



VALLEY COMMUNITY
BAPTIST CHURCH

21 days

OF PRAYER

DAILY PRAYER GUIDE
JANUARY 11-31, 2021

A NOTE FROM PASTOR ROB

After 2020, how do you approach 2021? With a sigh of relief? With a bit of anxiety? Or even with hopefulness? It's time to put worry aside and see what amazing things God will do in and through us in the coming year. As Paul wrote in Philippians 4:6-7:

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

As we start 2021, let's spend 21 days praying together. Prayer undergirds our ongoing relationship with our Heavenly Father. We bring our lives (including our worries and dreams) to God. He works in us and in the world around us. He fills us with His presence; He comforts, challenges, shapes, and sends us.

2021 will mark Valley's 45th anniversary. We are grateful to God for these amazing years. As we look back, we are pushed to think about the future at the same time. How can we start the next 45 years strongly? If Jesus waits to return, we want to bring honor and glory to God for another 45 years!

What's next? As we look ahead, we want to take the Next Steps to bring people together in life-changing Christian community. We want to engage in outreach to the Next 1,000 people who will call Valley home. We want to make the Next Generation of disciples among kids, students, and young adults.

Would you commit to praying daily from January 11-31? This guide will help. The readings will unpack God's Word and prepare you to pray. The prompts will help make your prayers specific. We will pray the first week for community; we will spend a second week praying about outreach; then we will close by praying for the next generation.

Let's pray for our church, our community, our region, and our partner churches in Converge and Converge Northeast. We want to align our hearts and invite God to do big, bold things in 2021 to build His Kingdom and glorify His name.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21

Yours truly,

Rob O'Neal

HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE

Pray with your Bible open, listening as God speaks through His Word.

Let the day's Scripture reading set the agenda for your conversation with God.

OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY
BEHOLD WONDROUS THINGS
OUT OF YOUR LAW.
(PSALM 119:18)

THE "ACTS" ACRONYM:

1. We'll begin with praise and adoration for who God is. It helps to first pause and consider whom we are talking with.
2. Second, prayer should include confession of your sin. As you remember who you are when you come into God's presence, you'll see that you have fallen short of His holiness and need His forgiveness.
3. Third, when we pray, we should always give thanks. We must remember the grace and mercy God has shown toward us.
4. Fourth, prayer includes supplication or petition, bringing to God our requests for the needs of others and ourselves.

Feel free to mix up the order of ACTS from day to day. It is not a magic formula. For example, sometimes praise for God for who He is leads naturally to giving thanks for what He has done.

Some days you'll have prayer requests that are heavy on your heart, and you'll need to launch right into those requests.

Each day of our 21 Days of Prayer will consist of an introduction to the day's theme, a short Scripture reading, and the following questions to stimulate your prayer.

ADORATION | From today's passage, what did I learn about who God is? Praise Him!

CONFESSION | What do I need to turn away from? How have I not obeyed Your Word? (Psalm 32:5-6)

THANKSGIVING | What am I thankful for from this passage? (Philippians 4:6)

SUPPLICATION | Prayer requests: Who or what do I need to ask God about today? (Psalm 62:

**All Scripture is from the English Standard Version (ESV) unless noted.*

DAY 1

January 11: Reflecting the Trinity

God created you to thrive in community. God Himself lives in eternal, loving community and you are created to reflect God's image. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are in fellowship and communion with each other. In John 17, Jesus talks with His Father about the oneness and love they have for one another.

READING

Read John 17:20–26.

“Pray to God the Father in the power of God the Spirit, in the name or by the authority and the merit of God the Son.”

Pastor John Piper

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that You have made Yourself known to us in Christ. You are a righteous God of love.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Holy Spirit, search my heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Thank You for Your forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you that I am created in Your image.

Thank You, Jesus, for modeling prayer for us.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help me to have oneness of mind and spirit with other believers as we reflect Your love to a watching world.

Give us creative ideas and safe ways to be in community with each other despite physical distancing.

