The city I live in

God has called you to the city you live in; He calls you to be salt and light. While these topics could just as easily be prayers for the nation, focusing on the city makes it more relevant and opens it up for us to be part of the solution.

- Those who are grappling with mental health and/or suicidal thoughts: ask for protection, the help they need and good people to come alongside them.
- Those who are in homes where there is violence and abuse: for ways to escape and that what is hidden would be bought into the open.
- Those who are living in poverty: that there would be provision and ways to escape the poverty/debt cycle.
- For our councillors, mayor and civic leaders: for unity, clear vision and wisdom in decision making.
- For a reduction in crime and that our city would be a safe place to live. That cycles of violence and drug and alcohol abuse be broken.
- For our police, social workers, fire brigade, ambulance staff, emergency department staff who regularly deal with trauma and the worst of human behaviour. Pray for their well-being.

HOW TO PRAY FOR

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- Spouse (or spouse-to-be.)
- Children/grandchildren.
- Parents.

As you think about each family member, look at this list and choose what is most relevant to them in this season. Keep praying until you see evidence of this being out worked in their lives.

- To live in harmony with others. Romans 15:5-6
- To be filled with joy, peace and spiritual energy.
 Romans 15:13
- To know God personally. Ephesians 1:17
- To know what God is calling them to do and be. Ephesians 1:18
- To be inwardly strengthened with the Spirit's power. Ephesians 3:16
- to open their hearts fully to Christ. Ephesians 3:17
- To have a realisation of Christ's incredible love for them. Ephesians 3:18
- To have abundant and discerning love.
 Philippians 1:9
- To prioritise what matters. Philippians 1:10
- To display the fruit of righteousness. Philippians 1:11
- To choose to live worthy of the Lord. Colossians 1:10
- To be fruitful in good works. Colossians 1:10
- To have spiritual strength and endurance.
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- To explode in love. 1 Thessalonians 3:12
- To be holy inside and out. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

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my church

Consider the possibility that the spiritual health of your church is directly related to your prayer - or lack of prayer.

- Fruitfulness: That we would see many new believers.
- **Spiritual hunger:** Pray for a fresh hunger for God in every person.
- Ministries of the church: That each would have the workers needed and be fruitful.
- Children and Youth: A 50% drop-out rate tells us we need to lift every child and young person to the Lord, asking for genuine and life-changing encounters with God.
- Unity and love: That every divisive scheme of the enemy be defeated.
- Provision: For every practical need we have.
- Sunday services: For a strong presence of God and anointing on all that takes place.
- Pastors, elders and all those in leadership roles: Bring them by name to the Lord, asking for fresh passion, protection from criticism and discouragement, wisdom, vision and faith.
 Cover their marriages and families. The greater the responsibility of a leader, the more they are subject to the attention of the enemy.
- Missionaries we support: See above.
 Missionaries also grapple with loneliness, dangers, cross-cultural issues and team dynamics.

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friends and neighbours

God has placed you in your neighbourhood. Pray that God will give you a love for your neighbours, no matter who they are. Start by asking God to work on your heart. Tell God you are available as his representative in your neighbourhood to be used in any way he wishes to extend his kingdom.

- Ask God for opportunities to show love to your neighbours and friends. Galatians 5:14
- Ask God for creative opportunities to meet neighbours you don't know. Proverbs 3:6
- For those you know by name, pray for God's blessing on their marriages, children and extended family and that the Spirit would begin to bring revelation to them. 2 Corinthians 4:4; Romans 12:14
- Stand against those things you are aware of that are not good in your neighbourhood and your friends' lives, e.g. drunkenness, domestic violence, greed, etc. 2 Corinthians 10:4
- Pray for peace over your neighbourhood. Jeremiah
 29:7
- Ask that your house be known as a place that has a different "feel" i.e. that it be a place of peace, where the Spirit of God is present. Proverbs 15:6
- Ask God to direct who lives next to you and who comes across your path. Proverbs 20:24; Psalm 37:23

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those in government

Our political biases sometimes make this difficult and our default setting is to complain about the government. But we are clearly instructed to pray for all those in positions of authority over us.

- The Prime Minister: Pray for wisdom and for them
 to be given good advice. Pray that they see not
 just the financial but the social and environmental
 needs of the country as well. Pray for their family
 and marriage.
- Government ministers: Pray that they develop policies that are for the betterment of the nation as a whole, not just some. That they have courage to make hard decisions that might not be popular, but are right.
- Government officials: That they be honest and give good advice.
- Christians in Parliament and key government roles: There are Christians across the political spectrum, all of whom work in a very challenging space, where declarations of faith are often ridiculed by media and others. Pray for them, their families and their witness in a hostile space.
- Poverty and inequality: Pray for positive solutions to this growing issue.
- Justice: Pray for those who are working on issues of restorative justice.
- Violence: Abortion, crime, violence, sexual immorality and child abuse are rampant. Ask for forgiveness and healing for our nation.



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for our workplaces

Our places of work are part of our ministry and calling. They are God's open doors! They enable us to provide for ourselves and our families and to bless others with our gifts. Colossians 3:23

- Before you arrive at work, commit yourself and your tasks to the Lord; pray that you will glorify Him through your work as a form of worship to the Lord. (This can be done while travelling to work.)
 Mark 12:30
- Pray for your employer, that God will bless them and their family and business. Proverbs 10:22
- Pray for your employees/workmates, that relationships will be self-controlled, that conversations will not be misunderstood, that all will support and encourage each other.
 Romans 13:10
- Pray for your work environment, that it will be free from the influences of darkness. Ephesians 6:10-12
- Ask God to show you where you need to change so that you are more productive and a blessing to others. Galatians 5:25-26

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Those who do not know God

We often feel great grief over those closest to us who are not Christians. Here are some ways we can pray for them. Put this card somewhere handy and let the Spirit show you the place to begin. Be persistent!

- Pray for a spiritual thirst or curiosity and that the Father will draw them to himself. John 6:44
- Pray that God will prevent Satan blinding their minds. 2 Corinthians 4:3
- If they are involved with cults, New Age practices or the occult, this is especially important.
- Pray that their hearts will be good soil and that Satan will not destroy the message.
 Matthew 13:3-8
- Pray that strongholds (things of great importance to them, e.g. money, success, happiness, wrong behaviours, negative influences of friends, etc) in their life will be torn down. 2 Corinthians 10:4
- Pray that God will surround them with Christians who will show them love and grace.
- Pray for them to see the power of God clearly demonstrated – through creation, healing and answered prayer. Mark 16:17-18
- Pray that they will hear a clear message about Christ. Romans 10:14-15
- Pray that God will convict them of their spiritual poverty and need for God.
- Pray that you will be ready at any time to share your faith. 1 Peter 3:15-16
- Ask forgiveness for those things you have said and done that have been an obstacle to others seeing God clearly.
- Pray for God to open the doors, rather than you trying to force them open.

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