

As we celebrate all that has been done during Live it Well, part of dedicating our new building involves praying over how God will work in this place. As a community of believers, we can intercede for the church. The word intercede comes from the Latin word that means “to come between” - it is prayer in favor of another. When we intercede for the church, we are asking God for specific things that are aligned with His will and advocating for His people.

*New to daily devotionals? Here are a few tips for this week:*

- There are lots of forms of prayer—confession, adoration, thanksgiving, etc. all with distinct purposes. If intercession and petition feel new or difficult, try praying something more familiar first before diving into intercession or asking things of God.
- No one prayer can do everything—a prayer that is simple and direct is very effective! There’s no need to feel like your prayers need to be long or elaborate—God only asks us to be genuine and seek His will. Use the prayers provided as a starting point, but be encouraged to add your own words.
- Consider keeping a prayer journal—a place to record your prayers so that you can look back and see how God has provided answers and fulfillment to your prayers.

## **Monday, February 4th**

Read John 4:23-24

*<sup>23</sup> Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. <sup>24</sup> God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”*

Pray over the ways we worship God as a church. Begin by praying over the parts of worship that are familiar to you—like musical worship, our teams that lead us, or the technology and resources that aid us in worship. Move towards asking God to reveal other kinds of worship that might be less familiar to you—that we would grow in worshipping with our whole selves.

*Lord, direct our hearts to understand the fullness of your character, your heart and your truth. Open us up to fully love out of our adoration of you as a church. Help us to honor you with our lives and within the life of the ministry of the church. Teach us how to worship you in Spirit and in truth. Help us become open to what whole worship would look like—from our minds, bodies and souls—and help us to glorify you.*

## **Tuesday, February 5th**

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-2

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: <sup>2</sup>Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.*

Pray that the church stays true to God’s message and we proclaim it whether or not it is convenient. Pray for protection over those who preach and teach the scriptures (pastors, staff, and leaders), both on weekends and during the week. Pray that our church would become people who are equally careful, patient and prepared.

*Jesus, compel us to proclaim your truth and preach your message. Remind us that your words are life even when it isn’t easy or convenient. Use your words to rebuke us, correct us and encourage us—and let us follow you as we hold each other accountable. Only you can give us great patience and the words to teach.*

## **Wednesday, February 6th**

Read Colossians 4:2-3a

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. <sup>3</sup> And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ.*

Pray that we would be a people of prayer—that our new prayer room would be a catalyst. That we would become a people quick to pray and continually invite God into all that happens in the walls of the church. Ask that we as a people would grow in prayer and that we would see transformation because of it.

*Jesus, help us to not take the gift of prayer—communication with you—lightly. Direct us to our knees, and continue to help us desire to be devoted to communing with you in prayer. Use our prayer room as an avenue to grow our prayer life, that we would become known as a people who are quick to pray. Keep us awake and alert. Fill our hearts with the compulsion to pray no matter the circumstance and help us to see the ways we look more like you as a result.*

## Thursday, February 7th

Read Acts 4:11-12

*<sup>11</sup> Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.”<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”*

Spend time praying that the church would proclaim Jesus as Savior from every vantage point. Pray over the conversations that happen with new visitors—that they would be welcomed into a place that declares Jesus as Lord. Pray over our Resource Center—that each tool would point us back to Jesus as Savior. Pray over our conversations, our mingling, and attitudes—that all would lead us to Jesus as the only source of life.

*Jesus, may our resources, culture and building proclaim that you are the Savior. Fill us with your Spirit to boldly proclaim there is salvation in no one else but you. Anoint our tools and conversations to deliver the same messages, that people would walk through our doors and encounter your salvation. Keep us committed to sharing your salvation through our resources, messages and conversations.*

## Friday, February 8th

Read Ephesians 4:1-6

*As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. <sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called;<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

Pray that the church might be a place where people have unity amid diversity—loving those with whom we have nothing in common but the gospel. Pray specifically for faithful and equipped overseers—that the unity of the church would be felt from every ministry and person.

*May we be a people who walk in a manner worthy of our calling. May our overseers, staff, leaders, members and attenders pursue and grow in humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another in love. Holy Spirit, would you bring us unity among one another—would our church proclaim as one body, and one Spirit in one hope. Preserve the witness of our leadership and give our overseers and staff the capacity to showcase your love, mercy and forgiveness. Provide accountability to those who lead us and compel us to be faithful to stand in the gap for them. Lord, would you be glorified as the Father who is over all and through all and in all.*



DEVO | February 2/3