THE FELLOWSHIP GUIDE FOR PRAYING IN THE NEW YEAR 2021 - 2022

Instructions:

We encourage you to spend at least one hour in prayer using this prayer guide. To keep the mind from being distracted, <u>it is helpful to read it aloud.</u> While you are praying, you can also stop along the way to be still before the Lord, listening to the Holy Spirit, and submitting additional prayers as you feel led. It should take you about an hour to read through this guide, which is an important segment of The Fellowship's **continuous 24-hour period** of prayer bringing in the new year. Thank you for your faithfulness to the Lord and to The Fellowship – May God Bless You.

THE FELLOWSHIP GUIDE FOR PRAYING IN THE NEW YEAR 2021 - 2022

A. PRAISE AND ADORATION

- IPRAISE You, God, for Your greatness! Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. (1 Ch. 29:11). Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? (Ex. 15:11)
- 2. I PRAISE You, God, for Your sovereignty! And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. (Col. 1:17-18) Lord, I want You to be supreme in my life and my church, The Fellowship. I ask You to reconcile all within my realm of influence to Yourself the strayed and the lost. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (Col.1:19-20)
- 3. IPRAISE You, God, for Your Bride! God the Father put all things under the feet of Jesus and gave him as head over all things to the church. (Eph. 1:22) You are the head of The Fellowship, Your body, of which You are the Savior. I submit myself to You because You love me and gave Yourself up for *me so that you might present the church to yourself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.* (Eph. 5:27) Lord, feed and care for me and use me supernaturally to help bring Your Kingdom forth upon the earth. *As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.* (Is. 62:5)
- 4. I PRAISE You, God, for Your love! See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God. (1 John 3:1) Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations. (Deu. 7:9) But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Neh. 9:17) For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him. (Ps. 102:11)
- 5. I PRAISE You, God, for Your mighty power! Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you. (Jer. 32:17) For nothing will be impossible with God (Luke 1:37) who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist, (Rom. 4:17b) who does great things and unsearchable, marvelous things without number. (Job 5:9)
- 6. I PRAISE You, God, for Your Son, my Lord Jesus Christ. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1) Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. (John 14:6) And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. (1 John 4:14) Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb.12:2)

7. I PRAISE You, God, for Your Holy Spirit. And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. (John 16:8) The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. (Rom. 8:16) Who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. (2 Cor. 1:22) Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (Rom. 8:26)

B. PERSONAL CONFESSION

- 1. LORD, forgive me when I have not made You my #1 priority. I often value my comfort and pleasure rather than setting my heart to be on mission with You and joining You in Your Kingdom's work. I know there are times when I have not loved You with all my heart, mind, strength and passion. I want total devotion to You to be the standard of my life. *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way.* (Is. 53:6)
- 2. LORD, forgive me for my lack of prayer. It is in prayer that You release Your power through the Holy Spirit. At times, I have depended on myself and even others more than You and have not prayerfully sought Your will in my life. I have even missed opportunities to gather in Your name and pray. I have sought You for things I need, but not always kept my relationship with You vibrant and alive through daily praise and thanksgiving to Your glorious name. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. (Jer. 29:13)
- 3. LORD, forgive me for neglecting time in Your Word. Many times, I have allowed time with You to be replaced by the internet, electronics, television, recreation, shopping, children's activities, working out, etc. I have at times read magazines and books more than Your Word. But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. (Mat. 22:29)
- 4. LORD, forgive me when I have been lukewarm as a follower of Christ, when I have not been a fully devoted and developing follower of Yours. I have not fully sought to be salt and light to the world as You commanded, but have often allowed my life to lose impact on a lost world. *I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot!* (Rev. 3:15) Light the fire of Your Holy Spirit to burn ever more passionately in me.
- 5. LORD, forgive me for my self-centeredness, seeking my own personal gratification and desires rather than seeking to be used by You. I have been a taker rather than a giver, a consumer rather than a nurturer. I have valued comfort and convenience over sacrifice and service. *If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.* (Mark 8:34)
- 6. LORD, forgive me for my lack of commitment to the community of saints, my brothers and sisters in Christ. I recognize that I don't always use my spiritual gift(s) to serve others in ministry and at times am content to sit on the sidelines. At times I have turned away from Your call to sacrifice my time, talents and treasures that Your Kingdom may be established. Love the LORD your God... walk in all his ways... keep his commandments... cling to him... serve him with all your heart and with all your soul. (Josh. 22:5)

