

NOVEMBER 2021

PRAYER GUIDE

Thankfulness

HOW TO USE **THIS PRAYER GUIDE**

These devotions with prayer prompts are intended to assist our church family as we seek Christ personally in our daily time with Him and corporately during our monthly family prayer service. It is vital that we pursue the Lord in prayer with a humble heart and depend on His guidance and leadership.

DEFINED BY THE WORD

DEVOTED TO PRAYER

DEPENDANT ON THE SPIRIT

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Day 1

Thankfulness for God's Sovereignty

Key Scripture: Daniel 4:34-35 For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and He does according to His will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay His hand or say to Him, "What have you done?"

We, as Christians, should rejoice and give thanks to God every single day, specifically for the fact that He is sovereign over every aspect of our lives. God is on the throne and He can be fully trusted with every detail and every decision that we face in life. He has supreme authority over the kingdoms of the earth and its inhabitants. All things are under His control!

As we begin the month of November with thirty days of thankfulness, we must never forget that God is in our midst and He is working. His ways are mysterious to us, but we can rest assured that even though we are surrounded by brokenness, evil, sin, and suffering, He has given us victory over death and has promised eternal life. Therefore, as we face challenges and unanswered questions in life, we remember that God is working all things out for our good and for His glory.

Questions to Consider:

How has the Lord demonstrated His Sovereignty in your life? Are you able to trust Him with every aspect of your life?

Prayer Prompts:

- Lord, would you help me to be thankful today, knowing that I can cast all of my cares on You? Help me to trust that Your plans are acceptable and good for me even when I can't understand all of Your ways. Would you give me wisdom and insight as a believer and help me remember that Your ultimate plan is to unite all things unto Yourself in the fullness of time?
- Proverbs 16:33 "The lot is cast into the lap, but it's every decision is from the Lord."
- Meditate on the fact that nothing escapes God's attention and nothing in life ever happens "by chance."

Day 2

Thankfulness for God's Holiness

Key Scripture: Isaiah 6:3 "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come" (Rev. 4:8).

There is none more worthy of thanksgiving and praise than our Holy God and "there is none holy like the Lord" (1 Samuel 2:2). The Bible speaks of His holiness hundreds of times throughout Scripture. We are repeatedly reminded of how we should rejoice and be thankful for God's holiness. "Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name" (Psalm 97:12), "Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints, and give thanks to His holy name" (Psalm 30:4). "Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those that seek the Lord rejoice" (1 Chronicles 16:10).

God is set apart and blameless in every way. Not only is the earth full of His glory, but because of His holiness, we can never doubt the purity of His love, justice, and righteousness towards us (Isaiah 5:16). Praise God that we know He is right and just in all His decisions and that we will always benefit in His sovereignty because of His holiness and goodness! Our hearts should be glad in Him because we can trust in His holy name (Psalm 33:21).

Just as we rejoice in God's holiness, it is necessary to recognize that we are also called to be holy (Hebrews 12:14; Leviticus 11:45). Thankfully, because of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, we can be made holy before God (Hebrews 10:10). How precious it is that we can be set apart by being separated from sin and brought into His glory!

Questions to Consider:

Do you trust in His holy name? Do you strive to be holy as He has called you to be? Do you thank God daily for His holiness?

Prayer Prompts:

- "My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever" (Psalm 145:21).
- "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power" (Rev. 4:11).
- "Save us, O God of our salvation, and gather and deliver us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise" (1 Chronicles 16:35).

Day 3

Thankfulness For God So Loved the World

Key Scripture: John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Be thankful for the love of God today. He loves you so much that He sent His only Son Jesus to die for you. He did not just die for you but for the whole world. Let us not forget that Jesus died for us even when we were still dead in our sins and trespasses (Ephesians 2:1). We were pursuing something other than Him, and He still loved us enough to pay the price for our deliverance. The love of God is immeasurable and everlasting. It does not end, and we cannot stop it; nothing can separate us from it, and there is nothing we have ever done or can do to deserve it.

Not only does He love us so much that He died for us, but He also offers us eternal life. When Jesus promises eternal life, it entails more than just never-ending life; it includes escaping eternal torment and punishment. Eternal life also includes being in the presence of God forever. We are no longer condemned but are set free from the debt we owed and saved from the wrath of God. God's love is not something we earn; it is given freely. However, in order to receive God's work of reconciliation, we must believe in Him for Salvation.

Questions To Consider:

Am I prone to treat God like His love is something He owes me? Or am I in awe that He would love me despite my shortcomings?

Do I actively tell others about the love of God and how valuable it is to me? Do I truly love God in response to His love for me?

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray and thank the Lord for His love for you.
- Ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to tell someone about His love today.
- Pray and ask the Lord to grow your love for Him.

Day 4

Thankfulness for God's Grace and Mercy

Key Scripture: Ephesians 2:4-5 "But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved."

We sometimes unknowingly use grace and mercy as if they are the same word. While they are similar, they actually have two different meanings. Grace is defined as "unmerited favor." God owes us nothing, yet He blesses us with things we don't deserve and could never earn. That's grace. Likewise, God gives us mercy, which encompasses compassion, kindness, and forgiveness, when in fact, what we deserve is His punishment.

We see these two words demonstrated so beautifully in our salvation. Our sin separates us from God. As a punishment for our sin, we deserve to die a death apart from God in a place of eternal judgment called Hell. Because of God's mercy on us, He sent His Son Jesus to take that punishment for us. He substituted His perfect life for our sinful, disobedient life by dying a cruel death on a cross. He was placed in a grave and three days later came back to life in a faithful resurrection and now is seated at the right hand of God in Heaven. When we place our faith in Christ, our substitute payment for sin, we are granted mercy.

