

A REVIEW OF

# Apostle Paul's Prayers

PRAYER STUDY GUIDE

Apostle Paul was a man of prayer, the author of almost half of the New Testament and a missionary, taking the Gospel of Christ to far reaching parts of the world during his lifetime.

What did he pray for and how did he pray in order to achieve these great feats? Especially as he was the only apostle who didn't meet and walk with Jesus during His earthly ministry.

This series we will study his prayer life, focusing on key prayers identified in the Bible, also known as the 'Pauline Prayers'. These prayers have the power to transform your walk with God and your life, if you are dedicated to praying them regularly and in sincerity.

I pray this study blesses you and transforms your prayer life as you say these prayers daily.



## Day 1

### Salvation

Brothers and sisters, my heart's desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. – Romans 10:1

As important as this life is, Paul understood that eternity is much more important. That's why he went to such great lengths to spread the gospel of Jesus. Paul knew that it was critical for that those he preached to did not just listen to a good sermon but received the gift of salvation.

*And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. (John 17:3)*

Paul also knew that words enough would not bring the people to salvation, and so he interceded for them in the place of prayer. He looked beyond himself and desired and prayed for Israel to be saved. From his statement, we can tell that this wasn't a one time or occasional prayer. Rather it was something he committed himself to do.

How often have you committed yourself to praying for salvation for yourself and others? If you already do so, please continue. If not, today would be a good day to start.

**Prayer Guide:** Father in the Name of Jesus, I pray for my family, household, neighbours. I bring the city I live in before you and pray for the leadership of the city and the organisation I work with. Father, you sent your Son Jesus to die for us that we may be reconciled to you and have eternal life. Your word says that it is not your desire that anyone should perish, but everyone to come to repentance. Father I pray that you save (name the specific people), that they may come to true repentance and turn away from a life that displeases you. Grant them the gift of salvation and preserve them Lord for all eternity. In Jesus Name, Amen.

## Day 2

### Unity

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6

God has placed in us the capacity to achieve amazing things when we come together and powerful things happen when people walk in unity – either for good or for bad.

'The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. ' (Genesis 11:6)

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:12)

The Bible is full of references to the power of not just people, but people who have a shared vision, a common goal that they selflessly work towards. One of the reasons we see so much strife, envy, jealousy in families, social relationships, communal environments, etc. is because the enemy understands the power of unity, especially when it comes to the body of Christ. Remember Matthew 18:19 tells us, *"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven."*

But in reality, can you agree with someone with whom you don't have a united vision? You certainly will not be able to speak with one voice. Imagine working in an organisation where everyone wants to do their own thing? Highly unlikely that organisation will ever move forward. Now picture the opposite, people speaking in one voice, with one mind, determined to give glory to God. The power in unity cannot be over-emphasised.

**Prayer Guide:** Lord Jesus, you gave yourself selflessly for us, you came to earth not to be served but to serve. Dear Lord, give us a heart for our fellow brothers/sisters to walk in unity with them to fulfil your purpose. That we as your church will not follow selfish ambitions, but rather seek to glorify you in every way. Where we may have gotten it wrong, have mercy on us, and help us act in love at all times. Help us walk in unity, that your Name will be glorified in the Name of Jesus we pray.



## Day 3

### Joy, Peace, Hope

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' Romans 15:13

While we often look to external factors and people, God is the one true source of all hope, joy and peace. Why? Because everything else will fail. We have all been disappointed and have disappointed others at some point in time. And when that happens, we tend to lose our joy and our peace. But God is reminding us today that He is the source of our hope. So even when circumstances don't turn out the way we would have liked and people let us down, we can still look to God and say as the psalmist did in Psalm 121:

I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Ideally, we shouldn't turn to God as a last resort, He should be our first and only hope because He alone can cushion us from the negative impacts of what we're going through. So like Paul, we can say rejoice even when faced with unfavourable circumstances and rely on the God who give us peace which cannot be understood. It can't be understood because anyone looking at what you may be going through would probably wonder why you're so calm and hopeful.

