EMCC PRAYER GUIDE

Compiled by the EMCC National Prayer Team

Greetings to our EMCC family,

We bless the name of the Lord who has given us great joy to bring to you the EMCC prayer guide.

There is an urgency for the church to pray, and we MUST PRAY now like never before! We must pray for our leaders. We must pray for our world. We must pray for the church of God. We must pray for God's people.

"For we wrestle 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." Ephesians 6:12

Prayer is the "full armour of God" that we must put on to "stand our ground", to "stand firm", and to "extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one".

We need to pray in order to "fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel," the love of Christ, and the joy and peace of salvation.

This prayer guide has been put together through the direction of the Holy Spirit for our use during this time of COVID-19, and indeed, for the future. The material herein has been put together by the EMCC National Prayer Team. We pray that it will be a tremendous blessing to you all, just as it has been to us.

Our mandate, as the EMCC National Prayer Team, is to pray for EMCC in particular, our leaders and the church of God at large. You can contact us for your local church prayer needs, and training or for your own personal prayer needs by sending an email to <u>prayerline@emcc.ca</u>.

For His Glory,

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April 6, 2020

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Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada Following Jesus Together

Prayers of Praise and Worship

Stephanie Clayton

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you!

Psalm 26:3

Throughout the Psalms, David puts every emotion on display – frustration, thankfulness, fear, sadness, elation, anger and joy. The incredible thing about David's writings is that regardless of his trial, he always comes back around to praise. His perspective continually shifts from anxiety and panic to thanksgiving and worship. I believe that David had developed a spiritual discipline of re-focusing his attention on the majesty of God, which quieted his heart so that he could rest (Psalm 91:1). Further, no matter his circumstance, he didn't ever hold himself back from proclaiming the goodness of his King! (Psalm 22:22)

David teaches us that worship shifts our focus from the anxiety in the storm, to peace in the beauty and the nearness of God. Worship shifts atmospheres. It is a powerful weapon that silences the voice of the enemy. (Psalm 8:2)

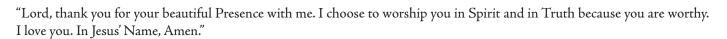
As children of God, we are called to worship in spirit and in truth. In fact, the Father is seeking out true worshipers (John 4:24)! Throughout scripture, the Lord has sent worship leaders ahead of the army into battle (2 Chronicles 20:21). I believe that the worshipers are given a key to the kingdom – an authority to take ground in the spiritual realm that can be done by no other means than by lifting up our voices in relentless praise. Exalting Jesus and sharing our love with Him opens our eyes to see into His Kingdom and breaks the chains of bondage that can hold us captive. (Acts 16:25-32)



As we approach the Lord in prayer during this time, think of what you are thanking Him for, and why?

"Lord, would you forgive me for the ways in which I have allowed distractions to come in and take my attention away from You? I choose now to look right at You! I invite Your Presence into my life and I am listening for Your voice. Thank you for your amazing love, demonstrated in Your Word, and for the peace found in Your Presence. Would You inhabit my praises today?

I worship you because ____



Prayers of Confession and Repentance

James Park

Personal Confession and Repentance

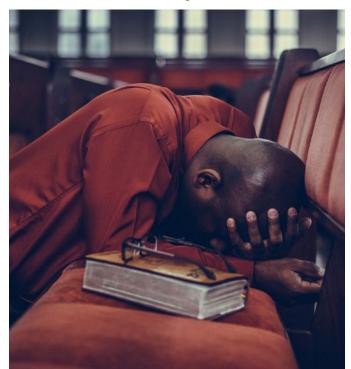
Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

Psalm 139:23-24

Psalm 139 is certainly a psalm that stands out among all the psalms. It is a psalm that reads like a prayer and it reflects on the Nature of God and the Greatness of God within the context of intimate fellowship. In these last two verses, the psalmist recognizes that there is something deep within himself that needs to be examined, in order to restore broken fellowship with God.

This desire for restored fellowship was the desire of King David.

David was known as the man after God's own heart. This didn't mean that he was perfect. In fact, he wasn't. He failed big time. He messed up big time. But he was still remembered throughout all generations as a man after God's heart because of his heart of confession and repentance. His fellowship with God was broken. And when he found himself in that time of reflection, he wrote the following words in Psalm 51.



