20 DAY PRAYER-GUIDE

Praying together as a body of believers is a beautiful gift. Scripture records God's people praying for His activity and leading, for His wisdom, deliverance, to open doors for the gospel, and more.

What makes praying together so priceless, though, is it reminds us of our oneness in Christ, as well as our shared dependence on Him. And that's where we are today as a gathering of followers called West End Baptist.

We are seeking the Father together over the next 20 days to lead us to our new church location. This prayer-guide, however, is more than, a simple "God, answer us" request. It's actually a personal prayer guide where we each ask God to "FILL ME," "LEAD ME," and "SHOW ME."

Praying "Father, FILL ME," we are each asking Him to confront areas where we are not like Him. In Praying, "Father LEAD ME," we want the Him to lead us in seeing the lostness around us and the joy of sharing the gospel. When praying "Father, SHOW ME," we are requesting that He show us His activity in our past and present that we may trust and submit to whatever He asks.

Through this our hearts are better prepared to seek the Lord's guidance regarding a new church home.

Therefore, after we have prayed for ourselves individually, there is also a daily prayer we will voice together for our church. We are asking God to help us

know whether or not we should purchase what's before us.

One more encouragement. As you use this guide, there's a page at the end of each week titled "REFLECTION." You may like writing in the margins of your daily prayer guide. At the end of a week of prayer, go back and reflect on what the Father impressed on you through the scriptures and prayer.

Often, the Father may use one need to prompt us to pray...only to surface a deeper need within us He wants to address. Writing them down helps us remember them.

Furthermore, if you want to include fasting with your season of prayer, you can download the "20 DAY PRAYER GUIDE (FAQ on Fasting)." It will encourage you if you have fasted before or help you if this is your first time.

And finally, what a gift to be taking this journey in prayer together as a church. It's remarkable how such a pilgrimage shapes our conversations. There becomes a shared awe over God's goodness, our oneness in Him, and submission to Him. So, let's get praying!

Sunday, June 13 Ephesians 3:14-21 (ESV) Context

 Paul wrote this letter to encourage the church in gospel understanding and gospel living. Paul asks God to strengthen them with power through His Spirit in their inner beings. Meaning they would be spiritually strengthened by the FILLING of God's Spirit so that Christ may dwell in them and they may be more like Christ.

Prayer

- "Father, Please FILL me with Your Spirit so I may be strengthened inwardly. May You dwell in every aspect of my life so that I desire what You desire, love what You love, and live like You lived. FILL me so I may decrease and you may increase. Please Father, FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Help guide us together to our new church home."

Week 1 FILL ME

Monday, June 14 Ephesians 3:14 -21 (ESV) Context

 Paul wrote this letter to encourage the church in gospel understanding and gospel living. Paul asks God to root and ground them in the breadth and length and height and depth of Christ's love. Meaning they would be FILLED with Christ's love to the point their lives are centered around the love of Christ. Christ's love is the source of nourishment and security to our soul.

- "Father, please FILL me with Your love in such a way my heart clings to no other foundation. May my life be rooted and grounded in Your love so that my life may look like Yours. Please Father, FILL me with Your love so I may delight to love like You. FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

Tuesday, June 15 Philippians 1:8-11 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to thank the Church for their partnership in ministry and the love they have shown him. He prays that their love may abound with discernment, so they may approve what is excellent, and so be blameless for the day of Christ. Meaning their love may grow in godly discernment so they may embrace and strive for Spiritual maturity. Walking with Christ is not simply knowing right from wrong, but fully loving and embracing what is most excellent in life ... Christ Himself!

Prayer

- "Father, please FILL me with a love that discerns what is most excellent in Your eyes. FILL me with a Godly love that mightily strives to embrace and cherish what you deem to be most excellent. Father, please destroy all the love my heart harbors for darkness, and FILL me with a love that abounds more and more for You and others! Please Father, FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

Week 1 FILL ME

Wednesday, June 16 Colossians 1:9-12 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to speak against false teaching that Christ is not enough. He asks God to FILL them with the knowledge of His will in all Spiritual wisdom and understanding so that they may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord. Meaning they would be FILLED with wisdom that comes from God and not man, so their walk may reflect Christ and not themselves.

