

HAVE YOU

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TALKED

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TO GOD

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TODAY?

*Pray for 31 Guide*

Distributed for Prayer Focus Month—May 2013

# Prayer Guide Preface

Heavenly Father--help us to rightly value your Word! Let it become our prayer-book as we hold fast to your promises and pray their application. Even now we give thanks for the blessings to come from your hand and the glory your name will receive. "For no matter how many promises God has made, they are 'Yes' in Christ. And so through Him the 'Amen' is spoken by us to the glory of God." (II Corinthians 1:20)

*In Christ's name we pray--the saints at VCC!*

## Suggested Guidelines

Each day begins with a promise from God's Word followed by a brief prayer. This brief beginning is meant to *prime the pump*. Remember, the Spirit Himself prays along with us with groanings that we do not hear. (Romans 8:26) So take the humble beginning provided in this *Pray for 31 Guide* and continue to pray as the Spirit and Word lead.



# Prayer Guide

## Day 1

*Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking  
I will hear. (Isaiah 65:24)*

Lord, because you promise to both hear and answer, help us to be firm in our commitment to come to you in prayer for the next 31 days. Help us to build a habit of daily appropriating this awesome privilege you have given to us, of coming boldly before your throne.

## Day 2

*Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a  
reproach to any people. (Proverbs 14:34)*

Lord help us, the people of this nation, to recognize the ravages sin has caused within our land and its empty promise for the future. Let this cause us to turn to You for forgiveness and to seek Your ways, that we might be a blessed people.

## Day 3

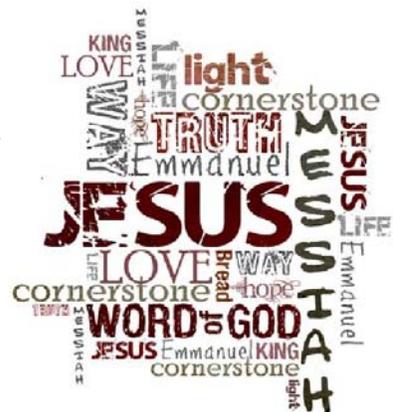
*For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn it but to  
save the world through Him (John 3:17)*

Father, help us line up with your purpose in sending Your Son by proclaiming the salvation that is available through Jesus Christ, and Him alone, to our families, friends and acquaintances.

## Day 4

*Then you will know the Truth and the Truth will  
set you free. . . So if the Son sets you free, you  
will be free indeed. (John 8:32,36)*

Lord help the people of this Land be “free indeed” through an understanding of the truths in Your Word and through a personal relationship with Your Son.



## Day 5

*All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

*(II Timothy 3:16-17)*

Lord teach us to value Your Word! As we face challenges in this life, help us to turn first to consider what truths You have preserved for us; and place Your word above the wisdom of this world.

## Day 6

*I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for*

*everyone—for kings and all those in authority. . (I Timothy 2:1-2)*

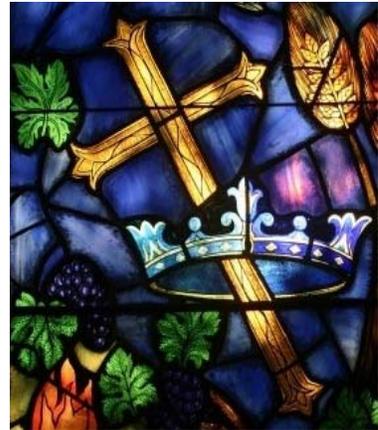
Heavenly Father, we lift the leaders of this nation to You, and we pray for them by name. . . . Give them hearts drawn to the truth of Your Word, give them

discernment to fulfill the trust by which they serve, protect their families and give them courage to do what is right.

## Day 7

*But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (Romans 5:8)*

Lord, help us to be ready to demonstrate our love, as well as minister to those You bring into our circles of concern—even when they too are sinners!



