

## Evangelistic Prayer: Praying and Sharing God's Love in Preparation for Easter

A. **God Invites His People to Partner With Him in Reaching A Lost World With His Love.** 1 Peter 2:9-10, Matthew 28:19-20

Vision for this season from your pastors: \_\_\_\_\_

*Pray for yourself that you would hear and respond the invitations the Lord is offering to you today.*

### Prayer Is:

- ♥ **Enjoying our love relationship** with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Al Vandergriend
- ♥ **Prayer is as natural an expression of faith as breathing is of life.** Jonathan Edwards

**Evangelism:** The act of communicating the good news of the gospel. Being a "Hope Extender"

**Key Thought: Disciples Pray and Evangelize: Church Leaders Equip These Disciples To Do It.**

### B. Leadership:

1. **A praying church or ministry requires praying leaders. "Whenever God calls His people to Himself, He uses His leaders."** (Blackaby) "The prayer level of the church never grows beyond the personal example and passion of the senior leaders." D. Henderson
2. **Lead others to pray by praying with them.** We must call our people to prayer/spiritual activity.

### C. *Biblical Prayer:* Enjoying the Power and Confidence of Scripture-Centered Prayer

1. **God has chosen to obligate Himself to fulfill the promises in His Word.** 2 Pet 1:3-4  
*"God's divine power has given us everything we need for life and for godliness... he has given us his promises that are of the highest value. Through these promises you will share in the divine nature because you have escaped the corruption that sinful desires cause in the world."* 2 Pet 1:3-4
2. **Relationship: We enjoy privilege of prayer because of our relationship with Christ.** John 1:12-13  
*"As many as received Him.. He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:12-13 NKJV*
  - a. **God loves to hear your voice. God can tell your voice** from the voice of others! Hebrews 13:15

*Let's give praise to God for the precious promises from God's word that we are grateful for.*

### 3. **God's will is in His Word. We pray according to the promises in God's Word.**

*Psalm 119: 1-2, 9-11, 89-90; 2 Timothy 3:16, Hebrews 4:12, Matthew. 7:7, Isaiah 55:10-11*

Pray these prayers over yourself from Psalm 119:9-11:

*Lord, help me to keep my way pure. Help me keep my life according to Your word in these ways \_\_\_\_\_.  
Help me to treasure Your word in my heart in these areas \_\_\_\_\_ so I don't sin against you.*

**"Praying the scriptures gives us the right vocabulary for prayer." Pastor Daniel Henderson**

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### D. Jesus Example: When tempted in the wilderness "It is written..."

Luke 4:4 "Man shall not live by bread alone." From Deut. 8:3

Luke 4:8 "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." From Deut. 6:13

Luke 4:12 "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" From Deut. 6:16

### E. Praying With and For Each Other. Be devoted (Rom 12:12), pray with humility (Matt 6:10), claim Bible promises (John 15:7), exercise faith toward God James 5:15, leave the results to God.

#### **Prayer Exercise: Praying God's Promises for Each Other: Father's Love Letter**

What promises are most meaningful to you? \_\_\_\_\_

### F. Linking Prayer with Ministry – Examples from The Book of Acts

- 1. Discipleship (2:42)** Train members to have an effective prayer life, disciple others in prayer, train their children to pray, etc.
- 2. Evangelism - House to House (2:47)** Train members to pray for those the church is trying to reach, for the lost/those they are witnessing to, for opportunities to witness, for their neighbors, etc.
- 3. Missions (13:1-3)** Train members to discern who to call to missions, pray for missionaries, for missions outreaches and events, for local and global mission activity, etc.
- 4. Bold Witness – Community (4:33)** Train members to pray for the church to boldly impact the community, for God to open doors of opportunity, etc.

### G. Connecting With the God's Heart for Prayer and Evangelism – Through Prayer

- Biblical prayer shows our **dependence on God** and **connects us to the mission God has for us**.
- If we don't have **Biblical prayer in our ministries, that is a leadership issue**.

