

12 PRAYERS FOR EVERY MONTH OF THE YEAR

By: Jennifer Waddle & Whitney Hopler

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

NEW BEGINNINGS AND GOD'S GUIDANCE.

AS A NEW YEAR BEGINS, RESET YOUR FOCUS AND SEEK GOD'S DIRECTION FOR THE MONTHS AHEAD. ASK GOD TO SHOW YOU HIS PLANS FOR YOU THIS YEAR. PRAY FOR GOD'S WISDOM ABOUT YOUR SCHEDULE, RELATIONSHIPS, AND GOALS. LEAN ON PROVERBS 3:5-6: *"TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING; IN ALL YOUR WAYS SUBMIT TO HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR PATHS STRAIGHT."*

SHORT PRAYER:

LORD GOD, CREATOR OF NEW BEGINNINGS, PLEASE HELP ME START THIS NEW YEAR WITH A CLEAR VISION OF YOUR PURPOSE. HELP ME ESTABLISH STRONG AND HEALTHY RHYTHMS THAT SET THE PACE FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR. WHEN I'M TEMPTED TO LOOK BACK TO BETTER DAYS, REMIND ME THAT YOU ARE PREPARING A BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL FUTURE FOR ME. WITH YOU, I CANNOT FAIL. THANK YOU, LORD, FOR LEADING ME IN STRENGTH AND WISDOM THIS NEW YEAR. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

PRAY THROUGH THE PSALMS THIS MONTH, COMMITTING A FEW KEY PASSAGES TO MEMORY.

February

02

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS.

FEBRUARY IS AN IDEAL TIME TO PRAY ABOUT THE QUALITY OF YOUR RELATIONSHIPS—STARTING WITH GOD, AND THEN WITH THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU. TAKE TIME THIS MONTH TO PRAY FOR A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF GOD'S UNCONDITIONAL LOVE FOR YOU, AND FOR THE PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE. ASK GOD TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THAT HIS LOVE HAS NO LIMITS. WHEN YOU UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT GOD'S LOVE, YOU'LL BE INSPIRED TO OPEN YOUR HEART AND LET GOD'S LOVE FLOW THROUGH YOUR LIFE INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES.

SHORT PRAYER:

LOVING FATHER, THIS MONTH I MEDITATE ON PROVERBS 3:3, WHICH SAYS, "LET LOVE AND FAITHFULNESS NEVER LEAVE YOU; BIND THEM AROUND YOUR NECK, WRITE THEM ON THE TABLET OF YOUR HEART." PLEASE FILL MY HEART WITH YOUR LOVE, FATHER, THE LOVE THAT NEVER FAILS. AND WHEN MY FAITH WAVERS, SHOW ME YOUR FAITHFULNESS. BECAUSE OF YOUR SACRIFICE, I AM MADE WHOLE. I AM DEEPLY LOVED AND VALUED, AND IN TURN, I AM ABLE TO LOVE OTHERS. THANK YOU, LORD, FOR ALL YOU ARE. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

MEDITATE ON 1 CORINTHIANS 13 THIS MONTH, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "LOVE CHAPTER."

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

SPIRITUAL RENEWAL AND REVIVAL.

DURING MARCH, WHEN SPRING BEGINS, IT'S A WONDERFUL TIME TO FOCUS ON PRAYING FOR THE RENEWAL AND REVIVAL YOU NEED FROM GOD. PART OF THAT IS PRAYING FOR THE HELP YOU NEED TO STRENGTHEN YOUR DEVOTIONAL TIMES WITH GOD. IF YOU'VE STRUGGLED WITH READING THE BIBLE OR PRAYING REGULARLY, ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE POWER TO ESTABLISH NEW DEVOTIONAL HABITS THAT YOU'LL BE ABLE TO STICK WITH WELL. ASK GOD TO SHOW YOU HOW TO REKINDLE YOUR LOVE FOR HIM.

SHORT PRAYER:

HOLY GOD, THERE'S MUCH TO LOOK FORWARD TO AS WINTER ENDS AND SPRING BEGINS. THOUGH THE DAYS ARE STILL DREARY AT TIMES, I AM FILLED WITH HOPE. AS THE SEASON CHANGES, PLEASE REMIND ME THAT YOU NEVER CHANGE. YOU ARE THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW. THIS HELPS ME STAY GROUNDED IN FAITH, WALKING STEADFASTLY NO MATTER WHAT CROSSES MY PATH. THANK YOU FOR BRIGHTER DAYS AHEAD. MY HOPE IS IN YOU. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

FILL A JAR WITH 31 PRAYER PROMPTS AND CHOOSE ONE EACH DAY.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

HOPE.

APRIL IS A WONDERFUL MONTH TO CENTER YOUR PRAYERS ON HOPE. IN THIS FALLEN WORLD, HOPE IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF JESUS' SACRIFICE ON THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION. PRAY TO BE INSPIRED WITH AWE IN FRESH WAYS BY WHAT JESUS HAS DONE AS THE WORLD'S SAVIOR. THE SAME POWER THAT RESURRECTED JESUS CAN BE ACTIVE IN YOUR OWN LIFE WHEN YOU TRUST JESUS AND RELY ON HIM FOR HOPE. REMEMBER ROMANS 15:13: "MAY THE GOD OF HOPE FILL YOU WITH ALL JOY AND PEACE AS YOU TRUST IN HIM, SO THAT YOU MAY OVERFLOW WITH HOPE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT."

SHORT PRAYER:

LORD AND SAVIOR, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MONTH TO CELEBRATE YOUR LIFE, DEATH, AND RESURRECTION. YOU ARE WORTHY OF MY PRAISE! BECAUSE OF THE EMPTY TOMB, I WALK IN NEW LIFE. FREEDOM SURROUNDS ME BECAUSE YOUR SPIRIT IS WITH ME. AS 2 CORINTHIANS 3:17 SAYS, "WHERE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS THERE IS FREEDOM." THANK YOU FOR SETTING ME FREE FROM SIN AND DEATH. I OWE EVERYTHING TO YOU. IN YOUR PRECIOUS NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

PRAISE GOD FOR THE GIFT OF SALVATION, AND CONSIDER SHARING YOUR TESTIMONY WITH ONE PERSON THIS MONTH.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

JOY AND GRATITUDE.

AS NATURE BURSTS INTO FULL BLOOM DURING MAY, BE INSPIRED TO PRAY FOR JOY AND GRATITUDE. PRAY FOR THE ABILITY TO NOTICE AND APPRECIATE GOD'S BLESSINGS IN EVERY PART OF YOUR LIFE. ASK HIM TO HELP YOU AVOID COMPARING OR GETTING PREOCCUPIED WITH WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE RIGHT NOW. PRAY THAT YOU CAN EXPERIENCE JOY AND THANK GOD IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, AS WELL. PHILIPPIANS 4:4 ENCOURAGES YOU: "REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS. I WILL SAY IT AGAIN: REJOICE!" ASK GOD TO HELP YOU FIND JOY THROUGH YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM, REGARDLESS OF WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUR LIFE.

SHORT PRAYER:

GRACIOUS GOD, I AM DEEPLY BLESSED BY YOUR ABUNDANT GRACE AND MERCY. EVERY MORNING WHEN I MEET WITH YOU, I AM RENEWED AND STRENGTHENED. HELP ME FIND EVEN MORE TIME TO SPEND IN YOUR PEACEFUL PRESENCE. AS THE DAYS GROW LONGER, HELP ME REDEEM THE TIME, NOT WASTING A SINGLE MINUTE ON FRUITLESS THINGS. RENEW MY PERSPECTIVE AND REESTABLISH MY PURPOSE. I WANT TO SERVE YOU FIRST AND FOREMOST. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

SET A TIMER TO PRAY MORNING, NOON, AND NIGHT. JUST SEE WHAT GOD CAN DO!

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

REST AND WELL-BEING.

JUNE MARKS THE BEGINNING OF SUMMER, WHICH IS OFTEN A BUSY TIME WITH FUN ACTIVITIES LIKE TRAVEL. THIS MONTH IS AN IMPORTANT TIME TO PRAY FOR HELP FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT TO REST DURING ALL THE EXCITEMENT, SO YOU CAN BE AS HEALTHY AS POSSIBLE SPIRITUALLY, MENTALLY, AND PHYSICALLY. PRAY FOR PROTECTION WHILE YOU TRAVEL, AND ALSO FOR PROTECTION FROM BECOMING SO BUSY THAT YOU NEGLECT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. DO YOUR BEST TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE JESUS SET OF HOW TO REST WELL IN ORDER TO FOCUS WELL ON WHAT MATTERS MOST.

