

10 Days of Prayer 2017

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Day 1—Enter His Gates with Thanksgiving

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” Ps. 100:4

Suggested Format for the Prayer Time

Praise (approximately 10 minutes)

- Begin your prayer time by praising God for who He is, for His love, His wisdom, His holiness, etc.
- Praise God that “in His presence is fullness of joy” (Ps. 16:11).
- Praise God for the sanctuary and the lessons we can learn from it.

Confession and Claiming Victory Over Sin (approximately 5 minutes)

- Ask God to show you what sins you need to confess in your heart. Claim His victory over those sins.
- Ask God for forgiveness for not always having a thankful heart.
- Thank God that He forgives you according to 1 John 1:9.

Supplication and Intercession (approximately 35 minutes)

- Pray that God will give you a thankful spirit.
- Pray that you will learn to rejoice in trials through the Holy Spirit that abides in your heart daily.
- Pray that your words will be words of praise and thankfulness that will point people to Jesus.
- Ask God to help you reflect Him in your speech.
- Pray that God will help you understand the message of the sanctuary and its significance for your life.
- Pray that we will lift up Christ and Him crucified and coming again—for He is our Saviour and Lord, who has given us His last warning message of love and redemption to proclaim to the world.
- Pray for all church members to feel a burden for souls as we follow in Christ’s steps and interact with those who need a personal relationship with the Lord.
- Pray for a spiritual revival for Seventh-day Adventist young people attending public colleges and universities worldwide. Pray that they become vibrant ambassadors and missionaries for Christ.
- Pray for Adventist Mission as it coordinates church planting projects around the world and seeks the funds needed to send Global Mission pioneers into unentered areas.
- Pray for people who live in the world’s large cities and are surrounded by so many things that distract them from Jesus. Pray that they would be able to hear the whisper of the Holy Spirit amid their surroundings.
- Pray for God to raise up medical missionaries to plant churches among the 830 people groups within the 11 countries of East-Central Africa Division.
- Pray for God to raise up young people to plant churches for the 750 people groups within the 13 countries of Euro-Asia Division.
- Pray for Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries as they mobilize chaplains and interested members to minister to those in prison.
- Pray that the seven (or more) people on your list will see their need and open their hearts to the Holy Spirit.
- Ask God to give you opportunities to express your thankfulness to Him in front of these seven people. Ask Him also to show you how to do this.
- Pray for any personal needs you have.

Thanksgiving (approximately 10 minutes)

- Thank God for the joy you can experience in His presence.
- Thank God for the privilege of being a witness through your words of praise and thankfulness.
- Thank God for the amazing things He is going to do these ten days.

Suggested Songs to Sing

“O Worship the Lord” (SDA Hymnal #6); “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” (SDA Hymnal #12); “My Maker and My King” (SDA Hymnal #15); “Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart!” (SDA Hymnal #27); “Wake the Song” (SDA Hymnal #34).

Enter Into His Gates with Thanksgiving

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” Ps. 100:4

Make your work pleasant with songs of praise. If you would have a clean record in the books of heaven, never fret or scold. Let your daily prayer be, “Lord, teach me to do my best. Teach me how to do better work. Give me energy and cheerfulness.” . . . Bring Christ into all that you do. Then your lives will be filled with brightness and thanksgiving. . . . Let us do our best, moving forward cheerfully in the service of the Lord, with our hearts filled with His joy. (*Child Guidance*, p. 148)

As you pour out your thank offering, God is glorified, and He gives you more. As you pour out thanksgiving He gives you more joy. We learn to praise God from whom all blessings flow. Shall we not begin right here to turn over the page and forget our murmurings and complainings and faultfinding, and educate the tongue to courteous words, and loving words, and sympathetic words, and tender kindness for one another of His children? (*Reflecting Christ*, p. 285)

As followers of Christ we should make our words such as to be a help and an encouragement to one another in the Christian life. Far more than we do, we need to speak of the precious chapters in our experience. We should speak of the mercy and loving-kindness of God, of the matchless depths of the Savior’s love. Our words should be words of praise and thanksgiving. If the mind and heart are full of the love of God, this will be revealed in the conversation. It will not be a difficult matter to impart that which enters into our spiritual life. Great thoughts, noble aspirations, clear perceptions of truth, unselfish purposes, yearnings for piety and holiness, will bear fruit in words that reveal the character of the heart treasure. When Christ is thus revealed in our speech, it will have power in winning souls to Him. (*To Be Like Jesus*, p. 95)

If we truly love Christ, we shall glorify Him by our words. Unbelievers are often convicted as they listen to pure words of praise and gratitude to God. (*The Review and Herald*, Jan. 25, 1898)

To praise God in fullness and sincerity of heart is as much a duty as is prayer. We are to show to the world and to all the heavenly intelligences that we appreciate the wonderful love of God for fallen humanity and that we are expecting larger and yet larger blessings from His infinite fullness. Far more than we do, we need to speak of the precious chapters in our experience. After a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit, our joy in the Lord and our efficiency in His service would be greatly increased by recounting His goodness and His wonderful works in behalf of His children. (*Christ Object Lessons*, pp. 299, 300)

The Lord Jesus is our strength and happiness, the great storehouse from which, on every occasion, men may draw strength. As we study Him, talk of Him, become more and more able to behold Him—as we avail ourselves of His grace and receive the blessings He proffers us, we have something with which to help others. Filled with gratitude, we communicate to others the blessings that have been freely given us. Thus receiving and imparting, we grow in grace; and a rich current of praise and gratitude constantly flows from our lips; the sweet spirit of Jesus kindles thanksgiving in our hearts, and our souls are uplifted with a sense of security. The unailing, inexhaustible righteousness of Christ becomes our righteousness by faith.

Let the fresh blessings of each new day awaken praise in our hearts for these tokens of His loving care.

When you open your eyes in the morning, thank God that He has kept you through the night. Thank Him for His peace in your heart. Morning, noon, and night let gratitude as a sweet perfume ascend to heaven. . . . (*My Life Today*, p. 171)

Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness. (Ps. 150:1, 2)

You can be just what Christ said His disciples should be—“the light of the world” (Matthew 5:14). You should diffuse that light, hope, and faith to others. You are not to go groaning your way onward in His service, as though He were a hard taskmaster, laying upon you burdens that you cannot carry. This is not the case. He wants you to be filled with joy, to be filled with the blessing of God, to know the length and breadth and height and depth of the love of God, which passeth knowledge. When His name is mentioned He wants it to strike the keynote, and there will be a response in your hearts. Then you can offer up thanksgiving and glory and honor and praise to Him that sitteth on the throne and to the Lamb. (*Faith and Works*, p. 78)