7. LORD, please forgive me for the times I have ignored the lost, the hurting, the poor, and the have-nots in my community. Many times I have missed the opportunity to share the hope of salvation in Jesus Christ. I have frequently preferred to stay huddled inside the safety and security of my own world. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. (Mat. 28:19-20)

C. THANKSGIVING

- 1. THANK YOU, Lord, for calling out a group of believers to establish The Fellowship almost 28 years ago on February 14, 1994. Thank You for Your faithfulness in using our church to reach and redeem the unsaved and unchurched in our community and throughout the world. Thank You for every one of our 458 members. Thank You for inspiring countless acts of love and compassion to those in crisis and need. Thank You for waking us up to the desperation of our world. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. (Luke 19:10)
- 2. THANK YOU, Lord, for The Fellowship's mission of becoming a whole people who take the whole gospel to the whole world. Lord, we thank You that this year You have been faithful in leading us to be flexible and fluid in changing strategies, programs, ministries and in more effectively living out our mission and making the hard decisions of fulfilling the Great Commission.
- 3. **THANK YOU, Lord, for Kosmos** and its ongoing purpose to "change the world one cup at a time". We thank You for using this ministry to bless other ministries, nonprofits, and people.
- 4. **THANK YOU, Lord, for the young children and families** being reached for You through our weekday preschool, Treasure Cove. We pray for the health and safety of all of our children and teachers. May these precious little ones learn all about the great love of our God and may the seeds of faith be planted in their hearts. *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.* (Phil. 4:19)
- 5. **THANK YOU, Lord, for providing financial resources.** More than \$2 million was given in 2021 in pursuit of our mission and vision. Thank You for the funds given by those who have been faithful in tithes and offerings to support and maintain Your church. We praise You that in September we were able to take advantage of lower interest rates and our strong financial footing to refinance our mortgage debt. This refinance lowered our monthly payment, reduced our interest rates, and insulated us against future potential increased interest rates. We thank You that we were able to reduce our mortgage to just over \$4 million. *For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* (Mat. 6:21)
- 6. THANK YOU, Lord, for the resources to carry out the mission and vision to which You have called us. Thank You that more than 10% (\$350,000) was allocated to local, national, and global missions. We helped over 19 families with emergency benevolence needs and 45 families with broken water pipes from the freeze. We also

helped Friends of Sundown, The Hangar Food Bank, Providence Place, Living Water International and other organizations! Thank You for the financial resources to sponsor 210 Compassion International children, provide 2100 boxes of mac and cheese as well as 60 turkeys, and to help pack 700,000+ Feed the Hunger meals. *In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'* (Acts 20:35)

- 7. THANK YOU, Lord, for our Fellowship Operations Ministry. Thank You that the church buildings where we gather provide a place for people to be discipled, to grow, learn, teach, pray, worship and fellowship together these places remind us of God's faithfulness. Thank You for providing the funds for maintenance of our campus, utilities, landscaping, capital improvements, infrastructure and insurance. We pray that our campus will continue to create an experience where God can be encountered and where we all can grow more in love with Him. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2 Cor 9:8)
- 8. THANK YOU, Lord, for multiple opportunities to lift up the name of Jesus so that every man, woman and child can have a repeated opportunity to see the Gospel demonstrated, hear the Gospel proclaimed and respond to the Gospel. Thank You for reaching people online through digital discipleship, our internet campus and social media posts that create interest in the gospel and lead men and women to Jesus Christ and to a local church. Thank You for community outreach events such as Alpha, Easter Jam, Host A Hunt, Baby Bottle Blessing, Jingle Jam, Parent Date Night, Summer Friday Night Movies, Run 4 The Children, and Funtimers. Thank You for inspiration and connectivity through Women's Brunches and Men's Breakfasts. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:12-13).
- 9. THANK YOU, Lord, for those You have called out and set apart to serve You and Your church:

For our pastors:

Dr. Jerry Edmonson, Lead Pastor Brian Hummel, Executive Pastor Robert Jackman, Pastor Adult Ministries John Cordes, Worship Pastor Glenn Lerich, Missions & Evangelism Pastor Joe Carollo, Lead Student Pastor