The Bible calls grace a gift (see Ephesians 4:7). A gift is not given because we deserve it but because the giver wants us to have it. God offers us the gift of His Son. It's a free gift that we don't deserve and can't earn, but because God is a compassionate, kind, and loving God He desires for us to accept His gift. Once we are saved, God continues to pour out His grace on us. Some of those blessings of His grace can be found in Hebrews 4:16, Exodus 33:17, Titus 2:11-14, and Ephesians 2:7. Grace and mercy are two beautiful words that convey to us who God is.

Questions to Consider:

Have you accepted God's free gift of unending life with Him? Have you experienced God's grace and mercy in your life?

Prayer Prompts:

- Thank you, Lord, that you are rich in mercy and that you save us by your grace.

Day 5

Thankfulness for God's Provision

Key Scripture: Psalm 105:1-2 "Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!"

Some households have a "gratitude jar" leading up to Thanksgiving. Throughout November, each person writes down things they are thankful for on a piece of paper and places it in the jar to be read on Thanksgiving Day. If we were to list out every way that God is provider from Genesis to Revelation, it would not fit into our gratitude jar! And that doesn't even include individual's items to be thankful for, such as each answered prayer from that year.

Words of praise, awe and thanksgiving to God could never adequately describe the magnitude of who He is and what He has done. From eternity past to eternity future, God is our provider. As worship to Him, we choose to remember His provision—remember His forgiveness, redemption, justice, mercy, patience, healing, grace, and promises (Psalm 103).

Remembering leads to a God-ward focus. Remembering leads to selfless gratitude. As we recall, there's no need to worry about today, what we will eat or drink, or the current political situation, or about any other anxiety since we cast our cares upon Him, knowing He cares for us. God has been and is a loving giver of all good things.

Christians have a good God who has given us life and breath, a Savior, a relationship with Him, a church family, and an eternal home. When the waves of life come, may we remember. He is our great provider for all our days. So, may we, in turn, trust Him and acknowledge Him in all our ways (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Questions to Consider:

In which situations do I think of myself or someone else as my actual provider? What are specific ways God has provided this month?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, I confess there are times I forget You are my ultimate provider.
- May our gratitude for Your provision lead to us making Your great deeds known to those around us so they may place their trust in You.

Day 6

Thankfulness for God's Presence

Key Scripture: Isaiah 41:10 "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

A recent survey published from Harvard Graduate School of Education showed that 36% of American adults surveyed reported serious loneliness—feeling lonely "frequently" or "almost all the time or all the time." (Loneliness in America by Wessbourd, et.al.)

Have you ever felt alone at any point in your life? Physical loneliness, emotional loneliness etc.? Most of us have at one time or another. Maybe you experienced times where you felt God wasn't near?

There is good news! God's Word gives us comfort and peace amidst earthly loneliness. All throughout scripture, believers are reminded of God's presence. (Read Exodus 33:14, 1 John 4:16, Psalm 23:4, Acts 3:19.) God is not limited by space or time, therefore in his omnipresence, we can trust that God is everywhere, at all times. He never leaves us! There isn't anything or anyone else that possesses this attribute (characteristic.) How comforting to know this! God loves us so much that in his grace and goodness, His grace is sufficient for us (2 Cor 12:9)—including times we feel alone.

1 Peter 2:9 says, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. As believers, we are chosen by Him, and His presence is among us through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit."

How comforting and reassuring to know that we can have His constant presence in our lives amidst our loneliness. We can trust what God says is true and that He will never leave us.

Questions to Consider:

Do you stand in awe that our Creator never leaves us? Aren't you thankful for a redeemer who never leaves you?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, thank you that in your grace towards us, You never leave us. Even though we deserve to be separated from you, those who place their faith and trust in you never have to experience being separated from you and your love again.

Day 7

Thankfulness for God's Faithfulness

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 7:9 "Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments."

How beautiful and comforting it is to know that God is forever faithful! He is faithful in all He does and has proven Himself trustworthy since the beginning. His love stands firm forever, and He has established His faithfulness in heaven itself (Psalm 89:2). Psalm 119:90 and Psalm 100:5 proclaim that His faithfulness endures and continues through all generations. Because of this, we can have faith in Him and know that we can rely on His promises. We should thank God daily because He fulfills all His promises. God says that He will never betray His faithfulness (Psalm 89:33). We can rejoice that He has continually proven His faithfulness throughout all time and have great confidence that He will continue to keep His promises.

As we pray, meditate on the many ways and circumstances in which God is faithful: to guide, to comfort, to intercede, to save, to fulfill promises, to be righteous and just, and to daily extend grace and mercy. Praise God that He has always, and will always, remain faithful to His steadfast love to those that have received Him in faith. 1 John 1:9 reminds us: if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us of our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. Even when we struggle, we can remember because of His great faithfulness, His compassions are new every morning (Lamentations 3:23), and He will strengthen and protect us (2 Thessalonians 3:3). Let us always exalt our compassionate and gracious God, who abounds in love and faithfulness!

Questions to Consider:

Have you declared your love for our faithful God? Are you thankful for the promises of His faithfulness? Do you live daily in love and faithfulness? In what ways has God been faithful in your life?

Prayer Prompts:

- "Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago" (Isaiah 21:1).
- "Who is like you, Lord God Almighty? You, Lord, are mighty, and your faithfulness surrounds you" (Psalm 89:8).

