

## PRAYER FOCUS

### First Baptist Church

- Help us, Lord, to understand what it means to be the church and to know and use our spiritual gifts. Rm. 12:1-8
- Pray for unity in our church and that we love each other remembering God is the One who unites us Eph. 4:2
- Holy Spirit, help our ministries not to become discouraged but to take every opportunity to help grow the kingdom of God. Gal 6: 9-10
- Pray for our church to support the local and global missions and outreach that make disciples of all nations. Matt 28:19-20b
- Pray for our church to be fervent and passionate in Spirit as we serve the Lord. Rom. 12:11
- Pray that families will be guarded and protected against the evil one Ps. 121:1-8
- Pray that our church would be welcoming and friendly to those who visit. Rom 15:7
- Pray for a deepening of our faith that we might have the courage and compassion to reach out and invite others to church who don't know Jesus. 2 Tim 1:7-8
- Pray for the Lord's direction in your support of our future building program.
- Pray for the growth of His Kingdom through an increase in attendance and participation in ministries and fellowship.

### Pastors/Ministers/Leadership

- Pray for God's wisdom and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our pastor and leaders as they guide us toward a renewed vision for our church Col 1:9-12
- Pray for our pastors and leaders to have humble hearts as they lead and serve our church. Phil 2: 5-8
- Pray for our Pastors as they minister to those with emotional, physical, and spiritual needs.
- Pray that our pastors and leaders will be filled with the Holy Spirit and given a refreshed spirit, energy, passion, and direction for the Lord's will. Gal 6:9
- Pray our pastors and leadership will guide with wisdom and insight from God's Word as they train servants and volunteers to be disciples. James 1:5
- Pray for pastors and leadership to have renewed vision and discernment as they lead us in God's plan.
- Pray our pastors and leadership are encouraged by the Holy Spirit and experience revival. Phil 2:1-2
- Pray that we as the church family have a heart of appreciation for our pastors and leadership.

### Music Ministry

- Pray for revival in music ministry; that God will move in our congregational worship, as an outflow of a work already begun in our preparation times.
- Pray for generational unity as we seek to lead in music that will bless our entire congregation and honor God.
- Pray that God will daily confirm the calling and leadership of our music ministry teams.

### Senior Adult Ministry

- **Purpose** – Pray that senior adults have a clearly defined sense of purpose. Pray that they understand their value as they serve a vital purpose.
- **Peace** - Pray that seniors have the peace they need in their daily life. Pray they find comfort in the strength of the Lord in friends and family.
- **Positivity** - Pray that senior adults have a positive outlook on life. Pray that they see the good things in life, and that this positivity motivates them to maximize every moment.

### Men's Ministry

- Pray for men to increase in attendance, participation, and that they grow spiritually so their lives reflect Christ in all they do. 2 Peter 1:5-8
- Pray that men will serve as powerful role models of spiritual depth, passion, and integrity before children, youth, and peers.
- Praying men of all ages will feel called to serve at FBC in intergenerational ministry.

### Women's Ministry

- Pray for women's ministry to grow women in intimacy and knowledge of God's Word and strong leadership. Prov. 9:10
- Praying that women of all ages feel welcome to participate in Women's ministry to grow in depth and faith in Christ Jesus. Hebrews 10:24-25

### Youth and College Ministries

- Pray that parents, youth, and young adults would see church as a priority.
- Pray that our youth and young adults would develop a hunger for the Word of God.
- Prayer for God's Blessing and revival on the Next Generation of Believers.

### Children's Ministry

- Pray for children that they might grow in their love and knowledge of Jesus. 2 Tim 3:14-15
- Pray that God will continually reveal His curriculum plan to best instill the Gospel, Bible knowledge, missions, and spiritual disciplines in His children.
- Pray for a powerful move of God among children in our church, that they will continue to strengthen and grow in their relationship with Christ and accept Him.
- Pray for the Lord's direction in your support of our future building program.

### How do you participate?

Prayer, in its simplest form, is "talking with God, listening to God, and moving with God." It is a divine conversation that results in guidance and direction to bring God's will to pass on earth as it is in heaven. Because of its spiritual expression, **prayer should become a lifestyle.**

Most of us are comfortable with the concept of talking to God, but many are unclear about listening to God. God speaks with us through His Word (the Bible). Meaningful prayer necessarily includes reading and meditating on His Word. This is very important, because a key goal for praying should be discerning God's will and direction. His Word, the Holy Scriptures, is the basic guide to understanding His will for all believers. The important thing is to let God speak to you - from His Word and by His Spirit. This happens when we are still and quiet.

In the process of learning to pray, we come to understand that prayer is the highest privilege and the greatest weapon in the Christian life. It is a privilege because, at any moment, we can spiritually come before God in prayer. It is a weapon because through prayer we gather spiritual victories and natural direction. When a believer does not fully understand prayer, he or she can become discouraged or frustrated, leading people to question "Why should we pray?" **Prayer can be the most important and powerful activity in your life.** Here are the primary reasons why.