SHORT PRAYER:

FATHER GOD, THE SUN IS BRIGHT OVERHEAD, AND I'M REMINDED OF THE LIGHT OF YOUR SON SHINING IN THIS DARK WORLD. PLEASE CONTINUE TO BATHE US IN YOUR GLORIOUS LIGHT, CHASING AWAY EVERY SHADOW THAT DARKENS OUR MINDS. LET THIS MONTH BRING A SENSE OF RENEWAL AS I SPEND MORE TIME OUTSIDE IN YOUR CREATION. HELP ME FIND JOY IN THE SMALL THINGS...THE SOUND OF CHILDREN LAUGHING, THE BURSTS OF COLOR IN NATURE, AND THE QUIET EVENINGS WATCHING THE SUN SET. THANK YOU FOR THE SIMPLE JOYS IN LIFE. YOU ARE A GOOD, GOOD FATHER. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

TAKE PRAYER WALKS THIS MONTH, PAYING CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE BEAUTY OF CREATION.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

HOSPITALITY & FREEDOM.

JULY IS OFTEN FILLED WITH GATHERINGS WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS. THIS IS A WONDERFUL MONTH TO FOCUS YOUR PRAYERS ON HOSPITALITY. PRAY THAT GOD WOULD LEAD YOU TO OPPORTUNITIES TO USE YOUR RESOURCES (LIKE YOUR TIME, YOUR MONEY, AND YOUR HOME) TO BLESS OTHERS. ROMANS 12:13 ENCOURAGES YOU TO: *"SHARE WITH THE LORD'S PEOPLE WHO ARE IN NEED. PRACTICE HOSPITALITY."* DON'T WORRY ABOUT HOW BIG YOUR HOME IS OR HOW CLEAN AND ORGANIZED IT IS. WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT WITH HOSPITALITY IS JUST HAVING AN OPEN HEART TO WELCOME AND SERVE PEOPLE. ASK FOR THE SPIRITUAL GIFT OF GENEROSITY AND A HEART THAT'S EAGER TO SERVE.

SHORT PRAYER:

HOLY GOD, I DON'T WANT SUMMER TO FLY BY WITHOUT MAKING WONDERFUL MEMORIES WITH MY FRIENDS AND FAMILY. AS WE CELEBRATE OUR FREEDOM, HELP US REMEMBER WHERE TRUE FREEDOM COMES. IN YOU, LORD, WE ARE FREE FROM SIN AND DEATH. WE ARE WELCOMED INTO YOUR FAMILY WHEN WE PUT OUR FAITH IN YOU. THANK YOU, JESUS, FOR MY COUNTRY, MY NEIGHBORHOOD, AND MY HOME. PROTECT US FROM ALL HARM, AND HELP US WALK IN THE FREEDOM YOU'VE PROVIDED. IN YOUR FAITHFUL NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

BEFORE THE 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS BEGIN, GATHER WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS TO PRAY OVER YOUR CITY.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

GOD'S PROVISION AND TRUST.

AS SUMMER WINDS DOWN AND THE HARVEST SEASON STARTS, AUGUST IS A GREAT TIME TO FOCUS YOUR PRAYERS ON GOD'S GENEROUS PROVISION FOR YOU, AND TO STRENGTHEN YOUR TRUST IN GOD FOR THE FUTURE. YOU CAN'T STOP WORRIES FROM ENTERING YOUR MIND, BUT YOU CAN CHOOSE WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE ANXIOUS THOUGHTS. WHENEVER YOU NOTICE THAT YOU'RE WORRYING ABOUT SOMETHING – LIKE YOUR FAMILY, HEALTH, OR JOB – TURN YOUR WORRIES INTO PRAYERS AND TRUST GOD TO HANDLE EACH OF THOSE SITUATIONS. PRAY FOR A STRONG FAITH TO REALLY BELIEVE THAT GOD WILL MEET EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOUR NEEDS, IN THE BEST WAYS, AND AT THE BEST TIMES. JESUS ADVISES YOU IN MATTHEW 6:33 TO FOCUS ON YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND TRUST THAT HE WILL GIVE YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED AS YOU DO SO: *"BUT SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AS WELL."*