Day 8

Thankfulness that God Has Redeemed Your Life

Key Scripture: Psalm 103:2-4 “Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not 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,”

Let us pause for a moment today and give thanks to God for being our redeemer. As you reflect on the passage above, I would encourage you to think back to your life before salvation. The Psalmist describes himself as being redeemed from the “pit.” The “pit” is not a good place; this is a deep and dark hole, void of hope, with no reliable escape route. The Psalmist is praising the Lord because of the work that the Lord has done in his life. The Lord redeemed him out of the pit. God took someone in a deep dark place without hope and gave him a crown of steadfast love and mercy. I was once lost, without hope, in the depths of my sin and shame called the “pit” of life. God, in His grace and mercy, brought me out of the darkness and into the light. He took me from being dirty and destined for death and redeemed me. He gave me life and purpose. Instead of pouring well-deserved judgment and despair upon me, He redeemed me and gave me a crown of steadfast love and mercy which I definitely did not deserve. The Psalmist desires that his whole life bless the Lord because of what the Lord has done for him. He also actively writes about the redemptive work of God. In Psalm 107:2, he encourages those who are redeemed to say so, meaning they are to tell people that they are redeemed.

Questions to Consider:

Am I grateful for the redemptive work of God in my life? Do I speak of the redemptive work of God (Psalm 107:2)? Have I forgotten the depths of my lostness before I was redeemed by God?

Prayer Prompts:

- Praise the Lord and give thanks for his redemptive work in your life.
- Give thanks to the Lord for his redemptive work in others whom you know.
- Pray for an opportunity today to tell someone about God’s redeeming work.

Day 9

Thankfulness for the Free Gift of Salvation

Key Scripture: Ephesians 2:8-9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

Good news for all times! Salvation, or deliverance from the wrath of God, is a free gift given by God to all who believe in His Son Jesus Christ.

Before we consider the good news, we must understand the bad news. Scripture declares that no one is good, not even one (Psalm 14:3). All of our righteous acts are like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). The payment for our sin is death (Romans 3:26). Salvation cannot be earned. We are unable to attain goodness through our own efforts.

Now, the good news. God supplies grace. His merciful kindness and goodwill enable us to believe in the finished work of Christ. Along with God’s grace is the gift of faith—the conviction of belief that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. The only way to a relationship with God is through faith in Jesus. God supplies the grace and the faith necessary on our part (Ephesians 2:8-9).

While salvation is entirely a free gift for mankind, it comes at a great cost. Jesus Christ was crushed, put to grief, made as a guilt offering, and in His anguish bore our iniquities (Isaiah 53:5-6). His death delivers us from our death and ushers us into eternal life.

Questions to Consider:

Have you pondered the cost of free salvation? When you are tempted, do you think of Christ’s life poured out for you? As you interact with others, do you speak of this free gift? Do you respond from a heart of entitlement or a humble heart of gratefulness?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father God, thank you for the free gift of salvation which comes by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. You are rich in grace and kindness to offer this gift of forgiveness of sins, eternal life, relationship with you, and so much more.
- Enable me to live in light of what you have given me through Jesus’ perfect life, death, burial, and resurrection. Help me remember the cost Jesus paid on my account. Embolden me to tell others of this free gift of salvation available to all who believe in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Day 10

Thankfulness for Eternal Hope

Key Scripture: Ephesians 1:18 “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.”

Whenever life is a bit too much, work is overwhelming, chores are never-ending, money feels insufficient, or health is frail, I’m always so thankful to be reminded that this life is just a pass-through. I often pray for myself and my brothers and sisters in Christ to have eternal perspectives.

Ephesians 1:18 (above) says this is the hope to which we are called: his glorious inheritance. Hebrews 9:15a, Matthew 19:29, and Titus 3:7 (see all below) assure us this inheritance is eternal. When we pause in the middle of the chaos or distress and reflect on this eternal inheritance, our hearts and thoughts are free from worry and anxiety and are restored to thankfulness and peace. By the grace of God, we are given great comfort and reassurance that this is only temporary.

But to experience this thankfulness and peace, we have to know confidently and believe assuredly that this eternal promise is true. If you find yourself teetering on its truth, seek the Lord and ask Him to reveal this to you while you meditate on the Scriptures below.

Questions to Consider:

Do I really believe in His eternal promise? Have I developed the habit of reflecting on its truth during challenging times?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, I pray that you will help me to always turn my thoughts to your eternal promise when life feels overwhelming or distressing. I’m so thankful to know of your eternal hope.

Hebrews 9:15a, Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

Matthew 19:29, And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

Titus 3:7, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Day 11

Thankfulness for The Word

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 8:3 “...man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”

In over fifty countries, obtaining a copy of the Bible is not only difficult but also dangerous. Have you ever seen a video (or perhaps heard stories) of people from these countries receiving their own personal copy of God’s Word? One such video from 2015 showed a group of Christians from Southeast Asia opening two large suitcases in the middle of the floor. When those in the room recognized the treasure that lay within—copies of God’s Word—they rushed forward to grab one. Moved to tears, each man and woman kissed their Bible and pressed it up against their face. One woman stood in the center of the room repeating over and over, “This is what we needed the most!” Would you agree?

The Bible is an intelligently designed, one-of-a-kind book. It is the Word of God written in the words of men. Through the guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the human authors composed and recorded—without error—God’s witness to Himself. Together, the 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament tell one story. This grand narrative is the story of God, in Christ, reconciling the world to Himself (2 Corinthians 5:19). The Bible tells us that the Word became flesh and made God known (John 1). That is what we needed most—not just to know true things about God but also to know how to have life in Him.

