



PRAYER GUIDE

Before you pray, PAUSE:

Prepare: So often, we are rushed by the busyness of life. Before you get ready to pray, make sure you are in a quiet place away from distractions (TV, phone, etc.). *“When you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” Matthew 6:6*

Ask: If there is any unconfessed sin in your life, confess those to God before you begin to pray. *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 1:9*

Understand: Prayer is a dialogue, not a monologue. As you begin to pray, don't treat this time as a one-sided script but as a conversation between you and God. Allow the Spirit to prompt your soul and mind as you pray. *“May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me, and I am in you.” John 17:21*

Sit: Jesus gives us many examples of going to a place of solitude to pray, but He also shows us what an unhurried life looks like. Before you pray, take 2-5 minutes to sit in silence, breathe, and allow the Spirit to refresh your soul as you rest in the presence of God. *“On that day, Jesus went out of the house and was sitting by the sea.” Matthew 13:1*

Exercise: Prayer is more practice than it is theory. It is simply learned by discovery. *“One of his disciples said to him, Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples. He said to them, “Whenever you pray, say, Father, your name be honored as holy. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves also forgive everyone in debt to us. And do not bring us into temptation.” Luke 11:1-4*

Prayer for the 828:

God, I know You have a purpose for everything You do. You have me here in Western North Carolina for a purpose, and I pray that I will accomplish Your purpose as I reach up, reach in, and reach out. Help me resemble Jesus as I converse with those I live close to, work next to, and play leisurely with.

REACH UP

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him, all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.” Colossians 1:15-16

- Praise God for His grace, mercy, and power.
- Pray that God will be glorified in your personal and corporate worship.
- Pray for Pastor Bruce as he teaches.
- Pray for the worship teams as they prepare and rehearse.
- Pray that God’s glory will be shown in all you do.

REACH IN

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day, they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.” Acts 2:42,44-47

- Pray for wisdom for the group leaders as they facilitate their groups.
- Pray for groups meeting all around Western North Carolina.
- Pray that we would build one another up as Jesus commanded.
- Pray for the ReachTeam orientations happening across our campuses this month.
- Pray that people will be equipped to do ministry where they live, work, and play.
- Pray for Starting Points that will be happening this month (9/10,9/13)
- Pray for those taking their next step at Outdoor Baptism (9/17)
- Pray to devote yourself to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer.

REACH OUT

“Pursue the well-being of the city to which I have carried you into” Jeremiah 29:7

- Pray for our church plants in Brooklyn, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville, and London.
- Pray for our assisted living community partners.
- Pray for our ministry in our local prisons.
- Pray for foster families in Western North Carolina.
- Pray for a location for the Waynesville campus.
- Pray as we launch The Academy.
- Pray for our mission partners overseas.
- Pray that we will reflect the light and life of Jesus in our local communities.

Last Things

As you close your time of prayer, pray for ways to reach up, reach in, and reach out this week.

- You will have private and public opportunities to worship God; how will you use those moments?
- You will be given opportunities to serve the church and be a part of community; how will you use those opportunities?
- You will be given opportunities to share and show the love of Jesus to people; how will you use your voice and life as a follower of Jesus?