

Foundation of Faith

Faith: The essential believing trust in God that works by love to purify our souls.

“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your **faith**. . .” (2 Peter 1:5).

“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2).

“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith” (1 John 5:4).

“The Lord would have all His sons and daughters happy, peaceful, and obedient. Through the exercise of faith, the believer comes into possession of these blessings. Through faith, every deficiency of character may be supplied, every defilement cleansed, every fault corrected, every excellence developed” (*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 564).

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation” (Hebrews 11:1, 2, ESV).

“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 1:6-7).

“The very time to exercise faith is when we feel destitute of the Spirit. . . . True faith rests on the promises contained in the word of God, and those only who obey that word can claim its glorious promises” (*Christian Experience & Teachings*, p. 126).

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” (Hebrews 11:6).

Intercession Focus: Children, Families & Adventist Education

Let us pray with strong faith for our children and families. Specifically, pray for:

- Each person, especially children, to experience the love of God and their family
- Family members who are not currently active believers in Christ to be converted
- Children to desire a relationship with God and learn how to nurture that relationship
- Cross-generational relationships and ministries to be strong and effective
- Parents to have wisdom to disciple their children in the ways of God
- Adventist education to be amply supported and distinctly Seventh-day Adventist so that each young person leaves school on fire for God and committed to the Adventist Church

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While I work on the plan of **addition** . . . God is working on the plan of **multiplication**!

Dear Lord, during the next 24 hours, I feel You calling me to add this grace to my life: _____

In Your strength and by Your power, I choose to: _____

These are the ways I saw God multiply His grace to me today:

Ten Days of Prayer 2013
Leader's Guide Three

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Suggested Plan

Introduction—5 Minutes:

- Remind people of general guidelines for united prayer as explained in United Prayer Guidelines (available on www.tendaysofprayer.org).
- Introduce the day's prayer topics: deeper faith and our children, families, and schools.

Have each person select five intercession cards at random from the intercession box to pray over during the supplication time. Make sure they return these to the box at the end.

United Prayer Time

Praise—10 Minutes:

- Praise God for being the Author and Finisher of our faith. Use the scriptures on the theme sheet to guide your praises.
- Encourage people to share their answers to prayer as praises to God.

Confession—5 Minutes:

- Have people spend three minutes individually asking God to reveal to them which areas in their lives are demonstrating a lack of faith in God.
- Spend two minutes in corporate confession, asking forgiveness for our lack of faith.

Supplication—30 Minutes:

- Pray for greater faith. Especially claim God's promises listed on the theme sheet.
- Claim the outpouring of the Holy Spirit promised in God's Word.
- Divide people into groups of two or three to pray for the individuals/situations listed on the five cards they chose from the box.
- Pray for Seventh-day Adventist children and families using the ideas on the theme sheet.
- Spend time interceding for specific family members. You may want to invite people to simply call out the name of the person they want to pray for.
- Pray Scripture into the lives of your children. Offer the first prayer to show people how. For example, 1 Thessalonians 3:13: "May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones." Then pray something like this: "Dear Lord, please strengthen my son's heart-level determination to do what is right. Give him your grace to make decisions that lead to holiness. Jesus, may he look forward to Your return."

Journal Page Time—5 Minutes:

- Give some time for quiet reflection on God's goodness and our response.

Praise—5 Minutes:

- Thank God for giving us the foundation of faith and saving our children and families!

Suggested Songs to Use: "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" (SDA Hymnal #524); "It is Well With My Soul" (SDA Hymnal #530); "Sweet Hour of Prayer" (SDA Hymnal #478); "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (SDA Hymnal #100); "Trust and Obey" (SDA Hymnal #590); "All the Way" (SDA Hymnal #516); "Tis Love That Makes Us Happy" (SDA Hymnal #579); "Family of God."