“Books speak from earth; the Bible speaks from Heaven.... It is the Word of God. Supernatural in origin, eternal in duration, inexpressible in value, infinite in scope, divine in authorship, regenerative in power, infallible in authority, universal in interest, personal in application, inspired in totality. Read it through. Write it down. Pray it in. Work it out. Pass it on. It is the Word of God.” – Author Unknown

Questions to Consider:

Are you grateful for the Word of God, or do you take it for granted? How has reading and studying the Bible impacted your life for the better?

Prayer Prompts:

- Praise God for the blessing of His Word. Give thanks! Scripture revives the soul, rejoices the heart, renews the mind, and reminds us where our hope lies.

Day 12

Thankfulness for Prayer

Key Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

During this season, we give thanks to our Heavenly Father for His provision of prayer. Prayer is a privilege, an expectation, and a command to the Christian. Prayer builds relationship. As we study the Bible, we hear God speak by His Spirit through the Word. We respond back to God in prayer. In prayer, we meet with the living God of the universe.

God is sovereign and all-knowing, yet He has ordained that His children pray to Him. A foundational element in our knowledge of God is demonstrated in our prayer. Prayer is a manner of reminding ourselves of the attributes of God as we spend time praising God for who He is. In prayer, we have the means to confess our sins. As we talk to God in prayer, we have the privilege to intercede on behalf of others and ask for provisions for ourselves.

Have you ever found prayer difficult? Here is a helpful suggestion: prioritize prayer and make a plan to pray. Also, consider using a prayer calendar—a calendar of topics spread out over days of the week. First, set a time and stick with it. Then, in order to reinforce your prayer life, pray the Word. Allow Scripture to guide your prayers. Meditate upon and personalize the prayers in Scripture. The Psalms are a great place from which to adapt biblical words and concepts to incorporate into your daily communication with God.

Pray over the small things of life as well as the more significant. Continually rejoice, pray, and thank God in all circumstances. How are we expected to overcome trials and circumstances if we neglect to pray?

Questions to Consider:

Do I spend dedicated time in prayer daily? Do I pray over the little and large details of life? Do I think my prayers really matter?

If God has instructed me to pray, shouldn't I obey? (Jeremiah 33:3; Matthew 6:7, 26:41; Luke 18:1; Romans 12:12; Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Thess. 5:16-18; 1 John 5:14)

Prayer Prompts:

- Father God, thank you that You are near to all who call on You in truth. You hear the prayer of the righteous.

Day 13

Thankfulness for Sanctification

Key Scripture: Romans 8:29 “For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...”

Have you ever tried to put a jigsaw puzzle together without looking at the image on the top of the box? If not, can you imagine the frustration? We need a clear picture of the completed work to know how everything fits together—to understand what we’re working toward.

If your life were a jigsaw puzzle, what image would be on the top of the box? Who are you becoming? According to the world, the image on the top of the box is you because life is all about becoming the best version of yourself. God, however, has a loftier goal. According to the Bible, God created us in His image. Though He made us all unique, His ultimate purpose for us is one and the same—to be conformed to the image of Christ and to reflect His character. This process of sanctification begins the moment we repent and believe in Jesus Christ. The Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary defines sanctification as “the work of God’s free grace whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God and are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.” By the grace of God, this internal transformation occurs throughout a believer’s life as we learn to trust God and obey His Word. Spiritual growth requires our participation, but God does the work. “For it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure” (Philippians 2:13).

Remember the big picture—made possible by the completed work of Christ. Give thanks because we know what we’re working toward. “For those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose ... to be conformed to the image of his Son” (Romans 8:28-29).

Questions to Consider:

Do you look more like Jesus today than you did when you trusted in Christ? How can you continue to grow in Christ-likeness?

Prayer Prompts:

- “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.” (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

Day 14

Thankfulness for Worship

Key Scripture: John 4:23-24 “But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

We typically think of worship as something we do for an hour on Sunday morning. While that is certainly one aspect of worship, there is much more that encompasses true worship of the living God. Worship is an action word. It requires something on the part of the believer, so worship begins with those who have a right relationship with Him. It means giving God what He is rightfully due—reverence and adoration. But this isn't restricted to Sundays. We must take the focus off of ourselves and place it on God where it belongs.

The state of your heart determines whether or not you are worshipping God. Actions and speech only become worship when the heart is postured correctly. Worship is a continual activity that takes place every day. Worship should continuously flow into all areas of our life because our thoughts, words, deeds, and responsibilities Monday through Saturday ought to look just like our worship on Sunday morning (see Colossians 3:17). Life can't be divided into compartments where we invite God into some of the areas but not others. To grow in our discipline of worship, we look to our discipleship goal guideline for clarity. It tells us what we must be, know and do to be spiritually mature in worship:

- Identify the Triune God as the highest priority of our lives.
- Understand that everything we do should be an act of worship in response to God's love for us and an expression of our love for Him.
- Develop a regular habit of worship through private devotion and in church gatherings.

Here are a couple of examples of worship:

- Fulfilling your role as sibling, friend, spouse, parent, and employee as worship unto the Lord with the right attitude.
- Practicing the 8 Core Competencies as a form of worship. (richlandcreek.com/about-us/discipleship-goals/) They place priority and importance on God.

Question to Consider: What am I currently doing, listening to, thinking about, talking about that is not worshipping God?

Prayer Prompt:

- Lord, “Can you receive worship from me today, or is there a sin in the way?” (Psalm 139:23-24)

Day 15

Thankfulness for Biblical Community

Key Scripture: Colossians 1:9 “And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding.”

Our discipleship classes teach Biblical community as loving others through intentional relationships for encouragement, accountability, and holiness--both corporately and individually.

We can be thankful and praise God for this unique gift we have been given; to live our lives in community with others that are like-minded and share the same goals.

