

# PRAYER GUIDE

MARCH 2023

## INTRODUCTION:

Thanks for being part of our prayer team! We believe God will move in and through Biltmore Church in huge ways in 2023. God calls His people to pray and promises to answer those prayers. This month we will continue our sermon series, *A Tale of Two Kingdoms*, and begin our next series, *Famous Last Words*. Let's pray that the hearts of the people in our church will be changed through these series and that the Holy Spirit will begin the work of softening the hearts of those in our community as we prepare for Easter.

## 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, acknowledging His greatness and our need for Him, focusing our thoughts, and glorifying our Father as we pray before going through specific, targeted prayer requests.

## HOW TO PRAY:

### Confession:

Means admitting and agreeing with God about the sin in our lives, confessing it, and turning away from all things that dishonor God. *"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." Proverbs 28:13*

### Adoration:

Means worship; recognizing and acknowledging God for who He is. *"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! ... The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Psalm 103:1, 8*

### Thanksgiving:

Means thankful; spending time with God and thanking Him for the forgiveness of sins, the blessing of being His child, and the privilege of serving Him. *"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1*

### 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. *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6*

### ***Prayer for Our Community:***

Lord, we admit and agree that we can be self-centered and self-seeking. Please help us to focus on You, our community, and then ourselves. Help us to be disciples who reach up first. You are good, merciful, loving, and so deserving of our worship. Thank you for living a perfect life on Earth, for dying in our place, for rising from the dead and making way for us to be in communion with you. Please give us the opportunity to tell even more of our community about this great news.

### **REACH UP**

“Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!” – (Psalm 108:5)

#### ***Pastor Bruce as he teaches***

- Pray for boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God’s word.
- Pray that God would be glorified through Pastor Bruce’s words.
- Pray that God would give him the influence to empower our people to share God’s truth with our community.
- Pray for wisdom in planning the services.

### **REACH IN**

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful” – (Colossians 3:15)

#### ***Groups***

- Pray for wisdom for the group leaders as they teach the curriculum.
- Pray for a fresh, strong commitment for those already in a group.
- Pray that our groups would find a local mission partner.

#### ***Kids, Students, Families***

- Pray for WAKE weekend, that many students would come to know God, that students would grow in their faith and be empowered to share their faith, and that there would be revival among our middle and high school students.
- Pray for our parent commissioning, that God would give the parents being commissioned wisdom to raise their children according to His design for their lives.

### **REACH OUT**

“And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.” – (Mark 16:15)

#### ***Mission/Ministry Opportunities***

- Pray for our church plants in Brooklyn, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville, and London.
- Brooklyn (Park Slope Community Church) - thank God for 20 people being saved there this year, pray for the leadership cohort they are starting and for the emotional health of Logan Dagley.
- Pray for the foster families in Western North Carolina.

#### ***Easter & Good Friday***

- Pray that God would begin softening the hearts of the people in Western North Carolina.
- Pray for Pastor Bruce as he prepares the message for Easter and Good Friday.
- Pray that our church family would invite their neighbors to church.
- Pray that many would come to know God during this Easter season.
- Pray that Easter would be the catalyst for people watching online to come back to one of our campuses or become involved in a local church near where they live.

### **THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS**

Take the time to review each request, declaring by faith and asking God to answer our prayers according to His divine will and purpose. Thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers and continuing 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.*