



## GROW GROUP PRAYER GUIDE

Following Pastor John’s sermon on the Lord’s Prayer, this week our Grow Groups will get to share in a special prayer experience together. Rather than talking *about* prayer, we will spend our time *in* prayer together. Our goal is to enter more deeply into what Jesus taught us to pray, drawing on insights we receive from the Holy Spirit through the sermon. We will pray through 5 sections of the Lord’s Prayer before we offer a closing benediction together.

We invite you to simply follow along each step of this prayer guide for a fruitful time of prayer together.

- Whenever you see **LEADER**, your Grow Group leader will read what is written out loud to help facilitate the prayer time.
- Whenever you see **MEMBER**, someone from your Grow Group will read the relevant Scripture provided.
- Whenever you see **EVERYONE**, that means it is time for everyone to offer a brief prayer statement “popcorn” style (meaning, Grow Group members are free to voice brief prayer statements as they feel led one at a time, but in no particular order).
- Please do not feel rushed, and do not worry about pauses or silence. We will linger together in God’s presence, voicing our prayers as they come to mind for several minutes in each section.
- After we have completed all 5 prayer sections, we will offer a traditional closing benediction out loud all together from the Lord’s Prayer.

Let’s spend time praying together as our Lord and Savior Jesus taught us to pray:

### PRAYER SECTION #1

- LEADER:** “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.”
- MEMBER:** “Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness.” (Psalm 29:2)
- MEMBER:** “I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever... Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.” (Psalm 145:1&3)
- LEADER:** God, we thank you for who you are. We offer our praises now for who you are...
- EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to offer prayers of praise to God.*
- LEADER:**
- Father, we praise you for who you are – holy, good, faithful, and near. Thank you for letting us call you our Father, for inviting us into your family, and for showing us your heart through Jesus. May your name be honored in our lives, our church, and our community.
  - As we continue, let’s turn our hearts from who God is to what he is doing.

## PRAYER SECTION #2

**LEADER:** “Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

**MEMBER:** “But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” (Matthew 6:33)

**MEMBER:** “For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.” (Philippians 2:13)

**LEADER:** God, we pray for your kingdom to come and your will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. We offer prayers now for the various ways we desire your kingdom to come in us and through us.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to offer prayers for his kingdom to come in some specific way.*

**LEADER:**

- God, we long for your kingdom – for the world to be made right under your loving rule. Let your justice, peace, and beauty take root in our neighborhoods and in our hearts. Shape us to live as citizens of heaven here on earth, reflecting the goodness of your reign in all we do.
- Now let’s bring before God the things we need, and the needs of others in our community and around the world, trusting him as our faithful provider.

## PRAYER SECTION #3

**LEADER:** “Give us today our daily bread.”

**MEMBER:** “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; those who seek find; and to those who knock, the door will be opened.” (Matthew 7:7-8)

**MEMBER:** “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” (Philippians 4:6)

**LEADER:** God, thank you for being our provider. Hear our prayers as we ask you for what we need.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to pray for what they need or for someone else and the needs they have prayed for.*

**LEADER:**

- Lord, you know exactly what each of us needs today – not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually too. Thank you for being generous and attentive to every detail of our lives. Help us to live with open hands and grateful hearts, trusting you to provide. We also remember those who are in need – in our city and around the world – who hunger for daily bread and justice. Use us to be part of your provision for others.
- As we think about how much God provides for us, we also remember how much he forgives us. Let’s turn now to prayers of confession and forgiveness.

## PRAYER SECTION #4

**LEADER:** “And forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors.”

**MEMBER:** “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)

**MEMBER:** “Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ God forgave you.” (Ephesians 4:32)

**LEADER:** God, thank you for your enduring forgiveness.

- Let’s take a moment to pray silently and ask God for forgiveness where we need it.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to pray in silence for 1-2 minutes.*

**LEADER:** Now, let's pray silently for God to show us where we may be withholding forgiveness from others.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to pray in silence for 1-2 minutes.*

**LEADER:** Now let's thank God out loud for his gift of forgiveness and transforming grace in our lives.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to lift up prayers of thanksgiving for God's forgiveness and the opportunity to become more like him.*

**LEADER:**

- God, thank you for your mercy that never runs out. We are humbled by how freely you forgive us and how patiently you teach us to forgive others. Fill us with your grace so that forgiveness can flow through us to the people around us.
- Finally, we will pray for God's protection and guidance – asking God to lead us away from what harms us and toward what makes us whole.

## PRAYER SECTION #5

**LEADER:** "And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one."

**MEMBER:** "Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you." (James 4:7)

**MEMBER:** "Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith." (1 Peter 5:8-9)

**MEMBER:** "The thief comes only to steal and to kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

**LEADER:** God, temptation is real and so is the enemy. We pray now for your protection.

**EVERYONE:** *Everyone is invited to offer prayers for protection.*

**LEADER:**

- Lord, you know our struggles and our desires. Lead us away from the paths that pull us away from you. Shape us into people who reflect your goodness and truth. Deliver us from anything that distorts or diminishes the life you intend for us. Transform us more and more into the likeness of Christ.
- And now let's pray the final benediction all together:

## CLOSING BENEDICTION

**EVERYONE:** "For yours in the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."