**1. Love: John 3:16-17** God so loved the world that He gave Jesus so we might not perish but have eternal life. God did not give His son to condemn the world, but **so that we might be saved thru Him**.

**Ephesians 2:4** Because of his great love for us, God, rich in mercy, made us alive in Christ.

**Luke 15:** Increase our love for that which was lost. Sheep (v. 3-7), Coin (v. 8-10), Son (v. 11-31)

*Lord, increase our love for you. Increase our capacity to receive your love so that we have love to give to others. Increase our love for others. Increase our love for what was lost (Luke 19:10) Increase our desire to rejoice with heaven.*

*Luke 15:7 I tell you that in the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance.*

**2. Laborers: Matt 9:36-38** Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the harvest.

*Lord: Who are the harvesters? Where is the harvest – where are the fields ripe? Who will make themselves available to be harvesters? What can I do to help? We are fishing for men, Lord, where should we cast the net? Who has a sense of spiritual need?*

**3. Leadership / Spiritual Power: Luke 4:18-19** Jesus was anointed to proclaim good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, set the oppressed free.

*Lord, thanks for anointing God's people to proclaim good news that sets people free. Use us for your glory!*

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### H. Celebrating God for His Work of Transformation in Our Lives

#### 1. Remembering Where We Came From: Our Life Before Christ – Ephesians 2

**Our Lives Before Christ – Ephesians 2:1-3** – “All of us also lived among them at one time ...”

- Dead in trespasses/sins (v.1) (Misstep. Miss the mark)
- Walking according to prince of power of the air (v. 2)  
(Forces at work: World, Flesh, Devil, disobedience)
- Living in the lust of the flesh (v. 3)
- Indulging desires of flesh and mind (v. 3)
- By nature children of wrath (v. 3)

#### 2. Gratitude for What Christ Has Done For Us – Ephesians 2:4-10 (*In His Image*” by Josh McDowell)

- \_\_\_ You are alive together with Christ (v. 5)
- \_\_\_ You are raised up with Christ (v. 6)
- \_\_\_ You are seated with Him in heavenly places v.6
- \_\_\_ You are in Christ Jesus (v. 6)
- \_\_\_ You are saved by grace through faith v. 8
- \_\_\_ You are His workmanship (v.10)

**I. My Testimony – Sharing The Story of God's Grace Witness: Sharing What God has done: “Be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8. “We can't help speaking about what we've seen and heard.” Acts 4:20**

How would you describe in words what the Lord has done in your life?

**Discovery<sup>1</sup>:** What did you discover spiritually along the way to faith in Jesus? What drew you to Him?

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**Decision<sup>1</sup>:** What decision or series of decisions did you make about what you discovered?

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**Difference<sup>1</sup>:** What has changed in your life as a result of knowing Jesus? How is your life better now with his leadership and forgiveness? \_\_\_\_\_

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<sup>1</sup>Contagious Faith Study Guide by Mark Mittleberg, Telling Your Story of Faith In a Natural Way, p 61

### J. Obstacles to Prayer and Evangelism

- ▶ **Independence:** Living life on our own, apart from God
  - ▶ **Fear:** Flight, fear, terror
  - ▶ **Guilt:** Held in, bound by, liable to a charge or action
  - ▶ **Shame:** To dishonor, disgrace
- Shame: *Believing we are flawed and unworthy of love and belonging.*** Brene Brown

**False views of prayer: In order for God to hear and answer my prayers, I must:**

- **Pray “Right”:** Use the right words, posture, mindset, etc.
- **Be “Right”:** Have right church position, training, status or level of spirituality, etc.