SHORT PRAYER:

LET THIS MONTH BE FILLED WITH STRENGTH AND PERSEVERANCE AS WE COME TO SUMMER'S END. HELP ME LOOK TO YOU FOR EVERY ANSWER, EVERY CONCERN. WHEN MY HEART IS HEAVY, I WILL LOOK UP. I WILL SET MY GAZE ON YOU AND WAIT FOR YOUR DIRECTION. IN YOUR HOLY NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

SPEND A FEW EVENINGS STARGAZING THIS MONTH AND THANK GOD FOR HIS FAITHFUL GUIDANCE.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

AN AWARENESS OF GOD'S WONDER IN CREATION.

AS LEAVES ON THE TREES AROUND YOU TURN BRIGHT COLORS IN SEPTEMBER, IT'S A BEAUTIFUL TIME TO PRAY TO BECOME MORE AWARE OF YOUR CREATOR'S WONDER IN CREATION. ROMANS 1:19-20 POINTS OUT THAT EVERY PART OF NATURE REVEALS THE WONDER OF GOD'S CHARACTER: "FOR WHAT MAY BE KNOWN ABOUT GOD IS PLAIN TO THEM, BECAUSE GOD HAS MADE IT PLAIN TO THEM. FOR SINCE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD GOD'S INVISIBLE QUALITIES—HIS ETERNAL POWER AND DIVINE NATURE—HAVE BEEN CLEARLY SEEN, BEING UNDERSTOOD FROM WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, SO THAT PEOPLE ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE." SO ASK GOD TO HELP YOU LEARN MORE ABOUT HIM EVERY TIME YOU'RE OUTSIDE.

SHORT PRAYER:

FATHER GOD, YOU ARE STEADFAST AND TRUE. THERE IS NO SHADOW OF TURNING IN YOUR PRESENCE. YOU KEEP MY EYES STRAIGHT AHEAD, LOOKING FOR THE GLORIOUS DAY OF JESUS' RETURN. OH, HOW I LONG FOR THAT DAY! AS THE LEAVES TURN FROM GREEN TO YELLOW, ORANGE, AND RED, HELP ME SLOW DOWN LONG ENOUGH TO APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF YOUR CREATION. WHAT MIRACULOUS THINGS YOU'VE CREATED FOR US TO ENJOY! THANK YOU FOR THIS LOVELY SEASON, A SEASON OF WAITING IN EAGER ANTICIPATION. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

PRESS A FEW COLORFUL LEAVES AND USE THEM AS BOOKMARKS. BOOKMARK PASSAGES IN THE BIBLE TO PRAY ALOUD.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

WISDOM TO DISCERN THE TRUTH.

OCTOBER IS AN IMPORTANT TIME FOR YOU TO FOCUS ON PRAYING FOR THE WISDOM TO DISCERN THE TRUTH. IN THIS FALLEN WORLD, WHERE YOU OFTEN HEAR CONFLICTING MESSAGES, YOU NEED GOD'S HELP TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN WHAT'S TRUE AND WHAT'S FALSE, AS WELL AS WHAT MESSAGES ARE COMING FROM GOD AND WHAT IS NOT. PRAY FOR A STRONG COMMITMENT TO GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE, WHICH REVEALS GOD'S TRUTH. *PSALM 119:105* SAYS: "YOUR WORD IS A LAMP FOR MY FEET, A LIGHT ON MY PATH." ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO GUIDE AS YOU TRY TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO MAKE WISE DECISIONS DAY BY DAY.

SHORT PRAYER:

JESUS, YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. AND YOU CALL ME TO BE A LIGHT AS WELL. THIS IS THE MONTH WHEN OTHERS ARE CELEBRATING DEATH AND DARKNESS, BUT I CHOOSE TO CELEBRATE LIFE AND LIGHT. I REFUSE TO LET THE ENEMY CLAIM THIS MONTH, AND INSTEAD, I PROCLAIM, "THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE; I WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT!" (*PSALM 118:24*). STRENGTHEN ME TO BE A FAITHFUL WITNESS OF YOUR LOVE. HELP ME WALK BOLDLY, SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH ALL WHO WILL HEAR. IN YOUR MIGHTY NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

CARVE OUT AN HOUR TO PRAY FOR THE LIGHT OF JESUS TO SHINE IN THE DARKNESS.

