

FOCUSED MINISTRY

Prayer Guide Community Fellowship Church 2017

16 topics with scriptures and a prayer focus from those scriptures. Use these in any order you choose as you pray as a family, on prayer walks, in small groups, or in your personal devotions. Bring the booklet with you to all the prayer meetings you attend.

Journal any impressions that come to mind as you pray. Impressions such as: Areas we need to grow in or work on. Things or people God would want us to focus our attention on.

On the back page summarize your impressions, tear it off and give it to one of the church Leadership Board members before November 17.

Session 1: Having a clean heart.

Psalm 66:16-20 If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer.

Psalm 51:7-12 Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean... Give me back my joy again; you have broken me— now let me rejoice... Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

James 5:15 Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that God would shine his light into the hidden places of our lives. Pray that all of us would confess our sins so he can forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thank him for the power to resist temptation.
- Pray that God would give us great victories over sin. Thank him for his grace and patience when we fall.
- Pray we would have such a relationship with God that our prayers would have great power and produce wonderful results.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 2: Knowing where God is working.

John 5:16-20 So the Jewish leaders began harassing Jesus for breaking the Sabbath rules. But Jesus replied, **“My Father is always working, and so am I.”** So the Jewish leaders tried all the harder to find a way to kill him. For he not only broke the Sabbath, he called God his Father, thereby making himself equal with God. So Jesus explained, “I tell you the truth, **the Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing.** Whatever the Father does, the Son also does. **For the Father loves the Son and shows him everything he is doing.** In fact, the Father will show him how to do even greater works than healing this man. Then you will truly be astonished.”

Prayer Focus

- Thank God that he is always working for our good.
- Ask God to help us understand how much he loves us and wants us to work with him.
- Ask God to help us see where he is working and what he is doing.
- Ask God to show us what he wants us to do so we are joining him in his work.
- Thank God for the ways he has worked with us and allowed us to work with him in the past. God has done great things.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 3: The glory of God revealed.

Exodus 33:12-13, 17-18 One day Moses said to the Lord, “You have been telling me, ‘Take these people up to the Promised Land.’ But you haven’t told me whom you will send with me. You have told me, ‘I know you by name, and I look favorably on you.’ If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor....” The Lord replied to Moses, “I will indeed do what you have asked, for I look favorably on you, and I know you by name.” Moses responded, “Then show me your glorious presence.”

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to help us know his ways and to understand him more fully.
- Ask God to reveal his glorious presence, his power and authority.
- Ask God to show us what he is able to do in our lives, in our relationships, in our workplaces and schools.
- Ask God to reveal himself to our neighbours.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 4: Growing in our fellowship with God.

Ephesians 1:15-20 Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for God's people everywhere, I have not stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to give us spiritual wisdom and insight that we may grow in our knowledge of God. Pray that we would be confident in our hope of a rich and never ending life.
- Pray we would understand how Jesus could think of us as his rich and glorious inheritance.
- Pray we would understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe. That we would experience his power working in us.
- Pray that our hope and our experience of God's power would become so strong we couldn't stop talking about it and people around us could see it in us.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 5: Knowing what God has planned for us.

Ephesians 2:8-10 God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Psalm 51:12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

Prayer Focus

- Pray we would gain a deeper appreciation for his salvation. That God would restore to us the joy of his salvation. That it would be something that excites us.
- Pray we would see how we have become God's masterpiece. Pray we would see how God is working in us making something extremely beautiful of our lives.
- Ask God to show us the good things he planned for us to do. Ask him to lead us and to empower us to do those things. Ask him to show you what he wants you to do and what he wants us to do together.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 6: Having a God sized vision.

Ephesians 3:20-21 Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to increase our vision of what he is able to do. Ask him to help us expect great things from him.
- Ask God to make his name great through our church. To work in us in such a way that our community is amazed by our God. That God would gain a good reputation by the way we live and love. That people would be impressed by God's authority, by his grace and his abilities.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 7: Becoming a healthy, growing church.

Ephesians 4:11-16 Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to keep us from being sidetracked by selfish interests.
- Ask God to help us to always speak the truth in loving ways.
- Ask God to mature us, to help us grow more and more like Christ.
- Ask God to help you know what your special work is and the role you play in helping others grow.
- Ask God to make us a healthy church, causing us to grow.
- Ask God to fill our church with love for each other.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 8: Focusing on making disciples.

Matthew 28:18-20 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (*Making disciples is introducing people to God's love and helping them grow in their relationship with God.*)

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to lead us in making disciples.
- Pray for our Leadership Board that they will have the wisdom to lead us in making disciples.
- Ask God to show you how you can disciple someone.
- Pray we will remain (or become) focused on sharing the gospel with neighbours. That we will become disciples of Jesus who make more disciples, by offering to tell others the gospel.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 9: Seeing the opportunities God gives us.

Ephesians 5:15-18 Be careful how you live. Don't live like fools, but like those who are wise, making the most of every opportunity in these evil days. Don't act thoughtlessly, but understand what the Lord wants you to do. Don't get drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead be filled with the Holy Spirit.