DAY 2

January 12: A Family and a Building

When you belong to God, you also belong to His family. You have automatic brothers and sisters in Christ. We are also pictured as a building, joined, being built together with a purpose beyond ourselves. Even if there are limitations on our physical church building, we can continue to fulfill that purpose.

READING

Read Ephesians 2:19–22
and Hebrews 10:24–25.

“The most joyful Christians are prayerful Christians, because through prayer we become even closer in our friendship with Christ. Pray now, rejoicing that your Father in heaven hears you and loves to hear your prayers.”

“Discipleship Restored Handbook”

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY’S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

I praise You that You are my Heavenly Father, and that I belong to You.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

In my self-centeredness I have not loved as You desire. Soften my heart and bring to my attention opportunities to love and do good to others this week.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank You that I belong to the family of God, even when I don’t feel like it!

Thank You, Jesus, that You are the cornerstone, the Rock of my salvation.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help me to be an encouragement to my church family whenever and however we meet.

For our brothers and sisters in our Converge association of churches, for the Church Planting Residencies that were started in 2020, and the two residents that were placed.

DAY 3

January 13: Loving One Another

As a follower of Jesus, you have the high calling of loving as you have been loved. Our marriages, our families and friends, our small groups, our church -- all are to be marked by love. Our scripture passages today help us to see what loving one another looks like.

READING

Read John 13:34-35
and Colossians 3:12-15.

“Prayer, then, is enjoying the care of a powerful Father, instead of being left to a frightening loneliness where everything is all down to you. Prayer is the antithesis of self-dependence. It is our ‘no’ to independence and our ‘no’ to personal ambition. It is the exercise of faith – that you need God and are a needy receiver. With this in mind, instead of chasing the idol of our own productivity, let’s be dependent children – and let the busyness that could keep us from prayer drive us to prayer.

Only then – like the Son – can we actually be fruitful.”

“Enjoy Your Prayer Life” by Michael Reeves

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY’S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Father, I praise You that You are a God of love.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

I confess I have not loved the way You want. Spirit, empower me to love _____ in Your strength.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Jesus, open my eyes to how much You have loved and forgiven me. Thank you!

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Give our Valley Care ministry wisdom, resources, and volunteers to extend help and hope to hurting people. Help me to have oneness of mind and spirit with other believers as we reflect Your love to a watching world.

DAY 4

January 14: Future Community

In difficult times it is important to look to the promises God made regarding the future. It helps you to remember that this life is not all there is. It helps you keep your life and relationships in perspective. You have hope because your good God has a plan.

READING

Read Revelation 7:9–10; 21:24–26.

“We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven.”

Colossians 1:3–5

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Lord, you are worthy of glory, honor, and worship.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

I confess I often don't keep my perspective on eternal things, focusing on my temporary troubles instead of Your great glory. (2 Corinthians 4:17)

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you that I have a glorious future, together with a great gathering.

Thank you, Jesus, that you are the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help me to trust Your plan and promises for the future.

DAY 5

January 15: Leading the Church

Paul and Peter gave instructions to the church for leaders, especially what kind of character leaders should have. It's important to pray for them!

READING

**Read 1 Timothy 4:11-16
and 1 Peter 5:1-3. (NIV)**

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior.”

1 Timothy 2:1-3

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that You are holy and trustworthy.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Holy Spirit, reveal any areas of sin in my life — any thought, any deed, any way I've ignored doing what You want me to do.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for all those who serve and lead the church.

Thank You, Jesus, that you are our good shepherd.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

For our elders, church staff, and volunteer leaders to set an example in speech, conduct, love, faith, and purity as they serve the body of Christ. Give them strength to press on.

For our Executive Pastor Search Committee, for wisdom, unity, and God's guidance.

DAY 6

January 16: Enduring in Harmony, One Voice

Digital platforms have been great to easily stay in contact during times when we cannot meet in person. There are drawbacks and limitations, but what a blessing to have technological options for connecting in group meetings, for prayer time, for worship.

READING

Read Romans 15:5-7.

“How can we turn our knowledge about God into knowledge of God? The rule for doing this is demanding but simple. It is that we turn each truth that we learn about God into matter for meditation before God, leading to prayer and praise to God.”

“Knowing God” by J.I. Packer

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY’S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Lord, You are the God of endurance and encouragement.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Holy Spirit, search my heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Thank You for Your forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you that you have welcomed me in Christ!

Thank You, that You are glorified by our harmony.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Grant us opportunities to worship You in freedom.

Give the Worship Arts team one voice, harmony, and endurance as they serve each week.

May the online service be welcoming, drawing many into worship, and glorifying to You.

For our Converge Northeast’s 100+ congregations as they continue to navigate effective ministry in the midst of COVID-19.

DAY 7

January 17: Fellowship

Fellowship is more than having coffee with a fellow churchgoer in Fellowship Hall. True fellowship has many positive results. It enables us to bear each other's burdens, and encourages and motivates us. We are edified or built up. With these kinds of healthy relationships, we can effectively serve one another.

In the Bible, there is a broad list of actions that foster authenticity in relationships. Examples include being kind, accepting one another, putting others first, and praying for one another. These are less likely to happen unless we are involved with other believers.

READING

Read Ephesians 4:1-6; 11-16.

"... because of the nature of our God, the Spirit doesn't just bring us in Christ to the Father – he brings us together to him as the Father's family. Therefore, we also pray together with Christ as brothers and sisters before our Father. Communal prayer, then, is the Christian life in a nutshell – the family of the Father coming together to him to share his concerns."

"Enjoy Your Prayer Life" by Michael Reeves

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Lord, You are Father over all, You are through all, You are in all.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Holy Spirit, show me where I have not walked in a manner worthy of Your calling. Thank You for Your forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you that you have given me Your Spirit to dwell in me.

Thank You, that I belong to your body.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Unconnected people to get connected to other believers at Valley

Groups to grow in love and commitment to each other and to Christ

Group leaders to be equipped for building up the body of Christ

DAY 8

January 18: From Overflow to Outreach

Paul's prayers for the Ephesian church are ones that we can pray confidently for ourselves. You can personalize these words by changing "you" to "me." As the Spirit answers these mighty prayers in your life, how might this rich hope overflow from you to others?

READING

Read Ephesians 1:17-21; 3:14-21.

"Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that You are wise, powerful, rich, and loving.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I confess I need to ask You for Your strength instead of relying on myself or something else.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for raising and exalting Jesus far above all.

Thank You, Jesus, for your deep, surpassing love for me.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Fill me up with your power and love so that it would overflow to people who don't know You, that they would see Christ in me and be drawn to Him.

Open the eyes of our neighbors and all who live in Simsbury and the Farmington Valley.

DAY 9

January 19: God So Loved the World

From the beginning, God's plan has been to bless the world through Jesus. Just as Abram was blessed to become a blessing, so are we. Jesus commanded His disciples to make disciples of all nations, and that includes us at Valley! We can work together in God's plan to bless the world.

READING

Read Genesis 12:1-3;
Matthew 28:18-20;
Revelation 5:9-10.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

John 3:16

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that Your heart is to bless Your world.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I confess _____ .

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for that Your plan spans the ages and I am a part of that plan.

Thank You, Jesus, for Your promise to be with us to the end of the age.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Give me wisdom to know the part you want me to play in your plan for the world, big or small! Praying, giving, or going!

"Perspectives" is a special 15-week course at Valley that begins tonight (January 19). May the participants grow in excitement about what You are doing around the world to reconcile every people, tribe, nation, and tongue to Yourself.

Strengthen our Valley missionary partners as they serve You across the world.

DAY 10

January 20: Seasoned with Salt

In his letters, Paul frequently asked for prayer for opportunities to share the gospel. He wanted to share it clearly and boldly. He challenged his readers to keep praying with perseverance, steadfastness, watchfulness, and thanksgiving.