For our staff:

Vanessa Cordes, Fellowship Kids Lead Director Wes Edmonson, Creative Arts Director and Worship Leader Debbie Dowdell, Fellowship Kids/Students Assistant Steve Walker, Facilities Manager Amy Bedore, Office Manager Ann Coker, Communications Manager Rebecca Haag, Database Manager Holly Rosenquist, Financial Accounts Manager Shawn Hanscom, Campus Coordinator Ricky Pasqual, Marketing Manager John Long, Worship Arts Technical Director Nakris Adeyinka-Ojo, Adult Ministries Director Debbie Hummel, Fellowship Kids Director K-5 Melissa Villa, Fellowship Preschool Director Mikayla Carlson, Residency Program

For our volunteer staff:

Ken Gross, Recovery Pastor Felton Stroy, IT Administrator Geoff Smith, Glocal Ministries Director Shirley Jones, Glocal Ministries Assistant Jane Gehring, Prayer Coordinator Elizabeth Mace, Worship Arts Vocal Coordinator Matthew Lineham, Men's Ministry Director Amy Godfrey, Women's Ministry Director

For our Treasure Cove Weekday Preschool staff:

Jen Weant, Executive Director Becky Sesin, Operations Director Courtney McEachern, Administrative Assistant

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men. (Col. 3:23)

10. THANK YOU, Lord, for our Elders:

Dr. Jerry Edmonson	Stewart Loftis
Emeka Anadu	Juan Martinez
John Bedore	Carrol Newbrough
Bruce Bernard	Ryan Ober
Joe Carollo	Paul Ogueh
John Cordes	Joe Probst
Richard Gehring	Oscar Reyes
Ken Gross	Hayward Sparks
Brad Hulyk	Felton Stroy
Brian Hummel	Shannon Townsend
Robert Jackman	Dave Trout
Dan Kalisek	Wendell Vines
Glenn Lerich	Steve Walker

Each of these elders has accepted responsibility to give spiritual leadership, oversight and wise counsel in the ongoing life of our church. I exhort the elders among you... shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. (1 Pet. 5:1-2,4)

- 11. THANK YOU, Lord, for the Elders who served in 2021 on our Pastoral Management Team: Chairman Hayward Sparks, Vice Chairman Dave Trout, Secretary Joe Probst, Shannon Townsend, Brian Hummel, Emeka Anadu and Dr. Jerry Edmonson. We are thankful for the two new PMT members who will be serving in 2022, Wendell Vines and Juan Martinez.
- 12. THANK YOU, Lord, for every ministry in our church and for all those who lead and give of themselves as volunteers to serve You. These ministries include Family, Children, Student, Women's, Men's, Prayer, Faithwalking, Treasure Cove Weekday Preschool, Marriage Mentors, Local and Global Impact, 1:17 Adoption, Friends of Sundown, Worship Arts, Guest Services. *These are servants of the Most High God.* (Acts 16:17)
- 13. **THANK YOU, Lord, for spiritual growth** through Faithwalking, Seasons of the Soul Workshops, Soul Care Retreats, LIFE Groups, and ongoing Bible studies sponsored by the Men's and Women's ministries and LIFE Groups. *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!* (Rom. 11:33)
- 14. **THANK YOU, Lord, for making LIFE Groups the heart of our church** where we can experience authentic Biblical community and where we can know and be known, love and be loved, serve and be served, celebrate and be celebrated. A place where we grow in knowledge, and encourage each other in accountability. Thank You for the men and women You have raised up to be LIFE Group leaders and who give of themselves sacrificially to be under-shepherds of Your flock:

Emeka & Antonia Anadu	Stephen & Devon Hulyk
Bruce & Tanya Bernard	Brian & Debbie Hummel
John & Sarah Burt	Robert & Cheryl Jackman
Darrin & Ann Coker	Samuel & Rose James
Jerry & Gail Edmonson	Juan Martinez
Jerry Edmonson (Men's)	Ricky & Jenifer Pascual
Marnie Cordes (Funtimers)	Wendell & Shary Vines
Lincoln & Shawn Hanscom	

Love one another with brotherly affection (Rom. 12:10)

15. **THANK YOU, Lord, for Fellowship Kids.** Thank You for the 250+ children we served in 2021. Thank You for entrusting them to us and for Your ongoing provision of workers, creative ideas and materials. Thank You for the Sunday morning programs, VBX, Camp Cove, Jingle Jam, Easter Jam and much more. Thank You for the joy of seeing our young people accept Jesus as Savior and Lord as we faithfully present the Good News and Your incredible plan of salvation. Thank You for raising up young people who own their faith and boldly share that faith with others. Thank You for the generosity and support of the children's families. *Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me*. (Mark 9:37)

- 16. **THANK YOU, Lord, for Fellowship Students.** Thank You that in 2021, Fellowship Students attended Lead the Cause, Winter Retreat, Summer Camp and other events and mission trips where our students put their faith in action and grew closer to God. Thank You for the joy of seeing our young people accept Jesus as Savior and Lord as we faithfully present the Good News and Your incredible plan of salvation. Thank You for raising up young people who own their faith and boldly share that faith with others. You shall teach them to your children, talking of them when you are sitting in your house, and when you are walking by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deu.11:19)
- 17. THANK YOU, Lord, for The Fellowship's Spiritual Formation ministry and the transformation people are experiencing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Thank You for Alpha and the team of leaders committed and available to offer a safe space for those who are seeking to know more about Christianity and to have authentic conversations. We are grateful for Faithwalking and the ways in which people are increasingly following the way of Jesus, experiencing ongoing transformation and developing practices for missional living. Thank You for all the leaders You have called to serve so faithfully in the ministry of Faithwalking. We are grateful for Your hand in Be Still, the monthly opportunity we have to gather for spiritual practices in community. Thank You, Lord, for the ways You have moved in the lives of people who have participated in Soul Care Retreats and Spiritual Formation Workshops. Thank You for Unity Table. What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. (1 Cor. 2:9-10)
- 18. **THANK YOU, Lord, for The Fellowship teams that faithfully love and serve others throughout the world and in our community.** Thank You for The Fellowship's many volunteers who faithfully raised their hands, rolled up their sleeves, served, and provided funding to help us with so many 2021 initiatives. Thank You for 210+ children sponsored by those who call The Fellowship their church home through Compassion International, Hope4theOrphan, Caring for Korah and other sponsorship agencies. Thank You for the volunteers and funding to pack 700,000+ meals in Katy, Texas through the Feed the Hunger pack-a-thons that fed the physical and spiritual hunger of thousands of people locally, nationally and internationally. Thank You for community partners and visionaries who are planning ongoing initiatives in 2022 and beyond, demonstrating the love of Christ to people in need. *As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.* (Mat. 25:40)
- 19. **THANK YOU, Lord, for giving us a vision that is both local and global.** Thank You for opportunities in Aceh, Indonesia, and Inhambane, Mozambique with our adopted unreached people groups, the Acehnese and Tonga respectively. Thank You for the Family Mission Trip, Lead the Cause Denver Mission Trip, Houston Mission Trip, and the Friends of Sundown Mission Week. Thank You for Your servants everywhere who daily commit to live out Your Great Commission by making disciples that make disciples that make disciples of "panta ta ethne" or "every ethnos". Protect those who contextually share the gospel to every ethnos on this earth and for the sure knowledge that You will continue to open doors and provide for every need. *This gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations.* (Mat. 24:14)

