

# ***Prayer Discipleship Academy***

## ***The Peculiar Path***

Welcome! You have received this document as you are being invited to consider joining the Prayer Discipleship Academy. This document contains introductory material, which is essential reading for those considering this work. Also included is information regarding the general structure of the work and considerations on how meetings should be conducted. Finally, supplementary material can be found at the end of the document.

Feel free to peruse the document as a whole, but please acquaint yourselves with the essential reading and statement of faith in the Supplementary before considering the matter in prayer and committing to the work.

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## **Commitment**

If there are two paths before you, one in which you live in peace, security, comfort, and freedom, and the other that consists solely of pain, suffering, imprisonment, and martyrdom, and the only difference in the eternal consequences for each path is that the latter produces one infinitesimally small amount of glory more for Christ than the former. You would unquestionably, and with great joy, take the latter.

To answer this question quickly and without a deep examination of ourselves discloses a blasé attitude that must not be. Anyone of us could answer affirmatively, but does our life betray us? If we are honest, it does, but do we want this to change? This is the path you must be willing to take should you enter into this work. If you truly seek to be a person of mountain-moving prayer, it will cost you everything. This is not the work for those who are unwilling to make the necessary and sometimes extreme sacrifices necessary to truly wrestle with the Lord.

## **Concept**

What could be achieved for Christ's kingdom if our nation was replete with hundreds of prayer groups, each consisting of half a dozen men and women who had made a solemn commitment to lay down their lives for Christ's sake? With everything on the altar preferring to die than to see Christ forfeit one ounce of glory that is due to his holy and glorious name. Where are such men and women found? They are not, but are fashioned and refined by the Holy Spirit of God in the furnace of prayer and the crucible of life.

Each group individually commissioned by Christ to strike the kingdom of darkness in their specific area of influence. Each volley of prayer, directed by the Spirit, assaults the precise spot at which our Captain deems fit to breach. Christ gives the call, we go to war, whether an abortion mill is closed, an Islamic stronghold is broken, or a hardened sinner is saved, he receives all the glory. The Prayer Discipleship Academy exists to make this a reality.

## **History**

In June 2015, a trip to the USA was conducted to eight prominent sites connected with North American revivals. The trip was carried out with the purpose of petitioning the almighty God for revival again in the United Kingdom. The trip was named the American Revival Prayer Trip, and this name was also used for the associated prayer lists recording the actual prayer petitions in each location.

Several years later, this prayer list was shared with a retired pastor, and regular prayer meetings were held. A decision was considered to form a conventional prayer meeting of UK and American pastors for national revival, and work was undertaken to formalise the prayers of the ARPT for discipleship training. During the early stages of planning, the Lord took this servant home and appeared to close the door on the proposed work.

By this time, another meeting was in session with a young convert using the ARPT as a means of prayer discipleship. The vision of a prayer initiative seeking the Lord for another outpouring was at the forefront throughout. But, not wanting to precede the Lord and being very careful that nothing was done in the arm of the flesh, it was committed to much prayer.

The success of prayer discipleship linked to the ARPT in that young man was evident. It was simple but effective, and from this, the idea was born to franchise the work. Again, not wanting to go before the Lord, time was set aside for prayer and fasting. After this, a preliminary document was collated, and the two men asked God to send another person for discipleship. The following day, another person, unaware of the request to God, showed a desire to join a prayer meeting. This was the final confirmation to launch the Prayer Discipleship Academy.

The PDA is an extension of ARPT and is believed to be God's answer to at least five of the prayer requests listed within it. These are listed below.

1. Raising up of intercessors in their own area of influence so that our country is saturated in prayer.
2. That the Holy Spirit leads me into deeper and more powerful ministry in prayer.
3. God to raise up prayer leaders and coordinators.
4. People longing to be discipled, and godly people do it.
5. A desire that men and women of like passion be raised up, and a sacrificial heart to encourage them.

## **Introduction**

The Prayer Discipleship Academy was established to train and prepare men and women to plunder the kingdom of darkness and see the Kingdom of Jesus Christ established in the United Kingdom through prayer petitions to the Living God.

Each member of the Prayer Discipleship Academy begins as a disciple and then joins an established prayer group that meets on a regular basis for prayer. The prayer group has three goals. Firstly, to seek the Lord's help for the Prayer Discipleship Academy as a whole. Praying for new disciples to be prepared and added, leaders to be raised up from within our midst, conformity of all groups to our distinctives and goals, unity and protection from the evil one, and that they might be powerfully used for God's glory. Secondly, to seek the Lord's help for each member of the group to grow in holiness, love for one another, power, and zeal in prayer. Thirdly, each group, led by the Spirit of God, might pray into those areas that the Lord deems fit to influence. Whether an abortion mill is closed, an Islamic stronghold is broken, a church is revived, or hardened sinners are saved, The first two goals are preparatory so that members might become mighty tools in God's hands; the third goal is that the landscape of this nation is changed by serious and sacrificial prayer.

