

Day Eight – Victory in Jesus

Suggested Format for United Prayer

“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one...” (Matthew 6:13).

Praise

- Praise God that He is more powerful than the enemy! See Revelation 5:12.
- Praise God that He has pledged Himself to *“deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom!”* (2 Timothy 4:18).
- Praise God for strengthening us to meet every trial and temptation. See 1 Corinthians 10:13.
- Praise God for the specific ways He is working in answer to prayer this week.

Confession

- Ask God to show you any habit, thought pattern, or thing in your life that is giving the devil access to you. Silently confess these sins, ask God how to overcome them, and claim the victory in Jesus.
- Ask God’s forgiveness for being lukewarm and Laodicean, both personally and as church, and plead for Him to give us a fiery passion for Him and to fill us with His righteousness.

Supplication and Intercession

- Plead for a continual infilling of the Holy Spirit so that we can live holy lives. *“Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh”* (Galatians 5:16).
- Pray for yourself, and all Seventh-day Adventists, to experience victory over sin through accepting and appropriating the life and death of Jesus as your own. See Romans 6:1-14.
- Prayerfully put on the armor of God as set forth in Ephesians 6:10-18. Pray for our children, pastors, loved ones, friends, etc., to be clothed with God’s armor too so we may all stand against the devil.
- Pray for a deep hatred for evil and an intense love for the truth. See Genesis 3:15.
- Pray for God to break the hold that the media (TV, Internet, music, etc.) has on our lives.
- Plead for freedom from addictive/dysfunctional thoughts, behaviors, and habits. 2 Cor. 10:3-5.
- MTTC: For the hold of secularism, false religions, and other philosophies to be broken in city-dwellers’ hearts and minds and for people to recognize the fallacy of postmodern thought and to desire to know the truth. Also for them to have a deep spiritual hunger.
- Ask for God to help us repent of our Laodiceanism so we can be ready for the latter rain.
- Join another person or two to intercede for the five on your heart and the five people on one of the intercession cards from the box. Pray promises for these individuals and pray for them to have victory through Jesus over all sin in their lives. 1 Corinthians 10:13.
- Pray for other requests that may be on your heart.

Thanksgiving

- *“The Lord is faithful, who will establish you and guard you from the evil one”* (2 Thessalonians 3:3).
- Thank God in faith for what He is doing in the lives of those you are interceding for, even if you cannot see any changes yet. And thank Him for anything else that is on your heart.

Suggested Songs to Sing

“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior” (SDAH #569); “Power in the Blood” (SDAH #294); “Blessed Assurance” (SDAH #462); “Nearer, Still Nearer” (SDAH #301); “Nothing Between” (SDAH #322); “Change My Heart, O God.”

Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

"Bring us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."—Matthew 6:13, R.V.

Temptation is enticement to sin, and this does not proceed from God, but from Satan and from the evil of our own hearts. "God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempteth no man." James 1:13, R.V.

Satan seeks to bring us into temptation, that the evil of our characters may be revealed before men and angels, that he may claim us as his own... See Zechariah 3:1-4.

God in His great love is seeking to develop in us the precious graces of His Spirit. He permits us to encounter obstacles, persecution, and hardships, not as a curse, but as the greatest blessing of our lives. Every temptation resisted, every trial bravely borne, gives us a new experience and advances us in the work of character building. The soul that through divine power resists temptation reveals to the world and to the heavenly universe the efficiency of the grace of Christ.

But while we are not to be dismayed by trial, bitter though it be, we should pray that God will not permit us to be brought where we shall be drawn away by the desires of our own evil hearts. In offering the prayer that Christ has given, we surrender ourselves to the guidance of God, asking Him to lead us in safe paths. We cannot offer this prayer in sincerity, and yet decide to walk in any way of our own choosing. We shall wait for His hand to lead us; we shall listen to His voice, saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Isaiah 30:21.

It is not safe for us to linger to contemplate the advantages to be reaped through yielding to Satan's suggestions. Sin means dishonor and disaster to every soul that indulges in it; but it is blinding and deceiving in its nature, and it will entice us with flattering presentations. If we venture on Satan's ground we have no assurance of protection from his power. So far as in us lies, we should close every avenue by which the tempter may find access to us.

The prayer, "Bring us not into temptation," is itself a promise. If we commit ourselves to God we have the assurance, He "will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." 1 Corinthians 10:13.

The only safeguard against evil is the indwelling of Christ in the heart through faith in His righteousness. It is because selfishness exists in our hearts that temptation has power over us. But when we behold the great love of God, selfishness appears to us in its hideous and repulsive character, and we desire to have it expelled from the soul. As the Holy Spirit glorifies Christ, our hearts are softened and subdued, the temptation loses its power, and the grace of Christ transforms the character.

Christ will never abandon the soul for whom He has died. The soul may leave Him and be overwhelmed with temptation, but Christ can never turn from one for whom He has paid the ransom of His own life. Could our spiritual vision be quickened, we should see souls bowed under oppression and burdened with grief, pressed as a cart beneath sheaves and ready to die in discouragement. We should see angels flying swiftly to aid these tempted ones, who are standing as on the brink of a precipice. The angels from heaven force back the hosts of evil that encompass these souls, and guide them to plant their feet on the sure foundation. The battles waging between the two armies are as real as those fought by the armies of this world, and on the issue of the spiritual conflict eternal destinies depend.

To us, as to Peter, the word is spoken, "Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not." Luke 22:31, 32. Thank God, we are not left alone. He who "so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16), will not desert us in the battle with the adversary of God and man. "Behold," He says, "I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Luke 10:19.

Live in contact with the living Christ, and He will hold you firmly by a hand that will never let go. Know and believe the love that God has to us, and you are secure; that love is a fortress impregnable to all the delusions and assaults of Satan. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." Proverbs 18:10.