- "Father, please FILL me with Your wisdom so my actions may reflect Your worth. May my life strive to walk worthy of the Gospel of Christ. FILL me with a gospel understanding that you find me worthy solely because of what Christ has done on the cross, and may that FILLING free me to live for Christ alone. Please FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

Thursday, June 17 Colossians 1:9-12 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to speak against false teaching that Christ is not enough. He asks God to FILL them with His Spirit so that they may bear fruit in every good work, increase in knowledge of God, be strengthened for all endurance and patience with joy. Because spiritual fruit, knowledge of God, strength from God, endurance, patience, and joy are a result of God's work and not man's. Paul asks God to FILL them.

Prayer

- "Father, please FILL me with the understanding that everything You work in me is a gift of grace. May I abandon all works of my flesh to be strong, wise, and spiritually vibrant; and with all the might You work in me ... cling to Your grace and power to produce patience, joy, strength, and Spiritual fruit. FILL me so my life displays Your power and grace. FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

Week 1 FILL ME

Friday, June 18 1 Thessalonians 3:3-13 (ESV) Context

 Paul wrote this letter to encourage new believers and assure them through suffering and afflictions. He asks God to make them increase and abound in love for all, so that God may establish their hearts blameless in holiness. Meaning God's work in making His people more like Christ involves increasing in Christ-like love for all people. So, Paul pleads with God to FILL them and make this happen, because absent the work of God, their hearts would never love like Christ.

- "Father, please FILL me and make my wretched heart increase and abound in a love for others that is Christ-like. My heart craves sin, but Your Spirit reigns in me and my flesh is crucified in You. So please Father, FILL me with a Christ-like love so that my heart may grow in holiness and I may live more like You each day. Please Father, FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

REFLECTION

Saturday, June 19 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote this letter to combat false teaching, correct sin, and encourage believers suffering for the gospel. He asks God to make them worthy of His calling. Meaning God not only places the calling on His people, but it is God Himself that makes them worthy for the calling. Because God's call on our lives is to follow Christ, we plead with God to FILL us, for absent the work of God in us we can produce nothing.

- "Father, please FILL me for I can do nothing without You. To even follow Christ I am hopelessly dependent upon Your work in me. So FILL me and make all of me more like all of Christ. I plead with You Father, my flesh craves what is against You, and I need Your mighty work so I may live a life that abides in You. Please Father, FILL me!"
- "Father, FILL us together as a gathering of Your adopted ones. Please guide us to our new church home."

Sunday, June 20 Romans 10:1-4 (ESV) Context

 Paul writes this letter to encourage unity within the church and explain the power of the gospel. Paul explains in chapter 9 that His heart breaks for his Jewish friends because he desperately wants them to be saved, but salvation must be a work of God. So here he prays that God would save them. Making disciples involves following God's LEADING in praying for the lost.

Prayer

- "Father, LEAD me to my knees for the lost. I do long for them to know You as their savior, but that must be a work done by You. Father please, LEAD me to talk with them, love them, serve them, and above all ... to pray for their souls. LEAD me."
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Week 2 LEAD ME

Monday, June 21 Colossians 4:2-4 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to encourage a right understanding of the Gospel that sees Christ as enough. Paul asks the church to pray that God may open a door for the Word, to declare the mystery of Christ, and to make it clear. Paul is asking for God's LEADING in his desire to proclaim the Gospel. He asks God to LEAD him through open doors and into all clarity, so that he may share the gospel well.

