

As you read these Psalms do so looking at the variety of topics and emotions. I think meditating on the prayers of Psalms can allow us a deeper freedom in our own prayer lives. <u>Please keep in mind that prayer is communion with God</u>. Although the Psalm may entirely be the words of the Psalmist, the prayer is given in response to the Lord first revealing Himself to the Psalmist. Psalm 23:4 & 5 would be what we would describe as a prayer but in the context David offers this prayer to God because the Lord has first revealed to David that He is his Shepherd. Also in some Psalms, it seems the prayers can be a combination of talking to God and talking about God.

As you read through each Psalm, consider how you might make the prayer relevant to your life or to the life of someone you care about.

Date:	Family to Pray For:	Scripture Reading
1	Robert & Shirley Anderson	Psalm 145
2	W.G. & Maxine Anderson	Psalm 144
3	Larry & Betty Arthur	Psalm 143
4	Danny & Barbara Black	Psalm 139
5	Gerald & Melissa Black	Psalm 138
6	Ricky & Lisa Black	Psalm 131
7	Tim & Sam Black	Psalm 130
8	Don & Nancy Blanchard	Psalm 123
9	Philip Brooks	Psalm 119:145-160
10	George & Kathy Broughman	Psalm 119:161-176
11	Ricky & Lisa Brown	Psalm 108
12	Roy, Jennifer, Bailee, Case, Carter & Dylan Brown	Psalm 104:1-9, 24-35
13	Eddie & Melinda Bryan	Psalm 102
14	Ronnie Carpenter	Psalm 94
15	Chad, Marglen, Canaan & Rylee Clark	Psalm 92
16	David, Laurel, Nathan & Jacob Clark	Psalm 89:1-18
17	Leonard & Beverley Clark	Psalm 86
18	Stella Clark	Psalm 85
19	Dave & Ann Condon	Psalm 80
20	Ron, Tammy & Ryan Counts	Psalm 51
21	Richard & Jody Craddock	Psalm 4
22	Seth, Beth, Emilia, Briele, Thea & Truett Dame	Psalm 5
23	Jason, Christy, Nathan, Micah & Anna Fender	Psalm 3
24	Steve & Diane Fenton	Psalm 8
25	Shane Fury	Psalm 13
26	Ranelle Garber	Psalm 16
27	Sandra Haynes	Psalm 21
28	Jared & Cassie Hayslett & Emmalyn	Psalm 25

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February Birthdays

- 2 Dave Pritt
- 5 Hannah Pritt
- 6 Judah Neill
- 10 Emma Austin
- 11 Steve Fenton
- 14 Darla Bush
- 16 Lee Simmons
- 16 Matt O'Meara
- 17 Barbara Black
- 22 Michael Simmons
- 23 Dale Heath
- 26 Nathan Fender

<u>February Anniversaries</u>

- 3 Rick & Lisa Brown
- 5 Tim & Sam Black
- 6 Dave & Ann Condon
- 12 Larry & Betty Arthur
- 14 C.R. & Vicky Sorrels
- 14 Larry & Joanne Hayslett
- 14 Chuck & Darla Bush
- 23 Don & Nancy Blanchard



Dear Family

I hope that our focus on prayer has been beneficial to you. I have studied and practiced prayer throughout my life of following Christ. However, over the past weeks I think I may have been as focused on the subject as any time in my life. I've reached the conclusion that prayer can be as simple as quietly whispering the name of Jesus, and yet it can be so profound and vast that there will always be room for growth.

Psalms is the longest book in the Bible and the Jews used it as a song book and prayer book. When reading reflectively through the Psalms, it is clear that I can't fit my ideas of prayer into a neat little box. The prayers of praise, thanksgiving, repentance, guidance and protection all make sense to me. However, there are also places in the Psalms where some of the people of God make some pretty strong accusations against God. Psalm 88 is one such place. This doesn't fit comfortably into my understanding of prayer; <u>vet the Holy Spirit chose to include this and other such Psalms in the Bible</u>. Perhaps prayer is about honest communication with God since He already knows all of our thoughts and struggles. These prayers aren't born out of disrespect for God, but out of a belief/faith that if He doesn't help, there is no one else who can.

In the Bible we find instructions about prayer, we find Scriptures that can guide us in praying the will of God, and then we find many places, especially Psalms, where actual prayers are recorded. When it comes to Scriptures that guide us in praying the will of God, they are abundant. As you are reading the Bible (God speaking to you) and come across instruction for Christian living, you can turn it back into you speaking with God. A good example is Ephesians 4:29 - God speaks to us, *Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers*. We can turn it into prayer, Father, I want my speech to be used for your honor and to minister Your life to others....

For the month of February, I'm giving you a different Psalm for each day. All of these Psalms are prayers, or will contain prayers, prayed by the Psalmist. As you read the prayers of the assigned Psalms consider the Psalmist's understanding of God, consider how the prayers might apply to your life, and consider the topics covered, as well as the emotions demonstrated. Invite the Holy Spirit to draw you and others into deeper intimacy with Him through prayer.

Praying we grow together in the Lord,

actor marka

Pastor Mike



February Calendar 2025

February Events:

Sunday, February 9th: We plan to share in Communion and our Communion offering will go toward the ComfortCare Baby Bottle Campaign. Go to supportcc.org to learn more about ComfortCare.

February 14th: Happy Valentine's Day!



Pastor Mike will be on vacation through February 4th, and he will return to the office on Wednesday, February 5th. For ministry needs, please contact Pastor Matt or one of the elders.

Weekly Events:

<u>Monday:</u> <u>Tuesday:</u> <u>Wednesday:</u> <u>Thursday:</u> <u>Friday:</u> Beginning February 10th, Homeschool Co-Op 9:30am-2:30pm, LH Adult Bible Study, 10:00am, Life House Youth Group, 6-8pm, Life House Men's Bible Study, 6:30pm, Church BSF, 9:30-11:30am, Life House

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