

National Days of Prayer, CRY OUT NEW ZEALAND
Prayer and Fasting: Monday 22nd to Thursday 25th November

PRAYER POINTS GUIDE

MONDAY 22 NOVEMBER: PREPARATION OF OUR HEARTS BEFORE THE LORD

"Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the heathen; I will be exalted in the earth" (Psalm 46:10)

"Let anyone who has an ear, listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches ... "
Revelation chapters 2 and 3. As you read these two chapters, note what the Lord approves of, and disapproves of, in each church. **Apply** these to yourself, your church, and the churches in our land – and **Pray** as the Lord leads you.

- Read and meditate on the following Scriptures.
- Apply them to yourself – by asking for open ears and an open heart; by repentance and confession where necessary; by worship and praise; and by giving thanks for all God's blessings for yourself personally, and for our nation Aotearoa New Zealand.

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever."

Isaiah's Vision of the Lord and Commission from the Lord

In the year that King Uzziah died, *I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up; and the hem of His robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above Him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."* The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, *your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.*"

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Who shall I send, and who will go for us?" and *I said, "Here am I; send me!" And he said, "Go..." [Isaiah 6:1-9]*

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God [Psalm 51]

Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in your sentence, and blameless when You pass judgment. ...

You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.

Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of Your deliverance.

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For You have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, You would not be pleased. The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise. ...

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TUESDAY 23 NOVEMBER: WAITING ON THE LORD AND SEEKING HIS FACE

Those who **wait for the LORD** shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

Likewise, **the Spirit helps us in our weakness**; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, Who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)

Meditate on these verses, and **pray** that God will equip you with the full armour of God, for His calling upon your life, and the circumstances you are in.

The Whole Armor of God (Ephesians 6:10-20)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of **truth** around your waist, and put on the breastplate of **righteousness**.

As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the **gospel** of peace.

With all of these, take the shield of **faith**, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

Take the helmet of **salvation**, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the **word of God**.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me [Paul], so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Bless the Lord, O My Soul (Psalm 103)

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and do not forget all His benefits – Who forgives all your iniquity, Who heals all your diseases, Who redeems your life from the Pit, Who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, Who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse, nor will He keep His anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him; as far as the east is from the west, so far He removes our transgressions from us. ... The steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children, to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.

The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His Kingdom rules over all.

Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His bidding, obedient to His spoken word.

Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers that do His will.

Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul.

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WEDNESDAY 24 NOVEMBER: FAMILIES

The Creation of Man and Woman (Genesis 2:18-24)

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ... And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man He made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Let the Children Come to Me (Mark 10:13-16)

People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that He might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me; do not stop them; for *it is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs*. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And He took them up in His arms, laid His hands on them, and blessed them.

The Family (Colossians 3:18-21 and Ephesians 6:1-4)

Wives, be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.

Husbands, love your wives and never treat them harshly.

Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is your acceptable duty in the Lord.

Fathers, do not provoke your children, or they may lose heart.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother" – this is the first commandment with a promise – "so that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

The Family of God – the Family of Believers (Galatians 1:1-3 and 1 Peter 2:17)

Paul an apostle – sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead – and *all the members of God's family* who are with me: To the churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from *God our Father* and the Lord Jesus Christ ...

Honour everyone. *Love the family of believers*. Fear God. Honour the emperor.

As the Lord leads, pray concerning the following areas of our Families, and the Family of God

God's purpose for families.

- The importance of families that make up a nation.
- Marriage, commitment to spouse and to children.
- Parents, fathers, mothers, children, whanau.
- The welfare of each person in a family, and the family as a whole – all ages and generations; their needs, and their contributions to the home and family.
- Love within the family, including mutual respect, support, encouragement, and protection.
- Care of the elderly, and those with special needs.
- Families' economic requirements, e.g., income, welfare of children, health, employment, education, recreation; etc.

The Family of God: The Church of Jesus Christ and His followers. "Love one another as I have loved you." Commitment of believers to following and serving their Lord and Saviour, and to one another, to serve the Body of Christ, and reach out to the world. Salt and light to the world, living and serving the Lord, in unity and the power of the Holy Spirit.

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THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER: THOSE IN AUTHORITY OVER US

'Give the King Your Justice' (from Psalm 72:1-14)

Give the king [Solomon] Your justice, O God, and Your righteousness to a king's son. May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice. May the mountains and the hills yield prosperity for the people, in righteousness. May he defend the cause of the poor, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.

He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious [are they] in his sight.

Submission to the Authorities (Romans 13:1-7 & see 1 Timothy 2:1-4 and 1 Peter 2:13-17)

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God's servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer.

Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due them – taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honour to whom honour is due.

Wisdom from Above (James 3:13-18)

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Pray for:

God's wisdom, justice, and righteousness to prevail in order to protect our citizens, guide good law-making and the direction of our nation, and a good response by the public. God has begun a good work, and will bring to completion His purposes and plans for the destiny of our nation – a nation called by the Lord of God. Isaiah 9:6-7.

The Lord God Almighty is Sovereign over all earthly authorities.

Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, cabinet Ministers, Party leaders, all MPs.

Government, its Departmental leaders, Ministers (especially Ministries of Health, Social Development, Education, Finance, Justice, and Covid-19 management), etc.

Everyone involved in covid decisions, planning, reduction, and treatment.

Police and law enforcement agencies, including judiciary.

Business leaders, employers, and other leaders in society.

Isaiah 9:6-7

A Child has been born for us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with **justice** and with **righteousness** from this time onward and forevermore. *The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.*