

Cornerstone Bible Church

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer

Call to Corporate Prayer

This evening we are gathering together to pray. Let's begin by just looking at a couple of passages on prayer and noting what stands out about prayer:

→ Colossians 4:2-4

→ Luke 18:1

Gospel Encouragement

Before we go further, let's stop and remember what we are doing in prayer. In prayer we are seeking to commune with God in love.

John Owen explains, "Let us see the Father as love. Do look not at him as a father who is always critical, but as one who is most kind and tender. By faith let us look at him as someone who has had thoughts of kindness towards us from everlasting. Only a misapprehension of God would make someone run from the one who knows him in the least. "Those who know you will put their trust in you" (Ps.9:10). Men cannot abide with God in spiritual meditations. They lose his company by lacking this insight into his love. They fix their thoughts only on his terrible majesty, severity, and greatness, and so their spirits are not endeared to him. If they would focus on his everlasting tenderness and compassion, his thoughts of kindness towards them from eternity, and his present gracious acceptance of them, then they could not bear an hour's absence from him. Now, perhaps, they cannot watch with him for even one hour (Mt.16:40). Let this be the saints' first notion of the Father. He is one who is full of eternal, free love towards them. Let their hearts and thoughts break through any discouragement that lies in the way of this idea."

Let's take a few minutes and encourage each other with the gospel:

- What is a way you have been encouraged by God's love for you recently?
- Why is it amazing that God loves you?
- What is amazing about the kind of love that God loves you with?

Now, we'll have a few individuals represent us in prayer and express our gratitude to God for His love for us.

Setting God Apart

God is great. We want to take some time to worship Him in prayer.

- What attribute of God has been encouraging you to worship recently? Why?

We'll take 10 minutes in small groups to pray and praise God together. Think about one of the attributes of God you are most thankful for and give thanks to God and speak words to Him that make Him look great.

Praying Biblical Truth

We have many different things we want to pray about. But what are some things the authors of Scripture might encourage us to be praying about? Each prayer meeting we will look at a passage of Scripture and think about how they could help us pray.

→ Ephesians 1:15-19

Ask God to open our hearts and minds to understand more clearly what we have waiting for us when Jesus returns, how certain and big all the good God's planning for them really is, and the spiritual power that is at work in our lives presently.

- Pray that the Spirit of God would reveal more of God to us.
- Pray that God would help us know truth deep down in our hearts, not just the facts, but how those facts impact their lives, that we would love the truth
- Pray that God would give us more assurance about how good we have it in Christ and how good we are going to have it in Christ, and how much He is at work in our lives, that He would help us appreciate what He is doing in our lives, and that we would know we have enough to obey God and do what He's called us to do.

Let's spend 5 minutes praying this kind of prayer for the person next to you.

Praying for Gospel Advance

God save sinners. We want to take some time now to pray the Holy Spirit would give us boldness and strength to proclaim the gospel to those who desperately need to hear it.

- Your own evangelism efforts
 - How would you like us to pray for you in regards to sharing the gospel?
- May 30th, Neighborhood Initiative
- Our Missions Partners
 - Marcus Denny, Czech Republic:
"As far as what we need here in Kladno we need more elder-type missionaries- preachers/leaders/trainers, men who accurately handle the word and are hands on with other men's lives in discipleship and training (2 Tim 2:2) as well as counseling and evangelism. The church here, as I have said many times, is 3rd world spiritually. This is not Russia. There is nothing to build on, very very few men seeking out ministry or training. We are at ground zero in leading people to Christ, teaching them the ABC's of the Christian faith and life and seeking to help mature them in Christ (Col 1:28)."
Marcus also added "If we had more deacon ministers like Jeena we could possibly do more in the area of English outreach or help with our growing

youth ministry (we have an increasing amount of Jr. High/Highschool age kids.”

- Joshua Lee, Malaysia:

“We are looking primarily for people who can minister alongside us to CBF saints (bearing the burden of church planting and ministering to the saints), as well as start or support us in outreach efforts to the lost. Further, ideally the person is someone who already knows us and can be a source of friendship and support to us and our children.”

Let's take the next 10 minutes and corporately pray that God would bountifully meet these needs from our missionaries and move the life-saving work of the Gospel forward in Czech and Malaysia; "as it is written, "Those who have never been told of him will see, and those who have never heard will understand." Romans 15:21

Expressing Our Needs

We'll close now by taking 10-15 minutes in our small groups to pray for one another specifically. To help each other pray, go around and answer the following questions.

- What is something you are concerned about right now?
- What have you been giving thanks to God for this past week?
- What pressures are you facing? How are you feeling about those pressures? How would you like God to help you?

If you are not able to join us at the prayer meeting and you have something you would like for us to be praying for, you can type it in here and we would love to be able to pray with you: