



10 Days of Prayer

Lord of my Heart and the Harvest

Whose am I? To whom do I give allegiance; total loyalty and commitment? As ministry workers, we quickly give the approved Sunday School answer, "I am the Lord's!" Our 10 Days of Prayer gives us pause. Is He truly Lord of all? Likely, we all made that commitment at some point, but subtly ground surrendered can be re-possessed. The first seven days we will explore core desires

that shape our actions as individuals and as a community. As you thoughtfully pray through this guide, observe your inner responses. Talk to the Lord or journal about them. The last three days, we will call the Lord of the Harvest to enlarge our capacity and make us an organisation through which He can fulfill his mission to make his Son known in all communities.

Day 1

Belonging

Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. **Psalm 100:3**

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9

For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5: 14-15

Father, I am yours! You created me, and with the blood of your Son, bought me. Astounding that Holy God would sacrifice to reconcile rebellious humanity! Thank you for the blessings of your grace, mercy, forgiveness, presence. Yet equally astounding, considering all these benefits, is my desire to remain in control, to be my own master. Areas I once yielded to You, I have now repos-

sessed. Father, I give you decision rights over use of my time. I let go control of how my skills and training are used. I give up control over people and circumstances and trust you to order my life. How I keep, give and spend my money is yours to command. I bow my will and desires to you, my Master.

Father, we are yours! Under your Lordship, we are one. And as your people, through our love and unity, we embody and communicate Christ who reconciles all peoples to himself and to each other. We confess the subtle pride that rises in believing we are somehow better than people around us—people in communities who live and die without You, people even in other church or mission communities, and people who may be poorer or less educated than we are. We have the answers. We know the right path. Lord of all, give us humble hearts! Help us to serve others in full awareness that we are your people by grace alone. Enlarge our hearts to welcome all into your redeemed community, recognising that we are incomplete without each other.



Day 2

Security

The LORD is your protector; the LORD is the shade at your right hand. The sun will not harm you by day, or the moon by night. The Lord will protect you from all harm; he will protect your life. The LORD will protect you in all you do, now and forevermore. **Psalm 121:5-8**

Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated.