Paul gives an example of praying for the church and what this element of the biblical community should look like. In Colossians 1:9-14, Paul explains how they should be praying for one another, that they may be filled with the knowledge of His will so that they may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. He encourages them to live their lives in a way that bears fruit for the Gospel, and that they may endure trials with patience and joy. Through His love, we have been given redemption—the forgiveness of sins.

The words of Paul here demonstrate how we should be praying for our fellow believers and also how we should live our lives in response to the Gospel. This knowledge of the Word should compel us to action within the body of Christ to live in unity. Our Christian life is one of transformation—a transformation that is fueled by the Spirit of God, the local body, and prayer. These verses only scratch the surface of the depths of biblical community and how we can be thankful for its impact on our lives.

Questions to Consider:

What was Paul praying for the Colossians? What does this teach us about how we should pray for our fellow believers?

Prayer Prompts:

- Lord Jesus, help me to live my life in a manner that is pleasing to you with my brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to live in community with one another and share in the joys and sorrows of life.

Additional Verses: Hebrews 10:24-25; Galatians 6:2; Matthew 18:20; Romans 12:4-5; James 5:16; Acts 2:42-47

Day 16

Thankfulness for Suffering

Key Scripture: James 1:2-4 “Count it all joy, brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.”

Suffering is never pleasant, yet James tells us to count it all joy when we are in the midst of suffering. As believers in Christ, we can count it as joy if we make a conscious effort to remember that, in our suffering, God is at work. The Bible dictionary defines the word joy as a state of delight and well-being that results from knowing and serving God. Joy is the fruit of a right relation with God, not something people can create by their own efforts.

Romans 8:28 tells us, “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.” Paul is not talking about worldly comforts in this passage but about becoming more Christlike in our sufferings. We can have hope and “the peace that surpasses all understanding” because our hope is not in this world. 2 Corinthians 4:16-17 says, “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.” We should not be surprised when we go through trials and sufferings. Our Lord Jesus suffered far greater than us, and He did it to bring about salvation for sinners. We can be joyful in suffering when we allow it to conform us to Christ and draw us near to God.

A. W. Tozer said, “When I understand that everything happening to me is to make me more Christ-like, it resolves a great deal of anxiety.”

Questions to Consider:

When has your faith grown the most, through blessings or trials? When going through trials, are you hopeful or defeated?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father God, I thank you for Your gift of salvation, that I can have joy even in the midst of my sufferings. I pray that I will be a faithful witness of Your goodness through them.
- Father God, forgive me when I forget Your loving kindness, and I focus on my hurts and not Your glory.

Day 17

Thankfulness for God's Wisdom

Key Scripture: James 1:5-6 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind."

Paul tells us in Colossians 2:3, "in whom (Christ) are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." While the cross is foolishness to the world, for the believer—wisdom is ours to have in Christ. Yet, sometimes, we fixate on our circumstances, doubt the truth of God's Word, and question the faithfulness of God and His promises. Friends, doubt causes us to waver in our trust for God. James instructs us to do the opposite—ask in faith.

When we keep our eyes on God, study His Word, and come before Him in prayer, our faith is strengthened, and we grow in wisdom. Paul encourages us again in Philippians 4:19, "God will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus." This is NOT a "name it and claim it" prosperity gospel like so many false teachers would have you believe. This is the confidence our Father in Heaven will give us what we need, not necessarily what we want. Friends, we need wisdom, and God so graciously offers it to us.

Questions to Consider:

When you doubt the promises of God, do you go to God in prayer or do you try to handle it on your own? How well does that work?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father God, forgive me when I forget Your promises and look to the world for wisdom. Thank you for your patience. You are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.
- Father God, thank You for the Truth of Your Word, we as your children can come boldly before Your throne, knowing that You hear us and will give us all that we need to live a life of godliness.

Day 18

Thankfulness that His Mercies are New Every Morning

Key Scripture: Lamentations 3:21-24 “But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

For those who love the Lord, looking out on the world and ceaselessly seeing the destruction caused by sin can be sorrowful, mournful, overwhelming, grief-filled, and heartbreaking. We see our family, friends, neighbors, and strangers living blindly and destructively by their rejection of God and His beautiful offer of salvation through Jesus. We may have been praying for years for some of these people. We may feel hopeless for them. Jeremiah felt this way over his nation he loved deeply. He wept and mourned bitterly over their unrepentant sin and rejection of God, which ultimately led to the destruction of Judah.

However, Jeremiah knew the love of the Father. In Lamentations 3:21-24 (above), he finds hope in the knowledge that God’s mercies are new every morning. In verses 25-26, he reassures us that the Lord is good to those who wait for him and his salvation. This is a great encouragement for us as believers praying for those we love. Every morning, we can wake with joy and thankfulness that the Lord’s mercies are new. We can choose to pray again for those we know and love with the hope of His faithfulness to bring salvation.

Questions to Consider:

Do you wake in the morning with thankfulness in knowing that God’s mercies are new?

Prayer Prompts:

- Heavenly Father, please send your Spirit to me every morning to fill me with thankfulness for your new mercies. It is only by your steadfast grace and mercy and love that I can be encouraged every day and walk in the hope of your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:25-26 “The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”

Day 19

Thankfulness for the Local Church

Key Scripture: Romans 12:4-5 “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.”

As the holidays draw near, we look forward to the time set aside to be with family. Words like “gather,” “gratitude,” and “celebrate” are printed on our décor and frequent on our lips. Families get together to care for one another, to laugh, and to catch up, for we have much to celebrate.

