

SEPTEMBER 2023

# PRAYER GUIDE

**“For years, even in my personal, quiet prayers, I worried that I was saying something wrong. Like that the Holy Spirit was some too-strict teacher that was judging every piece of syntax and phrase and word. But the reality is, prayer is just another way to connect with a loving and gracious Father.” — Hannah Brencher**

## 1 GCI-FIJI

Lord of all, bind us together as disciples of your love and grace. As we gather this weekend for our regional celebration, strengthen the bonds of fellowship among us, that we may encourage and support one another on this shared journey of faith. May our interactions be marked by humility, empathy, and genuine care, reflecting the light of your love in every word and action.

## 2 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Loving God, we lift up to you the students and teachers in our fellowship. Open their eyes to see the blessings and opportunities you have put before them. Give them wisdom and courage for the challenges that will come their way.

## 3 GCI-BANGLADESH

Heavenly Father, we celebrate our first ever summer camp with 67 joyful youth. We embrace the theme “Remember Our First Love.” As we commune with nature, ignite within us a renewed passion for you, our eternal love. Bless these campers, their bonds, and the cherished moments. In this season of growth, may our love for you flourish.



## 4 MEDITATION MONDAY: ROMANS 12:9-13 (MSG)

We tend to gravitate towards the easy way, at least at first. It seems easier to give up after failure; to judge others based on what we see; to share God “at” people rather than with them. Yet, taking the hard way is exactly where Jesus leads us. When we allow our hearts and minds to be transformed by Jesus, it becomes both easier and harder to love others. Easier because we are no longer trying to love within our own capacity and strength. Harder because we have chosen to endeavor to love like Christ, seeing all those around us as beloved children of God. What has skewed your view of others today? Say a prayer asking Jesus to clean the lens of your heart to see others through his eyes, beginning with the person reflected in your mirror.

## 5 SURREY HILLS, OKLAHOMA, US

What a glorious sight it is to see neighbors loving neighbors! We are celebrating the success of our neighborhood block party and water balloon battle. Hundreds of Surrey neighbors lined up with water balloons and had a total blast. We were blown away by the number of children we had! May our neighbors continue to experience the love of Christ and see the Father’s hand in their day-to-day life.



## 6 LUZON, PHILIPPINES

With hearts overflowing with gratitude and joy, we lift our voices to praise and thank you for the abundant blessings poured out upon our recent neighborhood camp. You, the source of all goodness, have guided our efforts and granted us a time of fellowship, learning, and joy for the children of our community. Grant us the wisdom to discern the needs of these young souls and the humility to serve them with genuine hearts.

## 7 MOOROOLBARK, AUSTRALIA

Gracious God, we humbly ask for your presence to envelop us as our congregations gather for our regional celebration. Pour out your Spirit upon us, igniting the flames of passion and devotion within us. Grant us the grace to listen intently to your still, small voice amidst the noise of this world, that we may be attuned to your perfect will for our lives and the life of our congregations.

## 8 GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA, US

Light of the world, we thank you for the opportunity to share your light and love through our neighborhood camp. As we bask in the glow of this successful camp, we ask for your continued guidance and provision. We long to create more opportunities to walk alongside these children and families as they grow in their understanding of your word and their relationship with you. Open doors for us to build relationships with them in ways that are engaging, relevant, and transformative.

## 9 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Merciful God, as we enter storm seasons in many regions across the globe, we ask for your protection and provision of our members. Please continue to be a refuge and provide for us as we go through this season.

## 10 GCI-FIJI

We are celebrating the appointment of our new local board chair, James Panuve. We give you the glory, Lord, knowing that this appointment is a testament to your guiding hand. May the discussions during our board meetings flourish into a harvest of unity, purpose, and devotion.

## 11 MEDITATION MONDAY: PSALM 119:33-40 (NLT)

Have you ever asked God something only to ignore his answer? Me too. This psalm presents a reminder and an opportunity to return our attention to God. It is a prayer from our heart to be transformed by the knowledge God provides, especially through the life of Jesus. The more we seek to be with God, be like God, and love like God, the greater our daily choices will demonstrate God's wisdom and goodness in action. Take time to pray this psalm, listen for God's response, and act according to the will of our triune God—Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

## 12 CHURCH MULTIPLICATION MINISTRIES

Creator God, fill our time together with insight and inspiration as we share best practices. Open our hearts to learn from one another's journeys and challenges. Guide our discussions with humility and a spirit of collaboration. May the exchange of ideas fuel our passion to sow seeds of faith in new neighborhoods. Empower us to embrace innovation while remaining rooted in your unchanging truth.

## 13 BAGUIO, PHILIPPINES

Eternal Father, as we converge for this regional conference, infuse our spirits with your wisdom and love. Open our minds to grasp deeper truths, and mold us more into disciples of your grace. May the teachings and fellowship kindle a fire within, propelling us to share your light in our neighborhoods.



## 14 GCI-USA

As our US leadership team gathers for our annual planning meetings of regional leaders, we seek your guiding light. May our conversations be marked by humility, creativity, and a deep desire to advance your Kingdom. Grant us wisdom to chart paths of purpose, unity, and growth.

## 15 SIOUX FALLS, SD, US

Gracious God, we ask your anointing on our Grandparents Photo Booth on this special day, may it be a source of joy and cherished memories for all. Bless our intention to extend love to our neighbors by fostering inclusivity and support. Guide us as we reach out to the elementary school, that our offering may bring relief to those in need. Lord, plant the seeds of future partnership, allowing us to be a beacon of hope and love in our new neighborhood.