- 20. THANK YOU, Lord, for our Merimnao ministry to the broken-hearted and its Support Groups: Adelphe for women with any life issue sharing with other struggling women; Affinity for men who struggle with intimacy, relationships and connection; Barrayo for men who experienced sexual abuse in childhood; Comitatus for men struggling with any life issue sharing with other men; Grief Support for adults who have lost somebody to death; Nephaleos for men and women struggling with alcohol or drug problems; New Hope a one-on-one ministry for women dealing with breast cancer; Nikao for women who have been sexually abused or traumatized; Parakeleo a group for female partners of men who struggle with sexual impurity; Parent Advocates a couple-to-couple ministry as needed for parents of troubled high schoolers. Thank You for all who provide leadership to these groups. *He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds*. (Ps. 147:3)
- 21. THANK YOU, Lord, for Castimonia, a ministry that is expanding efforts to help men and women overcome sexual impurity. Thank You for meetings each week in various locations. Thank You for the men who serve as facilitators for the ministry. Thank You for the Castimonia podcast that reaches men and women around the world, including the Middle East and Europe. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. (2 Cor. 1:3-4)
- 22. **THANK YOU, Lord, because You are a God who hears and answers prayers.** You glorify Your name as You continuously pour out Your love and provision in response to our requests. Thank You for providing Prayer Stories for every week this year that document Your supernatural work on our behalf. Thank You for the 33 members of our Prayer Team committed to daily intercession for Your church and Your people. Thank You for Bob Bryant, Emeka Anadu, Antonia Anadu, and Bobit Santos for their personal contacts to those who asked for an Elder or Prayer Team member to call them. We thank You, Holy Spirit, for guiding those conversations. *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.* (Phil. 4:6)
- 23. **THANK YOU, Lord, for our Worship Team.** We thank You for the music and lyrics provided each Sunday that emphasized that Sunday's specific message and for the joy that the music brings to all who hear it. We thank You that worship creates an atmosphere that invites Your people to connect with the Holy Spirit. *I will sing of steadfast love and justice; to you, LORD, I will make music. (*Ps. 101:1)
- 24. **THANK YOU, Lord, for technology** that enables us to electronically provide our Sunday Services to those who cannot come to in-person service. Thank You for protecting our computer systems from hackers, electronic viruses, etc. *And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.* (Phil. 4:19)

D. PETITION

1. LORD, we believe that in 2022 You are reminding us that we are "Better Together". This is our theme for 2022 and we are seeking You to do a great work in our lives as we lean into 21 Days of Fasting and Prayer January 10th through 30th.

Lord, have Your way in each of us. Lead us to give up something during this season of fasting that will create more time in these 21 days to see Your face, direction, will and purpose for our lives and for our church. We want You more than anything else. *And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.* (Heb. 10:24-25)

- 2. LORD, we need to be full of Your Holy Spirit, individually, and as a body of believers, lifting your name high. You instruct us to be filled with the Spirit. May that be our deepest desire and Your great joy to pour out upon us. Apart from You, we can do nothing. If we remain in You and Your words remain in us, we may ask and it will be given to us. Lord, we are asking for You to do a mighty work in us and through us and to grow Your Kingdom and accomplish Your purposes in our church. We ask for the presence of Your Holy Spirit to be manifested in all gatherings of The Fellowship church body in every worship service, LIFE Group, PMT meeting, Fellowship Kids and Preschool gatherings, Fellowship Students activities, and all ministry functions. Unless Your presence is with us, we are merely going through the motions. *How much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!* (Luke 11:13)
- 3. LORD, help us each to recognize that we are individual parts of Your body, the church, and each of us has a God-ordained function to perform, which, if neglected, will cause weakness and ineffectiveness in Your church. Give us the willingness to serve the body wholeheartedly as we answer Your call to ministry. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. (Rom. 12:4-5)
- 4. LORD, at our new birth, You bestowed spiritual gifts on us through Your Holy Spirit. Reveal to each of us our individual gifts; empower us to use them in Your church. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (Rom. 12:6-8)
- 5. LORD, give us a Spirit of Unity. Help us to be willing to listen and consider and learn from others. May we ever recognize that The Fellowship is Your church and You are the head of it. If we disagree, help us to submit ourselves to You and follow Your leadership. *May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus.* (Rom. 15:5)
- 6. LORD, show us where You are at work to meet all manner of spiritual and physical needs in our community and throughout the world so we can join You. Give us clear direction as to where we should go and what we should do. Give us purpose and power and passion as we follow Your leading to reach outside the confines of our church. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (Eph. 2:10)
- 7. LORD, help us to train future church leaders. We pray for three or four residents in 2022 to serve for two years in a full-time capacity in our Residency Program. We

pray that they can be fully self-funded and that we can grow this program. With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand. (Ps. 78:72)