November

11

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

HOLINESS.

LEADING INTO THE END OF THE YEAR, NOVEMBER IS A WONDERFUL TIME TO FOCUS YOUR PRAYERS ON HOLINESS. LIVING A HOLY LIFE DOESN'T INVOLVE TRYING TO BE PERFECT; IT INVOLVES DOING YOUR BEST TO REFLECT GOD'S CHARACTER. PRAY FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT TO SANCTIFY YOU BY REMOVING ANYTHING IN YOUR LIFE THAT LEADS YOU TO SIN AND DISTANCES YOU FROM GOD, AND BY HELPING YOU TO MAKE CHOICES THAT LEAD YOU CLOSER TO GOD EVERY DAY. THE BIBLE URGES YOU IN 1 PETER 1:15-16: *"BUT JUST AS HE WHO CALLED YOU IS HOLY, SO BE HOLY IN ALL YOU DO; FOR IT IS WRITTEN: 'BE HOLY, BECAUSE I AM HOLY.'"* ASK GOD TO HELP YOU CONFESS SIN QUICKLY AND TO LIVE A LIFE THAT HONORS HIM AS YOUR LOVING AND HOLY HEAVENLY FATHER.

SHORT PRAYER:

LORD GOD, YOU ARE MY FAITHFUL PROVIDER, MY JEHOVAH-JIREH. THANK YOU FOR EVERY BLESSING. MY HEART IS FULL OF GRATITUDE FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE. PLEASE COVER MY FAMILY IN YOUR LOVE AND GRACE. FOR THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW YOU, PLEASE CALL THEM BY NAME. DRAW THEM NEAR, SPEAKING WORDS OF LIFE TO THEM. HELP ME CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE, OPENING MY HOME WITH JOY. LET OUR THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION BE EXTRA SPECIAL THIS YEAR AS WE GATHER IN PRAISE AND HONOR OF YOU. IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

EACH NIGHT AT DINNER, TAKE TURNS AS A FAMILY EXPRESSING GRATITUDE FOR ONE THING.

WHAT TO PRAY FOR:

AN AWARENESS OF GOD WITH YOU AS IMMANUEL.

DECEMBER, WITH ITS FOCUS ON ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS, DIRECTS YOUR ATTENTION TO THE WONDER OF THE INCARNATION. THIS MONTH, PRAY FOR A DEEPER APPRECIATION OF THE FACT THAT JESUS CHOSE TO ENTER THIS FALLEN WORLD TO SAVE YOU AND ALL OF CREATION. FOCUS ON THE MESSAGE THE ANGELS PROCLAIMED ON THE FIRST CHRISTMAS, AS LUKE 2:14 RECORDS: "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN, AND ON EARTH PEACE TO THOSE ON WHOM HIS FAVOR RESTS."

SHORT PRAYER:

LORD JESUS, YOU ARE EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US. THIS IS ONE OF MY FAVORITE NAMES BECAUSE IT REMINDS ME OF YOUR LOVING PRESENCE. AS I REMEMBER YOUR BIRTH, I AM ONCE AGAIN IN AWE. HELP ME NEVER LOSE THE AWE AND WONDER OF WHO YOU ARE! KEEP MY HEART, MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT FIXED ON THE TRUE REASON FOR THIS SEASON. REMOVE ALL THE DISTRACTIONS THAT KEEP ME FROM WORSHIPING YOU. I CHOOSE TO CELEBRATE LAVISHLY THIS YEAR, NOT WITH MATERIAL THINGS, BUT WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF JOY AND EXALTATION. IN YOUR MOST HOLY NAME, AMEN.

HOW TO MAKE PRAYER A PRIORITY THIS MONTH:

KEEP A PRAYER LIST ON THE FRIDGE AND ADD TO IT ALL MONTH LONG. ON CHRISTMAS DAY, REVISIT THE LIST AND SEE HOW GOD ANSWERED YOUR PRAYERS!

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