

PRAYER SHIELD



The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].

James 5:16 (AMP)

Dear Pray-er

Welcome to the Prayer Shield! Prayer is a key value here at Grace Church and we believe much of the favour and progress we have seen over the years is as a result of our commitment to prayer in all that we do.

Right from the early days of the church we have invested in prayer, and as we continue to grow and move forward we don't want to take our foot off the pedal! The more we press forward in serving the Kingdom of God and seeing lives transformed, the greater the prayer covering over us needs to be.

Our desire is that every member of the church gets involved in praying the Prayer Shield over themselves, their families, their small groups and leadership, and as we each do this we believe it raises a spiritual hedge of protection around us that supports and gives momentum to all we set our hand to.

In this booklet you'll find further information on what the Prayer Shield involves, with clear guidelines for praying 10-15 minutes each day. We want to invite you to come onboard and join us as we pray for God to move powerfully in us and through us as a church!

With love and blessings

Jon Kempster

What is the Prayer Shield?

We believe that as we each pray, our prayers become like interlocking shields which surround us on every side, protecting us from any attack of the enemy and releasing God's blessing and favour over our lives. The more of us that pray, the greater the prayer covering over the life of the church and the more we can accomplish for the Kingdom of God.

"For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favour as with a shield."

Psalm 5:12

John Wesley said "God does nothing on earth save in answer to believing prayer." **There is incredible power in prayer!**

When we pray we are taking hold of all that Christ won for us on the cross, and releasing it here on earth seeing it established in our lives, our communities, our nation and into the nations.

PRAYER is not a lame last response to issues that appear too big. PRAYER is the "spiritual fuel" that somehow empowers the miracles!

"And whatever you ask for in prayer, having faith and [really] believing, you will receive."

Matthew 21:22 (AMP)

"if My people, who are called by My Name, humble themselves, and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."

Philippians 4:6

"Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayers and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints."

Ephesians 6:18

How to pray the Prayer Shield

Set aside 10-15 minutes each day to pray over the areas covered in this booklet, for:

- Yourself and your family
- Your Elders, Small Group Leader(s) and those in your Small Group
- The Leadership Team and their families
- The Church

Find a time and a place that works best for you. The Prayer Shield does not replace your normal personal devotions, but can be prayed as part of them if that time of day and space alone works well for you. Alternatively you may like to make this something you do every morning before you begin the day's activities or last thing at night before you head to bed. Whatever works best for you!

There is a different prayer emphasis for each day, which you can pray over each of the groups above. There is also a section for you to write personal prayer requests and answers to prayer at the end of this leaflet. As we lift this prayer covering over the life of the church and all we are believing to see God do in this city, region, nation and beyond, let's pray with boldness and confidence knowing that when we pray in line with His Word and His will, He hears us and answers!

And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.

1 John 5:14-15

MONDAYS

HEALTH AND PROTECTION

Pray divine health over each person; pray that every part of their body will function as it was designed to function and that they will live a long and healthy life.

Where there are health challenges, command all sickness to leave and pray for full health and strength to return to their body.

But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

"Then they cry to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivers them from out of their distresses. He sends forth His Word and heals them and rescues them from the pit and destruction."

Psalms 107:19-20 (AMP)

Pray that every person will maintain a healthy work/life balance, getting the proper rest they need and working from a place of strength and refreshment.

"Come to me all you who labour and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.]"

Matthew 11:28 (AMP)

Pray a hedge of protection around each person, that the Lord would surround them, shelter them from all attacks of the enemy, and keep them safe and at peace.

"Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place the Most High, who is my refuge no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways."

Psalms 91:9-11

TUESDAY

PROVISION

Pray that each person will make sure their finances are in right, Godly order, stewarding what's been entrusted to them well.

"Honour God with everything you own; give Him the first and the best. Your barns will burst; your wine vats will brim over."

Proverbs 3:9-10 (MSG)

Pray against all fear of lack and economic uncertainty. Where people are in debt or difficulty, pray they will put their trust firmly in God who is their provider.

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:19

“For the Lord God is a sun and shield; The Lord bestows favour and honour; No good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.”

Psalms 84:11

Pray protection over jobs and for businesses to thrive. Pray for any who are currently out of work to find jobs.

Pray against a spirit of greed and materialism; pray that each person will be generous with what they have in their hands, big or small.

Pray for abundance— more than enough to achieve all that God has for us to do individually and corporately.

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

1 Timothy 6:17

“Whoever brings blessing will be enriched, and one who waters will himself be watered.

Proverbs 11:25

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.

2 Corinthians 9:10-12

WEDNESDAYS

RELATIONSHIPS

Pray for blessing, unity and protection over peoples' relationships:

Pray that marriages will be blessed.

“Let marriage be held in honour (esteemed worthy, precious, of great price, and especially dear) in all things. And thus let the marriage bed be undefiled (kept un-dishonoured);”

Hebrews 13:4 (AMP)

Pray for strong relationships between parents and children.

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honour your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Ephesians 6:1-4

Pray for Godly friendships to flourish and that we would spur one another on to grow in our faith.

One who is righteous is a guide to his neighbor, but the way of the wicked leads them astray.

Proverbs 12:26

“A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.”

Proverbs 17:17

Pray against all strife, gossip, bitterness, unforgiveness, distraction, and against any plan of the enemy to bring division at Grace Church.

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:1-3

Pray that we would be a people of love, walking in peace, unity, grace, forgiveness, compassion, honour and care as a church family. Pray we would be an example to our city, region and nation of God's love as we demonstrate it to all those around us.