It's because Jesus keeps his promises and he's promised us, peace: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

**Prayer Guide:** Lord I ask that you fill me with your peace which passes all understanding, as I put my trust in you and you alone, fill me with hope and joy that knows no bounds. Let your joy, peace and hope overflow in my spirit, so much so that my life will cause others to seek you and bring glory to you. I pray in the mighty Name of Jesus.



## Day 4

### Peace, Impact

'Pray that I may be kept safe from the unbelievers in Judea and that the contribution I take to Jerusalem may be favorably received by the Lord's people there, so that I may come to you with joy, by God's will, and in your company be refreshed.' Romans 15:31-32

Paul faced many dangers when he went on assignments and so he knew only too well the importance of having his brethren pray with and for him. He never attempted to undertake any journey without the leading of the Holy Spirit and the prayers for the success of the assignment. Paul understood two key things that we need to learn.

First is that the Holy Spirit must lead us if we want to have lasting success. When it was time to build the temple, God gave Moses the specific instructions on how to build, what to use and who to work with (Exodus 31). God is just as intentional about your life. He knows the path He has designed for your life and the best way for you to walk in it. We struggle unduly when we don't ask God's direction and guidance and instead start off on our way, expecting Him to bless our own plans rather than ask Him for His.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Second is that even when God gives you the plan, you still need to pray it into being for you to make the desired impact without losing your peace. And you become an even more powerful tool in God's hand when you add to that people praying with, and for you in sincerity.

**Prayer Guide:** Lord, please give me the grace to seek you first in all things, be they big or small. I submit myself to the leading of the Holy Spirit who knows all things and ask that you lead me through this day. Reveal to me your plans for my life and how I should go about things. You know who you have appointed to help me this season. Please show me who to call upon to pray with me and walk with me this season, that your plans may be fulfilled. In Jesus Name.



## Day 5

### Blameless

'He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ' 1 Corinthians 1:8

Have you ever had a bad habit that just won't leave you? Much as you may try to stop doing certain things, you find yourself going back to them over and over again. That's because there are some things willpower alone cannot do. Paul understood this and when he spoke to the church in Corinth, his focus was not on their works, but on Jesus who alone has the power to transform them and preserve them. He understood that where we stop trying to change based on willpower and yield to the Holy Spirit, He alone has the capacity to go to the root of the problem and transform us from the inside out.

'May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ' 1 Thessalonians 5:23

Being kept blameless does not mean we won't ever make mistakes. Surely, we will. But Paul understood that whenever we make a mistake, we should go back to God immediately and in sincerity asking Him to cleanse us from our wrong doing and preserve us from going back to our errors. Sincerity is key here as we shouldn't take God's grace and mercy for granted.

**Prayer Guide:** Father I ask in the Name of Jesus that you preserve my spirit, soul and body, keep me blameless so I may stand before unashamed and unafraid at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Uproot from my heart anything that may cause me to veer off the path you have chosen for me Lord. Transform my heart, mind and relationships so everything in and around me will be pleasing to you. In Jesus Name.



## Day 6

### Grace & Mercy

'The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.' I Corinthians 16:23

The word 'grace' as used in this context can be defined as "good will, loving-kindness, favour". The New Testament Greek Lexicon defines this further: "of the merciful kindness by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ, keeps, strengthens, increases them in Christian faith, knowledge, affection, and kindles them to the exercise of the Christian virtues."

God's grace is available to us to turn us to and keep us in Christ. It's His grace that enables us to stand in the midst of storms and temptations. It's His grace that helps us say 'Yes' to God's will even when it doesn't appear to make any sense. It is God's grace that equips us to be diligent in the little things and not to be overwhelmed by the larger things we face in life. We definitely need God's grace and He has made it available to us all.

