

PRAYING FOR YOU

We were studying with our kids last week and discussed [Genesis 18:22-33](#) when Abraham went to bat for Sodom. Why do you think he did that? Did he have a dog in the fight? I think you'll remember his nephew he headed east in the direction of Sodom ([Genesis 13:8-13](#)). Yes, Lot was there with his wife and children. Anything wrong with that? Interceding on behalf of family? Of course not. In the kingdom, we are brothers and sisters, are we not? There's so much going on in each other's lives. Typically, around this time of year, we set goals. I was thinking . . . maybe we could do something together? Something doable. Something spiritual. Could we pray with each other this year? What if we prayed for one family every week throughout the year? What it encourage you to know that the whole church went to the Father on your behalf - for a whole week? Do you think it would make a difference? I believe it would. So, what should we pray about? I'd like to take this time to consider areas to focus on for one another.

Family: We just finished a study on the family. Why not be praying about it?

[Genesis 48:8-16](#) We expect our family to wish blessings on our own, but why can't we pray for one another? Some of you have kids that are about to graduate. Big decisions to make. We're thinking about that. We think about their lives ahead of them.

- *Spouses:* [Genesis 24:10-14, 26-27](#) We care for one another's children and their marriages. It's beautiful to hear parents tell their children, "We prayed for you spouse before you ever knew them." How moving would it be to hear a brother or sister outside of your immediate family say, "We did too." We want them to have successful, God centered marriages. We want to be praying for those who have lost their spouses as well. It's one of the greatest blessings from God. You feel the loss of it, brethren. We pray for their comfort.
- *Children:* [Genesis 25:19-21](#) Isaac prayed for his barren wife. Let's pray for our sisters in Christ who desire to have more children. We pray for successful deliveries.

Specific Responsibilities: [Luke 6:12-13](#) Jesus prayed before appointing His disciples. Sometimes our loved ones have important and/or difficult roads ahead of them. The church is made up of individuals and we all have a road to travel.

Victories in Christ: Psalm 20 Thought to be a Psalm representing David and the people. They care for one another and find victory in their shared source - God.

Faith in God's Word: John 11:40-42 Jesus wanted His followers to believe. He prayed to the Father with confidence, but on behalf of the believers. We pray that our brothers and sisters find true faith and belief in God's word.

Courage & Assurance: 2 Kings 6:15-17 Elisha prayed that his servant's eyes would be opened in order to see the horses and chariots of fire that surrounded Elisha. We want others to see God is present. There's a true spiritual battle that takes place and we have not been abandoned.

Growth, Discernment & Unity: Ephesians 3:14-19 Paul bows his knees before the Father and prays for their spiritual growth. John 17:13-26 Jesus prays for unity among His followers.

Life Connected to Sin: Daniel 9:16-19 Some of you may know of the struggles your brethren are having. Pray for them. Luke 22:31-32 You remember how Jesus prayed for Peter to not fail. 1 John 5:16-17 Praying for those who have sinned. No, we're not perfect, and at times you'll hear of those who stumble. It may be you. Luke 23:34 Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Belief in Prayer: Acts 12:1-5, 12-16 We want to remember that God is listening. Believe in your prayers. Luke 18:1-8 The elect cry to the Father day and night. Can we not pray for one another? What will Jesus find when He returns?

Boldly Speak: Matthew 9:35-38 Pray to send out laborers into His harvest. Jesus was teaching and healing. Look at Acts 4:23-31. We want to pray for each other - to have boldness to share the word. It begins with our families. It's shared within the household of God. It goes out to the world of darkness.