



“Pray Without Ceasing”

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Oh how we need that exhortation for continual prayer with our Lord and Savior. Prayer has many components, from praising His holiness, thanksgiving for countless blessings given and withheld, casting cares on Him, petitioning, confessing sin, seeking forgiveness, pleading for the salvation of unbelievers, etc. On the list can go! The Bible both models and exhorts us to love one another in intercessory prayer ([Colossians 4:3](#); [1 Thessalonians 5:25](#); [2 Thessalonians 3:1](#); [Hebrews 13:18](#); [James 5:16](#)).

Here are a few ways we can pray for each other. We are to:

- Faithfully worship God by delighting in His Word and Works ([Psalm 1](#); [Psalm 19](#)).
- Remain joyful and content in God alone and not things, people, or circumstances ([Philippians 4:11, 13](#)).
- Be focused, undistracted, ready to engage in corporate worship with our church family ([Hebrews 10:25](#); [Colossians 3:16-17](#)).
- Listen humbly and quickly implement the truths of Scripture ([James 1:19-25](#)).
- Proclaim the gospel to unbelievers, living as “salt and light” ([Matthew 5:13-16](#)).
- Grow in holiness, humility, and increasingly memorize God’s Word ([Colossians 1:28](#); [Matthew 5:6](#); [Psalm 119:9-11](#)).
- Patiently and trustingly, walk in obedience before Him, where only He can see ([Proverbs 3:5-6](#)).
- Anticipate and proactively find ways to pour their life into others ([Titus 2:2-8](#); [2 Timothy 2:2](#)).
- Depend on Christ alone for strength to faithfully serve, pursuing excellence in everything ([Ephesians 3:14-19](#)).

- Love our family and friends in a Christlike way ([Romans 12:8-10](#); [1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#)).
- Patiently admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted and help the weak among us ([1 Thessalonians 5:14](#)).
- Increasingly display the fruit of the Spirit so unbelievers see Christ in us ([Galatians 5:22-23](#); [Matthew 5:16](#)).
- Be consistent and thorough in all aspects of prayer ([1 Thessalonians 5:17](#)).
- Increase sensitivity to the Spirit's conviction, quick to recognize, confess and repent of sin ([Matthew 5:3-4](#)).
- Submit joyfully to the Lordship of Christ, taking every thought captive ([Romans 12:1-2](#); [2 Corinthians 10:5](#)).
- Prepare and equip us to evangelize in Naples, the States and into various parts of the world ([Romans 10:14](#)).
- Bring unbelievers to repentant faith in Christ alone ([Romans 10:1](#); [Acts 17:30](#)).

Praying for children specifically, we pray that our Lord will:

- Bring them to know Christ as Lord and Savior ([Romans 10:9-10](#)).
- Give them an increasing love for Him with their every capacity - heart, soul, mind and strength ([Mark 12:30](#)).
- Cause them to treasure God's Word in their heart as a means of preventing sin ([Psalm 119:11](#)).
- Surround them with friends who will influence them toward righteousness ([1 Corinthians 15:33](#); [Proverbs 13:20](#)).
- Help them to quickly recognize, confess and repent of sin ([1 Peter 5:8](#); [Matthew 5:3-4](#)).
- Enable them to quickly forgive sin, not being exasperated with parents as they too grow in Christ ([Colossians 3:21](#)).
- Make His power and attributes clear so that they understand His omniscience and omnipresence ([Psalm 139](#)).
- Raise them up to lead His church, giving us wisdom in discipling them toward maturity in Christ ([Colossians 1:28](#)).