



PRAYER GUIDE

A Time of Guided Prayer – Winter/Spring 2022

March 2, 2021

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- **For preparation** – Josh Bales
 - [Lord, who throughout these forty days](#) – Claudia Frances Hernaman (1873)
- **Opening prayer**
 - *O Lord our heavenly Father, Almighty and ever-living God, who has safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Thy mighty power. Grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by Thy governance, to do always that which is righteous in Thy sight through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Thomas Cranmer

▪ **As our foundation**

- [Psalms 145:4](#)

⁴One generation commends your works to another, they tell of your mighty acts. (NIV)

⁴One generation will praise Your works to another and will declare Your mighty acts. (NASB)

- [Psalms 71: 17 – 18](#) (NIV)

¹⁷Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

¹⁸Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come.

▪ **To keep in mind**

- *Prayer is rooted and rests in the promises and character of God. As we come to him in prayer, we're banking on His promises – and who He is – as we sow into future generations, and what God wants to do in the lives of our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren – even when we're long gone.*

Tony Souder

▪ **Key points to remember**

- *Those young people that tend to stay connected to the church and flourish in their faith have multiple adult believers investing in their lives.*
- *We want the adult population in the church – that they would be so be captured by the greatness of God – that they would naturally and winsomely praise His works to each emerging generation.*
- *The Psalmist wants to make sure that he uses the time he has left in a way that he values the most – and that God has made the difference. He wants to have one more opportunity – in his final period of time – to be able to let another generation know how great God is.*
- *Prayer is God's gift for us to have communion with Him – and that prayer is the way of transforming the world according to his purposes.*
- *Students and young people (in churches) invite three adults – from three different generations – to be their "prayer champions." It changes the lives of the young people – but also changes the lives of the adults praying.*
- *The Pray for Me Campaign is a great way to "bridge the gap" between generations.*
- *Prayer is changing the ethos of churches – where a young person may invite that adult to be part of their life – and it fosters a natural relationship between generations.*
- *Create this natural bridge – through God's gift of prayer – that is used to transform the life of a young person as the adults pray for them.*
- *If leaving the Church, young people see it as their leaving an institution. Rather, we need to transform their understanding of the Church to what it really is – the family of God. It's easy to leave an institution. It's difficult to leave a family.*
- *The tragedy? That a young person can come through our church and not have this whole network of adults that love and support them – beginning with prayer.*
- *Prayer is the most basic aspect of the Christian life – and God has given it to us, for among many reasons, to reach out to a person in a tangible way.*
- *Prayer changes things – and changes me – in a way that God has designed it to, as a gift to His church.*

- **Here's how you can pray this week**
 - That the Lord would refresh and revive our prayer life – and appreciate it for the gift it truly is.
 - If an adult, pray for the young people in your church – and ask the Lord how he may be leading you to engage with these next generations in prayer.
 - If a young person, pray for God's leading as to those adults you might engage with in your church as your "Prayer Champions."

- **Closing worship**
 - [O Come and mourn with me awhile](#) – Fredrick William Faber (1849)

- **Additional resources**
 - Here are several related resources you may find valuable:

WEBSITES:

- [Pray for Me Campaign](#)
- [Colson Center's Pray for Me: A Time of Guided Prayer](#)
- [Colson Center's Pray for Me initiative](#)
- [The Colson Center for Christian Worldview](#)
- [BreakPoint](#)
- [Wilberforce Weekend '22](#)
- [Josh Bales](#)

True prayer is neither a mere mental exercise nor a vocal performance. It is far deeper than that. It is spiritual transaction with the Creator of Heaven and Earth. - Charles Spurgeon