

31-DAY PRAYER GUIDE

# SEEKING GOD'S LIGHT

*in 2023*



Bible Study Tools

# SEEKING GOD'S LIGHT *in 2023*

Let's start 2023 off right in God's Light.

Over the next month, let's refocus our hearts and minds toward God through prayer. He is the light of the world. Regardless of what this year has in store, we trust God's promises, peace, and honor Him daily by continuously staying in the faith. What better to kick start your faith this year than to be still and abide in God's light. For His word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105)

# New Year New Story

Jesus, thank you for making me new! You raise me to life, and then you invite me on a grand adventure with you! You redeem my life as I follow you. Jesus, you restore my future! Thank you for never leaving my side as we walk this journey hand in hand. Help me to keep taking steps forward with you. Amen.

## A Prayer Against Selfish Gain

VICTORIA RIOLLANO

Lord, I thank you for guiding me. I thank you that your Spirit dwells within every believer. Lord, help me to follow your will and not my own. Reveal to me the truth about every decision. Show me my heart Lord. Show me if I have allowed pride, the desire to be seen, or my flesh to lead my choices. Lord, I only want to be where your presence leads. I trust you Lord and pray to walk in your will all the days of my life. Speak your truth Lord, I'm listening. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

# A Prayer of Reflection for the New Year

BRITNEE BRADSHAW

My Father Who is in Heaven, Hallowed be your name. I thank you for the caring and keeping of my heart, my mind, and my body this year. I know that many of the events that have transpired over the course of the year may have been a surprise to me, but none of them were a surprise to you.

I bless your name because you are holy and worthy of my trust. Therefore, I rest in your goodness and I ask that you would heal the parts of me that need it, and protect the parts of me that are whole and pure.

I walk into this coming year with open arms, knowing that you have a bright hope and a future for me. I leave this year knowing that you cause all things to work together for my good, because I love you and have been called according to your purposes.

Have your way, oh Lord and wherever you lead me, I will follow! For I pray this in your son Jesus' precious and mighty name, Amen.

## NOTES FOR REFLECTION

## A Prayer for Progress over Perfection

Dear Lord, You made me for good works. You gave me the desire to always learn and grow in my ability to love You and my neighbors. Help me to make progress on my goals each day and not to worry about the conclusion that you may bring out of that obedience. Remind me regularly that your conclusions of every matter will always bring fruit even though the conclusion may be different than I was thinking. Your ways are above my ways.

# A Prayer for a More Meaningful Life

We praise you, our God and Creator, for the wonderful plans you have for our lives. When we are tempted to compare, and become dissatisfied with our status in this life, may we seek you first before wallowing in what we wish to achieve and accomplish in this world. Protect our minds and guard our hearts against the battlefield of comparison. As we search for a more meaningful life, let us seek more of you.

Father, you promise when we seek you with all of our hearts we will find you. Remind us where to look. In the midst of your Creation, we can experience your presence. In reading and studying your Word in the Bible, we receive directives and encouragement, inspiration and understanding. As we follow Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in the heart of every believer, we see and experience life through a different lens. One rooted in your perspective.

The key to a more meaningful life is to filter all of it through you. Every day we wake carries a specific purpose, every life is crafted with care by you, our Creator. When it doesn't "feel" that way as we walk out the days of our lives

on this earth, we know you will be faithful to remind us if only our ears will hear and eyes choose to see.

The effects of sin continue to wage war on this world. Father you see the disaster, pain, terror, anxiety, injustice, and intolerance haunting our days here. You assure us there is meaning amidst the mess—beauty, even. Through our Savior, Jesus Christ, the very Word of God made flesh to walk among us, we are assuredly never alone. Give us the godly confidence and strength to follow him, so our lives accumulate more meaning not by what we do, but who he is.

Jesus, you are the way, the Truth, and the Life. A more meaningful life is rooted in the greatest commandment you are so faithful to remind us of... love. Bless our hearts to live not out of selfish gain, but fueled by love. Let all we do honor you, and may we find a more meaningful life as we seek more of you.

In Jesus' Name,

Amen.

## DAY 6

# Lord, Help Me to Be Patient with People!

EMMA DANZEY

Dear Lord,

Patience is something I desire but so often fall short in. Today, I ask that Your Holy Spirit would move me to follow You in this area. Would you please give me the ability to choose to live by the Spirit instead of my flesh? You say in Proverbs 14:21, “Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly.” Forgive me for the times when I have been quick-tempered and mistrusting in the waiting. Enable me to have great understanding and live out patience in ways that I have failed before. Give me the ability to be slower and less impulsive in decision-making and in life.

At the root of patience is love. You say in 1 Corinthians 13:4-5, “Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.” The very first description of love is patience. God, you know that I do not always love well in my impatience with others, especially those closest to me. Would You please help me in this struggle to choose Your love and to be patient through Your strength? Help me to be more like You in

## NOTES FOR REFLECTION

the ways that I talk, act, and live towards others who I am waiting on.

God, you say in Romans 12:2, “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Help me to be patient in the difficulties that surround me. Give me Your wisdom to navigate the trials that come my way. Guide me to have joy in hope and be faithful in praying to You. Lord, you know it is so hard to wait through difficulties, persecutions, and temptations in this life, but thank You that You never leave me in them. Remind me that even though hard seasons can appear to drag on, You are forever with me and love me always. Give me the ability to learn from You and model Your patience with others around me. Allow them to see unearthly patience in me that points to You. Let this be a witness and a testimony to others of Your working power in a sinner’s life.

“Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.” Psalm 37:7

God, You tell me to be still before You and wait for You patiently. I ask that You would give me the ability to slow down and focus my heart and mind on You. Help me not to live in hurry, but out of a place of rest for my soul found in You. Thank You for Your continuous and abundant patience with me and Your second chances in helping me to grow in patience. Amen.

## DAY 7

# A Prayer for Revival and Awakening in Our Lives and World

BY DEBBIE MCDANIEL

Dear God,

We come before you today, humbly, needy of your grace, praying for the power of your Holy Spirit to fill us afresh. We ask for your forgiveness in all the ways we've wandered so far from your presence. We need your healing and grace. We are desperate to have our hope restored in you. Thank you for reminding us you are always faithful and that you're constantly at work on behalf of your children—powerfully, completely, drawing us closer to you again.

Forgive us for drifting away from you, for being taken in by all the world has to offer, and for allowing other things to become more important in our lives. We bring you these places we're hurting, the broken pieces that maybe others

## NOTES FOR REFLECTION

# A Prayer for Stillness When Life is Rushed

Oh Lord, You know my heart better than I know it myself. You know my struggles and You hold each hope and fear in Your caring hands. Teach me, LORD, to be still and to know that You are God. You are in Your holy temple; let all the earth, including my mind and heart, be silent before You, resting in Your sovereignty. Like Elijah, teach me to wait for Your still, small voice and quiet the earthquakes and blazing fires in my life. Replace my restless doing with inner calm, and help me, like Mary, to sit at Your feet in quiet adoration even if there are a million things clamoring for my attention. Just as You spoke over the tumultuous sea and storms, so speak over my heart Your shalom. “Peace. Be still,” You said to them, and immediately they quieted. Teach my heart to cease striving and to know that You are God. Help me cultivate a quiet heart, like a baby content in its mother’s arms, no longer coming to You with a “gimme” spirit but instead calmly nestling against Your heart. Help me find quietness and happiness in intimate communion with You. You will be exalted over all the earth, and You’ve got the details of my day covered. I can rest in You.

## DAY 9

## Pray for Trust in the Known Plan

“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Thank you, Lord, that you know what's best for us, that you already have a plan. A plan you've had from the beginning, and that you will see it through to the end. Remind us in moments of doubt and feeling lost, that even though things seem unknown, you already know it all. That you have a bigger plan, and those plans are good—plans to prosper us and give us hope. Father, build our trust in you, reminding us often how faithful you are. When we feel lost, you give us hope. Even if the future seems unknown, we trust in a known God and your known plan. Thank you, Lord, for this beautiful promise.

In Jesus' Name,

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# A Prayer for God to Lead The Way

Dear God,

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## Spiritual Well-Being Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for your great love for me and for making a way for me to have a relationship with you (1 John 3:1). Thank you for your Word, which is a light

to guide me in every area of my life (Psalm 119:105). I surrender to you any area of my life that has darkness, and I trust you to bring light into these dark areas. Thank you that your Word hydrates and refreshes my spirit. Show me ways that I can make reading your Word part of my daily life. As I read your Word, give me understanding so I can fully see and hear what you are saying and apply it to my life. Thank you that your Word provides protection from Satan (Hebrews 4:12) who wages war against me because I am your child. Help me to fill myself up with your Word and use it as a weapon against the enemy. Help me stay focused on you, Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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DAY 12

A Prayer for When You Fear the Future

CHRISTINA FOX

Father in Heaven, I come before you as the psalmist did, weary, worn, and frightened. I come before you because you are King and you rule all things. I come before you because you are my Father, my Abba. You adopted me as your child and have given me every privilege that comes with being a part of your family. I come before you because you are my Savior. All I have comes to me from your generous hands. I come before you because you are my Redeemer. You alone can redeem and restore all that is broken in my life and in the world around me.