“Love one another with brotherly love. Outdo one another in showing honour.”

Romans 12:10

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:1-4

“By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

John 13:35

THURSDAYS

SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Pray that each person will commit to keeping short accounts with God, confessing their sins and choosing to live a life of obedience and intimacy with God.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 12:1-2

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

Pray that each person will continue to become more Christ-like, growing in their knowledge and relationship with God and committing to; reading the Word, a lifestyle of worship, prayer, seeing signs and wonders in our midst, demonstrating the love of God to others and actively sharing the message of Jesus with those around them.

“have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Jesus Christ”
Philippians 2:5

Pray that we would be a committed people, putting down roots, regularly attending and contributing to the life of the church.

*“They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts
of our God.”*
Psalms 92:13

*“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet
together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the
Day drawing near”.*
Hebrews 10:24-25

Pray for wisdom, favour, blessing and insight over our leaders, that they would hear God clearly and lead with authority and anointing.

*“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

*“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made
for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet
life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our
Saviour”.*
1 Timothy 2:1-3

FRIDAYS

DESTINY AND PURPOSE

Pray that God's Kingdom will come and His will be done in each person's life, in our city, region, nation and the nations.

Pray that each one will understand they were created with a purpose, part of God's plan for humanity, and that they have a unique calling and destiny to fulfill:

*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared
beforehand, that we should walk in them”.*
Ephesians 2:10

Pray that every person on your list would give their all for the Kingdom of God, each playing their part and using the gifts they have been given to serve the purposes of God.

“Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord”.
Romans 12:11

*“Rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, knowing that whatever
good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a slave or free”.*
Ephesians 6:7-8

Pray that as a church Grace Church will fulfill the mandate God has give us, seeing lives transformed from our neighbourhoods to the nations by the power of God's love.

Pray that the global Church would rise up as the army of God affecting change in all areas of life; government, business, schools, the community... that we would be salt and light to the world, demonstrating the goodness and the glory of God.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven".

Matthew 5:14-16

"The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence."

Ephesians 1:22-23 (MSG)

SATURDAYS

SALVATION

Pray that each person would demonstrate the love and goodness of God to all those around them, that they would have a 'do disturb' sign on each day looking for who they can be kind to, who they can reach out to. Offer yourself to God to be used by Him today and pray for opportunities even in the busyness of life to take moments to connect with others and be a blessing.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven".

Matthew 5:16

"But in your hearts honour Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect"

1 Peter 3:15.

Pray that we would see many men, women and children giving their lives to God every weekend at Grace Church, that we would be a missional people always seeking to help others connect with Christ. Pray we would each grasp that this life is temporary but that what we do here has an effect in eternity. Pray we would live in the light of this, each taking responsibility to reach as many people as we can with the good news of the Gospel.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

Matthew 28:19

Write the names of those you are praying for and believing to see come to salvation below:

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Pray for each by name, that God would:

Open their eyes to see their need of Him. Bring people into their path to share/demonstrate the goodness of God to them (look for opportunities to be one of those people!). Take away any obstacles or arguments they may have against God and His Church.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to be working in their hearts, convicting them of sin and bringing them to a place of openness and repentance.

Pray that if they are local they will come along to an event at Grace Church whether it's a Small Group social, a Celebration Service, an Alpha Course... (why not be the one to invite them!)

"Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ" Jesus,

1 Timothy 2:4-5

"And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment"

John 16:8

"I'm sending you off to open the eyes of the outsiders so they can see the difference between dark and light, and choose light, see the difference between Satan and God, and choose God. I'm sending you off to present my offer of sins forgiven, and a place in the family, inviting them into the company of those who begin real living by believing in me"

Acts 26:17-18 (MSG)

SUNDAYS

CORPORATE GATHERINGS

Worship

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him"

John 4:23

Pray against any tactics of the enemy that would seek to distract people from entering into worship.

Pray for anointing on the Worship Team and sensitivity to the Holy Spirit.

Pray that God would touch the lives of people as they focus on Him and put Him first – pray for healing, salvation, burdens to be lifted even as we worship.

Word

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints",

Ephesians 1:16-18

Pray for anointing on the speaker and that peoples' hearts will be receptive to the Word whenever it is preached; that they would have ears to hear what God is speaking personally to them.

Pray for a spirit of revelation and understanding for each person.

Pray against any distractions of the enemy or any resistance to what is being preached.

Pray that people would not only hear the Word, but would apply it to their own lives and be doers of the Word.

Pray that our children and young people will come to personal faith themselves, growing in their own walk with the Lord and loving and serving Him all their days.

Pray for the power and presence of God to be manifest powerfully whenever we come together, whether in large corporate gatherings such as Sunday Services, or in smaller gatherings such as midweek Small Groups.

Pray that we would never go through the motions of a service, but would open our hearts and lives to the Living God and come expectant whenever we meet.

Personal Prayer Requests

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CORPORATE TIMES OF PRAYER

WEEKLY

SUNDAYS (PRE-SERVICE PRAYER): Please join us at 10.00 – 10.15am to pray before the services. **Everyone** welcome!

MONTHLY

Prayer meeting @ Heronsbrook Meeting Place

We gather the whole church once a month for corporate dynamic prayer this is usually on the 4th Thursday of the month 8pm-10pm. Check notices for dates.

Early Morning Prayer

Join us at the church office 7am-8am to pray together, usually every 1st Monday of the month. See notices for dates