

PRAYER DEVOTIONAL



A 30 DAY CHALLENGE TO ESTABLISH
DAILY DISCIPLINE IN DEVOTION

A 30 Day Prayer Devotional

Thank you for joining the exciting lifestyle of prayer! It is our goal that Gulf Coast Church fulfills the words of Jesus when he declared in *Matthew 21:13*, “My house shall be called a house of prayer.”

Understanding the necessity of prayer is not enough. To become a consistent part of our lives, it needs to become something we look forward to doing!

That's where this simple 30 day challenge can help. Using several prayer points and guiding thoughts, this booklet is designed to bring joy into your time with God. When you discover the beauty of daily conversation with Him, you'll experience the presence of God that will change your life.

Once you learn how to pray, prayer can become a part of your everyday life. So, enjoy the journey and remember- God is always talking!

Pastor Josh Couch



In this Challenge, you'll find:

An Entrance Worksheet:

The questions in this worksheet will help you process how you presently think about quiet time and your relationship with God.

The 30-Day Challenge:

Each day, you'll be provided with a Prayer Focal Point. Simply put, this is a subject to direct your prayer attention. Included is a little explanation of each Prayer Focal Point to help you better turn to God with the subject matter.

***Bonus:** There is a 15 and 30 minute guide to challenge you to grow your prayer life with God coupled with this 30-day challenge.

Entrance Worksheet

#1 Why are you taking this Challenge?

#2 What do you hope to get out of this Challenge?

#3 What would you like to be different in your understanding and practice of prayer?

#4 What do you envision the fruit of prayer with God would look like for you?

#5 How do you see God's presence in your life currently?

Day 1

Prayer Focal Point: Your Relationship with God

Guiding Thought: As you begin this Challenge, we would like you to turn to God and speak with Him about your relationship. Since God is always available and listening, ask Him for direction and guidance in growing closer to Him.

Day 2

Prayer Focal Point: Your Family

Guiding Thought: Lift up the members of your family to God today. Ask God where He is leading your family and how you can follow His call. Ask God where healing may be needed in your family and celebrate the joy your family has brought you and the impact they have on our world.

Day 3

Prayer Focal Point: Your Work

Guiding Thought: Even if you do not have "work," we all have tasks we do whether we are paid for it or not. Reflect on the work you do throughout your day. Ask God to bring more of His purpose and will to your work and ask Him to bless what your hands find to do.

Day 4

Prayer Focal Point: Your Friends

Guiding Thought: Reflect on your friends, both past and present. Pray for each name and ask God to show His love and grace on that person today. Also, thank God for these people and all the joy and blessing they have brought to your life.

Day 5

Prayer Focal Point: The Church

Guiding Thought: Pray for the global Church. The Church is always under attack from the enemy. Pray that God's will be done and seen through His Church both here at Gulf Coast and around the world!

Day 6

Prayer Focal Point: People Who Are Suffering

Guiding Thought: People all around us are suffering, often silently. Pray for those who may be going through trials and ask God to give them peace, perseverance, and perspective!

Day 7

Prayer Focal Point: Mentors in Your Life

Guiding Thought: Reflect on all the people who have helped shape you into the person you are today. Thank God for those people, both past and present in your life. Ask God for ways to honor their legacy.

Day 8

Prayer Focal Point: The World

Guiding Thought: The world is in desperate need of Jesus' love. Pray today for the world and for the realization of Christ among all people, all nations.

Day 9

Prayer Focal Point: Your Health

Guiding Thought: Health is something we all need, whether we have physical problems or not. The world we live in is very hostile and affects not only our bodies, but our hearts and minds as well. Spend some time reflecting on where you need God's healing in your life. Perhaps it is a physical healing or maybe an emotional one. Jesus died to make you whole in your body!