Forgive me for turning my gaze from you and looking at the frightening things happening around me. Forgive me for forgetting that you are with me. Forgive me for not trusting. Forgive me for not crying out to you sooner but trying to conquer my fears in my own strength. Forgive me for not living in complete dependence upon you.

Father, hear the deepest cries of my heart. Rule and reign over your Kingdom, turn the hearts of kings, and may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Raise up godly leaders, teachers, pastors, and people who love you and your Word. Use your people to spread your gospel across the earth. May we be the salt and light you instructed us to be.

In my life Lord, give me a peace that passes all understanding. Though I don't know what will happen with all that troubles me this day, help me to trust you. Help me to remember that you are not surprised. Help me to remember that nothing will happen today that takes you off guard. You are not asleep or too busy but are actively involved in all the cares of my life. Help me to wait and watch for your glory. Help me to obey and do the right thing in the moment, knowing you are there in all the moments to come.



Heavenly Father, help us to keep your commands and reflect your love to our neighbors. Give us the motivation to be the good and faithful servants you have called us to be. Help us have the passion and perseverance to get up and live out your commands every day. Let us be disciples who yearn to celebrate your glory. Amen.

DAY 16

Taking the Pressure Out of  
Discovering Your Purpose

TRISHA KEEHN

Father God, You are so gracious with us. We know that in all things You are working for the good of those called according to Your purpose. Help me to seek Your purposes, to live obedient to Your Word, and to honor You with the roles and tasks you've set before me that Your greatness and glory might be revealed. In Jesus Christ Name, I pray. Amen.

DAY 17

Prayer for Boldness

CHRISTINE WYRTZEN

It's been a setup, Lord. I've been told by many not to speak. My ideas have not been mainstream. My spiritual insights have often been stretching to those who heard them. My boldness slowly corrupted over a lifetime. You are the only true healer of timidity.

I draw close to You to rebuild what has decayed. Make me into a confident child of the kingdom. Put Your words in my mouth. Give me opportunities to test them out so that I can know that they work by experience, not hear-say. Make my speech sharp as an arrow. Let my words be clear, not cobwebbed. Help me be direct and true, sincere and Spirit directed.

When bold, Lord, I will be like You. I will attract others or repel them. I will be popular or ridiculed. I will be loved or hated. When You spoke, they said You had a demon. They insulted You and called You an illegitimate child. They pulled out all the stops to discredit You. I should not be surprised if boldness brings severe reactions. Give me grace.

When I am timid with Your testimonies, forgive me. When I am bold to say

You are the Christ, the only way to God, empower me. I follow Your lead, Lord. When rejected, You ran to Your Father. When I am rejected, I run to You. You are my great High Priest; touched by my every weakness.

Satan would celebrate when my mouth is shut up tight. Open it, Lord. Make me eloquent with the mystery of the Gospel. When You do, some will believe when You open their eyes. Others will crusade against You, and me. When I am rejected, live through me. You told the truth and most hated You. Then You gave Your life for them. Only Your Spirit can fuel such a life in me. Amen

## DAY 18

# A Prayer for Family

EMMA DANZEY

Our Father,

Thank you so much for intentionally placing me within the family that I am in. Even though every family comes with challenges, You have entrusted these loved ones to me. I pray that You would help me to love them like You. Guide me in Your wisdom how to best prioritize them and their spiritual care. Help me to pray for them daily, reach out to them, and love them in the season that they are in.

It is not always easy for me to love those closest to me because I experience their sin so often, and I see their worst days. Would You give me the strength to be a light to them? Please help me to be strong in You to love them well. God, would you bless me with extra compassion and gentleness as I walk through life with family? Help me to be a true minister of Your love to them even when they do not deserve it.

Lord, some families are unhealthy, I pray for any boundaries that need to be set out of protection and love to be made. You call us to love but not to endanger ourselves. Give wisdom to those who have been greatly abused or hurt by their family members. Help them not to walk in shame but to walk in Your victory. Give them wisdom on how to love well with healthy boundaries. For those who have experienced broken families, mend what is shattered. Heal the hurts, give them grace, show them Your great mercy.

I pray for spouses who need to reset their priorities. Help me and others to know how to best put You first and then our spouses second. Help us to refine and reveal a greater depth of who You are to them. I pray for parents to know how to love and protect their children well. Give us wisdom on how

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to disciple them. Help us to share the gospel daily through our words and actions. Lead us as we lead them. Help us to walk in humility when we make mistakes.

