

## Teach Us to Pray

### Ten Life-Changing Days in the Lord's Prayer

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Welcome to Ten Days of Prayer 2014! God has worked thousands of miracles through the Ten Days of Prayer program since it began as Operation Global Rain in 2006. The Holy Spirit has wrought revival, conversions, renewed passion for evangelism, and healed relationships. Truly, prayer is the birthplace of revival!

We believe your life and the lives of those you pray for will be changed as you join your fellow church members in praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Here are what some of those who participated in Ten Days of Prayer 2013 had to say:

*As we gathered every day in this ten days we experienced the visitation of the Holy Spirit like the apostolic days. There was genuine repentance and brokenness as members gave up their grievances and forgave one another. It was really a time of refreshing for us here in Strong Tower Outreach. ~ Ikenna Joseph, Nigeria*

*The last few days the prayers have really affected me, and I'm beginning to "get" what God can REALLY do—and it's a lot more than [finding] a parking space at Costco! I am overwhelmed by His grace. ~ From a newly baptized member, as shared with Loralyn Horning, USA*

*This is the first time we have the full program "10 days of prayer." We can see miracles: A little girl who prays for her parents told us that her father no longer wants a divorce. Another member who said he didn't often testify had the opportunity to offer the book The Great Controversy to a customer. A woman who prays every day for her colleagues had a colleague, a Muslim, ask her questions about Jesus. I feel so much closer with God. Taking the role of prayer leader is a big challenge, but I thank God for sustaining me every day. ~ Mylène Peronet, France*

*Thank You so much! We are already seeing the results and power of united prayer in our church members and youth. God is so good! ~ William Wolfram, New Zealand*

#### **Our Prayer Theme: The Lord's Prayer**

During Ten Days of Prayer 2014, we will be praying through the Lord's Prayer, found in Matthew 6:9-13 and Luke 11:1-4. Our Savior's life was steeped in prayer. In communion with His Father He found His strength, His comfort, His power, and His joy. In these early morning hours of prayer, God gave Him guidance for the day.

The disciples were impressed by Jesus' habit of prayer and asked Him to teach them to pray. In answer, He repeated the prayer He had given in the Sermon on the Mount. There was much more to the simple prayer than they had yet understood, for it turned their attention away from themselves to God, as well as covering all their needs.

We too need to learn to pray as Jesus prayed. During these next ten days you will discover a depth of meaning in the Lord's Prayer that you never dreamed possible, find your heart drawn out to God in love and passion for His work, and see amazing answers to prayer.

## Daily Prayer Requests

The daily supplication and intercession section includes a number of prayer requests listed that reflect the personal and corporate needs of the world-wide Seventh-day Adventist Church. This section also highlights the initiatives and mission emphases of our world church in 2014.

## Mission to the Cities (MTTC)

A special prayer focus for us this year is the MTTC initiative. MTTC is an emphasis of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on sharing Jesus' love and the hope of His soon return with people in urban settings. It envisions initiatives in more than 630 of the world's largest cities. These began in New York City last year and will continue throughout 2014, 2015, and beyond. Outreach activities are comprehensive (to address mental, physical, and spiritual needs) and ongoing, creating a lasting Seventh-day Adventist presence in the cities. Outreach methods include LifeHope Centers of Influence, community events, health seminars, small groups, prayer and other revival ministries, women's ministries, youth ministries, and reaping campaigns and outreaches.

Each day during these ten days of prayer, we will highlight one prayer need for the MTTC initiative. For a list of cities and more information, go to [www.MissiontotheCities.org](http://www.MissiontotheCities.org) and [www.RevivalandReformation.org/777](http://www.RevivalandReformation.org/777)

## United Prayer

We've all prayed with others before, but you may not have experienced the blessing and power of united prayer. During these ten days you will be blessed beyond measure as you join your brothers and sisters in an open conversation with God. Here are a few tips to make united prayer more enjoyable for everyone:

- Keep your prayers short—just a sentence or two on one topic. Then give others a turn. You can pray as many times as you'd like, just as in a conversation.
- Silence is good, as it gives everyone time to listen to the Holy Spirit. And singing songs together as the Spirit leads is a blessing.
- Rather than using up valuable prayer time talking about your prayer requests, simply pray them. Then others can also pray for your requests and claim promises for your need.

## Praying and Claiming Scripture

Reading or praying a short portion of Scripture is a wonderful way to ensure that you are praying God's will. Praying God's promises back to Him is an incredible faith builder. God loves for us to pray His Word back to Him in expressions of praise or promises. *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord"* (Colossians 3:16). You'll be amazed at how you can pray and enjoy it!

Here's an example of how to pray scripture back to God: 1 Thessalonians 3:13 says, *"May He strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all His holy ones."* Then pray something like this: "Dear Lord, please strengthen my son's heart-level determination to do what is right. Give him your grace to make decisions that lead to holiness. Jesus, may he look forward to your return,... etc."

## Pray for Five

During these ten days of prayer you are encouraged to especially intercede for five people in your circle of influence. These may be family members, friends, coworkers, neighbors, or someone else you are concerned about. During this first night, write their names and prayer need(s) on two notecards. One card is for you to keep to remind you to intercede for these individuals. Your prayer leader will collect the other card at the end of the night. Each following day, you will draw someone's card out of the box and pray for the people they have listed.

## Day One – The Secret of His Power

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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***“Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples” (Luke 11:1).***

#### **Praise** (Approximately 10 minutes)

- Begin your prayer time by praising God for teaching us to pray more effectively.
- *“Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us...” (Romans 8:26).*
- Take time to praise God for who He is (His character) and for what He does.

#### **Confession** (Approximately 5 minutes)

- Confess our lack of prayer and intercession—both personally and as a people—and ask God to forgive us for failing to commune with Him in prayer and intercession. *“Far be it from me that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you” (1 Samuel 12:23).*
- Ask God to show you any other sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

#### **Supplication and Intercession** (Approximately 35 minutes)

- Pray for God to give us the Holy Spirit to teach us how to pray like Jesus and truly intercede for others. *“I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication” (Zechariah 12:10).*
- Pray for a passion for prayer, a conviction of how much we need to pray, and a realization of the power available to us through prayer.
- Pray for prayer groups to spring up everywhere. Ask God how to have more prayer in your church.
- Pray that we will learn to pray for God’s guidance before making plans.
- MTTC: Church leaders working with initiatives in the 630 cities to be wise, Spirit-filled, servant leaders who seek and follow God’s plans and demonstrate successful soul-winning.
- Pray for Adventists, and all Christians, to experience true revival and reformation in their walk with God. Pray that they will be filled with the Holy Spirit, personally know Jesus through the Bible and prayer, and live holy lives. Pray this for yourself, your local church’s members and pastor, and the following groups of people: church leaders at all levels, parents, children/youth, singles, teachers, pastors, health workers, and missionaries.
- Ask God which five people to pray for during these ten and let the Holy Spirit bring people to mind. Write their names (if appropriate) and prayer needs on two index cards. Carry one with you, and put the other in the group box, to be prayed over each night.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

#### **Thanksgiving** (Approximately 10 minutes)

- Rejoice that God hears and answers our prayers. See Jeremiah 33:2, 3.
- Thank Him for answering our prayers before we can even see the results.

#### **Songs to Sing** (sing these songs, or others, as God impresses you to during the prayer time.)

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Spirit of the Living God” (SDA Hymnal #672); “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord (SDA Hymnal #684); “I Need the Prayers” (SDA Hymnal #505), “For You I am Praying” (SDA Hymnal #284).*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"After this manner therefore, pray ye..." (Matthew 6:9).***

The Lord's Prayer was twice given by our Savior, first to the multitude in the Sermon on the Mount, and again, some months later, to the disciples alone. The disciples had been for a short time absent from their Lord, when on their return they found Him absorbed in communion with God. Seeming unconscious of their presence, He continued praying aloud. The Savior's face was irradiated with a celestial brightness. He seemed to be in the very presence of the Unseen, and there was a living power in His words as of one who spoke with God.

The hearts of the listening disciples were deeply moved. They had marked how often He spent long hours in solitude in communion with His Father. His days were passed in ministry to the crowds that pressed upon Him, and in unveiling the treacherous sophistry of the rabbis, and this incessant labor often left Him so utterly wearied that His mother and brothers, and even His disciples, had feared that His life would be sacrificed. But as He returned from the hours of prayer that closed the toilsome day, they marked the look of peace upon His face, the sense of refreshment that seemed to pervade His presence. It was from hours spent with God that He came forth, morning by morning, to bring the light of heaven to men. The disciples had come to connect His hours of prayer with the power of His words and works. Now, as they listened to His supplication, their hearts were awed and humbled. As He ceased praying, it was with a conviction of their own deep need that they exclaimed, "Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1).

Jesus gives them no new form of prayer. That which He has before taught them He repeats, as if He would say, You need to understand what I have already given. It has a depth of meaning you have not yet fathomed.

The Savior does not, however, restrict us to the use of these exact words. As one with humanity, He presents His own ideal of prayer, words so simple that they may be adopted by the little child, yet so comprehensive that their significance can never be fully grasped by the greatest minds. We are taught to come to God with our tribute of thanksgiving, to make known our wants, to confess our sins, and to claim His mercy in accordance with His promise.

~ *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 102, 103.

## Day Two – Children of the King

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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***“Our Father in heaven...” (Matthew 6:9).***

#### **Praise**

- Praise God for being your loving Heavenly Father. *“Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!” (1 John 3:1).*
- How has God shown you His love recently? Praise Him for this revelation of His love.
- Praise God for what He has done in your life today, this past week, etc.

#### **Confession**

- Confess your lack of love for God and His children. Ask Him to forgive you for doubting His love for you and for not really caring about other people’s salvation.
- Ask God to show you any sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

#### **Supplication and Intercession**

- Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit. *“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!” (Luke 11:13).*
- Ask God to discipline you as a loving Father so you can grow to be like Him.
- *“This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).* Ask God to give you His love for: your family, church members, enemies, neighbors, friends, and all the pre-Christians in your circle of influence. Especially ask God to help you care about people’s salvation and pray that you will know how to love them to God.
- Pray that your life and your church will demonstrate God’s love to all those around you.
- Pray for loving relationships within Adventist families and churches. Especially pray for children, youth, and new church members to experience God’s love.
- Pray that we will make God and His work our highest priority.
- MTTC: For Seventh-day Adventists in the cities to a) experience revival and reformation so they can reveal God’s love and righteousness in their lives; b) be actively involved in ministry to their neighbors; c) be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- Take an intercession card from the box and intercede for those five individuals and the five people you have chosen to pray for especially during these ten days of prayer with several other people. Pray *Ephesians 3:14-19* for them.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

#### **Thanksgiving**

- Thank God that *“you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3:26).*
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

#### **Suggested Songs to Sing**

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Father, I Adore You”; “I’m So Glad I’m a Part of the Family of God”; “Family, We Are Family”; “A Child of the King” (SDAH #468); “Blessed Assurance” (SDAH #462); “Jesus Loves Me.”*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"When ye pray, say, Our Father" (Luke 11:2).***

Jesus teaches us to call *His* Father our Father. He is not ashamed to call us brethren. Hebrews 2:11. So ready, so eager, is the Savior's heart to welcome us as members of the family of God, that in the very first words we are to use in approaching God He places the assurance of our divine relationship, "Our Father."

