



Suggested Prayers - Sunday – 7th of June 2020

1. A Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, our heavenly Father we have gone our own way, not loving you as we ought, nor loving our neighbour as ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed and in what we have failed to do.

We deserve your condemnation.

Father, forgive us. Help us to love you and our neighbour, and to live for your honour and glory.

Thank you for the promise of 1 John 1:9 that, if we confess our sins, Jesus is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Amen

2. Prayer for Australia and government

Heavenly Father,

We praise you for you are sovereign and king over all. In your wisdom, you call us to submit to governing authorities, for there is no authority except from you, and those that exist are instituted by you (Rom 13:1).

We pray for our government leaders. Thank you for the relative safety and freedom that we have here in Australia. Thank you that you work through government to uphold order and justice.

Father, please give our leaders the wisdom to govern selflessly – looking to the needs of others and not their own. May they be men and women of integrity and compassion, who uphold the truth. Please continue to guide them in their decision-making during this season of COVID.

For our leaders who have faith in you, please give them boldness to speak the gospel, being salt and light as they serve. In the name of your Son, Amen.

3. Prayer for the US

Merciful Father,

We grieve over the injustices and wickedness in our world and in our own hearts. We pray now for the current events happening in the US.

We pray for the family of George Floyd as they mourn his death.

Please bring them the true comfort that can only be found in the gospel.

Lord God, we pray for the perpetrators of violence and injustice.

May your justice reign in this life as we know it will in the next.

We pray for those who march peacefully to bring awareness to such injustices. May leaders and policy makers seek to do what is right, true and just for the sake of the afflicted and vulnerable.

We pray for those who are rioting and looting. May you bring them under a conviction of sin and offer them the mercy of repentance. We pray for broken hearts, because a broken and humbled heart, Lord God, you will not despise (Ps 51:17). We pray for peace and reconciliation among people, but most of all, restored and right relationship with you. Amen.

4. Prayer for changing plans at SNAC

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for Phil and the ministry team at SNAC. Thank you for their faithfulness in speaking your word to us. As we observe the outcome of their lives, may we imitate their faith (Heb 13:7).

We especially pray for the decision making and planning as restrictions change around the COVID situation. Give them clarity of thought and wisdom to discern what will grow and encourage your people by your word.

Father, as we rightly long for the day to see each other face to face, remind us that this is not our home (Php 3:20). Stir in us the greater longing for the day that we might see you face to face in glory. Come Lord Jesus! Amen.

5. Prayer for Growing Disciples

Loving Father,

We thank you for the gift of brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you for the opportunities to gather around your word and spur one another on in love and good deeds. Thank you that we can do this in Gospel Teams and in one-to-one meetings. Sustain us as we do this under restricted circumstances, not giving up on gathering, but encouraging each other as we see the day draw near (Heb 10:25).

Thank you Father for the gift of your word – that it gives wisdom for salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and is profitable for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. Please continue to shape and grow us by your word, so that we might present each other mature in Christ.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

6. Prayer for World Mission and the McDowells

Sovereign God,

We praise you for your great mercy in calling people of all nations, tribes and languages to yourself. Thank you for your workers who take the gospel to the harvest field of the unreached.

We pray for Samuel and Kate McDowell sharing the good news of Jesus in Paraguay. As the pandemic has affected their work and ministry, give them great patience and wisdom in working out how serve and disciple those in their care. Please keep them safe and healthy as they continue to offer medical help and as they navigate the uncertainty of the coming months.

We pray for Thomas, Lydia and Benjamin as they undertake homeschooling under confinement. May they continue to be excited about learning new things and grow in the love and knowledge of the Saviour who loves them. Sustain Samuel and Kate in their role as parents and as teachers.

Most of all Father, we pray that by your grace, you would work through the McDowells to faithfully preach Christ crucified and bring many into your kingdom. In the name of your Son and for the sake of your glory, Amen.

7. A prayer for us as we follow Jesus this week

Eternal God and Father, by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed, guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves to your service and live this week in love to one another and to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.