

24 Hours of Prayer: FOR the Opportunity

The world is turned upside down, full of darkness, and without answers. It might just be that God is offering you and the rest of TCALF an opportunity to influence for His good.

Devote approximately five minutes per Scripture passage segment for focused prayer or worship, asking God, “What is it You would have me do in times like these?”

1. The Lord’s Prayer - Let’s start with the Lord’s Prayer. Pray through each line with intentionality as the song plays.

Matthew 6:9-13 - “This, then, is how you should pray: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today 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 the evil one, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

2. Read the word - Spend time reading the word. The Psalms, in the prophets, and passages on prayer located in the New Testament are great. After reading, pray in response to the text, that God would instruct your heart in what he wants you to learn.

1 Corinthians 11:17-34 - 17 But in the following instructions, I cannot praise you. For it sounds as if more harm than good is done when you meet together. 18 First, I hear that there are divisions among you when you meet as a church, and to some extent I believe it. 19 But, of course, there must be divisions among you so that you who have God’s approval will be recognized!

20 When you meet together, you are not really interested in the Lord’s Supper. 21 For some of you hurry to eat your own meal without sharing with others. As a result, some go hungry while others get drunk. 22 What? Don’t you have your own homes for eating and drinking? Or do you really want to disgrace God’s church and shame the poor? What am I supposed to say? Do you want me to praise you? Well, I certainly will not praise you for this!

23 For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread 24 and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25 In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.” 26 For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.

27 So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. 28 That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup. 29 For if you eat the bread or drink the cup without honoring the body of Christ, you are eating and drinking God's judgment upon yourself. 30 That is why many of you are weak and sick and some have even died.

31 But if we would examine ourselves, we would not be judged by God in this way. 32 Yet when we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

33 So, my dear brothers and sisters, [i] when you gather for the Lord's Supper, wait for each other. 34 If you are really hungry, eat at home so you won't bring judgment upon yourselves when you meet together. I'll give you instructions about the other matters after I arrive.

3. Confession - Ask the Holy Spirit to show you anything in your life that might be displeasing to Him. Ask Him to point out attitudes that are wrong, as well as specific acts for which you have not yet made a prayer of confession. Now confess that to the Lord so that you might be cleansed.

Psalm 65:3 - 'Though we are overwhelmed by our sins, you forgive them all. '

4. Communion/Wait - Remembering Jesus' words recorded in the passage you read earlier, take communion. If your children are with you, you are welcome to serve them communion. Then spend time waiting on the Lord. Be silent and let Him pull together reflections for you.

Psalm 40:1-2 - 'He lifted me out of the pit of despair, out of the mud and the mire. He set my feet on solid ground and steadied me as I walked along. I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry. '

5. Praise - God is our heavenly father. As this song plays, praise Him for who he is. Praise Him for things that are on your mind right now. Praise Him for one special thing He has done in your life in the past week. Praise Him for His goodness to your family.

Psalm 61:8 - 'Then I will sing praises to your name forever as I fulfill my vows each day.'

6. Petition - Ask or make requests on behalf of yourself. If you would like to visit the Prayer Wall and leave a request for others to pray for, this would be a good time to do that.

Psalm 34:17 - 'The Lord hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles. '

7. Intercession - Ask or make requests on behalf of others. This would be a good time to return to the prayer wall to pray for others' requests that may have been posted there.

Galatians 6:2 - 'Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ. '

8-9. Prayer Walk - Walk around the church, inside or outside. Both buildings are open. Flashlights are available if you need them outside. As you walk, pray for things you see, the ministries that meet in the spaces, even the people who park between the white lines. Pray specific passages. Memory verses, scriptural prayers, as well as a number of Psalms lend themselves well to this purpose. Take your time. This is a 10 minute segment.

*Psalm 67 - May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
Selah*

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you! The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us. 7 God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!

10. Thanksgiving - Give thanks to the Lord for the things in your life, on behalf of your family, and on behalf of your church.

Psalm 107:8-9 - 'For he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things. Let them praise the Lord for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them. '

Psalm 40:3 - 'He has given me a new song to sing, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see what he has done and be amazed. They will put their trust in the Lord . '

