

GUIDE FOR PASTORAL PRAYER WARRIORS

From Pastor Don Moore

There are no great churches, preachers or ministries that are not undergirded by strong prayers. The most famous and powerful Baptist preacher in history was Charles Haddon Spurgeon. He had groups of people who prayed for him during every service where he preached. He called the Prayer Room the “Steam Room,” where power was generated that ran everything else in the church. The best, most able, and most gifted human beings cannot produce the Kingdom result that one simple, Holy Spirit-empowered servant of God will see.

Thank you for being willing to dedicate time to pray, to intercede for the Pastor on a regular basis, but especially during the worship services on Sunday.

Conditions and circumstances associated with aging may limit what we can do outwardly, but nothing can keep us from being strong inwardly. That is where your prayer ministry comes in. Here is your scripture to back it up.

II Cor. 4:16-18 “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. 17 For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, 18 as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient (passing), but the things that are unseen are eternal.”

Your ministry may not be seen, recognized, recorded here on earth, but your prayers are stored in heaven, remembered by God and rewarded in both this world and the world to come.

Jesus, “...ever liveth to make intercession.” Heb. 7:25

Romans 8:34 “Christ...who is at the right hand of God and makes intercession for us,”

PRAYING FOR ANOTHER IS THE MOST CHRIST-LIKE THING YOU CAN DO!

“When man works, man works. When man prays, God works.”

Agnus Buchan

PRAYING SOME EVERY DAY

MONDAY

- Protection. Monday is the most difficult day of the week for the pastor. Fatigue, disappointments and sometimes criticism from the day before press heavy on his heart.
- For recovery of strength and energy to begin another week. In a sense he needs to recover vision for what God has for him to do in ministry.
- For blessing on his follow-up decisions, visitors, or needs that came to light on Sunday.
- For any ministry to the membership needed early in the week. Deaths, illnesses, crises, and special needs in the community.

TUESDAY

- Pray for him to begin to discern where his next sermon needs to go and his preparation for it.
- Administrative matters related to the operations of the church may not come on Tuesday, but you can pray for him to be able to do that in a timely manner.
- Committee Meetings may be held this week. The Leadership Team, on whom the pastor relies need your prayers.
- For effectiveness in interaction with other pastors, churches and community activities.

WEDNESDAY

- Pray for plans and preparation for Wednesday night activities.
- Pray for his ministry to the sick, nursing home residents, and hospitalized.
- Pray that God will give leadership to sharing the gospel with the lost and cultivating the prospects for membership.
- Pray that extra discipleship groups and prayer ministries may be richly blessed with God's power and presence.

THURSDAY

- Having passed mid-week activities, his focus is now upon Sunday. Pray for his study and prayer time in preparation for Sunday. He needs to begin finalizing his thoughts about the sermon and doing a lot of research and planning. **PRAY ALSO FOR THOSE PLANNING AND LEADING THE WORSHIP TIME.**
- Pray for his wisdom to be able to address crises that arise in the lives of individuals and families that may call for counseling. The pressures upon families today are creating a lot of need for help. Pray that he will know when to refer people to get more professional help.
- Pray for God to bless the pastor with freshness and newness in his walk and understanding with Jesus.
- Pray for a strong, compassionate and courageous heart that will give him boldness, confidence and faith.

FRIDAY

- Friday is a good day for the pastor to have "off." If he has a hobby, recreation, or any kind of diversion that will help his mind stay free of the weight of responsibility and duties for just a little while, it can be very valuable to his physical and emotional health. Pray that he can be **KEPT FREE FROM INTERRUPTIONS.**

- School and community functions may give the pastor an opportunity to be of encouragement and witness, as well as give the church a better image in the community.

SATURDAY

- It is "crunch time" if the sermon has not been completed earlier. Pray for God to touch him deeply with passion for the truth and for the people he will address the next day. (This is a greater burden than lay people can imagine.)
- Pray for God to increase his faith. Feelings of fear and uneasiness may throttle his zeal for the mission. God blesses truth, however we may feel about it.
- Pray for physical rest for the pastor and his family.

SUNDAY

- Pray that there will be no distractions with the family preparations for going to church or even at church.
- Pray that a comfortable and peaceful feeling can be communicated with those he interacts with at church.
- The prevailing spirit of love, joy, hope and optimism need to pervade the building. Pray that the pastor can encourage and promote that.
- Pray for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to permeate everything in the worship service and after.
- Pray for the altar call or appeal for decision time. The battle for the hearts and souls of mankind is fierce. Only God can break down the barriers.

Pray for the pastor's family every day. The wider a person's influence, the more intense the enemy's attack. His attacks are very often upon the pastor's family.