

Vision Sunday 2

What We Pray the Church Will Be All About

What a joy and privilege it is to be part of Mentone Faith Chapel! With over 37 million Christian churches worldwide, we're obviously part of something big, and yet at the same time, we're our own special family. Every Christian church worships the same God, follows the same Savior (Jesus), lives by the same Bible, and seeks to fulfill the same mission; and yet, we all do it in our own unique way. This past Sunday I invited the church to pray with me about the things that I believe need to be important to us as a church. We want to keep these things before us so we can all be on the same page, even though we will serve in various parts of the body of Christ. So, we prayed each of these thirty-two bulleted prayers aloud on Sunday as a congregation, as one of our leaders led out in prayer, and then I added a few comments and stories in between as I attempted to share my heart and soul. I invite you to pray these aloud as you read this Vision Sunday 2 Prayer Guide and mark the ones that especially resonate with your spirit.

1. Lord, we pray that we would always do the right things, for the right reasons, and leave the results to You, God.
2. Lord, we pray that we would take a team approach to developing specific plans and strategies together as to how we're going to carry out what You have given us to do.
3. Lord, we pray that prayer would be the power plant of the Church.
4. Lord, we pray that we would develop an organized system of how altar calls and altar responses will work, and how that will lead to baptism and discipleship.
5. Lord, we pray that we would provide a pathway for new converts that will help them get established in their faith and will teach them how to grow as a new believer.
6. Lord, we pray that we would have a good system of welcoming visitors that gives the best chance possible for integrating them into the life and mission of the Church.
7. Lord, we pray that our purpose in life would be to bring glory to You, God.
8. Lord, we pray that the mission of the Church would be to be Your representative in this world, and to move people *onto* and *along* the pathway of being fully devoted followers (disciples) of Jesus Christ.
9. Lord, we pray that we would do all we can to see that other people get saved (and that we're not just happy that we're going to heaven, ourselves, without seeming to care about other's eternal fate). Lord, we pray that we would train people to invite and bring people to Church, and to be Your witnesses. Lord, we pray that we would reach out into our community and have regular outreach events and ministries through which people can be drawn to Christ. Lord, we pray that we would stay focused on the fact that the Church is the only society in the world that exists for its non-members.
10. Lord, we pray that we would find ways to regularly and selflessly serve our community.
11. Lord, we pray that we would move people closer to You, Jesus. Lord, we pray that we would understand the various places that people are at in relation to Christ. Lord, we pray that we would encourage them and have next-steps in place for them to take to keep them moving in the direction of greater Christlikeness.
12. Lord, we pray that we would assimilate people into the Church and do all we can to see that friendships are developed.
13. Lord, we pray that we would have effective, Biblical, and relevant ministries for children, youth, and young adults.
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Lord, we pray that we would have strong ministries to men and women. **15.** Lord, we pray that we would compassionately care for orphans, widows/widowers, the poor, the hungry, and the needy. **16.** Lord, we pray that we would respect our seniors (elders), and make sure they are always included in the heart and vibrancy of the Church. **17.** Lord, we pray that we would have ministries that strengthen marriages and help parents and singles. **18.** Lord, we pray that we would have discipleship classes/curriculum to move people along the path of discipleship. Lord, we pray that we would develop a system of small-group interaction that would combine teaching with fellowship. **19.** Lord, we pray that we would use technological tools to advance and serve our mission, vision, and core values. **20.** Lord, we pray that we would be a Missionary Church. **21.** Lord, we pray that we would be Pentecostal, without being weird about it. Lord, we pray that we would develop a regular “class” or “opportunity” for people to be taught about the Holy Spirit, which would also be a place for them to wait upon You in prayer so people may experience Holy Spirit baptism and ongoing infillings. **22.** Lord, we pray that we would care for the sick, infirmed, and shut-ins. Lord, we pray that we would develop a good system of follow-up and visitation. **23.** Lord, we pray that we would properly maintain and care for the buildings and grounds with excellence. Lord, we pray that future expansions and improvements would be undertaken as necessary to serve the mission and vision of the church. **24.** Lord, we pray that we would have a strategy for multiplication and Kingdom expansion to faithfully steward whatever increase You bring our way. **25.** Lord, we pray that we would have a Kingdom mentality for our city, community, and area. **26.** Lord, we pray that our Worship Services would be times of celebration where Your presence is welcome to dwell in our midst and accomplish Your work. Lord, we pray that all things would be done with excellence, while at the same time depending wholly on You for Your anointing and work. **27.** Lord, we pray that we would have an impeccable system of accounting for all monies that are donated to and through the Church. **28.** Lord, we pray that we would develop ways to inform people of ministry opportunities. Lord, we pray that we would develop pathways for people to become involved in various areas of ministry and serving (the more people trained and released into ministry, the better). **29.** Lord, we pray that our Church would tithe on the tithe of its general offerings. **30.** Lord, we pray that we would be faithful stewards of every person that You entrust to our care. **31.** Lord, we pray that we would develop a pathway so we can prepare others for vocational/pastoral ministry and leadership in the Church. Lord, we pray that we would develop things like internships, school of ministry, mentorship programs, etc. **32.** Lord, we pray that we would figure out the best ways to keep Christian workers refreshed, anointed, connected to You, and growing spiritually. Lord, we pray that we would do all we can to reduce the chances of Christian believers backsliding, or falling away from You. Lord, we pray that the well of spiritual power that Christian workers draw strength from would always remain full and never run dry. Lord, we pray that the source of their spiritual vitality in ministry would always be the Holy Spirit, and never the flesh. **Amen!**

Discussion Guide/Action Steps

1. Which prayer point(s) especially resonate with your spirit? Would you like to speak with Pastor about them, to help develop or strengthen or respond to any of these areas?