So too, it is with our church family. When we gather corporately, we celebrate who God is and what He has done – both eternally and within our lives personally. Individuals and families gather from all walks of life, unified in Christ and around the teaching of God’s Word. Church family is a gift to each of us who call the Creek “home.” God has graciously brought us together in Christ as adopted family, joint-heirs, and co-laborers in His kingdom. We are gifted by the Spirit and conformed to the image of Christ as we love, serve, and disciple one another so that we may bring God glory and present others mature in Christ (Col. 1:12, 27-29; 1 Cor. 12:12-14).

Thank you, church family, for using your spiritual gifting for God’s glory and one another’s good. Thank you to those who serve publicly and behind the scenes, near and far, young and old, in English and in other languages, on weekdays and weekends.

Thank you, dear local church, for showing your love for God by loving others at Richland Creek and around the world. As Matthew 5:16 says, “May our light shine before men so they may see our good deeds and glorify our Father in heaven.”

Questions to Consider:

Which Creeker will I build up this week by giving a word of encouragement? How may I help bear their burdens?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, thank you that in Christ we are one spiritual family (Ephesians 1:3-6).
- Thank you that each Christian at the Creek has been gifted to serve for our mutual growth. I pray for my brothers and sisters in Christ. Use ministry to conform us into the image of Christ.

Day 20

Thankfulness for Our Pastors

Key Scripture: Jeremiah 3:15 “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

The word “pastor” in this verse can be translated “shepherd” depending on the Bible version you are reading. It derives from the Latin noun which means shepherd. Interestingly, it also derives from the verb “pascere” which means “to lead to pasture, set to grazing, cause to eat.” This active word of providing nourishment helps us better understand its use in our verse.

In Jeremiah 3, the Lord’s people had been faithless, and He called them to return to Himself. In this verse, He is lovingly providing shepherds to His people according to His will. While it was a loving act, it was also a necessary act of provision. The people needed to be led according to God’s heart and desires and needed to be nourished properly in order to grow rightly. So He provided pastors according to His will and purposes. Today, God continues to lovingly and protectively provide our pastors. They are a necessary gift to us from God. As they faithfully administer the Word that nourishes us, we grow to look more like our Creator. They “preach the word... in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.” (2 Tim. 4:2)

We can rejoice in who the Lord has provided because as they faithfully carry out their ministry, they reflect His heart!

Questions to Consider:

Has a pastor in our church positively impacted your life? In what specific way? Have you considered how you can thank them for showing you the heart of the Lord?

Prayer Prompts:

- Lord, we thank You and praise You for who You have provided to lead in our church. Let us be church members who honor those You have chosen to reflect Your heart.

Isaiah 52:7 “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”

Day 21

Thankfulness for Deacons

Key Scripture: Acts 6:1-3 “Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.”

In Acts 6, the Apostles faced an important decision: guard the ministry of the Word or tend to the needs of the congregation. While each of these responsibilities is vital, the Apostles would be hard-pressed to do both. The apostles recognized the scope of the problem and realized that they needed to solve it without sacrificing their own valuable time and priorities (MacArthur). The twelve chose a strategic division of labor, allowing the Word to be proclaimed and people to be cared for. Seven men (v. 3) were chosen to be the first to serve in what would become a long-standing, whole new office—Deacon. The word “deacon” means servant. Deacons meet tangible needs, promote church unity, and assist elders by caring for the needs of the church.

At Richland Creek our deacons serve in a wide variety of functions. These men faithfully meet the diverse needs of the body of Christ, whether it be visiting the sick, performing facility and grounds work, handling financial matters, distributing needed resources, or responding to benevolence requests. Their service is often out of the public eye; yet, their role is vital to the life and health of the church. We simply could not function as a church without their remarkable service.

Next time you see a deacon, thank or encourage that servant either in word or deed.

Questions to Consider:

Do you know who our deacons are? Have you expressed appreciation to a deacon lately?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, thank you for these faithful, obedient men who so humbly and sacrificially serve our body. Give them eyes to see the needs of our congregation, humility in their service, and hearts to love the people You love.

Day 22

Thankfulness for our Staff

Key Scripture: Colossians 3:23-24 “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.”

The verses above are nestled in Paul’s instructions for the Colossians on how their lives should look as believers. Paul reminded the Colossians that they were to be Christ-like in all aspects of their lives, not only in some areas. The Greek meaning of the word heartily means “from the soul.” Not only are believers to live by example, but they are to have the right heart motivation, and attitude in doing so.

The same is true for us today. Everything in the life of a believer- thoughts, actions, words, and deeds- should be a reflection of Christ, including our work.

To the layperson, it may be difficult to realize all that goes on behind the scenes to ensure that a church runs smoothly. There are many day-to-day operational responsibilities, as well as oversight of each ministry area that takes place. Imagine if all of those duties fell on just a small handful of people. We are so grateful that God is a God of order and even so within His church. He has placed men and women in paid positions at Richland Creek to serve and care for His people. Praise the Lord for the variety of giftedness amongst our staff, who fulfill many responsibilities to keep our church running. Just like our pastors and deacons, we simply could not function as a church without our staff.

By nature of their calling, pastors, staff, and deacons are engaged in spiritual warfare frequently, and we ask that you pray without ceasing for their endurance.

Next time you see a staff member, thank or encourage them either in word or deed.

Questions to Consider:

Do you know who our staff is? (See the July 2021 Prayer Guide on the church website for a full list.) Have you expressed appreciation to a staff member lately? Do you often pray for our staff?

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, thank you for the faithful, obedient staff members You have brought to work at Richland Creek. We pray they work heartily, as unto to You, Lord.

Thankfulness for Lay Leaders and Servants

Key Scripture: Hebrews 13:7 “Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.”

