

40 Days of Prayer

(Days 31-40)

Even though there are “focal passages” for each chapter, let the Holy Spirit speak to you through any of the verses, according to the needs He sees in your life and to the purposes He desires to fulfill through you.

Day 31

[Read Ephesians 1] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 1:18-21

Prayer ideas: Pray this prayer for yourself, that the eyes of your own heart would be enlightened by the Holy Spirit in all these ways, according to the exaltation of Jesus. Then, pray the details of this prayer for someone else.

Day 32

[Read Ephesians 2] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 2:1-10

Prayer ideas: Thank the Lord for saving you from sin, for seating you with Christ in the heavenly places, and for showing you the surpassing riches of His grace. Respond by yielding to the workmanship of His hand to use you in service for His kingdom.

Day 33

[Read Ephesians 3] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 3:14-21

Prayer ideas: Pray this prayer for yourself, that through the indwelling Spirit of Jesus, you would experience His power, presence, perspective, possibilities, and purpose. Then, pray the details of this prayer for someone else.

Day 34

[Read Ephesians 4] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 4:22-32

Prayer ideas: Ask God to forgive you for living as if you are still your “old self” which has already been crucified (Romans 6:6). Spend time praying down through these verses, asking God to remove those things that do not belong in the life of a follower of Jesus, and requesting that He instill those things that should naturally be part of a person who is in fellowship with Christ.

Day 35

[Read Ephesians 5] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 5:15-21

Prayer ideas: If, without fail, the intoxication (“filling”) of alcohol effects (“influences”) the behavior of a person, surely the filling of the Holy Spirit will transform any person in whom He dwells! Examine the impact of Christ in your life over against the impact of alcohol or drugs in someone else’s. Pray that the Lord will control your personality such that His presence is obvious!

Day 36

[Read Ephesians 6] **Focal passage:** Ephesians 6:10-18

Prayer ideas: Pray through what we often refer to as the “Gospel Armor.” Ask the Lord to reveal to you any misconceptions about our battle, any missing pieces of armor, and any weapons with which you need more training.

Day 37

[Read Philippians 1] **Focal passage:** Philippians 1:12-21

Prayer ideas: Because of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit of Christ, Paul’s life in prison “turned out for the greater progress of the gospel” (1:12). Pray that we will accept any and all circumstances as opportunities for the Lord to express Himself through us in ways we would have never imagined.

Day 38

[Read Philippians 2] **Focal passage:** Philippians 2:3-8

Prayer ideas: Examine your life over against the details listed in this focal passage. “Lord, please remind me that You are my example! Help me to follow Your character of humility and servanthood, that others may see You when they look at my life.”

Day 39

[Read Philippians 3] **Focal passage:** Philippians 3:8-12

Prayer Ideas: Why do you suppose the Lord “laid hold of” your life (3:12)? What does it take to live in the pathway of seeing that materialize (3:8-10)? “Lord, please help me to completely set aside anything that would prevent me from truly knowing You!”

Day 40

[Read Philippians 4] **Focal passage:** Philippians 4:4-9

Prayer Ideas: Pray through this very familiar passage, taking time with each word or phrase, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the present condition and content of your heart. Confess any doubts and anxieties that consume your thinking. Trust Christ fully with everything, set your mind only on things referenced in verse 8, and “the God of peace shall be with you” (4:9).