

Daily Prayer:

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, Hear me.
From the desire of being esteemed, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being loved, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being extolled, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being honoured, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being praised, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being preferred, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being consulted, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the desire of being approved, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being humiliated, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being despised, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of suffering rebukes, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being calumniated, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being forgotten, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being ridiculed, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being wronged, Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being suspected, Deliver me, Jesus.
That others may be loved more than I, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be esteemed more than I, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I may decrease, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be chosen and I set aside, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be praised and I unnoticed, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may be preferred to me in everything, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.
That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should, Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

1. February 5 – Glorify God.

God is worthy of all our praise. He doesn't need it, He isn't validated by it; who He is demands it. He deserves all the glory.

Praising God gets our eyes up and out of the current circumstances. We see on a higher plane. However, glorifying God is not about us. It is all about Him.

At the outset of the fast, by glorifying God we declare: It's not about me, it's about YOU.

Scriptures to pray through:

Psalm 89:1-18

1 Chronicles 29:10-15

Psalm 148

Luke 19:36-40

2. February 6 – Thanksgiving.

Throughout scripture, we are compelled to give thanks all of the time, for all of the things, for all of the people, in all of the ways.

So, let's get about it. Gratitude combats worries, fears, and negativity – but also, as a general rule, unexpressed gratitude communicates ingratitude. We are all so blessed by God; let's communicate gratitude to Him. Remember, these first few days are about eyes off ourselves and onto Him – thankfulness is our vehicle today.

Scriptures to pray through:

Psalm 103

Philippians 4:6

James 1:17

Ephesians 5:20

3. February 7 – Consecration/Sanctification – Get the “me” out of me

“Me” was the nicest way I could put it.

Consecration is our job – sanctification is God's job.

In the Bible the word *consecration* means “the separation of oneself from things that are unclean, especially anything that would contaminate one's relationship with a perfect God.” Consecrating yourself means to give priority to spiritual things over physical things. It will require intentionally avoiding things that may hinder you from connecting with God or take away from your time with Him.

We can't make ourselves holy through behaviour modification, but as we say “God! I give all of myself to you”, He, through Jesus, makes us holy, and continues to change us. We are redeemed, and we keep on being redeemed. We are restored, and He keeps on with the work of restoration.

Our prayer today is to yield to all the work that God wants to do in us. It is a prayer of John the Baptist: I must decrease and He must increase.

Scriptures to pray through:

Joshua 3:5

Romans 12:1

John 15:1-7

1 Peter 5:6

4. February 8 – Forgive everyone

Yep, everyone. Pause. Breathe. Ask the Holy Spirit – “who do I need to forgive?” Once you've got their name, ask “Anyone else?” Keep going until there's a no on that question.

Got them? One by one, acknowledge the hurt that was done to you. This is real, and forgiveness doesn't mean you just ignore it or that you can forget that. Now, release it to God. God, I trust you with this stuff. I trust you to deal with it. I forgive it. I pray for that person. Bless them God, bless the work of their hands, bless their relationships, bless their finances. Bless them above and beyond. Help me to be wise in the way I interact with them in the future. Help me to love them even if I never see them again.

Scriptures to pray through:

Ephesians 4:32

Matthew 5:7
Matthew 6:14
Mark 11:25

5. February 9 – God, forgive me.

We had to pray yesterday's prayer before we could pray today. (If you haven't yet, go back to yesterday before praying today).

Today is a day for confession. The good news is that you have a Helper for this: the Holy Spirit. He convicts us of sin, and when we confess it, because of what Jesus won for us on the cross, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins. It's the actual best.

You might think "I don't know if I should confess it; I still feel like I'm knee-deep in it". Confess it, and keep on confessing it until you're calf deep in, until you're ankle deep in, until you're pinky toe has finally removed itself. Confess every acceptable deed, that you might get an earthly promotion for: pride, boasting, "white" lying, and every unacceptable deed – it's all the same to God. Your pornography addiction, your swearing, your gossip. Your sexual immorality and your desire for glory. Lay it out and know He forgives you. He doesn't expect you to guess. Ask Him and He'll show you.

Scriptures to pray through:

1 John 1:9-2:17
Romans 1:24-32
1 Corinthians 15:56-58
Proverbs 6:16-19

6. February 10 – God, forgive us.

Controversial prayer alert: Today we pray for God to forgive sins we ourselves may not have committed.

Today we stand in the gap and confess the sins we see in culture all around us. We acknowledge the sins of the church throughout history. We acknowledge the sins of our nation, our region, our town, our families. We lay it all out before the Lord. Be specific in what you know of, and ask God to reveal things that you don't. We humble our hearts before God.

I used to say to Bellsy when she would apologise for something "Your words are right but you don't sound apologetic!" (Poor Bells. Maybe pray for her today too.) I was looking for something God looks for also: contrition. The feeling of being sorry, not just doing it because you've been asked to.

Scriptures to pray through:

Nehemiah 1:5
Nehemiah 9:2
Daniel 9:16
Psalm 51:17

7. February 11 – Pray for the church

Jesus is coming back for her. A pure, spotless bride. Well, God knows we need lots of work to get us to that place. Pray that Jesus would do whatever needs to be done so that His church reflects Him. Pray for humility to flow, unity to flourish, servant-hearted people to rise up and serve; that the upside-down kingdom would come, and God's will would be done, starting in His church.

