

Brown Bag
Prayer



Bay Life
CHURCH

BROWN BAG PRAYER

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PRAYER PREPARATION

Reflect on the following Scriptures that call out to God to come, hear, and answer. Then have brief time of prayer, asking God to clear your mind of any distractions as we pray together.

Psalm 4:3 – “Know that the Lord has set apart the godly for Himself; the Lord will hear when I call to Him.”

Psalm 5:2–3 – “Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to You I pray. In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before You and wait in expectation.”

Psalm 27:7 – “Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.”

Psalm 28:2 – “Hear my cry for mercy as I call to You for help, as I lift up my hands toward Your Most Holy Place.”

Psalm 55:16 – “But I call to God, and the Lord saves me.”

Psalm 69:16 – “Answer me, O Lord, out of the goodness of Your love; in Your great mercy turn to me.”

Psalm 86:3 – “Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to You all day long. You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to You.”

Psalm 119:145 – “I call with all my heart; answer me, O Lord, and I will obey Your decrees.”

Psalm 145:18 – “The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth.”

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

“This, then, is how you should pray:

*‘Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us today our daily bread. **Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.** And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’”*

- Matthew 6:9–13 (NIV)

Corporate Confession

Begin by confessing the sins of our church, our culture, our nation, our world.

Oh, most merciful Father, forgive us for we have sinned. Forgive us Lord for...

- How we have neglected You and not thirsted and hungered for You
- Not standing up for our faith and holding firm
- Not loving You the way You have loved us
- Loving the world and allowing it to take Your place
- Lusts, envy, pride; living as though we don't need You
- Lack of trust in You and not relying on You and Your power
- Grieving and quenching the Holy Spirit because of disobedience
- Apathy, complacency, and self-indulgence
- Not loving one another
- Living our spiritual life with our lips and not our hearts and lives
- Not seeking You with all of our hearts
- Our nation not staying with our spiritual roots

Personal Confession

How can we think that the Lord would hear our prayer if we regard sin in our hearts?

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.” - Psalm 66:18 (NKJV)

“If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His Word has no place in our lives.” - 1 John 1:10 (NIV)

We must seek sincere forgiveness, not give a casual apology. God hates sin. If we harbor sin, it will hinder His work in us, including hearing and answering our prayers.

Stop right now and ask God to call to mind all that might stand between Him and you.

“Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind.” - Psalm 26:2

Rest before Him now and confess your sins. Repent of your sins and seek forgiveness.

“No one who lives in Him keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen Him or known Him.” - 1 John 3:6

Now praise God for His forgiveness.

“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” - 1 John 1:9

Personal Forgiveness

Now consider forgiving anyone who has sinned against you.

“If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” - John 20:23

List the names of people you are forgiving and for what you forgive them:

As you have sought forgiveness and have forgiven, the Lord has given you a pure heart.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.” - Matthew 5:8

GIVE THANKS

At the end of these verses, please stop and give the Lord thanks for what He has done and is doing in your life; be as specific as you can.

“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever. Let those who fear the Lord say: ‘His love endures forever...’”

“Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter. I will give You thanks, for You answered me; You have become my salvation...”

“You are my God, and I will give You thanks; You are my God, and I will exalt You. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.” - Psalm 118:4, 19–21, 28–29

*“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- 1 Corinthians 15:57*

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” - Philippians 4:6

We have so much to give thanks for – salvation, redemption, atonement, health, life, friends, family, protection, deliverance, and freedom to worship.

Write down some personal things that the Lord is doing in your life:

PRAISE HIM

When we have love for someone, isn't it easy to praise them, adore them, and honor them; telling them what they mean in our life? That is true with the Lord, as well. But, it shouldn't come from empty, memorized words, but rather from your relationship with Him. Our Lord is magnificent, awesome, and personal.

As you consider the following verses, make it personal. At the end, praise Him beyond the verses you have seen.

"The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise Him, my father's God, and I will exalt Him." - Exodus 15:2

"Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together." - Psalm 34:3

"I will exalt You, my God the King; I will praise Your name for ever and ever." - Psalm 145:1

"Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen." - 1 Timothy 1:17

- Lord, You are magnificent and mighty, demonstrated throughout the ages.
- You are light, love, and life itself.
- You are all powerful, all-knowing, and are everywhere at all times.
- You are eternal, unchanging, and perfect.
- You are infinite, three-in-one, and majestic.
- You are merciful, righteous, wrathful, and just.

What other praises do you have?

PRAYING FOR GOD'S CHURCH

We live to glorify God by being disciples who make disciples.

As we head now into what we want to ask of God, allow these subjects to be a beginning of your requests, and then pray as God leads you to pray for other people/situations.

Easter Weekend Prayers

- For tons of people to join us at both Good Friday and Easter.
- For the gospel to be on display for all who join us.
- For many to trust Christ for the first time and for all to be inspired by Christ love for them.

Bay Life's – Core Four

Pray that we would **WORSHIP** God well.

- Living every hour of every day as worshipful people who continually pray for God's wisdom, will, and intervention for His glory.
- Being a gathering space for movements of prayer and worship.

Pray that we would **BELONG** to each other.

- Everyone in our congregation sharing our lives and spiritual journeys in communities where we engage our families and culture together.
- Being a regional community resource center to bless people socially and spiritually.

Pray that we would **MULTIPLY** ourselves as Christ followers.

- Becoming like Jesus in Spirit-led personal transformation through life groups, leadership mentoring, and discipling.
- Informing, equipping, and mobilizing our people to address biblical injustice locally, regionally, and globally.

Pray that we would **SERVE** God well.

- Staying available to the Spirit as He leads us to where His gifts in us might best be used to glorify God.
- Remaining steadfast in service, not growing weary of doing good.

Leaders and Staff

Pray that the men and women who lead the people in this community would be abiding their lives in Jesus.

Pray for protection from the enemy and spiritual warfare that is present.

Pray that they would lead this community by the Spirit's power and leading.

Marriages and Families

Pray that marriages would experience healing, growth, and unity. That husbands would love their wives and wives support and respect their husbands. That the family unit would be building on the foundation of God in their home.

Singles

That singles would find their life in Christ and His sufficiency for their lives. Pray singles would seek God's presence and be salt and light in a world that uses singleness to gratify the flesh.

Youth

That youth would have a passion to grow deeper in their relationship with Christ. That they would make choices that reflect their love for God. Pray they would follow Christ and not the pressure that comes from the world's influences and their peers.

Children

That the children would grow in their knowledge and faith in Christ. That during these early years, there is a foundation being built in their hearts on Christ. That their parents and church body set and live the example of being on mission with God.

LISTENING PRAYER

Most often, when we pray, we are busy doing the thinking and the talking.

The Lord desires to reveal things to us, giving us thoughts we are to pray, apply personally, or do. He is going to reveal, not just things to you, but also how to pray and what to pray. Be forewarned - you are going to experience a lot of “noise” in your mind, but just continue to stay focused on Jesus. Don’t allow yourself to be distracted. Listen for His voice, and record any Godly thoughts or verses that come to you. Enjoy this time in silence and union with God. Write down what you hear Him say.