Here is the announcement of that wonderful truth, so full of encouragement and comfort, that God loves us as He loves His Son. This is what Jesus said in His last prayer for His disciples, Thou "hast loved them, as Thou hast loved Me." John 17:23.

The world that Satan has claimed and has ruled over with cruel tyranny, the Son of God has, by one vast achievement, encircled in His love and connected again with the throne of Jehovah. Cherubim and seraphim, and the unnumbered hosts of all the unfallen worlds, sang anthems of praise to God and the Lamb when this triumph was assured. They rejoiced that the way of salvation had been opened to the fallen race and that the earth would be redeemed from the curse of sin. How much more should those rejoice who are the objects of such amazing love!

How can we ever be in doubt and uncertainty, and feel that we are orphans? It was in behalf of those who had transgressed the law that Jesus took upon Him human nature; He became like unto us, that we might have everlasting peace and assurance. We have an Advocate in the heavens, and whoever accepts Him as a personal Savior is not left an orphan to bear the burden of his own sins.

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God." "And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together." "It doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2; Romans 8:17.

The very first step in approaching God is to know and believe the love that He has to us (1 John 4:16); for it is through the drawing of His love that we are led to come to Him.

The perception of God's love works the renunciation of selfishness. In calling God our Father, we recognize all His children as our brethren. We are all a part of the great web of humanity, all members of one family. In our petitions we are to include our neighbors as well as ourselves. No one prays aright who seeks a blessing for himself alone.

The infinite God, said Jesus, makes it your privilege to approach Him by the name of Father. Understand all that this implies. No earthly parent ever pleaded so earnestly with an erring child as He who made you pleads with the transgressor. No human, loving interest ever followed the impenitent with such tender invitations. God dwells in every abode; He hears every word that is spoken, listens to every prayer that is offered, tastes the sorrows and disappointments of every soul, regards the treatment that is given to father, mother, sister, friend, and neighbor. He cares for our necessities, and His love and mercy and grace are continually flowing to satisfy our need.

But if you call God your Father you acknowledge yourselves His children, to be guided by His wisdom and to be obedient in all things, knowing that His love is changeless. You will accept His plan for your life. As children of God, you will hold His honor, His character, His family, His work, as the objects of your highest interest. It will be your joy to recognize and honor your relation to your Father and to every member of His family. You will rejoice to do any act, however humble, that will tend to His glory or to the well-being of your kindred.

"Which art in heaven." He to whom Christ bids us look as "our Father" "is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased." In His care we may safely rest, saying, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee." Psalm 115:3; 56:3.

~ *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 103-106

## Day Three – Name Above All Names

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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***“Hallowed be Thy Name...” (Matthew 6:9).***

#### **Praise**

- Praise God for His holy name and all that it reveals about His character. *“For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace”* (Isaiah 9:6).
- Praise Jesus for giving us His righteousness so we can be holy, as He is holy.
- Use the Psalms to guide you in praising God for who He is and what He has done.

#### **Confession**

- Ask forgiveness for profaning God’s name through your words, thoughts, or actions. Confess your lack of holiness and accept His forgiveness. *“Your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth”* (Isaiah 54:5).
- Ask God to show you any sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

#### **Supplication and Intercession**

- Claim the promise that *“He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire”* (Matthew 3:11).
- Pray for yourself, your local church members, and all Seventh-day Adventists, to: a) Hate sin in all its forms; b) learn to continually abide in Christ—*“He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked”* (1 John 2:6); and c) experience sanctification so we can live holy lives—*“As He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy’”* (1 Peter 1:15, 16).
- Pray that in every area of life we can “make manifest” the name of God and do no dishonor to Him.
- Pray that we truly know how to come before God with awe and respect.
- MTTC: For all those doing supportive work—Bible studies, health evangelism, community service and disaster relief, children and youth ministries, prayer ministries, etc., to be equipped with the gifts needed for their work—and for their work to bear much fruit.
- Pray that God will help us to possess His character.
- Pray that we can fully accept the grace and righteousness of Christ.
- Take a card from the intercession box and read over the requests on it, as well as the ones on your personal card. Then ask God to show you what Scriptures to pray for these individuals. This may be one Scripture or several. Write the reference(s) on the card and pray the Scriptures for the people.
- Pray for the other requests that are on your heart.

#### **Thanksgiving**

- Thank God for enabling us to live holy lives that rightly represent Him to the world.
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

#### **Suggested Songs to Sing**

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Holiness”; “Sanctuary”; “Holy, Holy, Holy” (SDA Hymnal #73); “I Need Thee Every Hour” (SDA Hymnal #483); “I Need the Prayers” (SDA Hymnal #505).*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Hallowed be Thy Name..." (Matthew 6:9).***

To hallow the name of the Lord requires that the words in which we speak of the Supreme Being be uttered with reverence. "Holy and reverend is His name." Psalm 111:9. We are never in any manner to treat lightly the titles or appellations of the Deity. In prayer we enter the audience chamber of the Most High; and we should come before Him with holy awe. The angels veil their faces in His presence. The cherubim and the bright and holy seraphim approach His throne with solemn reverence. How much more should we, finite, sinful beings, come in a reverent manner before the Lord, our Maker!

But to hallow the name of the Lord means much more than this. We may, like the Jews in Christ's day, manifest the greatest outward reverence for God, and yet profane His name continually. "The name of the Lord" is "merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ... forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:5-7. Of the church of Christ it is written, "This is the name wherewith she shall be called, The Lord our Righteousness." Jeremiah 33:16. This name is put upon every follower of Christ. It is the heritage of the child of God. The family are called after the Father. The prophet Jeremiah, in the time of Israel's sore distress and tribulation, prayed, "We are called by Thy name; leave us not." Jeremiah 14:9.