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. Hebrews 4:16

Because Jesus walked this earth, He understands what we're going through and that's why in addition to grace He also gives us mercy. Mercy is simply not giving us the punishment we deserve. Imagine if you faced instant judgement every time you did something wrong. Mercy is the avenue Jesus created for us to come back to God to ask for forgiveness so we can repent and receive grace to stand according to God's principles.

Paul lets us know through his teachings that there's nothing we could ever do to deserve God's grace, it is simply out of His loving-kindness that He gives it to us. We need to reverence this and not abuse the grace given to us by continuing in things we know aren't pleasing to our Father in heaven.

**Prayer Guide:** Lord Jesus, wherever I have fallen short I ask for mercy. I ask for your cleansing and restoration. I also for your grace to keep me steadfast in you, to strengthen me and cause your glory to shine through me. In Jesus Name.



## Day 7

### Doing Right

'Now we pray to God that you will not do anything wrong—not so that people will see that we have stood the test but so that you will do what is right even though we may seem to have failed. For we cannot do anything against the truth, but only for the truth. We are glad whenever we are weak but you are strong; and our prayer is that you may be fully restored.'  
2 Corinthians 13:7-9

Apostle Paul was passionate about the state of the churches, not the physical structures, but the people themselves. We see this exemplified in his prayer for the church in Corinth, that they would do the right thing, not to please people, but to be approved by God.

Paul wasn't concerned about using other people to appear successful, but rather was genuinely interested in their spiritual success even if it meant he may not look good for it. This shows us how God's value system functions – we should never try and look good leveraging on making someone else look worse than we do.

Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3 (NLT)

Today let's take some time to reflect on how we relate with others. Where people are faring worse than we are in any area, do we genuinely pray for them to be restored without gloating over their state? Also when people have been put in our care (as parents, friends, neighbours, mentors, etc) do we take time to bring them before God and ask Him to preserve them from falling and restore them if they do? There's a level of responsibility you have for those around you.

**Prayer Guide:** Dear Lord, I bring everyone you have put in my care before you (name them if you can). I pray that you continue to hold them up and uphold them and keep them in the centre of your will. Where they have fallen, Lord in your mercy restore them. And Lord help me also.

## Day 8

### Wisdom & Revelation

'I pray that the Father of glory, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, would impart to you the riches of the Spirit of wisdom and the Spirit of revelation to know him through your deepening intimacy with him. I pray that the light of God will illuminate the eyes of your imagination, flooding you with light, until you experience the full revelation of the hope of his calling—that is, the wealth of God's glorious inheritances that he finds in us, his holy ones! I pray that you will continually experience the immeasurable greatness of God's power made available to you through faith. Then your lives will be an advertisement of this immense power as it works through you! ..... ' Ephesians 1:17-19(a) (TPT)

Paul understood the power of wisdom and revelation. He knew that we need wisdom to know how to seek God and also that God has to reveal Himself to us as only He can. Knowing God doesn't come from 'head' knowledge – meaning logic or intellect. He has to reveal Himself to our spirits. Why bother knowing God in the first place? Because we have hope in Him, as well as riches and a glorious inheritance, all of which can only be discerned spiritually.

So we need to have the eyes of our hearts filled with so much light that we have complete clarity on why we are walking with God, who He is to us and what He has promised to those who believe in and walk closely with Him.

**Prayer Guide:** Dear Lord, give me your spirit of wisdom and revelation that I may know you more intimately and continuously have a deeper walk with you. Bring your light to every area of my life, that I may experience the full revelation of the hope I have in you. bring me to the place of realisation of the riches I have in you and your immeasurable power available to me. Help me to tap into these Lord so my life will showcase your glory.

## Day 9

### Love and Strength

'For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.' Ephesians 3:14-19

Our minds cannot begin to fathom the depths of God's love for us, but by His grace He gives us the opportunity to be filled with His love. So much so that as we begin to walk in His love, He uses us as an extension of Himself to demonstrate love to others and enables us to be successful ambassadors of the kingdom of heaven here on earth.