READING

Read Ephesians 6:18-20;
Colossians 4:2-6.

“But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.”

Psalm 66:19

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Lord, I praise You that You are always present, anytime, anywhere, to listen to my prayers.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I confess I am not always steadfast and alert in prayer for people.

Forgive me when my speech is ungracious.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for Paul's example of requesting prayer for his witness.

Thank You, Jesus, that the good news of You is worth talking about.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help me to take opportunities to speak of You with boldness, clarity, and grace.

I need Your wisdom to make the best use of my time.

Give our church opportunities, both online and in person, to bring your Word to Hartford and Litchfield Counties, and to boldly proclaim the gospel.

DAY 11

January 21: Ambassadors

Isn't it amazing that God has chosen us to be agents of reconciliation? We've been reconciled -- made right with God -- and now we belong to Him, carry His Name and represent Him as ambassadors in order to bring others to Christ. We represent the King of kings!

READING

Read 2 Corinthians 5:15-20.

"Pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; or this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

You are a God of reconciliation!

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I confess I often live for myself; I forget my new identity.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for reconciling me to Yourself.

Thank you for re-creating me in Christ.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

I need Your help to represent You as an ambassador to my family, friends and neighbors. Help me understand what that looks like.

May our church overflow with the joy of being reconciled with God. May Your Spirit create in people a longing for a reconciled relationship with You.

DAY 12

January 22: Heart for the Lost

God gives us the privilege to be involved in the search for those who do not yet know Him.

The story of the search for the lost coin reminds us of our need to have the same missionary heart that God has. It also teaches an important truth: The appropriate response to God's saving work is rejoicing! Let's make sure we're not missing our opportunity to join in God's joyful work of seeking out those who don't know Him yet. Let's focus in prayer today for Hartford County.

READING

Read Luke 15:8-10;
Romans 9:1-3; 10:1.

"I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live."

Psalm 116:1-2

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that Your heart is to diligently seek the lost.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I need You to increase my concern for lost people around me. Take away any coldness or indifference.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

When I consider how You lovingly pursued me, I thank You for my precious, undeserved gift of salvation and for the people who helped me come to You.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Create spiritual curiosity and open the eyes of the people of Hartford County who need to hear about You.

Give our local outreach partners ideas, opportunities, and resources to reach out and serve those in need, in spite of the pandemic.

Give me a love like God's for the lost, and give me opportunities to speak about You.

DAY 13

January 23: Shining a Light

Valley has a vision “to relationally share God’s grace and mercy with every person living in Hartford and Litchfield counties.” How will we reach people and engage them? Let’s ask God for ways to shine the light of Christ in their lives, focusing today on Litchfield County.

READING

Read Colossians 1:12-13;
Philippians 2:14-16;
Matthew 5:15-16.

“For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.”

Psalm 36:9

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY’S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

You are our Deliverer!

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, forgive my grumbling and complaining.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for delivering me from the clutches of darkness to Christ’s light-filled kingdom.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help me to be a light shining for You -- in my family, in my neighborhood, at work, or at school. Help me to hold fast to Your Word.

Bring Your light to shine in the people and towns of Litchfield County so that You get the glory.

DAY 14

January 24: Persecution and Joy

Prayer is our greatest weapon for the many brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering for their faith. According to OpenDoorsUSA.org, in just the last year, there have been:

- > Over 260 million Christians living in places where they experience high levels of persecution
- > 2,983 Christians killed for their faith
- > 9,488 churches and other Christian buildings attacked
- > 3,711 believers detained without trial, arrested, sentenced, or imprisoned

READING

Read 1 Peter 3:13-17; 4:12-16.

“Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.”

Acts 5:41

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

You are holy! You understand suffering.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Father, I confess to some self-pity or fear when facing scorn for my faith.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank You, Jesus, that You are able to sympathize with my weakness.

Thank You that I can confidently draw near to the throne of grace to find help in time of need.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Throughout the world, strengthen believers who are suffering for their faith with joy. Give them grace and courage, and to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks them to give the reason for the hope they have (1 Peter 3:15).

May Your Church continue to grow despite persecution, so that the nations will see that the Church grows by the Spirit, not by the power of man.

Help me not to be afraid to share my faith.

DAY 15

January 25: Children

Disciples are made in generations. When one follower of Jesus introduces someone else to Jesus and trains them in how to live and share Jesus' lifestyle, that's producing a new generation of disciples. Scripture overflows with people telling the next generation about the Lord -- who He is and what He has done.

What better place to start praying for future generations than with children?

READING

Read Psalm 78:1-7;
Mark 10:13-16.

“Churches with the most effective and fruitful ministries to children are also churches that are the most serious about prayer.”

George Barna, “Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions: Why Children Should Be Your Church’s #1 Priority”

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that You are great and mighty.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Holy Spirit, search my heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Thank You for Your forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for Your glorious deeds and the wonders You have done.

Thank You, Jesus, that You demonstrated love and care for children.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Preserve the health and safety of all our Valley Kids volunteers who give so willingly of their time and talent.

Show us how to reach children in our neighborhoods who haven't heard about Jesus.

DAY 16

January 26: High School Students

When praying for the next generation, let's pray big prayers that clearly align with God's Kingdom purposes for high school students. It's certainly not wrong to ask God for small things on behalf of our students, but often those small things fall into place when the big purposes are fulfilled.

READING

Read Deuteronomy 11:13–23.

“Boldness in prayer for the next generation must not rise from our Christ-less self-confidence. The reason we come boldly to the throne of grace is not because we are good parents or grandparents faithfully instructing our children in the faith and raising them in the discipline and instruction of the Lord... Bold prayers for the next generation arise from our confidence in Christ and all that He is for those who belong to Him.”

David Michael, “Big, Bold, Biblical Prayers for the Next Generation”

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I praise You that You are the one, true and living God, worthy of love and worship.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

If I confess my sins, You are faithful and just to forgive my sins and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9) Thank You for your forgiveness and cleansing.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for Your promises.

Thank You, Jesus, that You enable me to obey Your commands.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Ignite a desire for students to love You with all their heart and soul, and to desire to serve You. Guide them to walk in Your ways and hold fast to You.

Give Christian students courage to speak of You and model Your love for their friends.

Help our church as we reach out to students in our communities.

DAY 17

January 27: Middle School Students

In times of isolation and physical distancing, we can yield to feelings of hopelessness. When we are young, it seems the bad news will never end, and better days will never come. But our God is a God of hope and peace.

READING

Read Romans 5:1-5; 15:13.

A 2015 survey found that 63 percent of Christians accepted Jesus Christ between the ages of 4 and 14. Nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13 (43 percent), and two out of three born-again Christians (64 percent) made that commitment to Christ before their 18th birthday.

This stage of life is a wonderful window of opportunity for parents and the church to disciple children.

National Association of Evangelicals

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Heavenly Father, I rejoice in the hope of Your glory.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

I confess I lose hope sometimes. Help me to believe and trust You. Thank You for your forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for giving Your Holy Spirit to dwell in me.

Thank You, Jesus, for the peace I have through You.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Fill our Middle School students with a deep sense of hope. Open their eyes to see Your glory.

Give them a hunger and thirst for You and to be with You through prayer and Your Word.

Ignite in them a passion to share their faith with their friends and to invite friends to church.

DAY 18

January 28: College Students

Whether living at home or at school, Christian or not-yet-believer, college students need our prayer. They contend with many temptations and distractions away from God and His ways. They are in the midst of life-changing decisions. They face unique challenges to their beliefs. Let's pray for them!

READING

Read Psalm 102:18-28.

“Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:14-16

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. You are my rescuer and my redeemer.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

Forgive me for looking to the world for satisfaction, and for being unsatisfied with Your love.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for listening to my prayers, anytime and anywhere.