- **Prayer is an act of Dedication.** By making prayer a priority in our lives, we reveal God's importance to us.
- **Prayer is an act of Communication.** God chooses to have a two-way conversation with us.
- **Prayer is an act of Supplication.** We can bring our most intimate requests to God.
- **Prayer is an act of Cooperation.** It is God's way of allowing us to partner with Him to accomplish His purposes.
- **Your prayers release the power of God into the most hopeless situations.**
- Prayers can penetrate places where no man or woman can go.
- **Prayer makes the impossible possible.**

**Fasting** is abstaining from something for a period of time with the purpose of connecting with God on a deeper level.

- Fasting demonstrates to God our seriousness in seeking His face.
- Fasting and praying are about giving up the thing you seek for satisfaction in order to draw near to God... allowing God to satisfy you.
- As we move the things from our life that can distract us from God's worthiness, we make room to be thankful for who God is and everything He has done.
- Fasting is about the condition of the heart and focusing on the good things He has blessed us with. Nehemiah 9, Esther 4:16, Psalm 35: 12-14, Daniel 9, Luke 2:36-38, Acts 14:23.

### What do I pray?

- Pray for Holy Spirit revival that I may see my role in His church.
- Teach me how to pray for wisdom, direction, purpose, and passion. Ps. 119:154
- Please give me discernment, wisdom, courage, strength, grace, identity, calling, and transformed mind. James 1:5-6, Joshua 1:9, Hebrews 4:16, Ephesians 1:17-21
- Pray for a spirit of repentance and that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord. Act 3:19-20
- Lord, grant me a hunger and passion for listening to the Holy Spirit. 2 Tim 1:7
- Lord, grant me a heart for sacrificial service and teach me the way of love. Rom. 12:1,2a
- Lord, give me a desire to multiply my faith. 2 Tim. 2:2

Seeking  
God's Heart  
in  
Prayer

40-DAY  
PRAYER FOCUS

in preparation for Easter

A time when we intentionally seek God in prayer believing that He will move in powerful ways.

Purpose:

To seek God's face in prayer with humility and repentance for

HIS CHURCH

OUR NATION

THE WORLD



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. Ephesians 1:18

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>Let our hearts be filled with Your Spirit so that we may grow deeper in Your love. May our prayer lead us to a sincere desire to be close to you. May fasting help us rely on you and transform us to be more Christlike.</p>			<p><b>FEBRUARY 21</b> Pray that God will create in us a clean heart and renew a right spirit within us. Ps. 51:10 <b>Commit</b> to a time for daily prayer.</p>	<p>22 Pray for God's guidance in every aspect of our lives and for the love of Jesus to shine in our lives so that we may be a light to those whom we serve. Matt 5:16</p>	<p>23 Pray for a renewed faith; to be filled with the living water of hope and that our hearts will be open to His plan.</p>	<p>24 Pray to live out our baptismal promise and commit to the practice of prayer and fasting so we may follow Jesus more closely.</p>
<p><b>Children</b> Babies – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade</p>	<p><b>Gospel &amp; Games</b> 25 (Sunday evening activities – Pre-school – 6<sup>th</sup> grade) <b>Bible Drills</b> (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) Pray - Ask God to bless our Christian fellowship this evening. <b>5:00 GALINTINE &amp; WILD GAME SUPPER</b></p>	<p><b>FBC Day Care</b> 26 (Babies – 3 years old) Pray for our day care workers/teachers as they show God's love in caring for and teaching the children.</p>	<p><b>Wed Night Teachers</b> 27 (Choir, RA, GA, Mission Friends) Pray that those who teach and lead Wed. activities will share Jesus' love and grace so that our children will grow in Christ.</p>	<p><b>FBC Wed night</b> 28 <b>Children's Activities</b> (Choir, RA, GA, Mission Friends) Pray for new teachers and leaders to emerge and be willing to do God's will, for increased and continued attendance within activities, that our children would meet and know Jesus.</p>	<p><b>Upward</b> 29 (1<sup>st</sup> Grade – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade) Pray to connect and journey with our children and their families to show the love of Christ.</p>	<p><b>MARCH 1</b> <b>Children's Ministry Leadership Committee</b> <b>Action</b> - give up snacks, sweets, and sugary drinks for the day.</p>	<p><b>Children's Teachers &amp; Volunteers</b> 2 (Kids' Worship, Sunday morning &amp; evening, Bible Drills) <b>Action</b> - Smile and welcome those around you at church tomorrow. <b>MISSIONS MADNESS</b></p>
<p><b>Youth &amp; College</b> 7 – 12 Grade</p>	<p><b>Teen Boys &amp; Girls</b> 3 <b>Bible Study</b> (7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) Pray people encounter the Holy Spirit as they worship and to find God's healing, hope, peace, and joy as they wait on Him.</p>	<p><b>Bible Drills</b> 4 (7<sup>th</sup> Grade – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) Pray for God's guidance in every aspect of your life.</p>	<p><b>Youth Leadership &amp; Committee</b> 8 Pray for those leading youth that they would be committed to study and be connected with youth.</p>	<p><b>Youth Worship Team</b> 6 <b>Youth Worship Service</b> (Praise / Worship, Preaching) Pray for increased attendance and that the Holy Spirit will reach the minds and hearts of those that attend youth worship service.</p>	<p><b>Personal Commitment</b> 7 Invite God to speak to you in prayer and listen to what the Holy Spirit reveals. <b>7:30 UPWARD CELEBRATION</b></p>	<p><b>College Leadership</b> 8 Pray for those leading young adult &amp; college ministry that they would be committed to study and be connected with young adults.</p>	<p><b>College Ministry</b> 9 Pray for those in college that they will remained plugged in to God's word and Christian fellowship. <b>Action</b> - Fast from social media.</p>
<p><b>Adults</b></p>	<p><b>Worship and Praise Team</b> 10 Pray for Matt's guidance as he leads the praise team, choir, and congregation in worship through music. Prov. 3:5-6</p>	<p><b>Choir &amp; Handbells</b> 11 Pray for persecuted Christians that they would know God's presence, peace, and protection. Pray for open doors as they work to share the gospel.</p>	<p><b>Home &amp; International Missions</b> 12 Pray for those suffering from religious persecution.</p>	<p><b>Men and Women's Bible Study</b> 13 Pray that the outgrowth of Bible study will encourage men and women to teach and lead classes in studying God's word.</p>	<p><b>Joy Club</b> 14 (Just Older Youth) <b>Action</b> - Thank God for the Joy of each new day with the purpose to be used by God.</p>	<p><b>Homebound / Assisted Living/ Nursing Home</b> 15 Pray for the sick and their caregivers.</p>	<p><b>Adult Teachers</b> 16 (Sunday morning, Bible Study, ) Pray for uninterrupted time to study God's Word and teach under the leadership of the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p><b>Leadership</b></p>	<p><b>Senior Adult Ministry Leadership</b> 17 Pray for a outpouring of the Holy Spirit to form lifelong disciples of Christ.</p>	<p><b>Men's Ministry Leadership</b> 18 Pray to seek new opportunities of service and ministry within the church. <b>Action</b> - Fast from complaining.</p>	<p><b>Women's Ministry Leadership Committee</b> 19 Pray that women in area churches unite in fellowship to thrive, grow, and impact our community with the Gospel.</p>	<p><b>Church Committees / Volunteers</b> 20 Pray appointed members of committees will prayerfully seek God's will in selection of teachers and committee members. Pray that those who agree to serve will be faithful in fulfilling God's call to service.</p>	<p><b>Outreach</b> 21 Pray we will fulfill the mission of sharing the Gospel and reaching others to know Jesus Christ.</p>	<p><b>Deacons</b> 22 (Deacon Chairman – Kyle Fulton) Invite someone to church. Fast from asking the Lord for anything today.</p>	<p><b>Deacons' Families</b> 23 Pray that all families would have a sense of belonging, united in the body of Christ by reaching others with love, encouragement and kindness.</p>
<p><b>Staff</b></p>	<p><b>Jean Jones –</b> 24 (Glynn) Pray for open hearts and engaged minds in worship. <b>2:00 – "Journey to the Cross"</b> (Interactive Prayer Walk in the FBC Gym)</p>	<p><b>Tonya Stevenson</b> 25 (Chris, Rivers, &amp; Sadie) Pray that those who visit and/or attend our church will experience Jesus.</p>	<p><b>Terry Carter – (Re-C)</b> 26 Pray through your Church Directory, ask God to bless each family. <b>Action</b> – Call or write notes of Encouragement</p>	<p><b>Scott Lowery</b> 27 (Heidi &amp; Bear) Give thanks for all your blessings. <b>6:00 SEDER MEAL</b></p>	<p><b>Hailey Williams –</b> 28 (Phillip, Annistyn, Camryn Joy, &amp; John Easton) Praise God for the growth of our childrens' and families ministry. Pray for continued growth. <b>6:00 MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE</b></p>	<p><b>Matt Jones</b> 29 (Laurie) Pray to be open to worship experiences that honor God.</p>	<p><b>Heath Hillman</b> 30 (Elgen, Olivia, &amp; Maryn) Teach us how to pray for wisdom, direction, purpose, and passion.</p>
	<p>Pray for the Holy Spirit's revival so that we can see our role in Your church. <b>EASTER – Jesus has RISEN!</b></p>	<p><b>Fasting is an intensified form of prayer for believers.</b></p>	<p><b>Why 40 Days?</b> Every time God uses the number 40 in the Bible, something momentous occurred in the history of God's people. It signifies a period of transition and change. Isn't that what we long to see? (Noah - Gen 7:12; Moses - Ex 34:28; Israel - Num 13:25; Elijah - 1 Kg 19:8; Elijah - 1 Kg 19:8; Jonah - Jh ; David - Jesus - Mark 1:13, Act 1:3)</p>	<p>Inclusion is making a new/better space for everyone. It isn't asking everyone to fit, but changing our actions so everyone will have a place. "We are the body of Christ, and each one of us is a part of it" 1 Cor 12. "And as a part of the body, we have responsibilities — responsibilities to respect and encourage the other parts as we carry out the individual work God has called each of us to do."</p>			