This name is hallowed by the angels of heaven, by the inhabitants of unfallen worlds. When you pray, "Hallowed be Thy name," you ask that it may be hallowed in this world, hallowed in you. God has acknowledged you before men and angels as His child; pray that you may do no dishonor to the "worthy name by which ye are called." James 2:7. God sends you into the world as His representative. In every act of life you are to make manifest the name of God. This petition calls upon you to possess His character. You cannot hallow His name, you cannot represent Him to the world, unless in life and character you represent the very life and character of God. This you can do only through the acceptance of the grace and righteousness of Christ.

~ *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 106, 107.

## Day Four – Kingdom Work First Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*“Thy kingdom come...” (Matthew 6:9).*

### Praise

- *“Behold, I am coming quickly!”* (Revelation 22:7). Praise God for the many good things you see Him doing in His church right now to prepare us and the world for His soon return.
- Praise God for who He is and for what He has done in your life today, this past week, etc.

### Confession

- Ask forgiveness for too often not making God’s kingdom and His righteousness your first priority in life, especially considering how soon Jesus is coming back (see Matthew 6:33 and 3:2).
- Ask God to show you any sin in your life that needs to be confessed; then take time to silently listen for His answer. Ask His forgiveness and joyfully accept His mercy.

### Supplication and Intercession

- Plead for the Holy Spirit, that we may have power to witness for Christ. *“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”* (Acts 1:8).
- Plead for yourself, and for every Adventist, to have a deep love for sinners that leads to active, passionate involvement in sharing Jesus on a regular basis.
- Pray that members will not be dependent on their pastors for spiritual growth and expect their pastors to do all the evangelism and lead all outreach ministries.
- Pray especially for local and world-wide **evangelism** and **outreach efforts**:
  - Wise, Spirit-led plans
  - Local church efforts
  - Health evangelism work
  - Comprehensive evangelism efforts to reach major cities world-wide
  - Effective, Spirit-filled programs
  - The church’s evangelistic organizations
  - Supportive ministries’ evangelistic efforts
- Pray for churches to have a growth cycle that involves all in evangelism, outreach, and discipleship.
- MTTC: For the 250-plus individuals trained in the International Field School in New York last year to be powerful leaders for outreach ministries in their home territories.
- Pray that God will orchestrate world events so that everyone has a chance to learn of Jesus, that His work can be finished, and His Second Advent can be soon! Pray especially for your local community.
- With several others, intercede for your five people and those on an intercession card. Pray the Scripture references listed and write down any others that God brings to mind.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

### Thanksgiving

- *“The Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen!”* (2 Timothy 4:18).
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

### Suggested Songs to Sing

“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Seek Ye First”; “Jesus Is Coming Again” (SDAH #213); “Watch Ye Saints” (SDAH #598); “Rescue the Perishing” (SDAH #367); “Lift High the Cross” (SDAH #362); “Seeking the Lost” (SDAH #373).

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Thy kingdom come..." (Matthew 6:9).***

God is our Father, who loves and cares for us as His children; He is also the great King of the universe. The interests of His kingdom are our interests, and we are to work for its upbuilding.

The disciples of Christ were looking for the immediate coming of the kingdom of His glory, but in giving them this prayer Jesus taught that the kingdom was not then to be established. They were to pray for its coming as an event yet future. But this petition was also an assurance to them. While they were not to behold the coming of the kingdom in their day, the fact that Jesus bade them pray for it is evidence that in God's own time it will surely come.

The kingdom of God's grace is now being established, as day by day hearts that have been full of sin and rebellion yield to the sovereignty of His love. But the full establishment of the kingdom of His glory will not take place until the second coming of Christ to this world. "The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven," is to be given to "the people of the saints of the Most High." Daniel 7:27. They shall inherit the kingdom prepared for them "from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25:34. And Christ will take to Himself His great power and will reign.

The heavenly gates are again to be lifted up, and with ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands of holy ones, our Saviour will come forth as King of kings and Lord of lords. Jehovah Immanuel "shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one Lord, and His name one." "The tabernacle of God" shall be with men, "and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God." Zechariah 14:9; Revelation 21:3.

But before that coming, Jesus said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." Matthew 24:14. His kingdom will not come until the good tidings of His grace have been carried to all the earth. Hence, as we give ourselves to God, and win other souls to Him, we hasten the coming of His kingdom. Only those who devote themselves to His service, saying, "Here am I; send me" (Isaiah 6:8), to open blind eyes, to turn men "from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and inheritance among them which are sanctified" (Acts 26:18)—they alone pray in sincerity, "Thy kingdom come."

*~ Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, pages 106, 107.*

## Day Five – Walking in Step With Jesus

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*“Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven...” (Matthew 6:10).*

#### Praise

- Praise God that *“this is the will of God, your sanctification”* (1 Thessalonians 4:3)!
- How have you seen God work in the past few days? Praise Him for what He is doing and for the ways you have seen God’s people doing His will.
- Praise God for His character. Fill in this sentence: *“We praise You, God, for being \_\_\_\_\_.”*

#### Confession

- Ask God to reveal to you any ways that you have not delighted to do His will. *“I delight to do your will, O my God, and your law is within my heart”* (Psalm 40:8).
- Take time to let God show you anything you need to change in your life, silently confess your wrongs, and accept His forgiveness.
- Corporately ask God’s forgiveness for the ways we as His people are not following His will. Pray for cleansing and change. (Be careful to be loving. This is a time for repentance, not complaining.)

