

Day 1

Weekly Theme - Praying for the various demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - but He did demand that they be committed (Luke 9:57-62). relationships within our body of believers, inter generational.

Scripture - Luke 9:57-62

This week in the 100 Days of Prayer we want to shift our prayer focus onto the church family of Hope Fellowship. Each day, we want to lift up a particular people group of our community of faith, it will be up to you to bring the various names to the Lord as the Privacy Act of Canada limits us posting the names. I suggest you take a moment and write the names on a piece of paper for the week, you can start by looking at the group email list to ensure you get everyone.

You can pray for each other as the Holy Spirit leads you and we will provide a launching pad for you each day but please include a prayer of spiritual commitment for each person. In the Luke 9 passage that you hopefully read today, you see that Jesus is emphasizing a great commitment to Him over everything else in life.

You may feel that Jesus was being unreasonable when he said that someone who looks back isn't fit for the Kingdom of God, after all the guy was simply asking to go home to say goodbye to the family. People lived in extended families in that culture, and "saying goodbye" could well mean staying with them for weeks and tidying up his affairs before going off to follow Jesus. What this man and the last did not understand was that by the time they took care of their own business to their satisfaction, Jesus would already be crucified. Only if they followed him immediately would they have any part in his mission.

Jesus obviously wants us to care for the relationships in our lives, He is simply stressing here that a Kingdom-first mentality is a prerequisite to a fulfilling life. Lets pray that for our church family this week.

Themes to pray over

- Ask God to strengthen your commitment to Jesus
- Pray for our church family, that each of us would have a Kingdom-first mentality
- Pray protection over the church as we are still in a spiritual battle
-

A prayer for each of us

Lord Jesus, forgive me when I've put my own priorities in front of yours. I've treated you more like a servant or an equal than my King and Lord and Sovereign. Forgive me. Have mercy upon me. Please help me to answer when you call, making no excuses. And though my track record of doing that is pretty spotty, I ask for your help and strength to be a disciple you can count on. In your powerful Name, I pray. Amen.

Heart Question

What is getting in the way of your total commitment to Christ? How do you think that answer will hold up when you face Christ one day?

Journal

Day 2

Weekly Theme - Praying for the various demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - children and youth

Scripture - Mark 9:36-37, Luke 18.15-17

Let's turn our focus today to the crowd at Hope Fellowship that fall into the Crib-Grade 12 category. The children and youth that we hold in our church family are cherished and this generation is on the front lines of being targeted by a very influential and godless culture. We need to pray for them, after all, Jesus made a point of their value as created humans.

Children didn't have a lot of rights in the first century. Kids were seen and not heard. It's not that they weren't loved and cherished by their parents, but the culture as a whole seemed to have more pressing matters to attend to than the well-being of kids. But parents loved, as they should, their children and we see mom and dad were bringing their infants to be blessed by Jesus. The disciples, who likely wouldn't be asked to serve in the church nursery, tried to chase them away. In their opinion, the Lord had more important things to do.

But Jesus scoops up the kids and uses this as a teachable moment for the disciples and the gathering crowd. He valued kids and blessed them, teaching us to do the same. Let pray for the children and youth of Hope Fellowship, and their friends as well because those friends likely have the most influence in the lives of Hope kids.

Themes to pray over

- Pray for our Hope Fellowship children and youth by name
- Pray for the friends of our Hope kids (and you likely won't know their names, but God does)
- Pray for salvation, protection, wisdom and courage

A Prayer For Us All

Lord God, we praise you that you are fully in control of all things. I pray you would protect our Hope children and youth. Keep them healthy and help them to thrive. I thank you that you know every hair on their head. You know exactly when they rise and when they fall. I pray Lord that each knows You and grows in You. May they understand their need for Jesus in their lives and move toward Him. Amen.

Journal

Day 3

Weekly Theme - Praying for the demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - under the church family umbrella (one degree removed)

Scripture - 1 Timothy 2:1-6

Today we are going to expand our prayer focus one degree from the Hope Fellowship community of faith. We all have people in our lives that we interact with often but they don't attend our church. It could be a child, grandchild, spouse, neighbour, co-worker...you get the idea. That person (or those people) are a part of your everyday circle but not a part of your church circle.

Bring the names of those people to the Lord today. Pray a blessing over them. Pray for their salvation or their return to the Lord. Pray for wisdom in their decision-making, Pray for resolution of a situation. Pray to know how to encourage them in their spirituality. Pray for their passion for the Lord. Pray for their future. Again, you get the idea.

These people that you bring the Lord today in prayer may be a part of your life or a part of the lives of your brothers and sisters in Christ here at Hope.

Themes to pray over today

- Pray over the kids/grandkids/spouses of those who are connected to Hope Fellowship
- Ask God to draw them to the Cross
- Pray for their families and the issues in their lives that you know need assistance

A prayer for us all

Heavenly Father, we pray for those dear family and friends that are just one-degree removed from the Hope Fellowship family. They, just as I, need You and I pray that they are drawn to Jesus more and more each day. I pray God, there would be a moving in their lives, be it through victory or loss but they would come to You. Amen.