- "Father, please grant me a strong desire to follow Your LEADING. Please LEAD me through numerous open doors to share the gospel. Please LEAD me in how I speak so it may be clear and saturated in humility. Father, please LEAD me for I need You to help me walk through open doors and to make it clear. Please Father. LEAD me!"
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Tuesday, June 22 Colossians 4:12 (ESV) Context

o Paul is writing to encourage a right understanding of the gospel that sees Christ as enough for everything. Epaphras was always struggling on their behalf in his prayers, that they may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God. Meaning Epaphras saw prayer as laboring with God on behalf of others. This intentional wrestling with God requires His gentle LEADING or else my prayers become self-focused.

Prayer

- "Father, please LEAD me to lovingly engage with You in prayer for the sake of others. Give me a burden and delight to come to You on behalf of my brothers and sisters in Christ. LEAD me to labor and struggle in prayer for their spiritual maturity. Please LEAD me."
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Week 2 LEAD ME

Wednesday, June 23 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote this letter to encourage new believers and assure them through suffering and afflictions. Paul prays to see them face to face and supply what is lacking in their faith. Paul is asking God to direct His path toward them so God might use him to supply their faith with any encouragement, support, and joy they might need. Meaning Paul asks God to LEAD him for the sake of others progress and joy in the faith.

- "Father, please LEAD me in a lifestyle that delights in other's progress and joy in the faith. LEAD me toward those who need Gospel encouragement and support. May I see the morning, day, and night as opportunities to be used by You. LEAD me!"
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Thursday, June 24 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 (ESV) Context

 Paul wrote this letter to encourage new believers and assure them through suffering and afflictions.
Paul asks God to fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power. Meaning that God Himself is the one who powerfully fulfills our desires and attempts of good and faith.
Without His LEADING and power, no attempt of faithfulness would ever be accomplished.

Prayer

- "Father, please LEAD me and fulfill every resolve and work of faith You give me. May I be dependent upon Your LEADING and joyfully expecting You to fulfill Your work according to your might. LEAD me in such a way that its evident I'm not accomplishing works of faith by my power, but You are accomplishing works of faith by Your power. LEAD me!"
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Week 2 LEAD ME

Friday, June 25 1 Tim 2:1-4 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote this letter to his mentee Timothy as he began to pastor the church in Ephesus. The church needed protection, correction, and leadership. Paul urges Timothy to pray for all people that they would lead peaceful and quiet lives, godly and dignified in every way. Meaning as God LEADS His people to live gospel saturated lives of peace and godliness; it pleases God and is used to bring people to the knowledge of salvation. God LEADS His people to live gospel lives so that the gospel may be seen and believed.

- "Father, please LEAD me to live a life of all godliness. Not for my own reputation and gain, but so that others may know that You saved a sinner like me. So others may know that no matter what happens in this world, my home is with You. LEAD me today so that others might come to a saving knowledge in You. LEAD me!"
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

REFLECTION

Saturday, June 26 Philemon 1:4-7 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote to this letter for the sake of reconciliation between believers. Paul prays that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. Meaning God must make your sharing of the gospel effective. Meaning the gospel that we share is that everything good in us is the result of Christ alone and for the sake of Christ alone. Thus, Paul asks God to LEAD Philemon into effective sharing of Christ's work in salvation.

- "Father, please LEAD me in my sharing of Your gospel. LEAD me to see that every good thing in me is the result of Your doing and is for the purpose of Your glory. LEAD me to share this amazing news with people I talk with. Please Father, allow my efforts to share this with people to be effective through Your power. LEAD me!
- "Father, fill us and also help us follow Your LEAD as you guide us to our new church home. Our shared desire is for Your glory to be seen."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Sunday, June 27 Ephesians 1:15-21 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote this letter to explain how gospel living is the product of gospel understanding. He asks God to give them wisdom and knowledge, having the eyes their hearts enlightened ... so that they may know what is the hope he has called them to. Meaning the truth that their continual growth in Christ and future residence with Christ would enlighten their hearts and change them at their core. God SHOWING us the hope we have in Christ is a gift that makes us live more like Christ.