#### Supplication and Intercession

- Plead for the Holy Spirit—*“Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground”* (Psalm 143:10).
- Ask God to transform our thoughts so that we will know God’s will. See Romans 12:2.
- Plead for humility to know and accept God’s will in every aspect of our lives and to not resist His will.
- Pray for strength to continue in God’s will, even when it’s difficult. *“For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise”* (Hebrews 10:36).
- Pray for each member (both in your local church and around the world) to know what their work for God is, how to do it, and to be active in ministry.
- Pray for your pastor/church elders, and all Adventist leaders, to spend much time with Jesus so they know His will for our church and how to implement it.
- Pray that the reign of evil on this earth may be ended, that sin may be forever destroyed, and that the kingdom of righteousness may be established.
- MTTC: For the strongholds of Satan to be broken so there are open doors for the gospel in the 630 cities being worked.
- Intercede with several other people for the five people you have chosen to pray for during these ten days. Also, choose a card from the request box and intercede for those individuals.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

#### Thanksgiving

- *“In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you”* (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Thank God for specific things in your life, especially the challenges you are facing.
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

#### Suggested Songs to Sing

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Have Thine Own Way, Lord” (SDA Hymnal #567); “I Surrender All” (SDA Hymnal #309); “Live Out Thy Life Within Me” (SDA Hymnal #316); “Yes, Lord, I Give My Life to You.”*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven..." (Matthew 6:10).***

The will of God is expressed in the precepts of His holy law, and the principles of this law are the principles of heaven. The angels of heaven attain unto no higher knowledge than to know the will of God, and to do His will is the highest service that can engage their powers.

But in heaven, service is not rendered in the spirit of legality. When Satan rebelled against the law of Jehovah, the thought that there was a law came to the angels almost as an awakening to something unthought of. In their ministry the angels are not as servants, but as sons. There is perfect unity between them and their Creator. Obedience is to them no drudgery. Love for God makes their service a joy. So in every soul wherein Christ, the hope of glory, dwells, His words are re-echoed, "I delight to do Thy will, O My God: yea, Thy law is within My heart." Psalm 40:8.

The petition, "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven," is a prayer that the reign of evil on this earth may be ended, that sin may be forever destroyed, and the kingdom of righteousness be established. Then in earth as in heaven will be fulfilled "all the good pleasure of His goodness." 2 Thessalonians 1:11.

~ *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pages 109, 110.

## Day Six - Filled to Overflowing

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*"Give us this day our daily bread"* (Matthew 6:11).

#### Praise

- Praise God for supplying our every need. *"His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness..."* (2 Peter 1:3).
- How has God provided for you recently? Praise Him for the specific ways He has provided for your physical, mental, spiritual, and social needs today, this past week, etc.

#### Confession

- Do you trust in God to provide for every area of your life? Allow God to examine your heart and show you anything He needs to reveal to you. Then confess your sin and accept His forgiveness.
- Have you freely shared of the resources God has given you—time, money, talents, etc.—with those in need? If not, ask God to show you how to make things right. Is God asking you to give of yourself in some way to help those in need?

#### Supplication and Intercession

- Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit, who gives us life through the Word of God. *"Surely I will pour out my spirit on you; I will make my words known to you"* (Proverbs 1:23).
- Pray for Seventh-day Adventists to be "people of the Word" who study the Bible (and Spirit of Prophecy) and put into practice the things God teaches them. *"[Labor] for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you..."* (John 6:27).
- Intercede for the millions worldwide who are both physically and spiritually hungry to be filled. Pray for Adventist organizations (including ADRA, Adventist Community Services, and others) that are working to help these people to have the resources they need to accomplish their work.
- Pray that you, your local church, and our world church will know how to meet the needs of the poor and needy around us. Pray that we will become truly service-oriented.
- MTTC: For the work in New York to continue to yield an abundant harvest and that will begin the "mighty movement" promised when we work the cities. (See MM 304 and COL 143.)
- Pray for Adventist education to be all that God intends it to be. Especially pray that teachers will know God personally so they can feed students the "Bread of Life." Pray for your local SDA school(s).
- With another person, pray for your five individuals and the individuals on a card from the box, to become eager Bible students so they can fall in love with Jesus.
- What do you need today? Ask God for it and praise Him for providing it.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

#### Thanksgiving

- Thank God that Jesus is *"the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst"* (John 6:35).
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

#### Suggested Songs to Sing

*"Come, Holy Spirit"; "Break Thou the Bread of Life" (SDAH # 271); "This Little Light of Mine"; "So Send I You" (SDAH #578); "Rescue the Perishing" (SDAH #367); "I Love to Tell the Story" (SDAH #457).*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11).***

The first half of the prayer Jesus has taught us is in regard to the name and kingdom and will of God—that His name may be honored, His kingdom established, His will performed. When you have thus made God's service your first interest, you may ask with confidence that your own needs may be supplied. If you have renounced self and given yourself to Christ you are a member of the family of God, and everything in the Father's house is for you. All the treasures of God are opened to you, both the world that now is and that which is to come. The ministry of angels, the gift of His Spirit, the labors of His servants—all are for you. The world, with everything in it, is yours so far as it can do you good. Even the enmity of the wicked will prove a blessing by disciplining you for heaven. If "ye are Christ's," "all things are yours." 1 Cor. 3:23, 21.

But you are as a child who is not yet placed in control of his inheritance. God does not entrust to you your precious possession, lest Satan by his wily arts should beguile you, as he did the first pair in Eden. Christ holds it for you, safe beyond the spoiler's reach. Like the child, you shall receive day by day what is required for the day's need. Every day you are to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Be not dismayed if you have not sufficient for tomorrow. You have the assurance of His promise, "So shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed." David says, "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." Psalm 37:3, 25. That God who sent the ravens to feed Elijah by the brook Cherith will not pass by one of His faithful, self-sacrificing children. Of him that walketh righteously it is written: "Bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." "They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied." "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Isaiah 33:16; Psalm 37:19; Romans 8:32. He who lightened the cares and anxieties of His widowed mother and helped her to provide for the household at Nazareth, sympathizes with every mother in her struggle to provide her children food. He who had compassion on the multitude because they "fainted, and were scattered abroad" (Matthew 9:36), still has compassion on the suffering poor. His hand is stretched out toward them in blessing; and in the very prayer which He gave His disciples, He teaches us to remember the poor.

