DAYS of PRAYER PRAYER

21 Days of Prayer

For the next 21 Days, we are going to pray together that God will move in power in the next generation...from birth through college and beyond. You can use this tool to pray for your kids, grandkids, family members and others in our church and community in the next generation.

We will pray together that God will prepare our hearts to invest in the next generation, that our church will do whatever it takes to reach and disciple the next generation, and that we'll see the next generation of Christ followers rise up right now!

Choose at least one member of the next generation that you will pray for specifically during these 21 days. You'll find a focused theme for each week, and each day you'll find a specific scripture you can pray over your own kids, grandkids, others in your family, or someone from the next generation in our church or our community.

WEEK 1

Develop a real faith that endures: A Growing relationship, not following rules

This week, the theme is praying that the next generation would develop a real faith that endures no matter what circumstances life brings. This kind of faith is built only on a growing relationship with Christ, not by following rules. Pray for the faith of those in the next generation, to be found only in Jesus. Pray against legalism and a lifeless practice of rules and tradition. Pray for peace, hope and life in Jesus.

"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

Ask God to help those in the next generation live free from the pressures of comparison, perfection, performance and conforming to the world around them.

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

John 8:36

Pray for faith to change how the next generation lives each day. Pray this knowledge about faith would be applied to their lives each day.

"If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." Pray for the next generation to fully grasp God's mercy and resist the temptation to withhold some areas of their lives in worship to God.

"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." Pray for the next generation to trust, seek, and follow God. Pray that they would experience his blessing.

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Hebrews 11:6

Ask God to fill the next generation with a whole hearted love for Him. Ask him to reveal and remove thoughts, desires, and actions that are not fully centered on loving God and loving other people.

"And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

Luke 10:27

Pray that the next generation would learn to abide in Christ as a way of life, relying upon Christ for all things. God bears the fruit, he calls us to simply abide.

"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."

WEEK 2

Recognize the fallacies of the day: Learn to Practice Discernment

In a world of competing thoughts, voices and opinions, it can be very difficult to discern the voice of God. Nevertheless, God still speaks and we must develop (through practice) the capacity for spiritual discernment. This week we'll pray for God to grow discernment in the next generation. Pray for the next generation to hear God speak clearly above the chaos, noise and distraction of each day. Pray for spiritual eyes to see, ears to hear and a heart to perceive what God is speaking as a way of life.

"Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant hears." So Samuel went and lay down in his place."

1 Samuel 3:9

The enemy wants to destroy. God wants to bring life. Pray that those in the next generation would see clearly the spiritual battle raging for their souls. Pray they would see there is a real enemy trying to destroy them, and Jesus wants to lead them in the light.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

God's Word is the key to growing in discernment. Pray for a hunger and desire in the next generation to build their lives on the truth of God's word.

"Whoever is wise, let him understand these things; whoever is discerning, let him know them; for the ways of the LORD are right, and the upright walk in them, but transgressors stumble in them."

Discernment is recognizing what is of God and rejecting all that is not. This results in righteousness. Insert the name of someone you're praying for in the next generation in this verse and pray these words over them today.

"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." Discernment means discovering and rejecting every thought in our mind that opposes God and his ways, and submitting all our thoughts to the way of Christ. Pray for discernment in the next generation to recognize the thoughts raised up against God and for the faith to submit every thought to Christ.

"We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ"

2 Corinthians 10:5

Talk is cheap, and the next generation sees this.

The muscles of spiritual discernment are developed by practicing what is good and right and true. Insert the name of the person (or people) you're praying for in the next generation in this verse and pray these words over them today.

"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord."

The avenues the enemy uses to take captive the next generation are endless. Pray that the next generation would be captivated by Christ and not taken captive by the schemes of Satan.

"See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ."

Colossians 2:8

WEEK 3

Overcome mistrust and isolation: Develop Intergenerational relationships

Intergenerational relationships can be difficult to cultivate, but they are worth the effort. Mistrust and isolation are major obstacles for the next generation, and the answer is found in intergenerational relationships. We need one another! You'll be praying this week for significant relationships that influence faith in the next generation.

Ask God to help you see how He is at work in the next generation, even if it's in different ways than in your generation. Ask God for a specific opportunity right now to invest your life in someone younger than you.

"One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts."

Psalms 145:4

Pray for the next generation to develop relationships that are centered on Christ and help one another become more like Jesus.

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:1 Ask God for an opportunity to begin building a relationship with someone in the next generation. Your investment in the next generation will make a significant difference in their life.

"So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us."

1 Thessalonians 2:8

Godly teachers, coaches, mentors and others who model following Christ can have an incredible impact on the next generation. Pray for relationships with godly leaders who will help the next generation learn to live out their faith.

"And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding." Jeremiah 3:15 Pray for godly influences that will show the next generation how to follow Christ.

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

1 Corinthians 11:1

Pray for Christ-centered relationships, for good influences and wise friends to surround the next generation and strengthen their pursuit of Christ.

"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm."

Proverbs 13:20

Everyone needs others around them in good times and in hard times. Pray that God will provide deep and significant relationships between generations, guarding against mistrust and isolation.

"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up!"

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10



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