Day 10

Prayer Focal Point: Your Dreams

Guiding Thought: We all have, or had, dreams in our lives. Often, dreams are not realized, for many reasons. What are you dreaming of today? Bring it before God and ask Him to help you in your quest. Ask Him to reveal His will in your dream. Maybe you find yourself today without any dreams, God wants you to dream BIG again!

Day 11

Prayer Focal Point: Government

Guiding Thought: Pray today for your local, state and national government. Pray that God's will be done and that the leaders would hear God in their lives and respond courageously to His call. Pray that they will stand up for righteousness and honor God with their decisions.

Day 12

Prayer Focal Point: Forgiveness

Guiding Thought: Jesus told the disciples that we should forgive not 7 times, but 7 times 70 (*Matthew 18:22*). Forgiveness is not natural to any of us; we all need God's power, grace, and love to fully take our forgiveness to that which God requires. Turn to God and ask Him to help you with those you may be harboring a grudge or past hurt. Ask God to help you release that pain and ask Him for guidance on how to move forward.

Day 13

Prayer Focal Point: Active/Retired Military

Guiding Thought: Pray today for our military at home, abroad and retired. Ask God to help them both on the field and when they return home. Many of our men and women struggle returning home after combat and the years after. Pray that God helps them transition back into their home life and seek the support they need.

Day 14

Prayer Focal Point: People Affected by Natural Disaster

Guiding Thought: People all around the world are constantly faced with natural disasters. Tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, blizzards, earthquakes, and other disasters can strike at any time. Lift those who have recently, or currently, are facing natural disaster and ask God to bring them comfort, peace and His stability into their lives. Ask God to help them also receive the resources they need for survival.

Day 15

Prayer Focal Point: People Who Do Not Know or Follow God

Guiding Thought: There are many people in our world and in our personal lives who do not know Jesus. Pray specifically for those people today and ask the Lord to come into their lives and reveal His goodness to them.

Day 16

Prayer Focal Point: People You Have Hurt

Guiding Thought: Unfortunately, there are people in your life you have hurt. Whether you intended it or not, people have been hurt by your actions, or inactions. Ask God to reveal someone you have unintentionally hurt and seek His guidance on how to make things right.

Day 17

Prayer Focal Point: Christian Leaders

Guiding Thought: Christian leaders always need prayer and like everyone, are always under attack. Pray that they do not fall under temptation to follow the ways of the world and that God is their primary pursuit. Pray that their passion for God increases and discouragement never visits them.

Day 18

Prayer Focal Point: Your Neighbors

Guiding Thought: We all have neighbors. Maybe you know them, maybe you don't. Regardless, pray for them today. Ask that God's presence is realized among them today and that their day is filled with His goodness. This is how you can bless them today!

Day 19

Prayer Focal Point: Stress

Guiding Thought: What is it that is stressing you today? Bills? Health issues? Family or work problems? Personal pursuits? Whatever it is that is occupying your heart and mind, turn to God and release the weight and the burden. Ask for help in trusting that He is good, and His mercy is made new every morning!

Day 20

Prayer Focal Point: Your Calling

Guiding Thought: Do you realize we all have a calling? We are all called to work in the Kingdom of Heaven and influence the world. Maybe you already are aware of your calling. If so, turn to God and continue to seek His guidance and Fruit in your calling. If you are not sure what you are called to do, turn to God and ask Him to reveal where He is calling you and equipping you to serve.

Day 21

Prayer Focal Point: Children

Guiding Thought: Children are arrows that God will sharpen over the course of their lives. They were born for battle! Whether you have children or not, bring before the Lord the children you know in your life and pray for His protection, guidance, and love over their lives.

Day 22

Prayer Focal Point: Enemies

Guiding Thought: Pray today for your enemies. Try to think of all the people who are your enemies or have attempted to cause you harm. Turn to God with all the people who you find fault with. Seek God's guidance and will as you speak with Him about your enemies.

Day 23

Prayer Focal Point: School Leaders

Guiding Thought: Pray today for the staff, faculty and boards that influence the upcoming generation. Ask God for His protection, guidance, wisdom, and favor in their lives!