Journal

Day 4

Weekly Theme - Praying for the demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - seniors

Scripture - Isaiah 46.4, psalm 71.9 psalm 92.12-14

There was once a family who had a priceless family heirloom – a vase – that was passed down one generation to the next. One day, the parents of the family who had possession of the vase, left the teenagers at home while they went out shopping for the day. When they returned home, their children met the parents at the door, with sad faces, reporting: “Mom, dad...you know that priceless heirloom our family passes down one generation to the next? ... well, our generation just dropped it.” Each generation has memories, stories and values it wants to pass along to the next; this especially includes the spiritual values of our faith.

Today we want to lift up the seniors of Hope Fellowship and praise God for the model they set for those who follow behind. It must be discouraging for them to see the changes in their lifetime of a culture that has drifted further from the Lord (in other words, a dropping of the vase.) Today we pray they are encouraged by the Holy Spirit and by the Body of Christ at Hope Fellowship. We pray that they will continue to finish well, to press on and show this world the beauty of Jesus.

Themes to pray over today

- Pray for the seniors of Hope Fellowship by name
- Pray for health, provision, guidance and peace
- Ask God to encourage and strengthen them

A prayer for us all today

Dear Lord, as I get older each day, I pray that I stay connected to you and project Jesus to this world. I pray the same for the seniors of Hope Fellowship. I thank you Lord for the blessing they are to this church. May they experience Your grace even more so today. Encourage them Lord and continue to use them for Your glory. Amen.

Journal

Day 5

Weekly Theme - Praying for the various demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - singles

Scripture - Matthew 19:11, 1 Corinthians 7:7

Most of you know her story but for those who may not, Lisa gave me permission to disclose that she is writing this devotional.

I found myself in an unexpected place of singleness about three and a half years ago. As I abruptly shifted from almost 21 years of marriage to suddenly being single, I chose to completely rely on the Lord for His comfort, healing and direction.

In the midst of this transition, God provided family, both related and church, to come along side, encourage, and uplift me. Many prayers covered me in the time of my deepest need and I am so grateful for the continued support.

As I looked to the Lord, He showed me through various scripture-based books and online sermons how singleness is a gift and should not be wasted - that I need to press into Him so He is first in every aspect of my life.

When my world fell out from under foot, it was then I realized who and what I had really put my trust in. Thank God for His amazing grace and mercy. Because I had built a solid foundation on Him in the previous years, when the time came, the Holy Spirit gave me the strength and guidance to focus on the steps I needed to take.

As I continue to work through lingering hurts and disappointments from the past, I have come to a place where I am truly enjoying this time of singleness. God has given me a second chance and I am determined to follow His Way and not my own!

No matter what circumstances have brought you to a place of singleness, allow the Holy Spirit to guide you deeper into your relationship with Jesus. "He's madly in love with you; maybe He wants you all to Himself for a while." (Micheal Todd - Relationship Goals)

Themes to Pray today

- Thank the Lord for your singleness
- Ask God to help you use your singleness wisely
- Determine in your own life to follow the Holy Spirit's leading and to wait on Him

A Prayer to bring to God

Thank you Lord for your Word which says that singleness is a gift. Help those of us in this position use our time to root ourselves deeper into You. I surrender my hopes and desires to You because You know what is absolutely best for me in every season of my life. Help me to wait on the Holy Spirit for each and every step. In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

Resources

Book "Relationship Goals" by Micheal Todd

Online Sermon by Ben Stuart - "How to thrive in your singleness" <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/four-things-god-says-singles/>

Journal

Day 6

Weekly Theme - Praying for the various demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - marriages

Scripture - Genesis 1.27-28, 2.24

God created marriage, Jesus affirmed it and Paul gave us much to work towards in the area of marriage. It's no secret that marriage can be difficult and we want to lift up the marriages that are in Hope Fellowship.

Let's pray for grace, communication, compassion, support and strength (and so much more that is needed). Whether a marriage is only five months or fifty years, it needs attention and prayer.

Go over each marriage in the church and lift that couple up in prayer today. They need it.

Themes to over

- Pray for each couple, asking they understand the gift of marriage
- Ask God to protect the couples time, allowing time for each other
- Pray for a deeper connection for each couple and that Christ is the foundation on which they build their lives

A prayer for us all today

Father, we ask that you protect each marriage in the Hope Fellowship community of faith. Help Father, to identify and work through anything that is not pleasing to you so they can continually reach higher levels of unity in our marriage. We are thankful and excited to see the work of your hand as we do our best to seek your face daily. We love you and thank you for all of these things. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

Journal

Day 7

Weekly Theme - Praying for the various demographics of Hope Fellowship

Today - families

Scripture - Psalm 128

Take a few minutes to Youtube 'Caught In Providence' and you will see Judge Frank Caprio often show grace and compassion in a Providence, Rhode Island traffic court. This 85 year-old judge has a heart of gold and often sets aside the offences for a moment to hear the story of the accused. He is fair and compassionate and there is a good chance you will hear him say, "there has been a breakdown of the family unit and it causes so many troubles in today's world."

Families are important but they are not always easy. That's people being people...that's life. That doesn't mean we stay passive. We need to pray. Today we want to pray Psalm 128 over families at Hope Fellowship.

How to pray today.

Take Psalm 128 and pray it over each family throughout your day today.

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him.

2

You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.

3

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.

4

Yes, this will be the blessing
for the man who fears the Lord.

5

May the Lord bless you from Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.

6

May you live to see your children's children—
peace be on Israel.

Psalm 128