Thank You, Jesus, for setting me free from sin and death.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Bring Christians into the lives of college students for healthy influence or fellowship.

Help them to look to You for satisfaction, and not to the world. Guide them as they make decisions, that their lives might count for eternity.

Open the minds and hearts of students who don't know You yet. Give them a desire to worship You as Savior and Lord.

DAY 19

January 29: Young Adults

Charles Spurgeon stressed the importance of preparing our hearts to pray, which “consists in the solemn consideration beforehand of the importance of prayer, meditation upon the needs of men’s souls, and a remembrance of the promises which we are to plead; and so coming before the Lord with a petition written on the fleshly tables of the heart.”

Young adults are crucial to the next generation of God’s Kingdom. They face great challenges and opportunities. What might God do if His people come to Him with bold, biblical prayers of faith for the next generation of young adults?

READING

Read Psalm 48.

“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known.”

Jeremiah 33:3

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY’S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

I confess that at times I have been ungrateful, and tended to grumble and complain. Fill me with gratitude instead.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for Your steadfast love and guidance.

Thank You, Jesus, for my joy in You.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Keep our church faithful to engage young adults in ministry and leadership.

Create in young adults a passion for You. Help them to live for You.

Give them opportunities to speak to their friends, families, and co-workers about Your steadfast love.

DAY 20

January 30: Generations to Come

In John 17, Jesus prays for people who will believe in Him -- His future followers. We can follow His example and pray for and proclaim God's good news to those who don't know Him yet. What a privilege to be a small part of God's big plan for people we may not even know yet.

READING

Read Psalm 22:27-31.

"May the truth that has been entrusted to us and the lessons we have learned not be hidden from the next generation. Grant us every grace to make known to our children, even to the children yet unborn, the path that leads to life. Make us a generation of parents, educators, pastors, childcare workers, Sunday School teachers, who will teach them Your ways and how to walk according to the truth so that they might set their hope and confidence in You. Give to our children, and to their children, souls anchored in heaven."

Adapted from David Michael, "Big, Bold, Biblical Prayers for the Next Generation"

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

I praise You because You are the righteous King and You rule over the nations.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

I confess it's sometimes hard to trust You for the future. I need faith in Your Word. Thank You for forgiving my small faith.

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for the reminder to worship You.

Thank You, Jesus, for my joy in You.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help us to proclaim Your good news boldly and clearly for the sake of generations to come, and for Your glory.

Remind me to pray for the generations yet to come.

For the Converge church planting assessment center in March, and the five church planters Converge Northeast is sponsoring to attend.

DAY 21

January 31: Everybody!

Over the past 21 days, our prayer focus has been to ask God for:

- > Next Steps to build community,
- > Ways to reach the Next 1,000 people in our local areas and the world,
- > Ways to reach the Next Generation of kids, students, and young adults to love and follow Him.

Our church is filled with parents, grandparents, singles, friends, and families. We need to be knit together so that we can answer God's call to reach people for His glory. As we pray for guidance on how we can contribute to these Next Steps, Next 1,000 and Next Generations, God will be building His Kingdom and making new disciples in every location and generation. Let's pray with great anticipation.

READING

Read Psalm 89:1-18.

"And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

Philippians 1:9-11

PRAYER

ADORATION | FROM TODAY'S PASSAGE, WHAT DID I LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS? PRAISE HIM!

Lord, You are faithful and mighty, and everything belongs to You.

CONFESSION | HOW HAVE I NOT OBEYED YOUR WORD?

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)

THANKSGIVING | WHAT AM I THANKFUL FOR FROM THIS PASSAGE?

Thank you for Your steadfast love and strength.

Thank You, Jesus, that I can trust your faithfulness.

Thank You for _____.

SUPPLICATION | WHO OR WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK GOD ABOUT TODAY?

Help us develop new and nurturing ways to build our community at Valley.

Give us opportunities to reach out and bless our neighbors near and far.

Give us Your wisdom and creativity to make disciples of the next generation.