Psalm 51 says,

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

Psalm 51:1-2

Confession and repentance are the railway tracks leading us back to God's heart.

In this time of uncertainty that we are in, God has given us the space to reflect upon our own lives. Perhaps you have been too busy over the last several months or even years to do some healthy self-reflection. Now is the time to get alone with God and ask the very questions that the psalmist wrote in Psalm 139. And when the Lord brings to our hearts and minds things that have grieved Him, we can bring those things to Him in confession and repentance, as King David did in Psalm 51.

The amazing promise of scripture is that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to not only forgive us of our sins, but also to cleanse us of all unrighteousness so that we can have our intimate fellowship with Him restored (1 John 1:9).

So as we approach the Lord in prayer during this time, ask the Lord the following questions and write down what comes to your mind.

1. Lord, is there an attitude in my heart that you are wanting to show me that is causing broken fellowship with you?

2. Lord, is there something that I have been in the habit of doing that is sinful in your eyes? Please show me that I may confess these to you Lord.

3. Lord, is there someone I need to forgive?

Once you have written down the things the Lord has shown you, pray through the following pattern.

Lord, I confess the sin of ______. I ask for your forgiveness and cleansing from this sin that I may be restored in my fellowship with you.

For Question 3, pray the following.

Lord, I choose to forgive______ even though ______ doesn't deserve it. I forgive ______ the way Jesus forgave me, even though I didn't deserve it.

(After going through each sin in prayer, pray the following.)

Thank you for your forgiveness. I choose to receive your forgiveness and I forgive myself as well.

Thank you, Lord for your mercy and grace upon me.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Corporate Confession and Repentance

Most people live their lives within an era of history. A select few live during a turning point in history. We are among this select few.

Dr. Thom Wolf

Within the vast expanse of human history, there come moments where God moves and reveals His glory in an unprecedented way. The great revivals of the past are some of those moments. As Dr. Thom Wolf said, I believe we are living in a time where we will once again see the moving of God's Spirit in a powerful way.

Through what we read of in scripture and what we read of in revival history, the great moves of God happened as a result of God's people praying and repenting.

In the book of Daniel chapter 9, we see the prophet coming before the Lord and repenting on behalf of Israel.

Daniel 9:9-11 says,

To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets. All Israel has transgressed your law and turned aside, refusing to obey your voice. And the curse and oath that are written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out upon us, because we have sinned against him.

As the people of God living in the year of our Lord 2020, we have a grand opportunity to take this time to pray. The people are living in great fear and darkness. Let us pray on behalf of our nation with confession and repentance for the grievous sins we have committed as a people. We can certainly go into specifics, but for this prayer exercise, let us acknowledge that as a nation, we have turned our backs against the Lord and walked in whatever ways we desired.

Let us keep **2 Chronicles 7:14** at the forefront of our prayers and be in anticipation for God to sweep through this nation with His glory and mighty presence.

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

Supplication in Prayers

Sunday Abidogun

Apostle Paul defines supplications when he implores Timothy, his young protégé,

"I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men" (1 Timothy 2:1)

By definition, the word Supplication means "the action of asking or begging for something earnestly or humbly" - Oxford dictionary.

Therefore, a prayer of supplication is a prayer with strong emotions that a person makes for him or herself and for someone else. It's an emotional request to God while praying.

Are we persuaded to look up unto God in very difficult situations for His help?

In Second Kings 20:2-3, we can pray the prayer of Hezekiah "Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, saying, "Now, O Lord, please remember how I have walked before you in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly." (ESV)

A prayer of supplication could be described as praying with humility, with emotions and earnestness of the spirit. It is a passionate or desperate cry to God for help, support or vindication. We are called to forget ourselves and focus on our Redeemer, He alone will be glorified in our situations and circumstances.

For example: Oh God , I humbly bow before your throne. Like the prayer of Hannah in I Samuel 1:10, "In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the LORD, weeping bitterly."

A prayer of supplication is a significant part of a Christian's walk because it proves our designed existence and destiny. We were fashioned to be in an intimate relationship with the God of heaven. God created us to walk and talk with Him daily, to love Him and long for Him. When we supplicate we demonstrates our absolute dependence on Him.