## Day 8

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)*

Heavenly Father, we know that the encroachment of evil in our day is not ultimately of man, but rather that of the “spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms”. We know that we are no match, and so we claim the promise that “greater is He who is in us than he who is in the world.” (I John 4:4) Help us to depend upon You to accomplish Your purposes through us in the face of the spiritual resistance we are bound to find in this world.

## Day 9

*Being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:6)*

Father, we thank You that You didn't save us, and then leave us to fend for ourselves. Thank You for using all manner of circumstances to *grind away our rough edges* and work all things together for the good of conforming us to the image of Your Son. Help us to trust Your loving hand as you shape us.

## Day 10

*But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! (Amos 5:24)*

Heavenly Father, help us not to forget that righteousness and justice are as much a part of Your character as is Your love. Let justice start in our dealings with others, and we pray that it would prevail in our land.

## Day 11

*. . . to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. (Ephesians 1:6)*

Father, to be accepted in Jesus Christ is to have peace—a full and ongoing peace. Help us to never be moved from such a secure foundation by making the mistake of turning to our own efforts to gain acceptance from You.

## Day 12

*Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate. (Proverbs 31:30-31)*



O Lord, in this day when marriage and family are under such attack, we pray for our nation that the truths of your Word would help us to rightly value women and their divinely-designed role as mothers. Lord, we also pray for the Christian mothers throughout our nation as they teach and model truth to the next generation. Give them discernment, strength and endurance.

## Day 13

*For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, but also with him who is of a contrite and humble spirit. . . (Isaiah 57:15)*

O Lord, we do know You are exalted above all things —how then can You dwell in me? Give me that contrite and lowly spirit that allows You to enable and manifest Yourself through me.

## Day 14

*When I tried to understand all this it was oppressive to me till I entered the sanctuary of God; then I understood their final destiny. (Psalm 73:16-17)*

Lord, the wicked in our land seem to gain daily in strength and numbers. Help us to keep our eyes upon You and give us an understanding of their final destiny.

## Day 15

*To do righteousness and justice is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. (Proverbs 21:3)*

Lord, keep us ever mindful that you value integrity and righteousness by your people, rather than religious ritual.

## Day 16

*No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. . . But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love. . . (Psalm 33:16-18)*

Lord, keep us as a nation from trusting in our military might or technological prowess, for as your children, we know these are a vain hope for deliverance. Rather, let us as a people realize it is those who walk in reverent obedience to You who draw Your attention and protection.

## Day 17

*The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who wins souls is wise. (Proverbs 11:30)*

Father help us to reject the lure of *worldly wisdom*; rather, help us to be found wise in Your sight because we keep our focus on being used by You to bring lost people into Your Kingdom!

## Day 18

*There is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord. (Proverbs 21:30)*

Lord, cause us to turn from our delusion as a nation that we can go our own way and escape judgment; or that we can go our own way and remain a blessed people.

## Day 19

*Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; and in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, until these calamities have passed by. (Psalm 57:1)*

Lord, we acknowledge there is nothing that can touch us when we take refuge in You. Lord, let the varied *calamities* of this life cause us to trust and take refuge in You.

## Day 20

*But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of His heart through all generations. (Psalm 33:11)*

Lord, help us to respect Your sovereign control over history, including the rise and fall of nations; and so let us turn to You that we might be a blessed people.

## Day 21



*This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength. . . ." (Isaiah 30:15)*

Lord, teach us to look to You for *deliverance* in every area of our lives. As we face difficulties, teach us to pause and look at things from Your viewpoint, and then begin to *twist* together the promises You have given us in Your Word, and thereby find our strength in You.

## Day 22

*It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man.  
It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in princes.  
(Psalm 118:8-9)*

Heavenly Father, we ask that You would move in the hearts of the people of this nation to apply this principle as they exercise their civic responsibilities, and to repent of our having turned from You in so many aspects of our society.