- 8. LORD, make The Fellowship a House of Prayer. Help us to realize that prayer is as essential to our spiritual lives as breathing is to our physical lives. Let prayer permeate every facet of Your church. Help us to make no plans without seeking Your will. Give everyone a heart to pray daily for our church individually and every time we gather. *My house will be called a House of Prayer*. (Mat. 21:13)
- 9. LORD, help our hearts to be sensitive every day to the opportunities You place before us opportunities to lend a helping hand, to speak words of encouragement, to show unconditional love, to praise You and to share the good news of salvation. And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh. (Ez. 11:19)
- 10. LORD, free us from all known and unacknowledged prejudice. Help us to welcome all persons into Your church, regardless of their race, skin color, socioeconomic status or physical appearance. Each is the work of Your hands and very precious in Your sight. Help us to love unconditionally. *Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.* (Rom. 15:7)
- 11. LORD, teach us to obey for You have said that to obey is better than sacrifice. (1 Sam. 15:22) Help us to heed Your voice and do what You say, right away, joyfully, to the best of our abilities. Keep us centered in Your will, not veering to the left or right. Keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in his ways and by fearing him. (Deu. 8:6) For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. (1 John 5:3)
- 12. LORD, increase our faith. We know that faith comes by hearing the Word of God. Even our faith is a gift from You. Pour faith out upon us so that You may do great works through us and bring glory to Your name. Lord, we believe...help our unbelief. Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. (Heb.11:1) The righteous will live by faith. (Rom. 1:17)
- 13. LORD, help us to live by the Spirit so we do not gratify the desires of our sinful nature. Keep our focus on You and not the pleasures of the world and flesh. Reap within our congregation an abundant crop of the fruit of the Spirit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. *If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.* (Gal. 5:25) *Those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.* (Rom. 8:5)
- 14. LORD, You have commanded us to forgive. Show us any hatred, ill-feeling, grudge or root of bitterness that we may be harboring in our spirits. Help us to give it all to You so we may be set free from any bondage that impairs our usefulness to Your Kingdom. Bear with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgive each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Col. 3:13)
- 15. LORD, we ask You to make us aware daily of our sin, to lead us to repentance, to cleanse us and create within us clean hearts that can be used by You to bring forth Your Kingdom upon the earth. You desire truth in our inner parts. Help us not to quench the Holy Spirit within us. Wash me thoroughly from my

iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! (Ps. 51:2) If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9)

- 16. **LORD, put a guard on our tongues.** Help us to never misuse or profane Your name, but let our speech bring You glory. Help us think before speaking and always express concern for others, especially unbelievers, so they may be drawn to You. *Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.* (Eph. 4:29)
- 17. LORD, You bought us with the blood of Your Son. We are Yours; our bodies are temples of Your Holy Spirit. We offer our bodies to You as instruments of righteousness. Empower us to live sacrificially, walking in Your ways, honoring You in all we do. *I appeal to you therefore, brothers by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.* (Rom. 12:1)
- 18. LORD, there is no one like You on earth or in heaven. All glory belongs to You. Keep us from taking Your glory for ourselves when You choose to work through us. May we in all humility ascribe all honor to You. Let Your praises resound from our mouths continually. *I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols.* (Is. 42:8) Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name. (1 Chr. 16:29)
- 19. LORD, everything we have is a gift from You. It all belongs to You, but You have entrusted us with it for a time. You have given us standards of tithes and offerings for returning a portion of our time, talents and treasures for the work of Your Kingdom. May we be generous and joyful in all that we give back to You. Lord, allow us to continue to bless others locally, nationally and globally as we partner with organizations such as Feed the Hunger, Katy Responds, Bridges of Hope, and other non-profit organizations. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2 Cor. 9:8)
- 20. LORD, we praise You because You are bringing forth Your Kingdom upon the earth and Your will is being accomplished. Your purposes will stand and Your Son will be exalted. We praise You for allowing The Fellowship to be a part of all You have ordained. Lord, teach us, show us, help us, use us to lift You up in all things. *And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.* (John 12:32)
- 21. LORD, who shall separate us from the love of Christ? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Rom. 8:35, 37-39)
- 22. LORD God Almighty, great and amazing are Your deeds! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed. (Rev. 15:3-4) The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever. (Rev. 11:15)

23. LORD, may we live our lives anticipating that You are coming soon. Empower us every time You present an opportunity to reconcile another to Yourself. Fill us with Your overflowing joy as we eagerly "show and tell" of Your redeeming love. Though we do not know when You are coming, fill us with anticipation; keep us ready. *Surely I am coming soon. Come, Lord Jesus!* (Rev. 22:20-21)

AMEN!