God also strengthens us with power in our inner man, that is the 'real us' because God deals with us with eternity in mind. He gives us strength in our spirit to do the things He's called us to be and to do here on earth. It's this strength that keeps us standing in the midst of the challenges we face in different aspects of our lives and it's this strength that He uses to establish us as witnesses for Him.

**Prayer Guide:** Dear Father in heaven, thank you for your love. It is so difficult for us to fully grasp the extent of your love for us that causes you to show us mercy and kindness in spite of how we treat you at times. It's your love that keeps the door open for us to return to you time and again. You never set a limit on this. Thank you also for your power at work in our spirit which equips us to be all that you created us to be and to do all you designed us to do. We can never earn this, so we just want to give you thanks.



## Day 10

### Boldness

'Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.' Ephesians 6:19-20

We should never underestimate the power of prayer and its ability to transform situations. Paul went on numerous missions so he knew first-hand the importance of prayer as a critical tool for success. He also understood the power of having people pray with him and for him. Paul was also very specific in what he asked people to pray about and didn't just make an open-ended prayer request. This is a learning point for us to be clear and specific in what we're praying about.

Another thing to note is that Paul's prayers were never frivolous and in spite of the impact of his ministry, he didn't shy away from asking for help in prayer. Regardless of how successful you may be, don't ever stop praying. It's prayer that lays the foundation for whatever you're building.

We live in a season where majority of people want to hear what sounds good but not necessarily what God is saying to them. Please make a point to pray for those who are serving God genuinely and spreading the true gospel in spite of the challenges and opposition they face.

**Prayer Guide:** Father we bring before you your servants who are doing the true work of the kingdom in whatever capacity they find themselves. Lord we ask that you grant them the grace to commune closely with the Holy Spirit to receive your truth and to speak that truth in sincerity and boldness. Let them not speak of their own or act in their own wisdom, but only as you lead them. Help these ambassadors Lord, that your name may be glorified in their lives. In Jesus Name.

## Day 11

### Faithfulness

'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, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.' Philippians 1:3-6

This is such a heartfelt prayer from Paul to the church in Philippi. From the time of their receiving Christ to the point that Paul wrote this letter, the church never ceased to support him. This should give us cause to reflect: who can say to God that they are thankful for your being part of their lives every time they remember you? In whose life have you faithfully invested – not just in material terms, but in kindness, prayer, mentorship, etc.

Paul shared his confidence in God's ability to complete what He's begun in our lives. This is a confidence we should share as the Amplified version of Hebrews 13:5 puts it this way:

"Let your character [your moral essence, your inner nature] be free from the love of money [shun greed—be financially ethical], being content with what you have; for He has said, "I WILL NEVER [under any circumstances] DESERT YOU [nor give you up nor leave you without support, nor will I in any degree leave you helpless], NOR WILL I FORSAKE *or* LET YOU DOWN *or* RELAX MY HOLD ON YOU [assuredly not]!"

**Prayer Guide:** Faithful and loving Father, thank you for the confidence we have in your faithfulness. We know you are with us always and you never stop helping us and working things out for our good. Let us imbibe your character of faithfulness and show ourselves consistent and reliable with all you entrust to us. In Jesus name.

## Day 12

### Discernment

‘And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.’ Philippians 1:9-11

The love Paul describes here has nothing to do with emotions, but a conscious effort to seek the best for one another, regardless of how we may feel and without any conditions. When we are able to love like this, then our judgement won't be clouded by the need to satisfy personal gains, but rather to do what God wants. The Apostles illustrated what this would look like in reality in Acts 4:32-35 where the believers all lived together and none lacked among them.

We aren't required to all live together in a single place today, but rather to demonstrate this love wherever we find ourselves. As a boss/employee do you show love to your co-workers/staff? In our social relationships do we show love or do we form cliques and gossip about those who don't look/act the way we think they should?