When we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," we ask for others as well as ourselves. And we acknowledge that what God gives us is not for ourselves alone. God gives to us in trust, that we may feed the hungry. Of His goodness He has prepared for the poor. Psalm 68:10. And He says, "When thou makest a dinner or a supper, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen, nor thy rich neighbors.... But when thou makest a feast, call the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: and thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just." Luke 14:12-14.

"God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:8, 6.

The prayer for daily bread includes not only food to sustain the body, but that spiritual bread which will nourish the soul unto life everlasting. Jesus bids us, "Labor not for the meat which perishes, but for that meat which endures unto everlasting life... I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever." John 6:27, 51. Our Savior is the bread of life, and it is by beholding His love, by receiving it into the soul, that we feed upon the bread which came down from heaven.

We receive Christ through His word, and the Holy Spirit is given to open the word of God to our understanding, and bring home its truths to our hearts. We are to pray day by day that as we read His word, God will send His Spirit to reveal to us the truth that will strengthen our souls for the day's need.

In teaching us to ask every day for what we need—both temporal and spiritual blessings—God has a purpose to accomplish for our good. He would have us realize our dependence upon His constant care, for He is seeking to draw us into communion with Himself. In this communion with Christ, through prayer and the study of the great and precious truths of His word, we shall as hungry souls be fed; as those that thirst, we shall be refreshed at the fountain of life.

## Day Seven – Clean Hands, Pure Heart

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors” (Matthew 6:12).*

#### Praise

- Praise God that forgiveness is one of the core aspects of His character (Exodus 34:6, 7.)
- *“For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy” (Psalm 86:5).*
- How have you seen God at work today? Praise Him for what He is doing.

#### Confession

- Take time to privately ask God to search your heart and reveal any sin separating Him from you. As God reveals sins, claim His forgiveness (1 John 1:9).
- Is there an area in your life that has been a stronghold of the devil? If so, open your Bible to Psalm 51 and silently pray through it in repentance so that God can grant you victory over this sin.
- Silently ask God’s forgiveness for being unwilling to forgive others.
- Is there anyone in your life that you need to forgive? Ask forgiveness for being unwilling to forgive and listen so God can show you how to make things right. Write down what He is asking you to do.

#### Supplication and Intercession

- Claim the Holy Spirit, who is promised in the wake of repentance. *“Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38, 39).*
- Pray for brotherly kindness in all our relationships. *“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you” (Ephesians 4:32).*
- Ask God for reconciliation, healing, and unity in all broken relationships, including: 1) parents and children, and other family, 2) friends—both between church members and with people who do not know Jesus yet, and 3) church leadership and lay members.
- Pray for unity in the church to be based on the Word of God.
- Plead for unity to characterize all our organizations, schools, evangelistic outreaches, supporting ministries, and churches. Especially pray for your home church to be unified. Pray through Jesus’ prayer in John 17, especially verses 20 and 21.
- MTTC: For God to prepare people’s hearts and draw them to Himself. For any prejudice against Adventists in the 630 cities to be broken down. For Adventists to demonstrate God’s love to all.
- Join one or two others to intercede for your five and those on an intercession card. Pray promises for these individuals. Especially pray for them to experience forgiveness and to forgive others.
- Pray for other requests that may be on your heart.

#### Thanksgiving

- Thank God for His gift of forgiveness. *“As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us” (Psalm 103:2).*
- Thank God for the ways He is working in answer to prayer.

#### Suggested Songs to Sing

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Whiter Than Snow” (SDAH #318); “Jesus Saves” (SDAH #340); “Redeemed” (SDAH #337, 338); “The Blood That Jesus Shed”; “Nothing But the Blood of Jesus”; “Create in Me a Clean Heart.”*

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Forgive us our sins; for we also forgive everyone that is indebted to us."—Luke 11:4.***

Jesus teaches that we can receive forgiveness from God only as we forgive others. It is the love of God that draws us unto Him, and that love cannot touch our hearts without creating love for our brethren.

After completing the Lord's Prayer, Jesus added: "If ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: but if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." He who is unforgiving cuts off the very channel through which alone he can receive mercy from God. We should not think that unless those who have injured us confess the wrong we are justified in withholding from them our forgiveness. It is their part, no doubt, to humble their hearts by repentance and confession; but we are to have a spirit of compassion toward those who have trespassed against us, whether or not they confess their faults. However sorely they may have wounded us, we are not to cherish our grievances and sympathize with ourselves over our injuries; but as we hope to be pardoned for our offenses against God we are to pardon all who have done evil to us.

But forgiveness has a broader meaning than many suppose. When God gives the promise that He "will abundantly pardon," He adds, as if the meaning of that promise exceeded all that we could comprehend: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:7-9. God's forgiveness is not merely a judicial act by which He sets us free from condemnation. It is not only forgiveness *for* sin, but reclaiming *from* sin. It is the outflow of redeeming love that transforms the heart. David had the true conception of forgiveness when he prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10. And again he says, "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us." Psalm 103:12.

God in Christ gave Himself for our sins. He suffered the cruel death of the cross, bore for us the burden of guilt, "the just for the unjust," that He might reveal to us His love and draw us to Himself. And He says, "Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving each other, even as God also in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32, R.V. Let Christ, the divine Life, dwell in you and through you reveal the heaven-born love that will inspire hope in the hopeless and bring heaven's peace to the sin-stricken heart. As we come to God, this is the condition which meets us at the threshold, that, receiving mercy from Him, we yield ourselves to reveal His grace to others.