Prayer

- "Father, SHOW me the hope I have in Christ in a way that changes me. May my heart rest in this hope because You called me to it, and Your calling is irrevocable. Please Father, SHOW Christ's hope and may it be sweet to my soul. SHOW me!"
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Monday, June 28 Ephesians 1:15-21 (ESV) Context

Paul wrote this letter to explain that gospel living is the product of Gospel understanding. He asks God to give them wisdom and knowledge, having the eyes their hearts enlightened ... so that they may know what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints. Meaning the truth that they are blessed in Christ with every spiritual blessing and are given the right to be called a child of God would enlighten their hearts and change them at their core. God SHOWING us the riches of the glorious inheritance He gave us by His grace makes us live more like Christ.

- "Father, SHOW me the riches of Your glorious inheritance I've been granted in Christ. May my heart never forget that Christ paid for all my sin so that I may receive all His inheritance. May my soul forever be in awe that You would slay Christ so You may call me Your child. SHOW me the immense riches, joy, and pleasures of being Your child. Please Father, SHOW me!"
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Tuesday, June 29 Ephesians 1:15-21 (ESV) Context

o Paul wrote this letter to explain that gospel living is the product of Gospel understanding. He asks God to give them wisdom and knowledge, having the eyes their hearts enlightened ... so that they may know the immeasurable greatness of His power toward those who believe. Meaning their hearts would grasp the truth that the power in which God is working toward them to sanctify them, grow them, love them, give them grace, and work all things out for good ... is immeasurably great. God SHOWING us His power is great grows our awe and trust in Him.

Prayer

- "Father, please SHOW me how great Your power is that You lovingly work towards me. SHOW me that You are more powerful than pain, than my doubt, than my worry, and my sin. SHOW me that the power that You lovingly work towards me is beyond measure. SHOW me this Father so that my love and trust in You will grow. Please SHOW me!"
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Wednesday, June 30 Ephesians 3:14-21 (ESV) Context

o Paul wrote this letter to explain that gospel living is the product of gospel understanding. Paul concludes his prayer by saying to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think ... to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Paul reminds them they are praying to the one who can do far more abundantly than anyone can ask or even think! And, He has forever used His church to bring glory to His name in all generations. When we are SHOWN whom we pray to and why we exist as a church, our prayers become gospel centered and glory driven!

- "Father, please SHOW me who I am praying to. SHOW me that You long for Your church to glorify Christ more than we do. SHOW me that there is no request or thought I can bring to You that is beyond Your doing. SHOW me your love for Your church and its purpose to glorify Your name. SHOW me."
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Thursday, July 1 Philippians 1:8-11 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to thank the Church for their partnership in ministry and the love they have shown him. Paul concludes his prayer for them reminding them they are filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus, to the glory and praise of God. Meaning he wants the church to remember they are filled with the righteousness of Christ for the sake of praising and glorifying God. God SHOWING us our righteousness comes from Christ alone for the purpose of worshiping God alone refines our prayer life.

Prayer

- "Father, SHOW me ways I look to myself for righteousness instead of relying on Christ. SHOW me if I am worshiping ways of this world or my own ways instead of You. Do this Father so I may be freed from the idols of my heart and be fully consumed by You. Please Father, SHOW me."
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

Week 3 SHOW ME

Friday, July 2 Colossians 1:9-12 (ESV) Context

Paul is writing to encourage a right understanding of the gospel that sees Christ as enough for everything. Paul ends his prayer by saying giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. This reminds the church that only Christ qualifies them to worship God and be used by God. Being SHOWN our qualifications are completely in Christ humbles our pride and gives boldness to our insecurities.

- "Father, please SHOW me that I am fully qualified to love You, worship You, serve You, and tell people about You ... solely through the blood of Christ. SHOW me ways I wrongly believe I qualify myself or am not qualified enough. SHOW me the beauty of Christ's complete payment on the cross so that I might live in complete thankfulness, humility and boldness. SHOW me!"
- "Father, SHOW us Your faithfulness in our past that we together may see and trust Your faithfulness regarding our new church home."

REFLECTION