, either help someone else PrayerWalk their neighborhood or do "Drive-by Prayer" in your neighborhood. Another option is to PrayerWalk your school. You could come early or stay late after school and PrayerWalk the halls.**

2. **Move slowly as you walk, not at the pace you would use for exercise. This allows you to notice more.**

3. **As you walk, be alert. Keep your eyes open and your spiritual radar turned on. Be sensitive to needs and to spiritual dangers. Listen as God leads you to pray. If you have an impression about how to pray, pray for it! (What harm could it do if you are wrong?)**

4. **Don't engage with non-prayer related conversation with your prayer partner – pray! Friendly conversation is nice, but it will muffle your spiritual perception.**

5. **Concentrate on spiritual needs. For example, some people focus on health issues when they pray. However, what good would it do for a person to go to hell healthy?**

6. **If you pass people in their yards, speak to them. If people ask what you are doing: Tell them that you are with the First Baptist Church and that we are walking our neighborhoods asking God to bless our community. Explain that we feel a great need of prayer ourselves. Offer to take requests: "Do you have anything we can pray about for you, today?"**

7. **Resist the devil. There may be distractions or it may be difficult to focus. Grit your teeth and pray through it.**

7. **Make it a point to walk through or drive by those same streets again, and to pray there some more.**