This verse comes right at the end of the book of Hebrews as part of a list of concluding exhortations to the church. The believers are encouraged in earlier verses to “keep loving each other...” (13:1), “remember those in prison...” (vs. 3), honor marriage (vs. 4), “keep your lives free from love of money and be content...” (vs. 5). All of this encouragement is punctuated by the reminder that the Lord is always with them. Then the believer is urged to “remember your leaders.” What did these leaders do? They spoke the Word of God to the people and demonstrated their faith by their way of life. Leaders are defined in this verse by the fact that they spoke the Word of God. They shared His wisdom and teaching, not their own. Then they lived out their faith right alongside the believers. They are not defined by their title or their educational background. Today, these are believers in the body who have taken on the role of sharing God’s Word. This may be with adults, teens, elementary-aged students down to preschoolers. When we remember these leaders, it should be as Paul does—“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.” (Phil. 1:3-4)

Questions to Consider:

Who are the lay leaders and servants that come to mind when you consider those who have shared God’s Word with you or your family over the years? Do you pray for these men and women? How can you encourage them as they serve the body faithfully?

Prayer Prompts:

- Lord, You have equipped your people “for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:12-13)
- We thank You for this wonderful provision in the church. Let us be people who express thankfulness for those who share the Word, and lead faithful lives.

Day 24

Thankfulness for Worship

Key Scripture: Psalm 100:1-5 “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing! Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.”

When God’s people gather together weekly for worship, we pause to reorient our hearts and focus solely on God. We do this because when we assemble, we come to worship the one true living God. After all, He alone is worthy of our worship. The Psalmist points out a few things to be aware of as we individually and corporately worship God.

We see that all of the earth is called to worship the Creator. We know that we are given an opportunity to serve the Lord with glad hearts. We are invited into His presence to worship Him. We are reminded of who He is and what He has done for us. He is alone is our God, our Father, and our Shepherd. Because of this, our proper response is that we would give thanks to Him and bless His name. God alone is good; His faithfulness and His steadfast love cannot be matched.

Questions to Consider:

Does the reality of who God is and what He has done for us as His children cause you to worship Him in the way the Psalmist notes in this passage?

Do you have a personal relationship with God? Can you say that you are His child? When you gather with God’s people corporately, do you come prepared to worship God with a thankful heart?

Prayer Prompts:

- Thank you, Lord, for who You are and for Your faithfulness, steadfast love, and loving care for me.
- Help me, Lord, to worship You with a thankful heart and help me to share Your goodness with those around me.

Nahum 1:7 “The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; He knows those who take refuge in Him.”

Thankfulness for His Wondrous Works!

Key Scripture: Psalm 107:15-22 “Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of man! For He shatters the doors of bronze and cuts in two the bars of iron. Some were fools through their sinful ways and because of their iniquities suffered affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them from their distress. He sent out His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction. Let them thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of man! And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of His deeds in songs of joy!”

Most of us know the beginning of this chapter in Psalm 107 vs. 1 “Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast loves endures forever,” but we must dig a little further and take the time to unpack the rest of the chapter to acknowledge not only His goodness and steadfast love but also His “wondrous works!” He shields us and protects us in ways that we never even see or understand. He is more than able to deliver us from the perils we face when we turn from our sinful ways and cry out to Him for help. Most importantly, we have eternal deliverance from our destruction through “His Word” Christ Jesus. The writer encourages us to not only give thanks to the Lord but also to offer our lives as a sacrifice to Him as we praise Him and sing joy-filled songs in His name.

Questions to Consider:

What are some specific ways you can offer yourself as a sacrifice to the Lord as an outpouring of your thankfulness to Him?

Prayer Prompts:

- Lord, give me the wisdom and strength to run from all of my sinful ways and help me to see the opportunities You put before me each day to glorify You.
- Heavenly Father, please reveal to me the many ways I can use my time, treasures and talents to serve you and your people.
- Father God, thank you not only for saving me from my earthly troubles but for rescuing me from the eternal punishment of sin. You alone are my deliverer!

Day 26

Thankfulness for His Steadfast Love Endures Forever

Key Scripture: Psalm 136:1-3 “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever.” (Read Psalm 136)

When David wrote this particular Psalm he repeated the phrase, “for his steadfast love endures forever!” We immediately see how important this phrase is given the repetition—26 times at the end of each of the 26 verses! Let’s start by defining some terms and then dig into why this particular psalm is so important for the original audience as well as us today. Steadfast, defined by Webster’s Dictionary, means firmly fixed in place, immovable, not subject to change, and loyal. God’s love for His people is all of this. It endures (lasts) forever! Endures means to continue to exist in the same state or condition.

David also lists the reasons that God is good—that His steadfast love does endure forever. Matthew Henry’s commentary shows how David arranged this psalm as follows:

- verses 1-3: God is over all creation
- verses 5-9: God is Creator
- verses 10-22: God is Savior to Israel
- verses 23-24: God is Rescuer
- verses 25-26: repeats that God is over all

In order to encourage and remind the people of God, the priests would sing and have the people sing these verses. The repetition serves as an important reminder. God wants us to understand and remember—His goodness, His protection, and His deliverance. Just as God’s people were invited to praise Him as the one true God who works miraculous wonders, so are we as we read these verses!

So what can we glean from this psalm? God was over all, Creator, Savior, Rescuer to His people in David’s time.

Questions to Consider:

In what ways have you experienced the steadfast love of God in your life? Take some time to write down how you have seen Him show His power and wonder? Start with reading the entire chapter of Psalm 136 to see how faithful He was to the Israelites.