‘There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.’ 1 John 4:18

When fear is eliminated, we will be able to discern what God really wants to do either in our lives, or the lives of those around us and we will have the grace to respond appropriately.

**Prayer Guide:** Lord, everywhere there is fear in my life, please remove it and replace with faith in you so I will not trust in my own strength or that of people around me, but in you alone. And because I am not dependent on anyone other than you, Lord please give me the grace to discern what you are saying to me on a daily basis and the grace to respond appropriately and accurately. In Jesus Name.



## Day 13

### Wisdom & Understanding

'For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy....'  
Colossians 1:9-11

God never leaves us stranded, He faithfully makes provision for us to have knowledge of His will. But we must do our part in praying not just for this knowledge, but also the wisdom and understanding to walk effectively in the knowledge.

Paul prayed this powerful prayer for the Colossians which we would do well to adopt in our daily lives. He understood that it would be useless for us to try and figure out what God is doing based on our natural senses, hence we need the Holy Spirit to grant us the wisdom and understanding we require. He also understood that natural strength alone cannot sustain us in this journey and that we need to depend on the glorious power that God graciously makes available to us.

Praying this consistently will certainly transform your life.

**Prayer Guide:** Father fill me with the knowledge of your will. Fill me also with the wisdom and understanding from the Holy Spirit that I may walk worthy of you. Let my thoughts, words and actions be fully pleasing to you and make me fruitful in every good work you have given my hands to do. Increase the knowledge of you in my life daily Lord, and strengthen me with your might. Let your glorious power do in me, with me and through me what I could never do by myself and grant me great endurance and patience. I depend totally on you Lord to lead me in the way that is pleasing to you so I remain constantly in the centre of your will. In Jesus Name.



## Day 14

### Increased Love

‘And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all, just as we *do* to you, so that He may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all His saints.’ 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

Once again we see another prayer focused on love, and not just love to the brethren (fellow Christians), but love to ALL. By showing this love, we reflect the image of our Father in heaven who places love above all other outward demonstrations of power.

“Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these *is* love.” 1 Corinthians 13:1-3, 13

**Prayer Guide:** We can’t attain this standard in our own strength. Ask the Lord to help you love as he does. Everywhere ‘love’ is listed, insert your name there. Love suffers long *and* is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8a)



## Day 15

### Thanksgiving

'We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.'  
2 Thessalonians 1:3

If you reflect on your life's journey, it may be easy to focus on the things that are yet to be attained, or where perhaps lost along the way. This prayer causes us to pause and reflect on our entire journey so far, rather than focus on a single point in time, or incident. You may not be where you need to be just yet but thank God for taking you from where you are coming from.

We were not designed to keep still or keep looking backwards on past failures or successes but to always move forward, growing day by day. Paul puts it this way:

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14

As we mature spiritually, we will find that the things that used to trip us up easily no longer do so, we will see also that it becomes easier for us to become more tolerant of other people's perceived weaknesses as we are confronted with our own limitations based on God's standards. Paul's description of straining forward shows that for growth to happen, there must be corresponding effort on our part.

If we were to compare someone who exercises casually once in a while with someone who exercises daily, we would see a clear difference in their level of stamina and ability to take on the same level of stress. The same applies to our spiritual condition – we need to invest consistently in our spiritual growth to be able to increase in faith and love.

**Prayer Guide:** Dear Lord, please help me to prioritise the things that are important to my spiritual growth, help me to be consistent in the place of prayer, bible study and meditation. Let the things that are important to you be important to me. In Jesus Name.



## Day 16

### Goodness

'With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith. We pray this so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.' 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

God desires our success in walking with Him more than we may ever fully comprehend. He desires to make us worthy of His call upon our lives and to give us the strength to bear good, lasting fruit. He delights in displaying His glory through us.

