

# 10 Days of Prayer 2016

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## Day 3—Christ in Us

*"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20, KJV*

### Suggested Format for the Prayer Time

#### **Praise** (approximately 10 minutes)

- Begin your prayer time by praising God for who He is (His character). Praise Him that He never changes, for His mercy, for His faithfulness, etc.
- Praise God that there is no better place to be than in the middle of His love, being wholly surrendered to Him.
- Praise God that He is calling you to abide in Him.

#### **Confession and Claiming Victory Over Sin** (approximately 5 minutes)

- Ask God to show you if there are any sins you need to confess privately. Claim His victory over those sins.
- Ask God to forgive you for times when you did not allow Him to live in your heart. Ask Him to live in your heart daily.
- Thank God that He forgives you according to 1 John 1:9.

#### **Supplication and Intercession** (approximately 35 minutes)

- Can those around you see that Christ lives in you? Ask God to come into your life and shine through you and that other people will see Him in you.
- Pray for family and friends who are not abiding in Christ. Pray that the fruit of the Spirit will be made manifest in their lives.
- Pray that God will give you faith to receive the righteousness of Christ as your own.
- Can you see traces of selfishness in your life? Surrender those to God and ask Him to make you unselfish.
- Pray for a lowly and meek heart that Christ may abide in you.
- Pray for an increased sense of urgency and a realization by church leaders and members that we are living at the end of time and that Jesus is coming soon as He indicated three times in Revelation 22.
- Pray that we will devote more of our time to eternal values through Bible study and prayer, allowing God to fully direct His people according to His will and not our will. This will help keep us close to God and allow the power of the Holy Spirit to reverse trends of worldliness that threaten God's church and our daily lives.
- Pray for heartfelt gratitude for and full acceptance of the Spirit of Prophecy writings as being applicable today. Pray that church leaders and members read the materials on a regular basis.
- Mission to the Cities—Pray for the Southern-Asia Pacific Division and the cities on which they are concentrating their efforts: Metro Manila, Dhaka, Cebu, Makassar, Yangon, Urdaneta, Karachi, Kota Kinabalo, Vavao, Medan. Pray for the workers to be filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that the seven (or more) people on your list will see their need and open their hearts for the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for any personal needs you have.

#### **Thanksgiving** (approximately 10 minutes)

- Thank God that the "the inward man is being renewed day by day" (2 Cor. 4:16).
- Thank God that He is willing to come and live in your heart.
- Thank God that He has sent angels out to answer the prayers you have prayed during these ten days.

#### **Suggested Songs to Sing**

"Live Out Thy Life Within Me" (*SDA Hymnal* #316); "Yes, Lord, I Give My Life to You"; "I Need Thee Every Hour" (*SDA Hymnal* #483); "Draw Me Nearer" (*SDA Hymnal* #306); "I Surrender All" (*SDA Hymnal* #309); "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" (*SDA Hymnal* #462); "Fill My Cup, Lord" (*SDA Hymnal* #493).

## Christ in Us

*"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20, KJV*

Why are we so dull of comprehension? Why do we not cling to Jesus, and draw from Him by faith the strength and perfection of His character, as the vine branch draws the sap from the living vine? We are to look to Jesus, and as temptations close us about, climb up step by step in the work of overcoming. Abiding in Christ, we become one with Him. Then we are safe, entirely safe, against all the assaults of Satan. Christ living in the soul is revealed in the character. Man is nothing without Christ. But if Christ lives in us, we shall work the works of God. We shall represent Christ in our life, we shall talk of Christ because we meditate upon Him. We shall grow up into Christ to the full stature of men and women in spiritual understanding. (*Signs of the Times*, Oct. 10, 1892)

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. (John 15:5, KJV)

When we feel our heart need, when we long after the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit, Christ draws nigh to us. Self is crucified. Christ lives in us, and the power of the Spirit attends our efforts; then the soul is refined and elevated. Light from the heavenly sanctuary shines upon us, and we are enabled to exert an influence which is a savor of life unto life. By a union with Christ, by living faith, we are privileged to enjoy the efficacy of His mediation. We are crucified with Christ, buried with Christ, risen with Christ, to walk in newness of life. (*Signs of the Times*, Oct. 11, 1899)

Man needs a power outside of and beyond himself, to restore him to the likeness of God, and enable him to do the work of God; but this does not make the human agency unessential. Humanity lays hold upon divine power, Christ dwells in the heart by faith; and through co-operation with the divine, the power of man becomes efficient for good. (*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 104)

Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. (John 4:13, 14, KJV)

Jesus did not convey the idea that merely one draft of the water of life would suffice the receiver. He who tastes of the love of Christ will continually long for more; but he seeks for nothing else. The riches, honors, and pleasures of the world do not attract him. The constant cry of his heart is, More of Thee. And He who reveals to the soul its necessity is waiting to satisfy its hunger and thirst. Every human resource and dependence will fail. The cisterns will be emptied, the pools become dry; but our Redeemer is an inexhaustible fountain. We may drink, and drink again, and ever find a fresh supply. He in whom Christ dwells has within himself the fountain of blessing,—“a well of water springing up into everlasting life.” From this source he may draw strength and grace sufficient for all his needs. (*The Desire of Ages*, p. 187)

So long as we are in the world, we shall meet with adverse influences. There will be provocations to test the temper; and it is by meeting these in a right spirit that the Christian graces are developed. If Christ dwells in us, we shall be patient, kind, and forbearing, cheerful amid frets and irritations. Day by day and year by year we shall conquer self, and grow into a noble heroism. This is our allotted task; but it cannot be accomplished without help from Jesus, resolute decision, unwavering purpose, continual watchfulness, and unceasing prayer. Each one has a personal battle to fight. Not even God can make our characters noble or our lives useful, unless we become co-workers with Him. Those who decline the struggle lose the strength and joy of victory. (*Gospel Workers*, p. 477)

It is the privilege of every soul to exercise faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. But pure spiritual life comes only as the soul surrenders itself to the will of God through Christ, the reconciling Saviour. It is our privilege to be worked by the Holy Spirit. Through the exercise of faith we are brought into communion with Christ Jesus, for Christ dwells in the hearts of all who are meek and lowly. Theirs is a faith that works by love and purifies the soul, a faith that brings peace to the heart, and leads in the path of self-denial and self-sacrifice. (*This Day with God*, p. 359)

### Questions for Personal Reflection

1. Jesus wants not a distant relationship with you but to be as close as possible. He wants to dwell in your heart. How does this make you feel? How can you invite Him to dwell in your heart?
2. Consider prayerfully what would hinder Christ from abiding in you.