Oh God of all creation, we look up to you for your program and agenda for our denomination...

...for the destiny of souls... for your plans.



Guideline for Spiritual Warfare Prayer

Deborah Olukoju

Ephesians 6: 10-18; Daniel 10: 1-20; Job 38: 12-15; Mark 9:29

Dictionary Definition

Rules of engagement (ROE) are **the** internal **rules** or directives among military forces (including individuals) that define **the** circumstances, conditions, degree, and manner in which **the** use of force, or actions which might be construed as provocative, may be applied.

Definition of terms of engagement

The terms of engagement are the official **conditions** that someone must agree to before an employer employs such individuals.

Rules of Engagement (as earlier defined) are rules or directives to military forces that define the circumstances, conditions,

degree, and manner in which force, or actions which might be construed as provocative, may be applied.

According to Field Manual 1-02, "Operational Terms and Graphics," rules of engagement, or ROEs, are defined as "Directives issued by competent military authority that delineate the circumstances and limitations under which United States forces will initiate and/or continue combat engagement with other forces.

Spiritually, there is a raging but unseen battle going on, and prayer warrior and intercessor Cindy Trimms has given a manual based largely on the Bible to guide believers in waging effective warfare. The Rules of Engagement helps every believer (you and I) recognize the spirits that operate in the kingdom of darkness and Cindy Trimms' manual gives direction and declarations for engaging such evil spirits, once we first arm ourselves with God's power and authority.

Derek Prince said, "Christians need to be more than just disciples; they need to be warriors." He identifies how to build a warrior's character, face tests, endure testing, surmount temptations, fight relentlessly through the Holy Spirit power and leading, and eventually influence the outcomes of **spiritual** battles, and more.



It is evident that God sets the rules of engagement in spiritual warfare. Everything begins with Him and ends with Him. So it is only natural that He sets the rules of engagement. Once this is understood, warfare becomes part and parcel of life. Spiritual warfare is life-long, just as staying faithful to God is a marathon. It is a journey of total commitment until we die and go home to be with the Lord or He comes and establishes His Kingdom.

Humanity is in the war for survival. Warfare is real on two levels: the natural and the spiritual. The earth is hurtling toward disaster because of the works of the devil on earth. Humans are now out of control, and one can only wonder if they know it or not. Somehow, man now lives in such a way that fulfills the whims and the desires of the devil, either directly or indirectly.

Guidelines

We must ask ourselves this question. Am I ready for the war and the battle ahead of me? Do I have the proper gear for this raging battle?

Let us declare a day once a week for a month to fast and pray as a denomination for this attack from the pit of hell to be dispelled by our God.

What we need:

A humble heart. 2 Chronicles 7:14

Fasting and Prayer for those who could do it. It could be a whole day, half a day or a quarter of a day.

Take our position like a soldier going to war. We must deliberately put on the full armour of God. Each piece of the armour represents something.

Belt of Truth: This is to be sincere in our walk with God, and our dealings with our fellowman. Telling the truth all the time even when it hurts.

Breast plate of righteousness: This is to reflect the character of God in our lifestyle

Sandals of Peace: That this journey of faith will always reflect His real peace

Shield of Faith: This is our confession of the Word of God to send the arrow of the enemy back to where it has come from.

Helmet of Salvation: The Bible says, we have the mind of Christ. We need to seek His mind in all things. We are fighting from the point of Victory.

Sword of the Spirit: This is to apply the truth that is in the Word to expose and exterminate the lies of the enemy.

Prayer Guideline

Let us ask God to help us understand the nature of the Spiritual battle that is going on right now. Example: The sons of Issachar were men who understood the times, I Chronicles 12:32. Therefore, let us pray for a spiritual understanding of this virus going on right now in our time.

Let us ask God to forgive our disobedience to Him and His Word. Often in the Word of God, plagues are sent due to disobedience. However, whenever God sees blood, or His presence comes on the scene the plague stops. Therefore, let us remind God of the blood of His one and only Son, and bring a stop to this plague.

