

PRAYER GUIDE

JANUARY 2023

INTRODUCTION:

Thanks for being part of our prayer team! We're believing God will move in and through Biltmore Church in huge ways in 2023. God both calls His people to pray, and promises to answer those prayers. That's why in addition to this guide, our church family we'll be praying for 168 straight hours to start our year beginning January 1. As a Prayer Team member, please sign up for your 15-minute time slot at biltmorechurch.com/yearofprayer.

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.

HOW TO PRAY:

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

“Behold I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.” – (Isaiah 43:19 ESV)

Week of Prayer

- Pray for boldness as our Church Family prays for 168 hours continuously.

Pastor Bruce as he teaches

- Pray for boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God’s word.
- Pray for “Vision Sunday” on January 8.
- New Sermon Series “Tale of Two Kingdoms” starting on January 15.
- Pray for wisdom in planning the services.

REACH IN

“As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.” – (Proverbs 27:17 ESV)

Groups

- Pray for wisdom for teachers.
- Pray for a fresh, strong commitment for those already in a group.
- Pray for new groups beginning this Spring, and the guests and members that join to see a deepened walk with the Lord.

Kids, Students, Families

- Pray for the physical and spiritual health of our members and guests.
- Pray for kids and student activities as they kick off for the Spring semester.

REACH OUT

Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. – (Romans 15:2 ESV)

Mission/Ministry Opportunities

- Pray for those receiving our Big Give collections. For people to come to repentance and faith in Jesus through The Big Give outreach.
- Pray for our church plants in Brooklyn, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville and London.
- Pray for ministry opportunities to open up in South Asia with the Banya people; unreached people group.
- Pray for the Bengali speaking Muslims that our South Asia missionaries are trying to engage with the gospel.
- Pray for the continued partnership with Compassion International, the children served, and for additional children to be sponsored.
- Pray for foster families, and the biological parents of the kids in foster care.
- Pray for those watching online, and for others as they return to in person services.
- Pray for continued ministry opportunities in our 828 communities.

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.

Thank you for praying for the health and safety of our members and staff during the upcoming year. Your fervent prayers are a source of great encouragement.