God Family Country

# GUIDED BIBLE STUDY

# A Prayer for Today

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## Highlighted Scripture

- **1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NLT)**

  *"Never stop praying."*

  Tony invites us to return to God with today's needs. Prayer is an ongoing posture of dependence, not a performance or a way to force a particular answer. Bring ordinary moments and persistent concerns to him.

- **Numbers 6:24-26 (WEB)**

  *"The LORD bless you, and keep you."*

  This priestly blessing asks for God's keeping, favor, and peace over his people. Tony begins his prayer with that same desire: that we would live today aware of God's gracious care.

- **Psalm 23:4-5 (WEB)**

  *"I will fear no evil, for you are with me."*

  The shepherd remains with his people in the valley and prepares a table in the presence of enemies. The comfort is God's companionship amid danger, not a promise that we will never enter a difficult place.

- **Psalm 91:7, 10-12 (WEB)**

  *"For he will put his angels in charge of you, to guard you in all your ways."*

  The psalm celebrates the security of taking refuge in God. Its assurance belongs with the whole psalm's promise of his presence in trouble. Trust his care without treating these words as permission to ignore danger or wise help.

- **Psalm 62:2 (WEB)**

  *"He alone is my rock, my salvation, and my fortress."*

  God is a dependable refuge when people or circumstances feel unstable. Tony's prayer encourages us to rest our confidence in who God is, rather than in our ability to predict what happens next.

- **Psalm 27:1 (WEB)**

  *"The LORD is the strength of my life. Of whom shall I be afraid?"*

  David's confidence rests in the Lord while real opposition remains. Bringing fear to God is an act of trust. We can ask for courage without pretending that our concerns are unreal.

- **Luke 10:38-42**

  Jesus speaks tenderly to Martha while Mary listens at his feet. Service matters, but anxious busyness can crowd out attention to Jesus. Tony's invitation to surrender starts with making room to hear him.

- **Matthew 6:25-34 (WEB)**

  *"for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things."*

  Jesus addresses food, clothing, and tomorrow's worries while calling his disciples to seek God's kingdom. Entrusting our needs to the Father frees us for today's faithful responsibilities; it does not ask us to neglect them.

- **Philippians 4:19 (WEB)**

  *"My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."*

  Paul writes to a church that has shared generously in his ministry. God's provision is trustworthy, yet our needs and our wishes are not always the same. We can ask honestly and receive his help through other people.

- **Psalm 50:10 (WEB)**

  *"For every animal of the forest is mine, and the livestock on a thousand hills."*

  Everything belongs to God; he does not depend on our gifts to meet a shortage. In this psalm he calls for sincere thanksgiving and faithfulness. Remembering his ownership encourages humble trust rather than bargaining with him.

- **2 Corinthians 1:20 (WEB)**

  *"For however many are the promises of God, in him is the 'Yes.'"*

  God's promises find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. We can rely on God's faithfulness while learning what he has actually promised, rather than treating every desired result as a guarantee.

- **Psalm 118:24 (WEB)**

  *"This is the day that the LORD has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it!"*

  This song gives thanks for the Lord's saving work. Tony invites us to receive today with gratitude. Rejoicing can coexist with grief, uncertainty, and honest prayer; it need not hide them.

- **Psalm 46:1 (WEB)**

  *"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."*

  The psalm describes upheaval while declaring God's presence. His help is not limited to peaceful seasons. We can turn to him in the middle of the storm, even before our circumstances change.

- **Matthew 28:18-20**

  The risen Jesus sends his followers to make disciples, baptize, and teach obedience to him. Sharing the gospel is more than finding a perfect phrase. It includes patient relationships, truthful witness, and helping others follow Jesus.

- **Psalm 46:10 (WEB)**

  *"Be still, and know that I am God."*

  God declares his rule over nations and a troubled world. Stillness acknowledges that he is God and we are not. We can release the demand to control every outcome while continuing to obey him.

- **Joshua 1:7-9 (WEB)**

  *"Only be strong and very courageous."*

  God commissions Joshua to lead Israel, grounding courage in his presence and obedience to his instruction. The application is faithful action shaped by God's Word, rather than confidence that every personal plan will succeed.

- **Ephesians 6:10-18 (WEB)**

  *"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil."*

  Paul calls believers to stand in God's strength. Truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, and God's Word belong together with prayer. Faith is the shield; God's Word is the sword of the Spirit. Read and practice Scripture daily.

- **Philippians 4:11-13 (WEB)**

  *"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."*

  Paul describes learning contentment in both plenty and need. Christ strengthens us to remain faithful through changing circumstances. This encouragement is deeper than a promise of unlimited achievement or an easy day.

- **Deuteronomy 28:1-8 (WEB)**

  *"You shall be blessed when you come in, and you shall be blessed when you go out."*

  These blessings address Israel's life in the promised land and are tied to covenant obedience. They reveal God's goodness and the seriousness of faithfulness. They are not an unconditional guarantee of wealth or success for every believer's project.

## Discussion Questions

- Which concern feels heaviest today: family, finances, the future, or your purpose? What would it look like to bring that concern to God honestly instead of carrying it alone?
- Tony reminds us that God is present in the storm. How does that change the way you pray when the situation has not improved?
- Where do you recognize Martha's anxious busyness in your own life? What responsibility could you approach differently after taking time to listen to Jesus?
- How can you distinguish a promise God has made from an outcome you strongly want? What helps you keep trusting when the answer or timing differs from your expectations?
- What small act of courage could help someone else know Jesus this week? How can you speak with kindness, listen carefully, and let Scripture guide what you say?

## Reflection Challenge

For the next three mornings, take ten quiet minutes to name one worry and read one highlighted passage in context. Ask God for a faithful step you can take today. Return to that prayer when the worry returns.

**Ask yourself:**

- What am I trying to control that is beyond my responsibility or ability?
- What does this passage reveal about God, and what does it actually ask of me?
- Am I leaving room for God's answer to look different from the one I imagined?
- Who could I encourage, serve, or ask for help today?

**Try this:**

- Write one specific concern and pray about it plainly. Alongside it, write one practical responsibility you can address today.
- Read Ephesians 6:10-18 slowly. Choose one area, such as truthfulness or faith, to practice in a real conversation or decision.
- Pray for one person by name. Offer a listening ear, a simple act of help, or a gentle invitation to explore the gospel together.
- At bedtime, record one evidence of God's care and one unanswered concern you are still entrusting to him. Give thanks without pretending everything is resolved.

## Remember

- You can return to God with the same concern as often as you need.
- God's presence gives courage in the valley as well as on peaceful days.
- Surrender releases control while making room for faithful action.
- God's promises are trustworthy; read them in their context and through Christ.
- Faith is the shield, and God's Word is the sword of the Spirit.
- Receive strength for today's obedience and share Christ's love with someone else.

## Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for welcoming us today. You know our worries about family, provision, the future, and our purpose. We bring them to you honestly. Give us your peace, wisdom, and help.

Teach us to listen to Jesus. Give us courage for today's responsibilities and humility to entrust the rest to you. When answers take time or circumstances remain painful, keep our confidence rooted in your faithfulness.

Strengthen our faith and shape our lives by your Word. Give us patient love and clear words as we share Jesus. Help us receive your care and become willing servants of people in need.

In Jesus' name, Amen.