

Preparing to pray

Throughout the ages people have approached God in many different ways (Acts 17:23). As Christ followers we approach God our Father through Jesus Christ His Son, and God's Word in Matthew 6 gives guidance and instruction. Prayer is about spending time with our Father, trusting Him, and acknowledging His greatness and our need of Him; focusing our thoughts and glorifying our Father as we pray before going through specific, targeted prayer requests.

CONFESSION

Means admit – and agree with God about the sin in our lives; admitting it, confessing it, and turning away from any and all things that dishonor and displease God.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7 ESV)

ADORATION

Means worship – recognizing and acknowledging God for who He is.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he! (Psalm 99:5 ESV)

THANKSGIVING

Means thankful – spending time with God and thanking Him for the forgiveness of sins, and the blessing of being His child, and the privilege of serving Him; thanking Him and naming the blessings one by one.

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever! (1 Chronicles 16:34 ESV)

SUPPLICATION

Means request – making requests to God on behalf of others, praying for God's will in the lives of family, extended family and friends, people in your sphere of influence: school, workplace and neighborhood, as well as people around the world.

Then hear in heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their plea, and maintain their cause. (1 Kings 8:49 ESV)

Prayer for Anxious Times:

Sovereign God, I rejoice today that You are good and You are great. You care and You can. Help me to walk by faith and not by fear. For the glory of my Savior and King. In Jesus' Name. Amen

REACH UP

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised. (1 Chronicles 16:25 ESV)

Pastor Bruce as he teaches

- Pray for boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God's word.
- Pray for Pastor Bruce and the Task Force he is leading with the Southern Baptist Convention.
- Pray for follow up from our Christmas Eve services.

New Series "Song of Solomon"

- Pray for wisdom in planning the services.
- Pray that our families that will be encouraged through the series.

REACH IN

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them. (Matthew 18:20 ESV)

Connect Groups

- Pray for wisdom for teachers as they prepare each week's lesson.
- Pray for a fresh, strong commitment for those already in a Connect Group.
- Pray for new groups to form, and new members that join these groups to see a deepened walk with the Lord.

Students, Kids, Families

- Pray for leaders, students, and kids as we kick off Wednesday activities.
- Pray for the Vertical service for young adults on January 11.

Campus events

- Pray for the planning, and those attending Leadership Community on each campus January 12.
- Pray for Starting Point on each campus January 26.

REACH OUT

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to the Father who is in Heaven.

(Matthew 5:16 ESV)

Mission/Ministry Opportunities

- Pray for **The BIG GIVE** follow up and future discipleship.
- Pray for continued disaster relief opportunities for us to serve in due to the recent flooding, and each family impacted.
- Pray for our Domestic Church Plants:
 - Mission City Church, Jacksonville, FL
 - Coastway Church, Myrtle Beach
 - Redeemer Queens Park Church, London
 - Park Slope Community Church, Brooklyn
- Pray for Foster care:
 - Foster families are experiencing exhaustion, burn out and discouragement.
 - 100+ Buncombe County foster kids placed outside Buncombe County due to lack of foster families.
 - 10% of the children in foster care in Buncombe County are Hispanic. Out of 80+ licensed homes we have 4 families that identify as Hispanic. That creates a high likelihood of a Hispanic child being put in a home with different culture. Language can be a barrier to kids getting services needed. Pray for more Hispanic families to open their homes to foster kids.
- Pray for continued growth in the Boxing Ministry.
- Pray for ministry opportunities to open up in South Asia with the Banya people; unreached people group.

Thank you for continuing to pray for the health and safety of our members and staff during the month of November. Your fervent prayers are a source of great encouragement.

THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS

Take the time to go back through each of these requests, declaring by faith, asking God to answer our prayers according to His divine will and purpose. Thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers, and for the continued blessings over Biltmore Church.

PRAYER GUIDE

January 2022