"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor." Isaiah 61:3

"For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." Zephaniah 3:17

But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. Psalm 3:3

**Prayer Guide:** We have a God who is a loving Father, a mighty warrior, a generous king and a righteous ruler among many other attributes. Let's turn to Him today in gratitude for who He is and the fact that He is looking to share his lovingkindness and mercy with us.



## Day 17

### Preservation

'And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith. But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command. May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance. '

2 Thessalonians 3:2-5

We live in a fallen world where it is easier to commit an act of evil than one of kindness. Paul recognised this, especially as he encountered several challenges in carrying out his missionary work. We also will encounter those whose hearts are filled with evil, but we shouldn't be fearful because God has already promised that He will strengthen and protect us from the evil one.

"You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." 1 John 4:4

As God's children, we have the Holy Spirit in us, the same power that worked in the creation of the world and raised Jesus from the dead. It's this same Holy Spirit that works in us to remove fear, increase our faith and spiritual stamina and gives us the grace to live in accordance with God's will. We need to consciously recognise who we carry and the power available to us, so we don't let circumstances overshadow us.

**Prayer Guide:** Let's pray using Psalm 18 as our foundation – LORD, you are my strength, my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I thank you because I called to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies. You Lord shield all who take refuge in you, you arm me with strength and keep my way secure. Praise be to my Rock! Exalted be God my Savior! I praise you, LORD, I sing the praises of your name.

## Day 18

### Peace & Security

'Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ' I Timothy 2:1-3

As a child of God, you have more of a say in what's going on around you than you may realise. Paul shows Timothy that praying for all who are in authority has a direct impact on his ability to live a peaceful life. We need to understand that authority isn't limited to those in political positions but includes everyone who is in a position of leadership. Be they the president of your nation, local government chairperson, CEO of your company or your direct supervisor. Your prayers impact how leadership turns out.

"The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes." Proverbs 21:1

"I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land..." Ezekiel 22:30(a)

Rather than complain about the things going on around you, dedicate some of your prayer time to praying consistently for the leadership in charge of those areas. Ask God to intervene and take control of that area. After praying, take time to listen to Him for instructions He may give you on actions to take. Your prayers can make a difference.

**Prayer Guide:** Father in heaven, I commit the leadership of \_\_\_\_\_ into your hands. Your word says that you run the heart of the king as you wish. Father turn the heart of \_\_\_\_\_ towards righteousness, peace and joy. Your word says when the righteous are in authority the people rejoice, cause \_\_\_\_\_ to walk in righteousness that we may rejoice.

**Further Study:** Jeremiah 51:20-23



## Day 19

### Mercy

'The Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain; but when he arrived in Rome, he sought me out very zealously and found me. The Lord grant to him that he may find mercy from the Lord in that Day—and you know very well how many ways he ministered to me at Ephesus.'

II Timothy 1:16-18

Paul knew what it felt like to be abandoned by those he had spent a lot of time and effort investing in, so he clearly recognised the value of having someone who stood by him regardless of his unfavourable circumstances. Ask yourself, have you ever been a fair-weather friend to someone? It's fine to be associated with them when everything is okay, but once they start facing adverse circumstances, do you begin to distance yourself from them?

Paul said Onesiphorus sought him out zealously, not looking for anything in return, but rather seeking to be a blessing to him. And as a result, Paul prayed not just for him, but his entire household. We must always be conscious of the fact that our actions (good/bad) will have far reaching consequences which we may not even be able to grasp at this point.

'I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.'" Genesis 12:2-3

"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28

Remember we are blessed so we can be a blessing to others. We are called to a life of service to others so we can properly represent God as His ambassadors here on earth. Wherever God has placed you, He intends for you to serve the people there.

**Prayer Guide:** Take some time to ask God to guide you in being a blessing to someone and to truly serve those He has placed around you.



Thanks for completing the study. We'll love to hear from you, so please connect with us on:

[Instagram](#)

[Facebook](#)

Or send us an Email: [aheartofwisdom@gmail.com](mailto:aheartofwisdom@gmail.com)

©Aheartofwisdom