Try not to pray your latest bugbear – try to pray according to His Spirit.

Scriptures to pray through:

Romans 12:4-5

Ephesians 4:11-13

Matthew 16:18

Ephesians 5:25-27

8. February 12 – Pray for our world

Our world is broken. The effects of humanity's trying and failing, or not trying at all are everywhere we look. The effects of evil are evident. Yet we have great hope that one day, there will be justice for all. Pray for the kingdom to come and that God's will would be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Scriptures to pray through:

Amos 5:24

Romans 8:18-25

Revelations 21:1-8

Isaiah 32:1-8

9. February 13 – Pray for our nation

I love a sunburnt country, a land of sweeping plains, of ragged mountain ranges, of droughts and flooding rains. I love her far horizons, I love her jewel-sea, her beauty and her terror – the wide brown land for me! *From My Country, Dorothea Mackellar

We live here. At this time in history, God has seen fit to have us here. Pray for this nation to experience revival. Whether you want to be here or not, there is a purpose for you in this nation.

Scriptures to pray through:

Jeremiah 29:7

Acts 8:7-8

Psalms 98

Acts 13:47-52

10. February 14 – Pray for your family

The story goes that my cousin, having a sleepover at my grandparent's house, woke up to hear them bluing in the middle of the night. Since she was awake anyway, she figured she would listen to see what they were fighting about. It turns out that they were praying for my dad, his 5 siblings and all their spouses, me, my 21 cousins, and any spouses and children that they had, all by name – they just had their hearing aids out and so didn't know they were yelling at each other.

The very best thing that we can possibly do for our families is to pray for them. It's not our last resort, it's our first response. Pray for your family by name. Bring them before His throne.

Scriptures to pray through for your family:

Joshua 24:15

Romans 12:2

Matthew 6:25-34

Deuteronomy 28:1-6

11. February 15 – Pray for your workplace.

It's where you spend most of your day. You have been sent there for a purpose. You have a light to shine and a message to share. Pray that your life shines Jesus. Pray that the gospel is attractive through you. Pray that you don't fire up but are a peacemaker instead. Pray blessings for your boss. Pray blessings for your competitor. Pray that you will be the best worker there.

Scriptures to pray through for your workplace:

Colossians 3:23-24

Matthew 5:14-16

Proverbs 15:1

Matthew 5:44-46

12. February 16 – Pray for your finances.

Wherever you are up to, you are in a position to wake up and pray – so thank God for His provision to start with. Then, lay before Him your hopes and dreams, and note if they are worthy asks. In 21 days of prayer and fasting 5 years ago, I was praying for everyone's prayer points every day, and on the last day I felt the Lord say "What about you?" I said "Oh yeah! Well God, I would like to be healed of this condition and I would like financial freedom". God did both of those things. Have faith to believe that He can do it for you and hear His whisper of where you might need to change things for you to be trustworthy with His blessing.

Scriptures to pray through:

Psalms 50:10-12

Matthew 6:24-34

Philippians 4:19

Luke 6:38

13. February 17 – Pray for your dreams.

Not sleeping dreams, but your hopes, plans, and desires – go on and pray for them! Pray they would be God-worthy dreams, pray they would impact many people, pray they would bring the kingdom of heaven right here, right now. Pray for them specifically, for their success. Pray boldly and confidently!

Scriptures to pray through:

Ephesians 3:20-21

2 Corinthians 9:8

Psalm 23:1

Philippians 4:7

14. February 18 - Pray for Armidale City Church

15. February 19 – Pray for The Chapel Bendemeer

Please pray for a thriving kids church

Pray we will be a watering hole church in the community. That we bring the light, life, love of Jesus.

Pray for the connection of our church congregation to grow closer as a church family that not one be isolated. That we grow deep in the Word.

16. February 20 – Pray for The Chapel Gunnedah

Leaders to grow in the knowledge of God, His Word, The Power of The Cross, the power of the Holy Spirit, and the Methods and plans of the devil.

The Church to mature in separation from sin, self, and the love of the world.

The Church to grow in authority over Satan and his agents and over the fear of human systems.

The Church to grow in love for God and neighbours.

The Church to receive and mature in their spiritual gifts.

The Church to grow and mature in the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

The Church will make disciples who make disciples.

17. February 21 – Pray for The Chapel Guyra

18. February 22 – Pray for The Chapel Port Macquarie

Pray for God to find us the right venue to meet in.

Pray that God would stir people's hearts with passion for this church.

Pray that God would give perfect clarity and direction about the way forward.

Pray that God would bring the financial provision for this church.

Pray that we would be as passionate about "the one" as He is.

19. February 23 – Pray for The Chapel Tamworth

20. February 24 – Pray for WAY Church Narrabri

21. February 25 – Pray for God's heart for "the one".

God sees all, knows all, is everywhere, at all times, and is completely interested in the one. At one point, we were that one. Pray that God would give us His heart to be able to see people, to have our hearts broken for people, to not give up praying for people, and to always be ready to give an answer for the hope we have. Pray to be able to be bold enough to give an invitation, whether to read the bible together, to come to Alpha, to come to church, to come to Jesus.

Scriptures to pray through:

1 Peter 3:15-16