In the book of Job 38: 12-15 in the Message version, it states, "And have you ever ordered Morning, 'Get up!' told Dawn, 'Get to work!' So you could seize Earth like a blanket and shake out the wicked like cockroaches? As the sun brings everything to light, brings out all the colors and shapes. The cover of darkness is snatched from the wicked—they're caught in the very act!" (MSG)

Let us pray according to the above passage that whatever help this virus is getting from the kingdom of darkness will be shaken out and be destroyed as we pray in Jesus name.

The Book of Malachi 4: 1 to 3 says, "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire," says the Lord Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. 2 But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. 3 Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act," says the Lord Almighty."

When we are called to spiritual warfare, God wants us to win both the war and the battles. The fight between David and Goliath is a good example. David did not only kill Goliath, he also cut his head off. And David never discontinued his walk with God thereafter.

Let us pray that the Lord God will flood this situation with his light that darkness will have no place to hide. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead and lies within us will bring the wickedness of the wicked to an end. A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing: For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; His craft and pow'r are great, and, armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us; The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure, One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth; The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him Who with us sideth; Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

There is no retreat, there is no surrender.



Re-Presenting the Purposes of God

Dr. Steve McEvoy

Jesus taught His disciples how to pray. In His teaching He said,

1. Pray, then, in this way; Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.

2. Your Kingdom Come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

3. Give us this day our daily bread

Matthew 6:9-11

As we reflect on this teaching of Jesus, we need to investigate the literal language (Greek) to grasp elements of what He said.

Verse nine begins our prayer focus with praise. This aspect of prayer is being dealt with in another area of our guide. Therefore, we will move on to consider the declarative aspects of what Jesus said.

In the literal language, there are three important declarations that Jesus introduced to His disciples.

In the original language flow, He said:

Come Thy kingdom! **Be done** Thy will on earth as it is in heaven! **Give us** this day our daily bread!

If we go one step deeper, we discover that the words, "Come", "Be done" and "Give us" are all imperatives.

Jesus was teaching His disciples that, when we pray and we know the will or purposes of God, we are not to be asking or begging Him for His will to come to pass. We are being directed to assertively represent or re-present His kingdom purposes upon the earth.

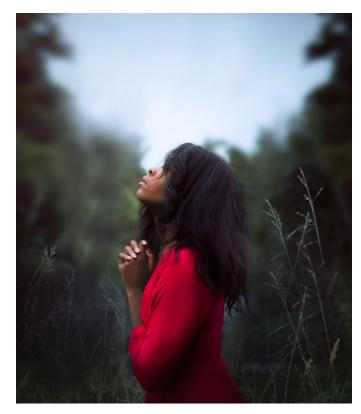
In this aspect of prayer, we are heaven's voice upon the earth, and we are to assertively speak or declare it to come forth.

Our declaration therefore should flow from this foundation:

1. **Come** Kingdom of God – Speak or declare His kingdom and presence to come forth in all aspects of our regions and nation.

2. **Be Done** Your will as it is in heaven – Sickness and poverty are not in heaven. Speak or declare His will to eradicate this virus and its effects in our midst.

3. Give Us this Day our daily bread – Speak and declare that God's kingdom leads, guides and provides all that this nation and every individual needs in this hour.



Prayer Response

Father we thank you that you have given us the right to speak your Word and truth over every circumstance that we are facing (2 Corinthians 4:13).

We thank you for giving us your Son, Jesus Christ, who has paid for and provided authority to speak in His name (Philippians 2:9-11, Ephesians 1:19-23, 2:4-6).

We ask Father that our leaders in our nation would be given a "spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of You in this present hour" (Ephesians 1:17-18). Open their eyes to see their need for you and to turn their hearts towards this need.

Declarations to Consider

Come Kingdom of God

We declare that the kingdom and presence of God is the answer to every problem and need that mankind is facing.

We say **Come kingdom of God** over our National and Provincial leaders as they work together to take on the destruction of this pandemic.

We say that **the presence of God is coming now** upon our leaders ______ (name any that are specifically upon your heart) and that they are receiving wisdom and answers in how to lead.

We say that from this crisis, the nation of Canada is experiencing an unprecedented move of God in every sphere of society.

Come kingdom of God NOW in Jesus name!

Be Done Will of God on Earth as it is in Heaven

We declare that sickness does not originate from God and that He is the true and full source of health and healing (Psalm 103:1-6).