**Which obstacles hold us back?** \_\_\_\_\_

**“People who do not pray will always be disoriented to the activity of God” – Pastor Mel Blackaby**

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**Understanding Your Evangelism Preference Exercise – By Dr. Dean Osuch**

**6 Evangelistic Styles: Confrontational, Intellectual, Testimonial, Interpersonal, Invitational, Serving.**

**Review Evangelistic Preferences List and take Evangelism Preference Assessment.**

**Application: My style is \_\_\_\_\_**

**How am I going to use my style of evangelism? \_\_\_\_\_**

**L: “4-quadrant” praying people : Well-rounded in both Personal and Corporate prayer**



**1. Personal Prayer:** Seeking and knowing God personally.

**2. Personal Intercession:** Seeking God’s will for me, interceding for others.

**3. Ministry Prayer:** Seeking God’s best for others by praying for and with them.

**4. Corporate Intercession:** Seeking God’s will for us as a congregation or ministry.

**1 Timothy 2:1-4 - Praying All Kinds of Prayers** “First of all, then, I urge that requests, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made in behalf of all people.” 1 Timothy 2:1

<b>A. Petitions (NIV)</b>	<b>B. Prayers</b>	<b>C. Intercessions</b>	<b>D. Thanksgiving</b>
Petitions with a deep sense of spiritual need, Specific needs directed toward God.	All types of prayers to God, general requests or specific petitions. Requests God can meet	<b>God-led Intervention intersection</b> between heaven and earth, prayers that <b>"hit the mark"</b> , reflecting God's <b>specific will</b> .	Gratitude for blessings or benefits, Praying with thankful heart.

**1. Personal Prayer and Evangelism:** Seeking and knowing God personally.

How is God inviting me to grow in Love, as a Laborer, in Leadership and in my Evangelism style?

**2. Personal Intercession and Evangelism:** Seeking God’s will for me, interceding for others.

*10 Most Wanted Prayer Exercise:* Am I praying for others who don’t know Jesus yet by name?

*30-day prayer calendar;* Can I pray for lost people daily?

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### 4-Quadrant Praying (con't)

**3. Ministry Prayer and Evangelism:** Seeking God's best for others by praying for and with them.  
(Ministering to Others in Prayer)

**a. Pray blessings:** *Blessing of God: "God's goodness, kindness, and favor on His children causing all that they do whether it be spiritual or temporal to prosper and succeed"* Dr. Huegel

**b. What do I pray for?:** Matt. 20:29-34 Ask - What do you want Jesus to do for you?"

Characteristics of a prayer intercessor: Serve, Listen, Compassion, Personal, Appropriate touch

**c. Provide faith for victory, confront obstacles:** Luke 5:17-20, 24-26 Pray for God to remove obstacles so the person's need can be met.

**4. Corporate Intercession and Evangelism:** Seeking God's will for us as a congregation or ministry.

**Prayer Partner or Group Prayer:** Pray with a prayer partner or small group to continue to pray for most wanted and for evangelism.

**Church-wide:** Pray for **pastor's vision**. Pray for church members to grow in **prayer and evangelism**.

**Evangelism:** Follow Bible example by going out 2 by 2, if possible

**Corporate Prayer: Let's Pray Together- Use spiritual "brainstorming" approach**

*"Again I say to you, that if two believers on earth agree [that is, are of one mind, in harmony] about anything that they ask [within the will of God], it will be done for them by My Father in heaven."*

Matthew 18:19 AMP

Pray **briefly enough** so that all can participate. Pray **loudly enough** so all can hear, agree and be edified.

Pray **humble prayers:** We can always pray for the Lord to reveal "truth, wisdom, insight, clarity, etc."

Prayer time should be **Inclusive: Harmonious, Relational: Connected to God and His promises and each other in the group and Collective: Working together for good of whole.**

**How is God inviting us to grow as a church in: Love: John 3:16-17, Ephesians 2:4, Luke 15.**

**Laborers: Matthew 9:36-38**

**Leadership/Spiritual Power: Luke 4:18-19**

**Prayer Assist Training Sessions:** <https://prayerassist.org/training-seminars/>

- **Biblical Prayer:** <https://prayerassist.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/biblical%20prayer%202022.pdf>

- **4 Keys to Effective Church & Ministry Prayer:** <https://prayerassist.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/4-keys-to-effective-church-and-ministry-prayer-handout-2.pdf>

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