

## ***Prayer for Church and Nation - October 2009***

### **Week One - Our Presbyterian Church**

Day 1. Ask God to grant you a greater desire to pray and constancy in your prayer life; note the examples of Jesus in the Gospels; and have confidence that He hears and answers prayer according to His will. (Ps 37:4; Matt 14:23; 26:41; Lk 18:1; Col 4:2; 1 Jn 5:14)

Day 2. Praise God for our Lord Jesus Christ and His Gospel; ask that we will hold fast to the sufficiency of Scripture; and proclaim it confidently as the very Word of God that saves souls. (Col 1:12-20; 2 Tim 3:15-17; Jas 1:21; 1 Pet 1: 23-25)

Day 3. Thank God for all who are involved in teaching His Word; in our theological colleges, staff and students; in local churches, in all aspects of Christian ministry; that they may be godly, prudent and faithful. (Deut 6:4-7; Jas 3:1; 2 Tim 2:2)

Day 4. Pray for our Church Courts: General Assembly of Australia, State Assemblies, Presbyteries, and Sessions: Moderators, Clerks, Committees, and members, that they may be faithful to our Church doctrine and their own vows. (Rom 12:6-8; 1 Tim 2:1-4, 5:17)

Day 5. Commit to God your Minister/Pastor, Elders, youth leaders, teachers and members: seeking faith, unity, service, community involvement without compromise, evangelism, discipline, repentance, and restoration. (Rom 12:3-21)

Day 6. Praise God for all Christians serving as chaplains, volunteers, and visitors in prisons, schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, nursing homes, armed services, police and industry; ask that each may be gracious, loving and persevering for Him. (Matt 25:34-40; Jude 20-23)

Day 7. Thank God for all who consciously, consistently and prayerfully strive to be salt and light in family, church and work; and for all who grow in faith through personal, family and group devotions and who encourage others in this. (Matt 5:13-16; Tit 3:8)

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### **Week Two - the Church in the World**

Day 1. As you respond to the daily news, pray for those who are suffering throughout the world, that they may be comforted, fed, housed, clothed, loved and healed; and that the violence of war, lust, lies, hatred, anger and greed may end. (Rom 13:8-10)

Day 2. Praise God that He has revealed Himself in creation and rules in providence, and especially for His revealing Word, spoken, written and living; praying that He may continue to reveal Himself through the Gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 1:16,17)

Day 3. Pray for all Christians, to resist the constant ungodly influences of the media, entertainment, advertising, materialism, hedonism and the appeal to self-indulgence; using our regular daily devotion, Bible-reading and prayer with thankfulness. (1 Jn 2:15-17)

Day 4. Remember the many areas of conflict, human rights abuses, civil unrest, poverty, sickness and oppression throughout the world, and especially many countries in Africa, Asia and South America; pray for peace and godly leaders. (1 Tim 2:1-4)

Day 5. Thank God for the many aid agencies and staff working among numerous displaced persons in many places; pray that Christians among them may be effective witnesses for the Lord Jesus, by their lives and words. (Jas 2:15-18)

Day 6. Ask God to bless, strengthen and comfort His persecuted Church in Asia, SE Asia, Africa and the Middle East; and that the Western Church may be revived; also that leaders of Western countries may be godly people. (Matt 5:10, 1 Pet 4:12-17)

Day 7. Praise God for missionaries, sent into the world (remember those you know), and those who support them; also the Defence Force Chaplains and our troops overseas, and their families; for protection, and that many come to know the Lord through Christian witness in the Armed Services. (John 17:20-21)

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### **Week Three - Disciples, Discipling and Mentoring**

Day 1. Pray for your own desire to help others come to faith; for your own example before a watching world; and to be aware of opportunities to be a witness in what you may say or do (or not say and not do), to encourage others. (Phil 3:12-21; 1 Tim 4:12)

Day 2. Praise God for the authority of Scripture, and its guidance in all our interpersonal relationships, particularly in sexuality; pray that more people would understand and apply His purpose in this gift, in our sex-saturated society. (Ex 20:14-17; Matt 5:27-30)

Day 3. Ask that ministers and elders, in particular, as a first priority, might seek their own personal holiness and encourage others so to do; and that they, and all who have positions of responsibility, put the welfare of others ahead of their own. (2 Cor 7:1; Rom 12:3-21)

Day 4. Pray for those who go into schools, and other institutions, to befriend children and adults, as mentors, that they be gentle, gracious and winsome for Him; thank God for those who show hospitality at church and elsewhere. (3 John 5,6a; Heb 13:2,3)

Day 5. Praise God for the many in our churches who work unselfishly with children and youth, in camping, sport, schools, youth groups and similar activities; ask that they may not become discouraged but be faithful witnesses, bearing much fruit. (Gal 6:9,10; John 15:7-14)

Day 6. Pray that the open door to our prisons, schools, hospitals, and nursing homes may continue; that the restrictions on Christian witness may be minimised; and that Bibles remain/return to hotels, motels and hospitals, as provided by Christian bodies. (Matt 25:34-45; Col 4:3-6)

Day 7. Thank God for families, and pray that fathers may be godly examples, leading in family devotions and loving their wives and children; thank God for mothers and the special place they hold in His purpose for His people. (Prov 22:6; 2 Tim 1:3-5)

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### **Week Four - Nation, Government and Ethics**

Day 1. Praise God for our nation, its Christian heritage, and political stability; pray for your local, State and Federal governments: local councillors, members, Premiers, Prime Minister, opposition leaders. (Rom 13:1-7; 1 Tim 2:1-8)

Day 2. Pray for mutual respect between employers and employees, for workplace harmony and fair wages and conditions; that those seeking work may find it; that governments uphold the priority of providing work for all. (1 Tim 5:18; 2 Thess 3:6-13)

Day 3. Ask God that suitable accommodation, care and sustenance may be provided for all in need; that people are helped to do for themselves what they should and can do; and that the vulnerable are not exploited in any way. (Prov 14:21; 1 Jn 3:11-17 )

Day 4. Bring the world economic situation before God; pray that those in authority would exercise prudent supervision over financial institutions, and that the greed and selfishness which causes hardship to many be dealt with. (Ex 20:17; 1 Tim 6:10)

Day 5. Pray that all attempts to wrongly manipulate or interfere with the God-ordained processes of life and death may be frustrated; that those in scientific research and legislature may respect the dignity of human life, and its divine origins. (Gen 2:7; Job 10:12; Eccl 12:7)

Day 6. Remember those who have suffered the devastation of natural tragedies, especially bushfires; and the trauma of motor vehicle and other accidents; pray for comfort, assistance, healing, compassion and faith for the victims. (Luke 10:36,37; 2 Cor 1:3,4)

Day 7. Pray for those suffering from abuse of drugs, alcohol, gambling and prostitution, that they may be freed from addiction and harm and come to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; pray that God by His Spirit may revive His Church in Australia and the world. (Ps 85:4-7; Hos 14:4-7; Hab 3:2; Jude 22,23)