We say, to the Corona virus, Be Done Will of God now, as it is in heaven.

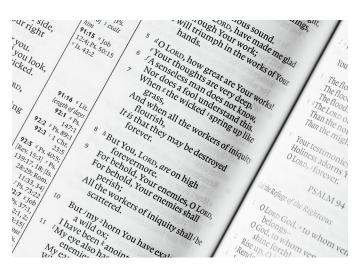
We say to the Corona virus, you must end.

We declare that health is coming forth in new ways and new methods of bringing forth greater health are being discovered and released into our Nation and Provinces.

We say that the power of God, right now is in operation bringing healing and health breakthroughs into Canada.

Be Done Will of God, On Earth, as it is in Heaven, NOW, in Jesus name!





Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread

We thank you God that we know that you did not create poverty and you do not want to see people suffer financially (Deuteronomy 28:1-2,15, Romans 5:12).

We ask you God to supply immeasurable wisdom to our leaders and we say that wisdom to combat economic loss is coming now, in Jesus name.

We ask God for your supernatural supply of economic resources to spring forth. We say that water is turning into wine and loaves of bread and fish are multiplying supernaturally. We declare that there is a supernatural provision and supply breaking forth across our Provinces and Nation of Canada.

We say that new strategies, ideas and miraculous provisions are being released from the kingdom of God into our Nation and Provinces.

Give Us This Day our Daily Bread, NOW, in Jesus name!



Prayers of Thanksgiving

Valerie Hopman

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thess 5:16)

Hold on, don't skim through this. You may be tempted to think you've heard this all before. However, have you looked at Thanksgiving through the lens of obedience and spiritual warfare?

First, to thank the Lord in all circumstances is an important distinction rather than for all circumstances. Those things that are not part of the Kingdom of Heaven are not needing to be valued. Sickness, disease, disaster, poverty, corruption, discourse, fear, and the like are not to be celebrated nor are we instructed anywhere in scripture to be thankful for these things. Ah, but how sweet is the instruction to give thanks in the midst of everything and anything. Sweet because it changes our heart posture and mindsets, it affects both the spiritual and physical realm.

It becomes so easy to depend on circumstances for our joy. Happiness depends on circumstances, joy should not. According to Romans 14:17 Joy is a third of the Kingdom. 'For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit'. What produces joy? Gratitude. These two, gratitude and joy, intertwine and produce each other. We see the phrase 'Choose joy' everywhere. But is joy a choice or is gratitude actually the piece that produces joy? Joy cannot be forced. Thanksgiving obviously means to give thanks'. To give something costs the one who is giving. It means we lay down our entitlement, self-focus, our right to complain, our victim mentality, and our lack of trust. Perhaps the phrase, 'Choose to give Thanks' would be a better way to communicate the act of the will that is required of us to cooperate with the 'will of God for us in Christ Jesus.'

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

You do not need to be reminded of the rampant mental health issues that are going on as our culture is blanketed with anxiety, fear, depression, and many other related symptoms. Scripture lays out the spiritual principle of peace which transcends or rises up (Greek - hyperecho) above all understanding. This addresses that we are not God and will never understand everything that happens in our lives or the world around us, nor do we serve the 'god of understanding' that takes up residence in our thought life and may go like this - 'if I understand then I will have peace'.

The peace in this scripture that comes after 'prayer, petition and thanksgiving', guards/protects (Greek - phroureo) our hearts and minds. Science has confirmed scripture by discovering that gratitude releases dopamine and serotonin in our brains which affects our emotions and the health of our brain triggering an incredible amount of physical reactions to the different systems and parts of our body. John Piper calls gratitude a "guardian of the soul." He writes, "Unless the song of thanksgiving is being sung in our hearts the enemy outside will deceive his way into the city of our soul."

During this time of incredible uncertainty let us obey and align ourselves with what the Lord has already revealed to us. Choose to thank God for every blessing and good thing. (James 1:17) Choose to thank Him for what He is doing in and through you. Choose to thank God for His grace, His Presence, all that He has given us access to through relationship with Him. Thankfulness in the midst of any and every circumstance wages war on the darkness and enforces Light, let us be children of Light. (1 Thess.5:5)

