



Praying IN THE SPIRIT

OVERVIEW: *With the resurrection of Jesus, we talk about everything changing. The new life that is ours, the forgiveness that we experience, the victory over death and the entrance into the Kingdom of God. Alleluia! He is Risen, Indeed. But how does that impact my day-to-day life? How can I experience that Easter Living today? The answer is to pray with the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Week 1 • The Lord's Prayer, Part I: Adoration & Submission

Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Before coming to God with anything we need or want, Jesus teaches us to begin with a word of adoration, coming before the Lord Almighty to submit our wills to His greater will.

Week 2 • The Lord's Prayer, Part II: Supplication & Grace

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us... After coming to God with praise, submitting our wills to His, we bring our supplications, a fancy word for prayer requests. At the top of that list, we should include a double portion of grace to extend forgiveness to others the way we have been forgiven.

Week 3 • The Lord's Prayer, Part III

...and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen. Certainly God tempts no one to sin, but we all have times of trial when our faith is put to the test. It is then that we need God's strength and perseverance to endure to the end in where His kingdom and power and glory will be revealed forever. "And together we say, Amen! So be it!"

Week 4 • Who is The Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity, coequal with God the Father and God the Son. In this beautiful and mysterious relational Godhead, the Holy Spirit was sent to be with Jesus' followers upon His leaving this world. As our Advocate, Comforter, and Counselor, the Holy Spirit guides us into truth and brings the blessings of a godly life.

Week 5 • What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

Have you received the Holy Spirit? It is a gift we receive in Holy Baptism that seals our lives to God and gives us fruits of character that reflect God's likeness. However, it is possible to be baptized and not receive the Spirit (Acts 8:15, 19:6). Do you want the Holy Spirit? We ask God for all kinds of temporary blessings. While these are good, those prayers pale in comparison to what we might receive if we asked God for the Holy Spirit. We might move mountains. We might perform actions greater than Jesus Himself. Do you really want the Spirit of the LORD? But of course, how could anyone want anything else?

Week 6 • How Does the Holy Spirit Change Me?

On this day of celebrating the calling of motherhood, we remember the revolutionary proclamation and world-changing obedience of Mary, the mother of Jesus as she praises Him in the Magnificat. It was the Holy Spirit who gave her the faith, the power, and the boldness to sing and bear the Son of the Most High God who would cause the rise and fall of many in Israel, and would pierce her own soul too. When the Holy Spirit comes into our hearts and lives, we are invited into ventures unseen with the unpredictable, faithful, and clever ways of her redemptive work in the world.



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***Praying words do not come easy to everyone;
Please feel free to use the following verses to help ignite your prayers and lift up those around you.***

Prayers for Individuals:

† LORD, may Your hand sustain _____; may Your arms strengthen him/her. - ***Psalm 89:21***

† LORD, may You heal _____ when he/she is brokenhearted and bind up his/her wounds. - ***Psalm 147:3***

† God, as Your chosen one, holy and dearly loved, may _____ clothe himself/herself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. - ***Colossians 3:12***

† LORD, may You turn _____'s mourning into gladness and give him/her comfort and joy instead of sorrow. - ***Jeremiah 31:13***

† LORD, may You be _____'s rock, fortress, and deliverer; his/her God and strength in whom _____ takes refuge. - ***Psalm 18:2***

† God, I pray that _____ would not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present his/her requests to You. May Your peace, which transcends all understanding guard _____'s heart and mind in Christ Jesus. - ***Philippians 4: 6-7***

Prayers for God's Church:

† Dear Lord, I pray for your church, especially _____. Where it is amiss, correct it. Where it is struggling, uplift it. Where it is strong, sustain it.

We pray for pastor(s) _____

† Heavenly Father, may your church be a place where you shine your light into a darkened world. Let it be bold in its witness, grounded in truth and focused on its mission, especially with _____

† God, your Son said that upon the rock of confession that Jesus is Lord, that not even the gates of Hades will prevail. As your church is under attack around the world, strengthen it with disciples who turn first to you as their rock and fortress.

Prayers for the World:

† Dear God, for violence in the world, we turn to you as our Prince of Peace. Send forth your Holy Spirit to wars in _____, violence in _____ and hatred in _____.

† Heavenly Father, the divisions in our homes, our nation and our world struggle against your Gospel of unity, love and peace. For the divisions we see in _____, we pray for your peace.

† Lord, we know and believe that life in Jesus is better, richer and eternal. WE pray for this world to know Jesus, especially _____.