## Day 23

*And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock (the confession of Jesus as Messiah) I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. (Matthew 16:18)*

Lord, when we get discouraged about the lack of interest regarding spiritual things among those around us; help us to simply keep pointing to Jesus Christ, and trust You to draw all men to Yourself.

## Day 24

*The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of waters; He turns it wherever He wishes. (Proverbs 21:1)*

Lord we know that nothing is independent of your sovereignty. When the decisions of our nation's leaders appear to be spiraling out of control, help us to know that you are in control and able to use even *bad choices* to accomplish your purposes.

## Day 25

*I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve. (Jeremiah 17:10)*

Lord, we know that all our thoughts are open to You. Help us to closely monitor our thought life—laying it open to the scrutiny of Your Word and Spirit. If we do so, we know the *works* that follow will be acceptable to You.

## Day 26

*But blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him. He will be like a tree planted by the water. . .and never fails to bear fruit. (Jeremiah 17:7-8)*

Lord, we desire to be used by You, to bear fruit, all the days of our lives. This being the case, keep us trusting in You and Your Word. For Lord we do believe, help our unbelief!

## Day 27

*Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him. (Isaiah 30:18)*

Heavenly Father, sometimes we let our failures keep us from You. In truth, even on our best day, were it not for the work of Your Son and the riches of Your grace to us, we would never be able to stand before You. Father, draw us daily to Yourself. As we come, we trust in Your grace and compassion to us.

## Day 28

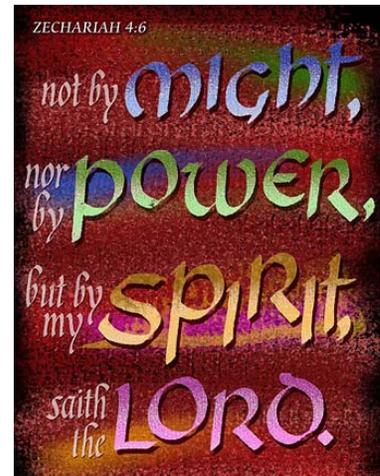
*For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display My power in you and that My Name might be proclaimed in all the earth." (Romans 9:17)*

Lord, let it be said of the United States of America that the Lord displayed His power and brought glory to His name; and Lord, let it be because we were an obedient people and not because of judgment.

## Day 29

*"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit," says the Lord Almighty. (Zechariah 4:6)*

Lord, we refuse to focus upon whatever physical limitations we might have, and instead trust in Your Spirit to accomplish what You desire through us—for this is Your way. Keep us mindful of this truth as we use our spiritual gifts for Your glory.



## Day 30

*. . . if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

*(II Chronicles 7:14)*

Heavenly Father, as You promised to forgive and heal Your people, Israel, should they turn back to You, we pray for Your Spirit to convict our nation of its need for repentance and draw us to You. Lord, cause us to humble ourselves and turn from our evil to You!



## Day 31

*Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness. . .and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing.*

*(II Timothy 4:8)*

Father, we acknowledge that Your plan is a grace plan from start to finish. You saved us by the grace of the cross, enabled us by the grace of Your Holy Spirit and Your Word, and by grace prepared ahead of time the works that You have had for us to do. We praise Your name, that by grace You are going to also reward us for what You have enabled us to do. Who is like You O, Lord? And all God's people said, "Amen!"

*Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. (1 Timothy 2:8)*

# Vistoso Community Church

## OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of Vistoso Community Church is to bring glory to God by completing the work He has given us to do.

John 17:4

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be used by God to help the lost receive eternal life, and those with eternal life to grow in grace and knowledge.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Christ is the only Lord and Savior. Acts 2:36
- The Bible is the inspired word of God. II Timothy 3:16-17
- We honor God through traditional worship: Psalm 19:14
- Our loving fellowship strengthens us. Hebrews 10:24-25
- Seeking the lost is our commission. Matthew 28:19-20
- The principles of divine establishment are God given.  
Nehemiah. 4:14



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