Prayer Prompts:

- Father, thank you for your steadfast love that endures forever! Thank God for being God over all, Creator, Savior, and Rescuer!

Day 27

Thankfulness for God's Covenantal Love

Key Scripture: Psalm 89:1-2 "I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."

When God makes a covenant, you can guarantee that He will keep it and that He will fulfill it. The foundation for Psalm 89 is rooted in the covenantal promises of God as displayed in 2 Samuel 7, where the Lord establishes a covenant with David. We learn here in Psalm 89 that the Psalmist is rejoicing in the steadfast love of God. We realize that God's faithfulness lasts forever. The people of Israel would have a king provided to them by God in the person of David, and this provision of a king was a demonstration of God's love for His people and His faithfulness. God would later send His Son Jesus as the Righteous King for His people, where David failed, Christ would not.

The psalmist here calls upon the reader to recount the unchanging love of the Lord, and then the proper response for recipients of that love is to make it known to all generations. The psalmist says that with one's mouth, the faithfulness of God is proclaimed. We would do well to remember passages of Scripture that point us to the faithfulness and love of God. One remarkable passage is 1 John 4:9-10, "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

Questions to Consider:

Have you experienced the redeeming love of God? If so, do you regularly proclaim this love, which was given to you freely, to those around you?

Prayer Prompts:

- Today, spend time meditating on how God demonstrated His love for you by sending Jesus to die in your place. To pay the price for your sin that you could not pay and raise again in a faithful resurrection.
- Thank God for being faithful to fulfill His promises and rejoice in His great love for you.

Day 28

Thankfulness for the Lord's Goodness

Key Scripture: Psalm 92:1-5 "A Psalm, a Song for the Sabbath day. It is good to give thanks to the Lord to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy. How great are your works, O Lord! Your thoughts are very deep!"

Through this psalm we are reminded of the call to worship and praise the Lord throughout the day. Often we have certain times of the day or week we routinely praise the Lord. We are often tempted to put this time into a box and separate it from the rest of our lives. However, the Psalmist points out that God is steadfast in the morning and still faithful at night. This reminds us to praise Him throughout the day and throughout the whole week. When we choose to listen to or sing music that praises the Lord, it helps us remember His goodness and blessings in our lives.

The Lord has offered us salvation which, by itself, is enough to praise Him all of our days. However, His grace and mercy don't stop there. He continues to provide boundless blessings from His hands that we can rejoice in. He keeps the world in balance and cares for us at the same time. His providence and wisdom can be seen in all of creation. The intricate details of which God works on our behalf is incredible. God is the standard for good, and we can praise Him in that.

Questions to Consider:

Do you put God in a box and only praise Him certain times a day/week?
What works of God's goodness do you see in your life?

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that the praises of God would flood your thoughts and color your speech.
- Ask God to open your eyes to His goodness through His works around you.
- Meditate on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Day 29

Thankfulness for the Lord's Great Works

Key Scripture: Psalm 111 "Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of splendor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the inheritance of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy; they are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name! The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!"

The Lord shows us His wondrous works with every breath we take and every star and sunrise we experience. His handiwork is all around us!! As we observe salvation in a new believer, we see His grace and righteousness displayed. As we read His Word, we praise Him for preserving it so that we can remember His wondrous works and His faithful covenant with His remnant people. We see His prominence through all He does. He shows us throughout history His power and guidance.

Through His works we see His greatness. His works and His Word will carry on until the end of the age. He calls His children to follow His new covenant through believing in Jesus. This covenant through Jesus gives us hope for the future. This covenant continues to show the Lord's excellence through His salvation.

Questions to Consider:

When was the last time you stood in awe of all the Lord has done?

Which of God's works shows you His greatness the most?

Prayer Prompts:

- Pray that the Lord opens your eyes to His greatness He wants you to see.
- Pray for those who have not accepted His greatness through salvation.

Day 30

Thankfulness for the Christmas Season

Key Scripture: Luke 2:11 "For unto you is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord."

This is a special season for Richland Creek as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. We are so grateful for the opportunity to host family friendly events that will refocus our attention on the true meaning of Christmas. These events are also opportunities to invite lost friends and family members to not only enjoy wonderful music and sweet fellowship but above all to hear the message of the gospel.

We would like to encourage you to pray for our Christmas events coming up this month. Our desire is that the Lord would be the focus and receive all the glory for what He will do through His church here at Richland Creek.

Christmas Sermon Series "The King Has Come": *Sunday Mornings*

Lottie Moon Christmas Missions Offering: *Month of December*

Family Event "A Night in Bethlehem": *Wednesday, December 1 (6:30pm)*

Ladies Christmas Tea: *Friday, December 3 (6pm)*

Christmas Night of Worship: *Friday, December 10 (7pm)*

Community Food Pantry: *Saturday, December 11 (9-11am)*

Christmas Eve Services: *Friday, December 24 (2pm, 4pm, 6pm)*

Thank You

We praise the Lord for all those who contributed to make this prayer guide possible. We are so grateful for the faithful servants who have dedicated their time and talents to writing this prayer guide.

To God Be the Glory!

This Month's Writers:

Claudine Snyder, Julia Siegwart, Rhonda Clark

Elizabeth Rodriguez, Cathy Upton

Tonya Guerrino, Kim Mayor

Ashley Martens, Robbie Smith

Cameron Wagner, Stephen Moye

Eleanor Waterman, Kimberly Brown

Beth Luneke, Faith Cross, Nichole Ewing

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

But we ask you, brothers and sisters, to recognize those who diligently labor among you and are in leadership over you in the Lord, and give you instruction, and that you regard them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another.