Day 24

Prayer Focal Point: Worry

Guiding Thought: What is of concern to you today? What are you worried about? Bring your concern(s) before God and know that He will guide you through your worries. Ask Him for His wisdom and trust that He will provide the answer.

Day 25

Prayer Focal Point: Joy

Guiding Thought: What is it that brings you joy? God can use many things to bring you joy but it is in the presence of God where true Joy is found. Thank God for his abiding presence today in your life that brings joy!

Day 26

Prayer Focal Point: Your Home

Guiding Thought: Thank God for where you reside. Thank Him for providing a shelter over your head and protection both naturally and spiritually.

Day 27

Prayer Focal Point: Missions

Guiding Thought: There are many countries in dire need of the basics of life, like clean water, substantial food and safety. Pray for all those nations today, and that God's provision would be found among them. There are just as many in dire need of Jesus. Pray that God send and empower missionaries to spread the gospel on foreign soil.

Day 28

Prayer Focal Point: Rest

Guiding Thought: Thank God today for the ability to rest. Speak to Him about how you use this necessary gift. Seek His will in your utilization of rest and listen for His direction. He always gives His beloved rest when we are weary.

Day 29

Prayer Focal Point: Your Salvation

Guiding Thought: Spend time thinking about your life before following Christ. Thank God for all He has done for you and through you. Ask God to bring people across your path to share your story of God's love.

Day 30 - Final Reflection

Prayer Focal Point: Love

Guiding Thought: Ask God how you might realize His Fruit of love more in your life and show it better to those you interact with throughout your days. Remember that Love keeps no record or wrongdoings so be quick to sow what you have been freely afforded.

Thank You

We hope your **30 days** was an amazing journey! It is through devotion and discipline that we draw closer to God. To be a disciple means to be disciplined, and that is just what you accomplished the last 30 days.

It is our hope that you carry forth from this Challenge and continue to turn to God through prayer. Prayer truly is a privilege that we get because of Jesus Christ's sacrifice.

DAILY ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

Our vision is to equip families to encounter Jesus and empower them through discipleship. We believe our Sunday corporate encounters become more meaningful when we first encounter God daily! At Gulf Coast Church, we can encounter God every day on our own. ***Here's a starting guide!***

Start with a worship song & pray in the Holy Spirit.

Choose your favorite worship song or pick one from our weekly set list

Pray the Lord's prayer.

In the gospels, Jesus teaches us how to pray. We use this as a starting guide when praying to God every day!

"Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name: Begin praying by declaring "Father, you are HOLY!"

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven: Pray for God's perfect will to be done in your life. "God, not my will, but yours!"

Give us this day our daily bread: Tell God what it is that you need. He is our provider!

and forgive us our debts: Repent. Lay down your sins before God and ask for forgiveness.

as we also have forgiven our debtors: List out by name those you need to forgive, and ask God for help!

And lead us not into temptation, Grace is a gift we all have access to, open the gift and accept God's grace to overcome sin.

but deliver us from evil: Declare "*no spirit but the Holy Spirit*" is welcome in your life!

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

Go through your personal prayer list.

Begin by praying for:

YOURSELF

YOUR FAMILY

YOUR FRIENDS & *specific people as they come up in your spirit*

YOUR WORK

THE CITY OF LARGO

GULF COAST CHURCH & CHURCH LEADERS

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM (Psalm 122:6)

PRAY FOR MISSIONARIES

+ *add your own*

Read the Word.

Choose one of our Daily Bible Reading Plans below or your favorite devotional!

