

## ***Praying for our Community***

This week in small groups we will spend an extended time together praying for our community. You may want to have your Bibles available and begin your time by reading a short Psalm to focus your heart and mind on God. Use this prayer guide as a suggested guideline for your group's prayer time, but don't feel limited or overwhelmed by this list—enjoy this time of fellowship with God. Feel the freedom to pray for individuals both inside and outside our church body by name. Finally, you may also want to split the prayer time up between praying in a large group and in several smaller groups.

**Revive** Our Father who is in heaven...

- For God to revive and unite Christ followers in this area as one family
- For Christians to repent and return to God as Father if they have turned away
- For new movements of prayer to be initiated in our area
- For Christians to develop a Christ-like compassion for the people in our area

**Reveal** ...Sanctify Your name...

- For the truth of God's character to be exalted and honored
- For God to distinguish Himself from every false god in the lives of the people in our area
- That the gospel would be proclaimed to every person in our area and across the earth

**Rule** ...May Your kingdom come...

- For many to be drawn by the power of the gospel to give their lives to Jesus Christ
- For Christ's followers to walk in the power of God's Spirit so that they can live out the life of Christ

**Transform** ...and may Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven

- For God's people to bring the influence and blessing of Christ into every aspect of commerce, arts, education, and governance in ways that bring lasting transformation to our community
- Pray for our community leaders—county and city officials, judges, mayors, police, fire and rescue officers, and school authorities (public and private)
- For the righteousness, peace, justice, and joy of Christ's kingdom to be a reality in our community

**Provide** ...Give us this day our daily bread...

- For the basic needs of the poor, for the sick, for refugees, and for children to be met
- That God's people would become agents of healing and change in our area
- For God's people to help break patterns of poverty in our community
- For Christians to act with compassion and persistence to help eradicate diseases and serve well in the midst of epidemics such as HIV/AIDS

**Forgive** ...Forgive us our sins...

- For God's Spirit to move in the hearts of men and women so that they will be able to see how God is grieved and how their lives are being destroyed by sin
- For God's Spirit to empower people to abandon patterns of sin and find grace

**Reconcile** ...as we forgive those who sin against us...

- To break the cycles of resentment, revenge, and racism so that relationships are restored
- To restore relationships between men and women, to bring reconciliation in marriages and to renew relationships of children with their parents
- For spirit-filled unity and common ground among different churches across racial, denominational, and socioeconomic lines

**Lead** ...And lead us not into temptation...

- For Christians to be filled with such love and zeal to please God that they are unmoved by enticements of the world
- For God's people to walk in obedience to Christ in order to fulfill His purposes in our area and throughout the world
- That Christ would guide leaders of business, education, and government to live truthful lives

**Overcome** ...but deliver us from evil...

- That God would restrain the powers of darkness, revealing the truth of the gospel, liberating many people to follow Christ
- That Christ followers would run to God in dependent prayer for the spiritual battle all around us

**Glorify** ...For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

- That the marks of God's kingdom will fill the earth and that many will be moved to celebrate the hope of His coming
- That Christ's power will be seen in the humility and compassionate service of His people
- That Jesus would be honored openly, worshiped extravagantly, and glorified here and around the world