The one thing essential for us in order that we may receive and impart the forgiving love of God is to know and believe the love that He has to us. 1 John 4:16. Satan is working by every deception he can command, in order that we may not discern that love. He will lead us to think that our mistakes and transgressions have been so grievous that the Lord will not have respect unto our prayers and will not bless and save us. In ourselves we can see nothing but weakness, nothing to recommend us to God, and Satan tells us that it is of no use; we cannot remedy our defects of character. When we try to come to God, the enemy will whisper, It is of no use for you to pray; did not you do that evil thing? Have you not sinned against God and violated your own conscience? But we may tell the enemy that "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7. When we feel that we have sinned and cannot pray, it is then the time to pray. Ashamed we may be and deeply humbled, but we must pray and believe. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." 1 Timothy 1:15. Forgiveness, reconciliation with God, comes to us, not as a reward for our works, it is not bestowed because of the merit of sinful men, but it is a gift unto us, having in the spotless righteousness of Christ its foundation for bestowal.

We should not try to lessen our guilt by excusing sin. We must accept God's estimate of sin, and that is heavy indeed. Calvary alone can reveal the terrible enormity of sin. If we had to bear our own guilt, it would crush us. But the sinless One has taken our place; though undeserving, He has borne our iniquity. "If we confess our sins," God "is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9. Glorious truth!—just to His own law, and yet the Justifier of all that believe in Jesus. "Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, because He delighteth in mercy." Micah 7:18.

## Day Eight – Victory in Jesus

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*“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.

## Day Nine – Unlimited Power

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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***“For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen” (Matthew 6:13).***

#### **Praise**

- The Lord Almighty reigns! Praise Him with the prophet Daniel: *“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness and light dwells with Him”* (Daniel 2:20-22).
- Open your Bible to the Psalms and use them to praise God as our mighty, victorious King.
- Praise God for the specific ways He is working in answer to prayer this week.

#### **Confession**

- Jesus is coming soon! Have you lived in a way that shows the world you are preparing for His soon return? Repent as God leads you and claim His forgiveness.
- Corporately repent of Adventism’s lack of zeal for God’s glory and for people’s salvation.
- Ask the Lord to forgive us for not unleashing His great power through praying for His vision for all our life and work for Him, and for too often seeking to run things in our own strength with little vision.

#### **Supplication and Intercession**

- Plead for the infilling of the Holy Spirit to enable us to witness as Jesus did. Pray through the description of Jesus’ ministry in Luke 4:18, 19, pleading that His ministry will be our ministry too.
- Pray for God to provide the power for the gospel to go to all the world in this generation. Claim Christ’s words in the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20.
- Pray for the evangelism and outreach efforts of your local church and for those going on around the world, to yield a great harvest of people saved for heaven.
- MTTC: For many to be reached through the thousands of preparation and outreach events happening now in and around the cities and yet to happen in coming years. For all members, leaders, and evangelistic workers to be empowered by the Spirit.
- Pray for Jesus to orchestrate church and world events to hasten His coming.
- 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. Use Ephesians 1:15-21 to guide your prayers.
- Pray for other requests that may be on your heart.

#### **Thanksgiving**

- *“Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen”* (Ephesians 3:20, 21).
- Thank God from your heart for the many blessings He has given this week.

#### **Suggested Songs to Sing**

“Come, Holy Spirit”; “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” (SDAH #88); “Immortal, Invisible” (SDAH #21); “The Lord in Zion Reigneth” (SDAH #7); “Lead On, O King Eternal (SDAH #619) “Jesus Is Coming Again” (SDAH #213).

## Ellen White on the Lord's Prayer

***"Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory."*—Matthew 6:13.**

The last, like the first sentence of the Lord's Prayer, points to our Father as above all power and authority and every name that is named. The Saviour beheld the years that stretched out before His disciples, not, as they had dreamed, lying in the sunshine of worldly prosperity and honor, but dark with the tempests of human hatred and satanic wrath. Amid national strife and ruin, the steps of the disciples would be beset with perils, and often their hearts would be oppressed by fear. They were to see Jerusalem a desolation, the temple swept away, its worship forever ended, and Israel scattered to all lands, like wrecks on a desert shore. Jesus said, "Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars." "Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows." Matthew 24:6-8. Yet Christ's followers were not to fear that their hope was lost or that God had forsaken the earth. The power and the glory belong unto Him whose great purposes would still move on unthwarted toward their consummation. In the prayer that breathes their daily wants, the disciples of Christ were directed to look above all the power and dominion of evil, unto the Lord their God, whose kingdom ruleth over all and who is their Father and everlasting Friend.

The ruin of Jerusalem was a symbol of the final ruin that shall overwhelm the world. The prophecies that received a partial fulfillment in the overthrow of Jerusalem have a more direct application to the last days. We are now standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. A crisis is before us, such as the world has never witnessed. And sweetly to us, as to the first disciples, comes the assurance that God's kingdom ruleth over all. The program of coming events is in the hands of our Maker. The Majesty of heaven has the destiny of nations, as well as the concerns of His church, in His own charge. The divine Instructor is saying to every agent in the accomplishment of His plans, as He said to Cyrus, "I girded thee, though thou hast not known Me." Isaiah 45:5.

In the vision of the prophet Ezekiel there was the appearance of a hand beneath the wings of the cherubim. This is to teach His servants that it is divine power which gives them success. Those whom God employs as His messengers are not to feel that His work is dependent upon them. Finite beings are not left to carry this burden of responsibility. He who slumbers not, who is continually at work for the accomplishment of His designs, will carry forward His own work. He will thwart the purposes of wicked men, and will bring to confusion the counsels of those who plot mischief against His people. He who is the King, the Lord of hosts, sitteth between the cherubim, and amid the strife and tumult of nations He guards His children still. He who ruleth in the heavens is our Saviour. He measures every trial, He watches the furnace fire that must test every soul. When the strongholds of kings shall be overthrown, when the arrows of wrath shall strike through the hearts of His enemies, His people will be safe in His hands.

"Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine.... In Thine hand is power and might; and in Thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all." 1 Chronicles 29:11, 12.

*~ Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing, pages 120-122.*

## Day Ten – Pleading for the Spirit

### Suggested Format for United Prayer

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*“So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? **If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!**” (Luke 11:9-13).*

#### Praise

- Praise God that He delights to give us His Holy Spirit, as a father delights to give to his children.
- Praise God for the Holy Spirit’s work as the: Comforter, Teacher, Equipper, etc.
- Praise Him for ways you have seen the Holy Spirit work recently in your life, the church, or our world.

#### Confession

- Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart and convict of sin. *“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment”* (John 16:8). Confess the sin and accept God’s forgiveness.
- Ask forgiveness for often not appreciating the promise of the Spirit and pleading for it in our lives.
- *“Do not quench the Spirit”* (1 Thessalonians 5:19). How have you ignored or quenched the Spirit’s leading in your life? Ask forgiveness specifically.

#### Supplication and Intercession

- Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit in Luke 11:9-13.
- Pray for a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit. *“...Be filled with the Spirit”* (Ephesians 5:19).
- Pray for a closer connection with God and for the fruit of the Spirit to be evident in your life and in the lives of all Seventh-day Adventists (Galatians 5:22-25).
- Pray for the early and latter rains to be poured out (Hosea 6:1-4, 10:12, and Joel 2:23, 28).
- Pray for a spirit of prayer to be poured out on God’s people (Zechariah 12:10).
- Pray for revival and reformation for the world-wide church (2 Chronicles 7:14).
- MTTC: For God’s Spirit to work powerfully in the 630 cities around the world.
- Plead for the Spirit to empower us for witnessing and to bring unity among us.
- Ask God to help us to persevere in asking for the Spirit so that we can receive Him in full.
- Join with another person or two to intercede for your five and those on an intercession card. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work in their lives and to be given to them in a mighty way.
- Pray for other requests that are on your heart.

#### Thanksgiving

- Thank God that when we do not know how to pray, *“the Spirit helps our weakness...and intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words”* (Romans 8:26).
- Praise Him in faith for the miracles He is creating in answer to your prayers.

#### Suggested Songs to Sing

*“Come, Holy Spirit”; “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” (SDA Hymnal # 262); “Showers of Blessing” (SDA Hymnal #195); “Father, I Adore You”; “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” (SDA Hymnal #265); “Spirit Song”; “Revive Us Again.”*

## Ellen White on the Promise of the Spirit

The lapse of time has wrought no change in Christ's parting promise to send the Holy Spirit as His representative. It is not because of any restriction on the part of God that the riches of His grace do not flow earthward to men. If the fulfillment of the promise is not seen as it might be, it is because the promise is not appreciated as it should be. If all were willing, all would be filled with the Spirit. Wherever the need of the Holy Spirit is a matter little thought of, there is seen spiritual drought, spiritual darkness, spiritual declension and death. Whenever minor matters occupy the attention, the divine power which is necessary for the growth and prosperity of the church, and which would bring all other blessings in its train, is lacking, though offered in infinite plenitude.

Since this is the means by which we are to receive power, why do we not hunger and thirst for the gift of the Spirit? Why do we not talk of it, pray for it, and preach concerning it? The Lord is more willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who serve Him than parents are to give good gifts to their children. For the daily baptism of the Spirit every worker should offer his petition to God. Companies of Christian workers should gather to ask for special help, for heavenly wisdom, that they may know how to plan and execute wisely. Especially should they pray that God will baptize His chosen ambassadors in mission fields with a rich measure of His Spirit. The presence of the Spirit with God's workers will give the proclamation of truth a power that not all the honor or glory of the world could give.

~ *Acts of the Apostles*, page 50.

## Ellen White on Luke 11:1-13

*See also Christ's Object Lessons, "Asking to Give," pages 139-149.*

We must show a firm, undeviating trust in God. Often He delays to answer us in order to try our faith or test the genuineness of our desire. Having asked according to His word, we should believe His promise and press our petitions with a determination that will not be denied.

God does not say, Ask once, and you shall receive. He bids us ask. Unwearyingly persist in prayer. The persistent asking brings the petitioner into a more earnest attitude, and gives him an increased desire to receive the things for which he asks...

Our prayers are to be as earnest and persistent as was the petition of the needy friend who asked for the loaves at midnight. The more earnestly and steadfastly we ask, the closer will be our spiritual union with Christ. We shall receive increased blessings because we have increased faith.

Our part is to pray and believe. Watch unto prayer. Watch, and co-operate with the prayer-hearing God. Bear in mind that "we are laborers together with God." 1 Corinthians 3:9. Speak and act in harmony with your prayers. It will make an infinite difference with you whether trial shall prove your faith to be genuine, or show that your prayers are only a form...

There are many who long to help others, but they feel that they have no spiritual strength or light to impart. Let them present their petitions at the throne of grace. Plead for the Holy Spirit. God stands back of every promise He has made. With your Bible in your hands say, I have done as Thou hast said. I present Thy promise, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

We must not only pray in Christ's name, but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit... Such prayer God delights to answer. When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer "exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." Ephesians 3:20.

Christ has said, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." Mark 11:24. "Whatsoever ye shall ask in My name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 14:13. And the beloved John, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, speaks with great plainness and assurance: "If we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us: and if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him." 1 John 5:14, 15. Then press your petition to the Father in the name of Jesus. God will honor that name.

~ *Christ's Object Lessons*, pages 145-147.