15 MINUTE DAILY READING PLAN:

1 Psalm | 1 Proverb | 1 Gospel

30 MINUTE DAILY READING PLAN:

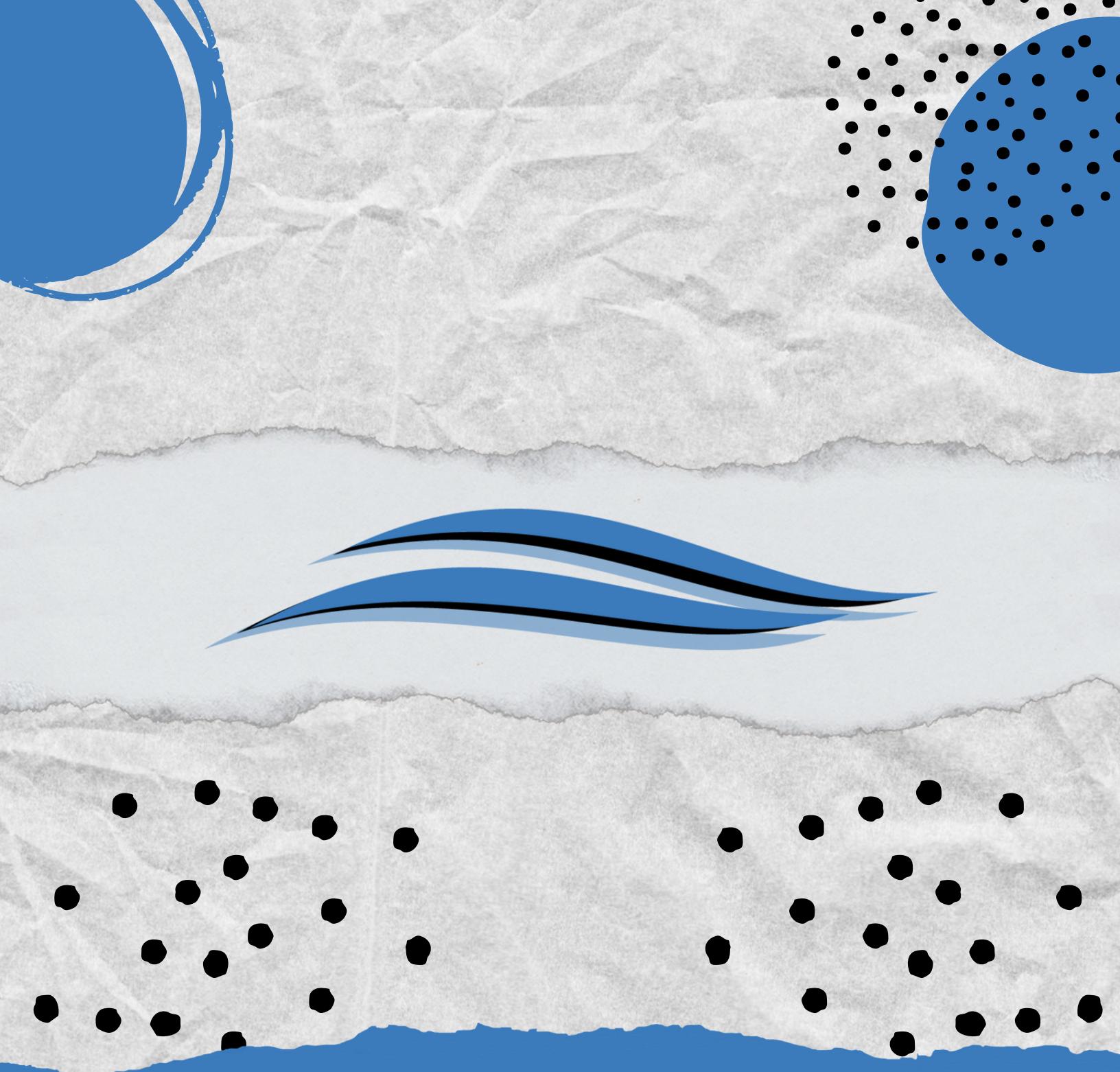
1 Psalm | 1 Proverb | 1 Gospel

+ 1 Old Testament | 1 New Testament

Give God room to speak to you.

“Speak Lord, your servant is listening!”





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