



WINTER 2018 DEVOTIONAL

WEEK 8: March 18th – March 24th

goodhope.org

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church
Dr. D.Z. Cofield, Sr. Pastor
Mark Slone, Devotional Editor

“Scripture Praying”

Communication is essential to growth of any relationship. How much more so in the greatest and most important relationship of all, our relationship with our heavenly Father. Prayer is simply talking to God; the sincere desire of the soul to commune with God.

Scripture Praying places focus squarely on our heavenly Father and His promises. It makes us more biblical in our prayers. What could be more appropriate than using God’s Word as a base to interact with Him? This assures that our communication is successful and honors Him. Jesus says, “*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you*” (John 15:7, NASB). Scripture Praying will cause us to grow in our knowledge and appreciation of God, as He delights in answering prayers based on His Word.

So, for this Winter Sermon series on prayer, please join us in the daily prayer devotional dedicated to **Scripture Praying**, and experience what prayer can do.

Sunday, March 18, 2018

Prayer of Worship and Adoration

The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. **Psalm 19:1 (NASB)**

¹⁰ For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens And Your truth to the clouds. ¹¹ Be exalted above the heavens, O God; Let Your glory be above all the earth. **Psalm 57:10-11 (NASB)**

Dear God, I worship and adore You because Your majestic creation is evidence of You being the even more majestic Creator. Thank You, that in Your desire to display Your glory, You created man to be in Your image. I praise You, Lord for Your loyal love for me. May You be exalted high above the heavens and Your glory displayed for the whole world to see and know that You the awesome Creator.

Continue these thoughts in a personal prayer of worship to God for His awesomeness as Creator . . .

Monday, March 19, 2018

Prayer for Unbelievers

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. **Luke 19:10 (NASB)**

⁴² And he was saying, “Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!” ⁴³ And He said to him, “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.” **Luke 22:42-43 (NASB)**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” **John 14:6 (NASB)**

Father, I pray for (name someone you know that has not accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Savior). Please grant them salvation, for Jesus’ sake. He came to seek and to save

the lost and has already laid down His life for them, because He loves them. Help them to understand the love of Jesus and their need for a Savior. Received them into Your kingdom, even if it must be at the end of their lives, like the thief on the cross. Give them the desire to call out to Jesus as the thief did, that they might be saved. May they know Jesus alone as the way, the truth, and the life.

Continue this thought in prayer for the unbelievers . . .

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

*¹² And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. . . . ¹⁴ For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions. **Matthew 6:12, 14-15 (NASB)***

*In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets. **Matthew 7:12 (NASB)***

*Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. **Ephesians 4:32 (NASB)***

Father, I offer this prayer of confession in light of these verses. I don't always treat others the way I want to be treated. Especially when it comes to forgiveness. Please forgive me for the many times I react, rather than responding in love. Help me to be quick to forgive others, as

You are in forgiving me. Help me to understand that I cannot walk in fellowship with You, if I refuse to forgive others. Search my heart. . . .

Pause to let the Holy Spirit search your heart; silently confess anything He brings to mind, and ask for the strength to turn away from sin . . .

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Prayer for Persecuted Christians

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. **Ephesians 6:18 (NIV)***

Yemen – Yemen is currently facing the world's worst humanitarian crisis, and Christians are left particularly vulnerable due to their faith. Persecution in the country is driven by government officials, radical Islam, families and leaders of ethnic and religious groups. Government officials maintain a strict Islamic system that treats all nationals as Muslims. The ongoing conflict in the country has left a power vacuum, allowing radical groups like the Islamic State (IS) and al-Qaeda to expand their operations and persecute Christians. Converts face persecution from extended family, tribal leaders and local imams, and are denied access to emergency relief that is distributed through Islamic organizations and mosques.

All Christians in Yemen experience persecution for their faith, but converts from Islam experience the worst of it. These converts are essentially forced to keep their faith

completely hidden from those around them, including their closest friends and family members, for fear of repercussions should their conversion be discovered. If others come to know that they have left Islam, believers face detention and interrogation by authorities and death threats from family and radical Islamic groups. Meanwhile, migrant Christians also face harassment and discrimination, as well as overt violence at the hands of Islamic militant groups.

Pray using the following Prayer Points:

- Pray that God will touch the hearts of extremists so they will embrace the gospel. The war with Saudi Arabia is helping extremists from AlQaeda and IS to move freely through the country. They are extremely aggressive towards Christians.
- Pray that secret gatherings of believers from Muslim backgrounds would glorify God, and pray that Christians would be able to minister to their fellow Yemenis.
- Pray that aid will reach Christians. Eighty percent of Yemenis depend on aid. Aid is typically channeled through the tribal and family lines of which Christians are often disconnected.

Thursday, March 22, 2018

Prayer for Our Church

*¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. ¹³ Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. **Psalm 51:12-13 (ESV)***

*²⁰ I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. **John 17:20-23 (ESV)***

Dear Lord, I pray for our church, that a revival will start in our church, with me. I pray that Your Holy Spirit will revive my love for You and my devotion to You, that will result in me serving You, by serving others and making the gospel known. I pray this for those in our local congregation, and the entire Body of Christ, so that empowered by Your love and Your Holy Spirit, we can change the world, and make disciples of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Continue this thought in praying for our church . . .

Friday, March 23, 2018

Prayer for our Pastor

*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. **Hebrews 13:17 (ESV)***

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the

church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:28 (NASB)

Pray for our Pastor. Pray for his strength, confidence, guidance, wisdom, to carry out God's work. Pray for his time of study and preparation as he feeds us each Sunday with a healthy diet of God's Word, so that we can become better Christians. Pray that he follows God and leads the Family of Hope in further clarifying and fulfilling our mission and vision reaching our community, country and abroad.

Continue this thought in a personal prayer for our Pastor . . .

Saturday, March 24, 2018

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Praise

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near. ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:4-7 (NASB)

Dear Lord, I thank You that I can rejoice in You, even when my circumstances may not be an occasion for rejoicing. Help me to realize that joy is an inner attitude tied to my relationship with You. Help me to keep my eyes on You and not loose focus of what You are doing in and through my life, for Your glory. Teach me to offer You a heart of thanksgiving and praise in all my daily experiences of life. Teach me to

commune with You, so that Your peace and Your presence can flood my soul, regardless of what I'm experiencing.

Continue this thought in a prayer of thanksgiving & praise to God . . .