## 16 GCI - LEADERSHIP COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

Lord, in you we see the beauty of community. Help our leadership teams around the world to reflect your unity and be led by the Spirit to participate in building your kingdom.



## 17 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Creator, we are grateful for all our Avenue champions. Thank you for the gifts you have given them. Help them as they develop, equip, and lead the ministry workers on their team. May your love and grace overflow from them as they minister.

## 18 MEDITATION MONDAY: MATTHEW 18:21-35 (CSB)

Forgiveness and reconciliation—two actions which usually include two or more people but require understanding in an individual heart before they can be fully received. Jesus' parable of the unmerciful servant can be a tough one to ponder. Here's something to consider—the choice of the servant to be unforgiving landed him in prison. He had been given freedom and an opportunity to live in his freedom, yet he chose to remain bound to mercilessness. How often do we make the same choice? Jesus has given us freedom through forgiveness, mercy, and reconciliation to God. Do we live in and through this freedom, offering forgiveness and mercy to others? Or do we choose to be bound by the illusion of power over another, landing us in a prison of unforgiveness and hardship?



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## 19 MOAMA, AUSTRALIA

Empower us, O God, to take the lessons and inspirations we receive during our regional celebration and carry them forth into our communities and congregations. Let our lives become living testimonies of your transformative power, shining brightly as beacons of hope, love, and reconciliation.

## 20 CALOUNDRA, AUSTRALIA

Creator God, as we embark on this time of inspiration and discipleship, we surrender ourselves to your divine guidance. Open our hearts to receive your truth, ignite our souls with passion, and guide us as we seek to become better disciples and stewards of your message.

## 21 GCI-US WEST

Gracious God, we lift our hearts in gratitude for the fruitful workshop that has united us as church leaders. Thank you for enlightening discussions, shared insights, and the bonds forged. As we move forward, guide us to maintain this collaborative spirit, seeking your wisdom to discern the path ahead. May our shared purpose and dedication lead us to impactful actions that further your kingdom. In your name, we pray.

## 22 RICHARDSON, TEXAS, US

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the connection and fellowship that occurred during our recent ladies retreat. We praise you for the laughter shared, the friendships forged, and the growth experienced as we've journeyed together. May your truth be a guiding light, leading us to explore not only facts but also the depths of our faith, our dreams, and our struggles. Help us to encourage one another in our spiritual journeys, offering support and empathy along the way.

## 23 RIVER ROAD, OR, US

Lord, we ask for your continued presence and guidance as we seek to deepen our relationships and foster growth within our weekly trivia connect groups. May our trivia nights be more than just a game; may they be opportunities to open our hearts, share our stories, and build bonds of trust and understanding.

## 24 GCI-NIGERIA

Sovereign Lord, we thank you for the recent ordinations of Peter Nwaigbo, Linus Igbozuruike, Dostan Anyawu, Chamberline Owen, and Julius Munu. Your divine call has been heard, and your chosen servants have answered with open hearts and willing spirits. May their lives shine as beacons of light, guiding others to your presence.

## 25 MEDITATION MONDAY: MATTHEW 20:1-16 (MSG)

How quickly our attention can become skewed away from Jesus. In this parable of the workers in the vineyard, those who worked all day chose to focus on what they did not get instead of showing gratitude to the one who paid them for a day's work. Jesus came to bring good news and call us to repent—to turn around and change our minds. And each day is another opportunity to be transformed by focusing on Jesus. Today, try replacing any frustrated or bitter thoughts with gratitude for what Jesus has already given you. Pay attention to how this shift in attention can transform your whole day.

## 26 TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS

We are grateful for the communion and fellowship during our conference for leaders in Latin America last month. Thank you for your prayers, and join us in praying for new leaders to join in ministry in our regions.



## 27 STATEN ISLAND, NY, US

We rejoice with you, Jesus, and celebrate the six baptisms in our congregation last month. As they emerge from the depths, may your Holy Spirit infuse them with strength, courage, and unwavering devotion. May their lives be testimonies of your redeeming love.

## 28 GCI-US SOUTHEAST

Loving God, we humbly offer our gratitude for the fruitful gathering of regional church leaders. Your wisdom guided our discussions, deepening our understanding and unity. Thank you for equipping us to lead with purpose and compassion. As we return home, we ask for your continued guidance. Bless our collaborative efforts, helping us discern the path ahead. May the seeds that you planted during this workshop bloom into transformative actions for your kingdom. In your name, we pray.

## 29 GCI-UK & IRELAND

Lord, we thank you for the laughter that echoed through the camp, for the bonds of friendship that were formed, and for the joy that radiated from each child's heart. Your presence was felt in every activity, every lesson, and every shared moment. We are grateful for the seeds of faith that you planted, for the seeds of hope that were sown, and for the seeds of love that were nurtured during this time. We also seek your wisdom in finding new and creative ways to serve beyond the camp. Show us how we can be a constant source of support and encouragement.

## 30 GRACE COMMUNION INTERNATIONAL

Please join us in praying for our leaders and members to have enthusiasm for serving our communities and sharing the gospel with our neighbors, and that the Holy Spirit would equip us to share the source of our hope.

**Would your church like to be included in a future Prayer Guide?**

**PLEASE EMAIL [INFO@GCI.ORG](mailto:INFO@GCI.ORG) WITH DETAILS AND PHOTOS.**