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to show you if there is an area where you need to be more careful in how you live.
- Ask God to make all of us wise in the way we live.
- Ask God to help you see opportunities where you can speak for him or serve him.
- Ask God to help us see the opportunities we as a church have to serve him.
- Ask God to fill us with his Holy Spirit so we are not trying to serve him on our own.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 10: Following the Holy Spirit's leading.

Galatians 6:8-10 Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good to everyone—especially to those in the family of faith.

Galatians 5:24-25 Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

Prayer Focus

- Pray we will not simply be serving our own interests and desires. That we will know what desires are of God and what desires come from our own sinful nature.
- Pray we will not get tired of doing what is good. That we will not give up when our efforts don't produce immediate fruit.
- Pray we will know how to follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.
- Ask God if there are any areas where he wants you to follow him more closely.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 11: Knowing our spiritual gifts.

Romans 12:6-8 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to show us our gifts and how and where he wants us to use them.
- Pray we will do our best in prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, giving, and leading.
- As they are given to us by the Holy Spirit, pray we will see God's hand in them and will be enthusiastic about using them.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 12: Experiencing the power of God.

Romans 15:17-19 So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message and by the way I worked among them. They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that Christ will do great things through us and we will be enthusiastic about all he has done.
- Pray we will remain humble as God works through us, recognizing it is all through the Spirit and power of God.
- Pray that God would use us in bringing people to know and love him.
- Pray that people will be convinced by the power of miraculous signs and wonders and by the power of God's Spirit. Pray that we will fully present the Good News to our neighbours.
- Ask God to give us the boldness to pray for others.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 13: Influencing our neighbours.

Acts 4:1-16 While Peter and John were speaking to the people... many of the people who heard their message believed it, so the number of men who believed now totalled about 5,000.... Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of our people, are we being questioned today because we've done a good deed for a crippled man? Do you want to know how he was healed? Let me clearly state to all of you and to all the people of Israel that he was healed by the powerful name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the man you crucified but whom God raised from the dead..." The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men. They also recognized them as men who had been with Jesus.... And since they could see the man who had been healed standing right there among them, there was nothing the council could say.

Prayer Focus

- Pray that our neighbours will want to hear the message of Jesus and will believe it.
- Pray we will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- Pray we will know how to watch for opportunities and have a desire to share how the gospel has given us hope.
- Pray we will gain boldness.
- Pray that the gospel will be confirmed with noticeable signs of God's power.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 14: Bearing fruit.

John 15 “I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. He *lifts up* every branch of mine that doesn’t produce fruit, (*Branches hanging in the dirt don’t produce fruit, so he lifts them up and cleans them.*) and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more. You have already been pruned and purified by the message I have given you. **Remain in me**, and I will remain in you. For a branch cannot produce fruit if it is severed from the vine, and you cannot be fruitful unless you remain in me. Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing... But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father.”

Prayer Focus

- Ask God to make our lives fruitful at CFC.
- Ask God where he wants us to focus our attention so we will bear much fruit.
- Ask God what activities or programs need to be pruned (discontinued) in order to produce more fruit in other areas.
- Ask God what areas of ministry need to be picked up and how we could rework them to make them more fruitful.
- Pray we will know how to abide in Christ and enjoy abiding in him.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 15: Being a light to those around us.

Isaiah 42:5-7 God, the Lord, created the heavens and stretched them out. He created the earth and everything in it. He gives breath to everyone, life to everyone who walks the earth. And it is he who says, **“I, the Lord, have called you to demonstrate my righteousness.** I will take you by the hand and guard you,

and I will give you to my people, Israel, as a symbol of my covenant with them. And **you will be a light to guide the nations. You will open the eyes of the blind. You will free the captives from prison, releasing those who sit in dark dungeons.**”

Prayer Focus

- Thank God for giving life and righteousness to us and for the many times he has taken us by the hand and guarded us.
- Pray that God will help us live out the righteousness of Christ.
- Ask God to help us be honest and open about who we are. Praise God we can be honest and open and won't be rejected.
- Ask God to guard our hearts and minds.
- Ask God to make us a light to the nations.
- Ask God to open the eyes of the spiritually blind.
- Ask God to set us free from our own bondage to sin and then to use us in setting others free.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

Session 16: Knowing where God wants to take us.

John 1:36-39 As Jesus walked by, John looked at him and declared, “Look! There is the Lamb of God!” When John's two disciples heard this, they followed Jesus. Jesus looked around and saw them following. “What do you want?” he asked them. They replied, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?” “Come and see,” he said.

Prayer Focus

- Pray we would personally hear and respond to Jesus' call to come see where he is working.
- Tell God you are willing to follow him wherever he wants to take you. Thank him for all the places he has already taken you.
- Thank God for what he has already shown us and will show us.
- Pray that God would prepare us for the new things he wants to do through us.
- Give God your fears of going a new direction.

Repeated Prayer Focus

- ❖ Pray for specific neighbours. Mention them by name. Ask God to show himself to them. Pray they would come to know God loves them and they would love him in return.
- ❖ Ask God to prepare you to share with them the reason for your hope.
- ❖ Pray that we at CFC would know how God wants to use us to make disciples in our community.

Journal:

