

PRAYING FOR OUR CHURCH LEADERS (Board of Bishops, Board of Administration, etc.)

This guide is designed to be used for a couple weeks prior to major meetings of our church leadership.

1. Fast one day each week for the Board of Administration and our Board of Bishops
2. Pray daily for the Bishops and group of BOA members that will be assigned to you to pray for by name.
3. Pray in agreement with the scriptures below:

Pray Matthew 6:9-13

**Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be your name,**

(His name is holy – his being is holy and he deserves constant recognition of that. May we and our leaders be surrendered to his holiness in our lives, minds, plans and actions)

**Your kingdom come
Your will be done**

(May his kingdom come through his will being done through our leaders. May their minds and hearts be so filled by his Spirit that only the purposes of our holy heavenly Father be enacted

...

On earth as it is in heaven.

(... so that the will of heaven would be “meted” out here on earth)

Give us this day our daily bread

(May the Lord grant what each of our leaders needs spiritually, emotionally, mentally, physically this day)

Forgive us our debts,

(Each of us has sin in our lives and needs forgiveness. Thank you Lord, for your willingness to continue to cover our sin by your grace. Grant forgiveness in the lives of our leaders for sins that are known and unknown. Caution: leave the naming of sin to the Lord.)

As we also have forgiven our debtors.

(May we and our leaders open our hearts for forgiveness to abound toward others particularly in the church. As our hearts are freed through forgiveness may we be enlivened in our hearts and minds by the Holy Spirit to the purposes of the kingdom on a daily basis)

**And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.**

*(May the Lord grant our leaders freedom from the lures and temptations of our enemy so that their energy would be **for** the kingdom of God and not have to be wasted on being against Satan and his forces.)*

Pray Ephesians 6:10 –12 for our leaders.

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

*Don’t get caught in the trap of praying against personalities or agendas. Pray for the strengthening of our leaders through the wearing of the armor of our God and **against** the forces of Satan that wants to bring his agenda(s) forward rather than the divine agenda. (Read Matthew 16:21-23 to see how our Lord recognized the diversion of the Father’s purposes through Satan).*

Pray Mark 12:30& 31

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Pray that the two great commandments would be brought forth in our church through our leaders.

Pray I Corinthians 13: 3- 8

If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails.

These verses speak of the Lord’s love. Pray that the Lord would reveal to you areas where love needs to prevail and ask him to continue to plant/nurture love in your heart for the church. Ask the Lord to continue to plant/nurture love in the minds and hearts of our leaders for the church and for one another. May love for one another and the body of Christ (the church) flow so that...

As Jesus says in John13:35

“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Ask the Lord to lead us into his heart of prayer for the church. If through prayer you have a specific way to pray for our leaders or the church, let me know so that we can all join in that.

One of our leaders wants us to know that when we pray, “ we are not praying that people will support our leadership ‘blindly’. Instead, we are asking God to help our leadership ‘listen to God and to obey Him; and then to lead the church in listening to God, and obeying Him’.” Thank the Lord for leadership that wants obedience to God and not blind following.