I pray for those with aging relatives. Help us to love them well, reach out to them often, and show great care for them. Give us the joy to listen and learn from their many years. Guide us to show honor and value to them. Lead us in the best ways of caring for their daily needs.

Lord, help us not to be hypocrites but to live out this truth. Help us to value our families well and to show Your love to them in the ways that You call us to. Unite us in You. Amen.

## DAY 19

## A Prayer for Guidance to Raise Our Children

MEG BUCHER

Father,

Glory to You in the highest. You go providentially before us, and remain with us constantly. Translating for and counseling us, Holy Spirit, You are always on stand-by. Father, teach us more about who the person of the Holy Spirit is, and the work He does in our lives.

Paul wrote,

“The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.”  
(1 Corinthians 2:14 NIV)

Oh, that our eyes would be open to see Your glory, alive and active in our everyday lives. Help us to understand with better clarity how to pray in the power of the Holy Spirit. Soften our hearts and open our minds, Father, to see with Your heavenly perspective. Empower us to know how to specifically love the people You have placed in our lives, especially our children. You alone, are God. Bring the pieces of every puzzle together. Fill in the gaps of our humanity, and forgive us for the instances when a critical spirit overtook our conversation with our children. Help us to lead them to Your feet. Fill their lives with Your Spirit, God. With Your healing, wisdom, guidance, grace, joy, hope, mercy, forgiveness, and love.

God, You love our children more than we do, and have a purpose and a plan

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# A Prayer to Keep Hope Alive

In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

## A Prayer for Provision

Today, I need you to help me remember you are my Provider in certain areas. Although I know that I am Yours forever, there are physical and emotional needs that I have today. Would You please meet me where I feel in need and hungry for You? I need Your care and protection. I need Your strength and endurance. Just as bread gives life, energy, and happiness, You, Jesus, do that for me more so.

Help me to hunger for Your righteousness. Give me a hunger for reading Your Word and understanding more of who You are. Forgive me for the times when I go to temporary fulfillment in worldly things and people who never fully satisfy. Remind me to keep You first in my life and depend upon You and not others. Thank You for the kindness and care that You have shown me in life.

God, I pray that You would provide for my loved ones today. Help my family and friends to fully lean on You and see You actively at work in their lives. Remind them to cling to You and trust in You. Help me to encourage them that You will care for their every need. Lord, I pray for those who are at a loss, who do not have good health, are struggling financially, or are dealing with loss. In these moments of brokenness, would you open their eyes to ways that You are providing for them even if they cannot physically see how? Give them hope that You are their Rock and firm foundation.

God, thank You for the many ways in which You have already provided for me. There have been so many times when You cared for me, and I did not even realize it or take the time to recognize You. Thank you for your continual presence, steadfast love, and guidance. Thank You for the ways You have provided people in my life in the right seasons to grow, for the ways you have provided community, and for the provision of the gift of being Your child. You have taken away my sins and made me white as snow. I am no longer a slave to my sin but a child of God, co-heir with Christ, and I am eternally free. I am grateful for Your sacrifice on the cross for me and the beautiful gift of provision. Amen.

### DAY 23

## Prayer for a New Transition

KIRSTYN MAYDEN

Dear God,

During this new transition in my life, please remind me that You are always with me and have not forgotten about me. When I am uncertain, afraid, or needing encouragement, remind me of Your faithfulness in the past. Your Word reminds me that You will provide all my needs according to Your riches in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19). While this transition is new and unfamiliar, may You cover me with Your constant, secure, and familiar presence. Thank you for giving me wisdom through Your Word, comfort when I'm down, and hope when I'm hopeless. Help me to be led more by faith rather than my feelings.

Thank you that You will continue to be my present help and lead me in the best direction according to your will. When I am fearful about the unknown in this season, thank you for calming my fears and reigniting in me a grateful spirit.

During this transition season, thank you for helping me see the exciting doors and opportunities that are possible as I trust in You.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## DAY 24

### A Prayer for When You are Battle-Wearied

BOBBIE SCHAEPERKOETTER

Lord, I admit, I am weary. Life is going a million miles an hour and I am just trying to hang on. I am tired and I am afraid when I look to the future and think about all that is coming. Lord, I know You want me to trust You through this. I know You want me to surrender this weariness to You. I surrender now. Fill me with Your strength. Fill me with Your presence. Help me find moments today of rest and rejuvenation. Thank You that You never abandon us in the midst of the battle. Thank you for your everlasting faithfulness.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## DAY 25

### A Prayer for Walking in Truth and Grace

CHELSEY DEMATTEIS

The Lord thank you for always leading us and loving us through the gift of truth and grace. I pray your truth guides all of my steps, my decisions and plans this year. I pray that when I struggle with doubt or uncertainty, that I would be renewed by the conviction that your Word is truth.