Hebrews 11:36-38

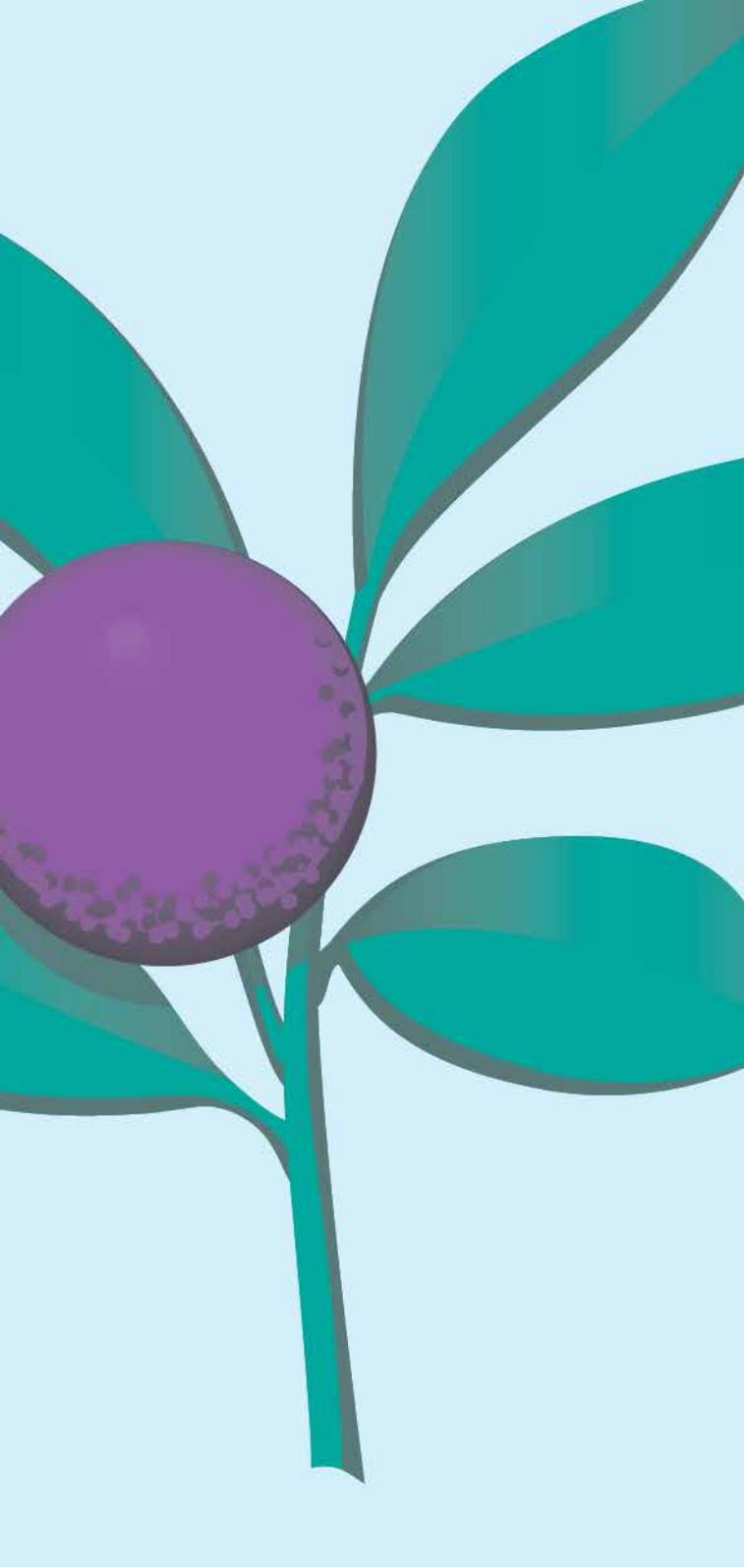
Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. **Hebrews 12:3**

But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. **1 Peter 4:13**

Lord Jesus, I want to be safe. I want those I love to be safe: from disease, heartache, injury, loss, pain. I thank you for the protection and healing so characteristic of your infinite goodness.

I want it all the time! In fact, sometimes I think I deserve it, considering what I've given to serve You. But how will I become more like You if I am unwilling to suffer? How will I truly know You if I never experience what you experienced? I don't choose suffering. But I choose to follow You, even if it means suffering. I give You control of all circumstances, trusting You to order my life and design the experiences that will conform me to your image.

We thank you, Jesus, for our community, your gift for our encouragement, laughter, growth, support, and care. But sometimes we lean solely on each other for security and comfort, instead of looking to You as our protector and peace. We confess our desire to hold tightly to us, our community becoming our shield from those outside. Instead, may it be your instrument to strengthen our wellbeing and resilience as we face hardships together, making disciples in communities where You are least known.



Day 3

Joy

You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **Psalm 16:11**

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"

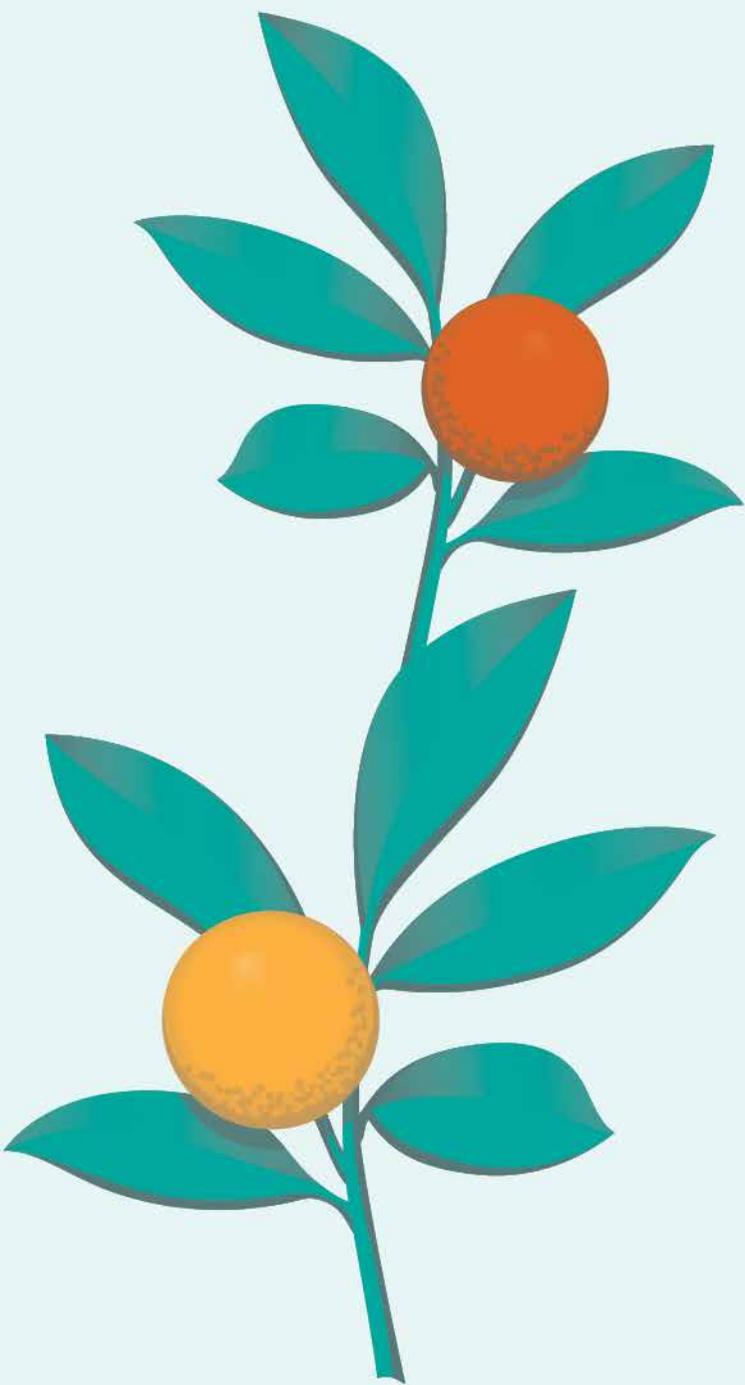
You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. **Psalm 4:6-7**

Light shines on the righteous and joy on the upright in heart. **Psalm 97:11**

Holy Spirit, joy is your fruit in me, flourishing in a spirit of contentment. It's the delight of relationship with You and with each other. It's what keeps me persevering in life. But when I grow restless and discontent, I choose cheap imitations. I manufacture a happiness of my own.

Busy amusements replace restoring times in your Word. I feed on distracting attractions of the web. I pursue what others have. I stop thanking You. I turn back, Lord. I hunger for lasting satisfaction from You, your Word and your ways. I will be content with your provision, drink of your pleasures and rejoice in your purposes for me.

Discontentment can spread like a virus within a community too. We turn from complaint and grumbling. We choose contentment in the people you've put in our lives: teammates, neighbours, leaders, church partners. We choose contentment with the skills, gifts and resources You have given to us and to those around us. We thank You for each one of them. We trust the measure of your provision for personnel, ministry finances, and visible fruit. By faith, we thank You for the people, funds and ministry outcomes we desire to see in your perfect timing.



Day 4

Love

O LORD, you have searched me and known me ... For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. **Psalm 139:1,13**

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. **John 15:9a**

For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another ... We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love each other.... This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. **1 John 3:11,14,16**

Love must be sincere. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **Romans 12:9-18**

Love Incarnate, before I had a conscious thought, you knew me completely. Amazing that you love me to the depth and breadth that the Father loves You! I am known, loved, and I belong. You are my first love, and You are enough for me. I won't seek to get my relational needs met my way. I commit to live in purity—in thought and action. I trust you with my friendships; You guard my heart. As I grow in my relationship with You, I want to grow in relationship with others: to loyally love, listen, encourage and extend care.

You prayed that we would live in complete unity and declared that love for each other would be the mark of our discipleship. We affirm that each person in your family is formed by you and bears your image as your son or daughter. You have prepared good works for each one to do. As we live and serve together, we commit to intentionally care for one another, exercising compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. By your grace, we will live in harmony, sharing each other's joys and sorrows and forgiving one another as you forgave us.



Day 5

Recognition

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

Psalm 86:12

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Colossians 3:17

In love, he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Ephesians 1: 4b-6

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 11:36

High King of Heaven, you redeemed me, so I and all created beings would awe at your eye-blinding glory. I live to praise you. You are my reward, the One I will enjoy forever. Hearing, “Well done” from you is the only recognition I pursue. I let go of trying to please or impress others, so they will like or be impressed with me.

I turn from self-drive to be well-known, appreciated, or esteemed. I will not harbour hurt or resentment when I’m not thanked or recognized. I choose to face conflict and tell the truth, trusting the outcome to you. I joyfully live in loyal service to your honour.

Our King, we do not exist to make our organization, church or ministry known. Our purpose and joy as a community is to make your wonders known as we make disciples. We will not compete for recognition or manage our reputation. We will serve faithfully, graciously, and humbly as we partner with others to proclaim Christ where He is least known.



Day 6

Justice

O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor do I have a haughty look. I do not have great aspirations or concern myself with things that are beyond me. Indeed, I am composed and quiet, like a young child carried by its mother; I am content like the young child I carry. O Israel, hope in the Lord now and forevermore! **Psalm 131**

Your name, God, like Your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth; Your right hand is filled with justice. **Psalm 48:10**

Senseless people do not know, fools do not understand, that though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be destroyed forever. But you, LORD, are forever exalted. For surely your enemies, LORD, surely your enemies will perish; all evildoers will be scattered ... The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. **Psalm 92:6-8, 12-13**

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?" For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

God of justice, I struggle with your ways. Brokenness surrounds me: husbands subjugating their wives; abusers preying on children; powerful people oppressing the poor; heartless humans enslaving the vulnerable; God-haters persecuting your children. I grieve at the selfishness tearing families apart, the prejudice dividing communities, the stereotyping that prevents us from digging deep to know one another, the greed destroying nations. With David I cry, "Call them to account for their wickedness!" And I add, "NOW!"

But I align my mind and heart with truth. "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted." I trust your perfect wisdom and timing. I believe that you exercise justice daily and that one day all evil will be judged. Your justice will reign.

And how we long for that day! You will rule over all; your justice will "roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream." As citizens of your kingdom, we commit to advance the values of your reign. We will not demean people or cultures. We will respect all as people who bear your image. We will act justly and love mercy: defending the powerless, showing kindness to the vulnerable, treating with dignity those made in your image, demonstrating your care for the wounded, and proclaiming your power and purpose to restore all things.



Day 7

Significance

You are the salt of the earth.... You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:13a,14a,15-16

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.... If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last.

John 15:5,7,16

May your deeds be shown to your servants, your splendour to their children. May the favour of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work of our hands.

Psalms 90:16-17

Lord, I want desire that my life and work make a difference, whether it is consoling a crying toddler, responding to a call at midnight, writing a lesson, or answering emails. I trust that through my good works others will see your light and worship You. I resolve not to overcommit and overwork to achieve significance. I will not depend on my ideas and strategies. Rather, by prayer, by your Spirit, and in unity with your people, I will serve wholeheartedly.

Lord of the Harvest, we long to see tangible change; spiritual transformation in lives and communities. We cry to You for lasting fruit. By the power of your Spirit, bring change in mindsets, values and behaviours: integrity in the work place, kind and nurturing words in the home, honesty in the classroom, respect for authority on the streets. Alter attitudes: husbands valuing their wives, wives respecting their husbands, children honouring their parents, neighbours welcoming diversity. O God, grant change in beliefs: open blind eyes to your glorious light, free your disciples from legalism, tear down the dividing walls of ethnic prejudice. To You be the glory!



Day 8

Friendly

“My food,” said Jesus, “is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don’t you have a saying, ‘It’s still four months until harvest’? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. **John 4:34-35**

As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. **John 9:4**

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. **Luke 10:1-2**

Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them

and sent them off. So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went. **Acts 13:1-3**

Jesus, each day your coming draws nearer. We feel the urgency of the harvest, yet the expanse of gospel-deprived communities is vast. And so, as instructed, we ask. Send us workers who will be faithful witnesses in communities where you are least known. Enlarge our capacity. Strengthen us through diversity; call workers from your worldwide church. Raise churches and partners who will prayerfully and eagerly support them. Give us wisdom and capacity to cast vision and challenge a new generation to join the harvest work. Direct us to partners with vision and passion to proclaim the gospel; give us synergy.

New workers bring change, new dynamics. Give us thankful hearts as we respond to growth; make us friendly, welcoming! Cultivate collaboration amongst us; foster teamwork across generations, cultures and partner organisations. Shape in us a spirit of mutuality; a keen awareness that we need each other and are incomplete without each other.



Day 9

Flourish

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Then we will no longer be infants.... we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesian 4:14-16

All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Therefore, since Christ suffered in the flesh, equip yourselves also with the same resolve—because the one who suffered in the flesh has finished with sin—in order to live the remaining time in the flesh, no longer for human desires, but for God's will. **1 Peter 4:1-2**

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up

meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Father, we want to equip teams of faithful witnesses to flourish. As new workers join us, help us to model and mentor well; to equip them to be biblically and culturally competent. Give us wisdom as we encourage growth in their relationship with You and with others. Grant us strength as we walk with them through the joys and hardships of ministry; encouraging them to faithfully persevere. Help us to value and affirm their gifts; humbly receiving their ministry to us as they receive ours, so that together we grow in Christlikeness.

By your grace, we aspire to be people who are complete, equipped for every good work. So, Father, we commit to knowing, meditating on, and obeying your Word. We aspire to be a community that attains the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. And so, in dependency on your Spirit, we commit ourselves to works of service that will build and mature Christ's body. We aspire to be people who walk through suffering with joy. And so, we commit to focusing on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross.



Day 10

Future Oriented

One generation will declare your works to the next and will proclaim Your mighty acts. I will speak of Your splendor and glorious majesty and Your wonderful works. They will proclaim the power of Your awe-inspiring acts, and I will declare Your greatness. **Psalm 145:4-6**

Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance ... Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge. **Proverbs 1:5a; 9:9; 18:15**

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth"... After this I looked, and there was a vast multitude from every nation, tribe, people, and language, which no one could number, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were robed in white with palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice:

Salvation belongs to our God, who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Revelation 5:9-10; 7:9-10

God, as our Creator and He who will one day make all things new, it should not surprise us that You delight in newness. You are a forward-moving God! As your image bearers, we want to follow your lead into new (to us) ideas. Give us a hunger to grow in knowledge and increase in wisdom. As a child you learned new skills, pondered new ideas, and gained new insights to prepare You for your mission. Forgive us for our reluctance towards change and our indifference with lack of movement. Give us delight in healthy growth!

As you raise up a new generation and bring fresh challenge to our workers, give us wisdom! Open our minds and grip our hearts with new contexts of ministry! Guide us in ministry strategy; move us to prayerfully and earnestly seek your face. Stir us to GO, as well as joyfully support those among us who go, so the vision of eternity-future will be realized. We will stand with people from communities where Christ was once least known, and together we will shout: Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb! Even so, come Lord Jesus!