

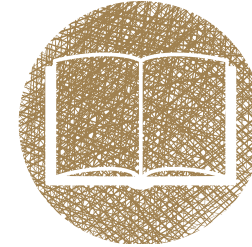
WHY ARE WE REQUIRED TO PRAY?

Excerpt from *Sword & Trowel 2013: Issue 1*

1. Because prayer establishes God's sovereignty, might and majesty. The fact that we have to ask for blessing seals in our minds that God is our ruler and provider. Prayer reminds us that we need His guidance, permission and provision. If we did not have to pray, this vital awareness would surely drop out of our minds—so prayer keeps us under God's authority.
2. Because prayer brings us into fellowship with God. Would we relate closely with the Lord if we did not need to ask for our blessings?
3. Because prayer makes us deeply aware of His goodness and power. We repent and taste His forgiving love. We cry out for strength, and He restores and helps us. We ask for situations so hard that we are in despair, and He remarkably intervenes, leaving us in wonder at His kindness. If such blessings were given without our laboring in prayer, we would not appreciate them.
4. Because prayer shows us the full extent of our privileged status with the Lord. Almighty God is willing to be prevailed upon by His people! We may have no power of audience with the great people of this world, and even if we had, there is little likelihood of real influence. Yet we may go to the King of kings and Lord of lords, and be heard, because we are His own.
5. Because prayer teaches us our limitations. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve wanted independence, believing that God was withholding from them insight which would enable them to succeed without Him. Through prayer, God trains us to go in the opposite direction, and see we are incomplete and inadequate without Him.
6. Because prayer delivers from pride. If churches filled up without prayer, preachers would think highly of themselves, and take the credit. If we could live holy lives, or accomplish anything of substance without prayer, conceit would drown us. Prayer keeps us humble.
7. Because prayer delivers from self-interest, as we realize we cannot have whatever we like. Earthly aims and selfish things are shamed away before the throne of grace. We know instinctively that we must pray for others, and for the kingdom, and so we are delivered from the idol 'self.' The need to ask the Lord about every major thing we do or buy serves as a restraint upon our appetites. Prayer serves as a caution, and helps us to be better people.
8. Because prayer builds up faith and assurance more and more as one's memory bank of outstanding answers grows. At times the Lord delays His response until we pray repeatedly and more earnestly, all this being a trust-strengthening process. We come to believe with tenacity that He will bless, in due time. Many times when feelings fail, the evidence of God's fatherly goodness is derived from answered prayer.
9. Because prayer powerfully makes the believer aware that he is never alone. We can pray whatever our circumstances, wherever we are, and whatever the time. This is one of the great comforts arising from prayer, that nothing ever can separate us from the love of God.
10. Because prayer is a great leveller, teaching God's people that none of His servants are greater in His sight than any other. Paul pleads for prayer as though His usefulness depended upon it—and it did. Ordinary believers had a share in his ministry by prayer, remembering that as a needy mortal, he was like them. Paul also was saved from wrong views of himself.

GLEN IRIS

BAPTIST CHURCH



BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER MEETING

"Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people."

ISAIAH 56:7

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

1137 Tenth Place South
Birmingham, Alabama 35205
205-323-1516 • www.gleniris.net

THE BIBLICAL PATTERN FOR PRAYER



"Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

Matthew 26:41

CHURCH MINISTRIES

Missionaries Worldwide	Music Ministry
Glen Iris Baptist School	Bus Ministry
WGIB Radio (91.9 FM)	Youth Ministry
WQEM Radio (101.5 FM)	Special Needs Ministry
WAY Television (Channel 47)	Benevolence Ministry
Website (www.gleniris.net)	AWANA Youth Program
Gospel Outreach and Visitation	Blazers for Christ Ministry
Jail Ministry	Highland Manor Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND WORKERS

Nursery	Kathi Lamb/Leah Dickey
Kindergarten Class	Josh & Ashley Wilson
First, Second Grades	Mabel Otamias/Charlotte Thornton
Third-Fifth Grades	Valerie Rueckert/Jackie Young
Sixth-Twelfth Grades	Anthony & Anna Johnson
College and Career Class	Brian & Robin Babin
Adult Bible Class	Randy Raiford
Sunday School of the Air Class	LeGrand Lamb
Ladies' Bible Class	Gayle Waits
Special Adults' Class	Joy Garrison
Primary Church	Paul & Donna Hancock/Loraine Marcus
Special Adults' Service	LeGrand Lamb/David Hollis
Sunday School Superintendent	Josh Wilson

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

Michael and Barbara Hinson, Jude, Zachary and Paul
Missionaries to Georgia, Europe

- Pray we would continue to learn and speak the language.
- Pray for the salvation of Kakhe and our landlady.

CHURCH FAMILY PRAYER NEEDS

Health Needs

Braxton Adams	Cathy Davis	Pearl Marcus
Janet Brock	Jerry Dickey	Stan Waits
Robert Crocker	Jackie Lightfoot	Sheryl Woodward

Home/Nursing Home-Bound

Mary Sue Allen	Montez Haley	Geraldine Sizemore
Robert Duke	Marlene Jackson	Bette Talley
	Lou Rutherford	

Special Requests

Pam Mascoe (sister-in-law of Barbara Leon) – diagnosed with lung cancer
Pastor Larry Wilhite (father of GIBS alumni) – diagnosed with ALS

COLLEGE AND CAREER

Jay Babin	Shayna Lightfoot
Jeremiah Babin	Arphaxad Otamias
Julia Layne	Markell Strong
Geon Lee	Charisma Yeluri
Hyun Lee	Emily Young

SCHOOL FACULTY

Dr. Jim Boyce	Charity Lamb	Natalie LeCroy
Jonathan Dickey	Chris Lamb	Jasmine Lee
Leah Dickey	Kathi Lamb	Molly McLain
April Everett	LeGrand Lamb	Jani Pickett
Joy Garrison	Elise LeCroy	Melanie Saruse
Mary Beth Garrison	Ethan LeCroy	Dale Scruggs