

Grow, Pray, Study for the Week of November 9, 2025

Weekly Prayer

I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. **Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you, praised for you or criticized for you. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.** And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it also be made in heaven. Amen. - *The Wesley Covenant Prayer*

Monday, November 10

Scripture: Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.

Observation

Philippians is a letter from Paul to the church in Philippi. He writes from prison to thank the Philippians for their support and to encourage them to continue to serve God with joy. In these verses, Paul reminds us that community and care for one another is central to our faith.

Application

These verses offer encouragement and a challenge, inviting us to ground our lives in the love and care of others -- not for praise or recognition, but because it is the right thing to do. How can you center the needs of others today? Perhaps you might make a donation to our Emergency Food Drive or volunteer at a local food shelf. Perhaps you'll send a card encouraging someone. Or maybe you'll step out of your comfort zone to invite someone to church or meet someone new? How might you be the hands of Christ today?

Prayer

Dear God, help me to love and care for others in ways that build community, rather than seek recognition for myself. Show me what is mine to do today. And give me the courage to follow. Amen.

Tuesday, November 11

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-11

Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But he emptied himself by taking the form of a servant and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names, so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Observation

Paul calls believers to model their lives after Jesus' own words and actions. In these verses, his

words sound almost like a creed — a statement of faith and a declaration of Christ's identity. At their center: Jesus loves through humility and service. Yet his life and ministry are not passive! Christ boldly calls out injustice, welcomes outsiders, and performs miracles. He does this to make known God's goodness.

Application

How do your words and actions make known God's goodness? Do they cause others to become curious about this God you worship? Do they invite others to see themselves as beloved? Do they seek justice and peace?

Prayer

Lord, renew my mind. Let me think, love, and serve as Christ did, filled with humility, compassion, and love. Amen.

Wednesday, November 12

Scripture: *From Wesley Covenant Prayer*

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

Observation

This middle section sounds like a list of contradictions. Let me be employed or set aside; exalted or brought low; full or empty. Let me have everything, or nothing. So which is it? Well, both. Or neither. This portion of our prayer calls us to be humble enough to let go and surrender our need to plan or control.

Application

I'll go out on a limb and guess that, for most of us, this is a difficult thing to pray. We like order and control. We like certainty. But what might it feel like to trust that, full or empty, exalted or low — God is with you in all places? And no matter your circumstance, you can continue to love and serve?

Prayer

Ever-present God, thank you for your faithful presence and care. Help me to trust enough to "let go" of the things that don't serve me or bring honor to you. Keep me open to new opportunities to see you at work in my life and serve. Amen.

Thursday, November 13

Scripture: Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other. And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity. The peace of Christ must control your hearts—a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people. The word of Christ must live in you richly. Teach and warn each other with all wisdom by singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts. Whatever you do, whether in speech or action, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus and give thanks to God the Father through him.

Observation

Some translations begin, “therefore as God’s beloved” or the “elect of God”. What we’re meant to hear is that we belong to God, and the words to follow are important instructions. Maybe a little like a parent could say, “as members of this family...” And so, beloveds, how are we expected to live? With compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Application

I love the imagery here of “spiritual clothing.” This suggests intentionality. Getting dressed takes effort, choice, and daily renewal. How do we, every day, dress ourselves in these virtues?

Prayer

Gracious God, thank you for calling me holy and beloved. Clothe me in your compassion, cover me with kindness, let me reflect your love. Amen.

Friday, November 14**Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding; in all your ways know God, and God will make your paths straight.

Observation

These well-known verses offer both comfort and challenge. To trust God “with all your heart” means to lean your full weight on God, not on your own understanding or control. And yet, when we trust, God can lead. Faith is less about knowing the outcome and more about trusting the One who leads.

Application

Today, try this spiritual practice: Choose to pause before reacting and whisper, “I trust You, Lord. I can’t always see the path ahead, but I can take the next faithful step, confident that you are with me.”

Prayer

Faithful God, I place my trust in You today. When I can’t see the full picture, remind me that You do. Lead me with wisdom, steady my heart with peace, and help me surrender my plans into Your hands. Make my paths straight as I walk with You. Amen.

Saturday, November 15**Scripture: Galatians 6:9-10**

Let’s not get tired of doing good, because in time we’ll have a harvest if we don’t give up. So then, let’s work for the good of all whenever we have an opportunity, and especially for those in the household of faith.

Observation

Paul’s words encourage perseverance in service. He knows that doing good—especially in seasons of discouragement or suffering—can feel exhausting. Yet God’s promise is sure: there will be a harvest. Serving others is not about instant results or recognition; it’s about faithfulness. God sees every act of kindness, even when no one else does. The call to “not grow weary” is both a challenge and a comfort—God strengthens those who keep sowing seeds of love and goodness.

Application

When life feels heavy, serving can seem like one more burden. But Paul reminds me that service is not about my strength—it's about God's Spirit working through me. Even in hard times, I can do small things with great love: offer a word of encouragement, pray for someone, or lend a hand. My call is not to control the outcome but to stay faithful in the sowing.

Prayer

God of endurance and grace, when I am weary, renew my heart. When I am discouraged, remind me that You are still at work. Help me serve with humility, love, and steady faith, even when it's hard. Let my small acts of kindness become seeds of Your kingdom. Amen.