I pray for grace—for myself and for others. I pray I would know the depths of grace I have in you. I pray that grace would help make me more gracious to those in my life.

Help me to be bold for the Kingdom of God and not shy away from opportunities to be your hands and feet. I pray for a desire to know you more deeply and look to you as sustainer no matter what comes to pass.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

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## A Prayer for Unity in Our Nation

Dear God,

We are needy of you. We're aware, more than ever, of our own weaknesses, and of the struggle with dark forces that try hard to divide us and gain more ground. We say "No more." We stand our ground. We ask that you would fill us with your Spirit of love and unity among believers all across this nation. We ask that you would help us to set aside our differences and look to the greater cause, the cause of Christ. We ask that you would help us to truly live a life of love. We know that this is only possible through the power of your Spirit, so we ask that you would move across our land in fresh ways. With fresh filling and awareness. Turning your people back to you. Drawing others to come to know you. We thank you that you are always with us, and give us great purpose and hope.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.

## A Prayer for a Miracle

VICTORIA RIOLLANO

Lord, I thank you for your healing power. There are areas of my physical and emotional health that need you more than ever. Father, I pray for a miracle. I pray that you would bring the peace, comfort, and faith as I await your glorious unfolding of my story. I believe in you. I trust in your word and believe that you can radically change things in my life. Thank you, God, for all that you have done and continued to do. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

## Prayer for Parental Wisdom

CINDI MCMENAMIN

Lord, Your Word says “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him” (James 1:5). Lord, I need that kind of wisdom to know when to speak to my son and when to be silent. “Do not let any unwholesome talk, lecturing, judging, or accusing come of my mouth, but only what is helpful for building

## NOTES FOR REFLECTION

my son up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen” (Ephesians 4:29). Let me also be “quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for my anger doesn’t bring about the righteous life that God desires” (James 1:19).

## DAY 29

## A Prayer for Discernment

KENEESHA SAUNDERS-LIDDIE

Almighty Father,

I am so grateful for your amazing Word. I have the very words that you left for me to get to know you better! God, I come before you today to ask you to open my eyes so that I can behold wondrous things out of your word. I no longer want to live on baby food; I desire to know your Word more and more.

I ask that you help me to keep learning more about you from the ones whom you have called to minister. Father, you know there are many sheep in wolves clothing, there are many who have such a smooth handle on words that it can be difficult to decipher the truth from a lie. But I'm not worried, Lord. I know that you are able to lead me to the correct teaching.

Give me wisdom as I study your Word so that I can discern exactly what you have written for me to understand.

I also bring before you all pastors and ministers who are using your Word to deceive your sheep and not to shepherd. Be merciful to them, Lord, convict their hearts and give them fresh anointing to lead your people correctly.

In a time when the Word is twisted and Truth is muddled, I pray you grow this generation of believers into a people who have discernment. Thank you that when we ask for more of your wisdom, you always give it to us.

In Jesus's name, Amen.

## DAY 30

## A Prayer to Love the Father

TIFFANY THIBAUT

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to you today, asking that you fill me with hunger, with a burning

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desire to keep my eyes, my heart, and my thoughts on you. Teach me, guide me, and fill me with a clear understanding of what your will is in my life. May every worldly desire fade away and let my life be a clear reflection of who you are to those around me.

In Your name, I pray, Amen.

## DAY 31

# A Prayer on Connecting Me with Needs Suited to My Gifts

MADELINE KALU

Father of all creation,

I proclaim that I am Your child, a product of Your handiwork, who is fearfully and wonderfully made! And as Your precious child, I acknowledge and receive the gifts You have created uniquely for me that have been designed to further Your kingdom here on earth.

Precious Father, show me the places where I can shed a light in the dark corners of this world. Guide me to where I can take my gifts and use them to help others who need to hear Your gospel of love, hope, and life.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

# Congratulations!

You've just spent an entire month faithfully praying for guidance to be filled with God's light! We hope that over the course of this month God has renewed, revived, restored and strengthened your love and faith! Through this prayer challenge we hope you now have renewed your relationship with Christ. Abide in Him through the calm moments and the storms that come up throughout daily life.

We'd also love to hear from you—how has this helped you? How did this challenge help you grow closer to God? [Head over to our Facebook community](#) and let us know that you completed the challenge and how it's helped you!

## NOTES FOR REFLECTION