The Prayer Discipleship Academy is not the same as a prayer network or chain. A prayer network or chain is a group of individuals that usually has one or more leaders. Prayers are distributed by either the leaders or the group members, and each person prays in response to the request. There is little doubt that the Lord has done great good through this process, and they are ideal institutions for small communities or churches where all parties have a vested interest in the prayer requests. However, there are two issues with this strategy. Firstly, when the network expands beyond the scope already specified, the request becomes increasingly abstracted from the participants. Prayer that moves great mountains must be brought to the throne with zeal, fervour, and importunity; these qualities are impossible to fake, and if a request does not push an individual to such ardour of soul, the prayers will have little effect. Second, the character of the people who pray has a significant impact on their effectiveness. In general, prayer networks contribute little to the sanctification of their members, limiting the overall effectiveness of the work.

The Prayer Discipleship Academy seeks to address both of these issues. Firstly, each group operates independently, not receiving instruction from other groups, and is led purely by the Holy Spirit. The group is therefore intimately invested in what they are seeking and can therefore pray with the necessary ardour to see it through. The second issue is addressed by the preparatory focus of our first two goals. The living God is petitioned on behalf of each group member to gain the necessary spiritual growth and gifts to make them effective intercessors.

Prayer does not begin the moment we get on our knees; it begins with the moment of our conversion. Everything that has happened and the spiritual growth from that moment of conversion have a bearing on the effectiveness of the prayers we offer now. That which we have endured for Christ, the sacrifices we have made, the scriptures we have memorised and meditated on, and the Christlike character we have obtained all have a bearing on our praying. We must get away from the idea that praying is what we do in the closet; the act of prayer is the Christian walk; the closet is merely the seal on a life of prayer.

## **Philosophy**

Our philosophy is simple and biblical: discipline and sacrificial commitment. The latter is not possible without the former, and no mighty work of God has been achieved without the latter. Search biblical and church history, and you will find both in notable abundance among those who achieve much for the Lord. Why? Because there is greatness in the man, no, because these are the vessels most fit for the master's use.

This philosophy is reflected in our three distinctives.

### **Distinctive One**

We are primarily committing to meet with the Lord, not each other. We believe that there is a special blessing from the Lord in making this commitment and keeping it. God honours the man who keeps his commitment, even when it hurts.

O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? .... who honours those who fear the LORD; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; Ps 15:1-4

Imagine if the King of England invited us to come before him regularly and receive anything we asked to advance the kingdom of Christ in our nation. What would keep us from it? What priority would we assign to it? Would we dare snub him due to the ordinary circumstances and situation of life? How much more the King eternal and only wise God?

If you commit to this undertaking, the cost will grow exponentially. We are not going to see the end of abortion, explicit sexual immorality, and false religion. Without much pain and the loss of many comforts and freedoms, some will no doubt be required to give their lives. We are putting ourselves on the front lines, and as such, we become the primary target for the devil and his forces. Therefore, if we are not prepared to pay the initial cost of meeting the Lord regularly, we are not cut out for the work or the consequences it entails.

### **Distinctive Two**

The vast majority of the modern church is totally unprepared for the extent of spiritual warfare necessary to see the gates of hell torn down, and even the most diligent fall significantly short of the standard of the men who achieved much in church history.

The external enforcement of strict discipline or some attempt to find the necessary resolve within may seem to work for awhile but will ultimately fail and render us prone to one of the devil's schemes: self-reliance, self-righteousness, or discouragement. No, if we are to become fit for the Lord's use in this day, it must be solely with the help and direction of the Holy Spirit. This is why discipleship needs to be initiated, supported, and crowned by prayer.

So with the Spirit's help, each person who commits to this work also commits to the rigorous discipline that is necessary to achieve spiritual readiness. This means no area of life is off limits, and no cost is too great. Attrition is inevitable in training elite soldiers, and although we desire that all who embark with us continue with us, there is simply no place for those who refuse to count the cost.

As none of this is achievable by our own willingness and power, our meetings and prayers are structured in such a way as to invite the living God to do this work in and through us.

## **Distinctive Three**

As previously stated, we are in a war, and priorities in times of war vary significantly from those in times of peace. Not only are we in a war, but in our day and nation, we have been driven back and are sorely pressed. If we are to be effective in our counter-attack, we must adopt priorities that are fitting for our time and circumstances.

Our goal is 'Total War', but it is expected that we will fall short of it; however, this should not be an excuse to stay where we are, but to strive with ever-increasing effort, with the help of the Spirit of God, to grow daily in our conformity to it. The rigour with which we subject ourselves to this process will be proportional to our love for God and desire to see Christ Jesus glorified. This must be a daily matter of prayer.

## **Total War Manifesto**

### **Definition**

Total War can be briefly defined as armed conflict in which all the exploitable resources available to one or more sides are organized and directed toward the complete and utter defeat of the enemy. Priority is given to warfare over non-combatant needs. Most wars throughout human history can be classified as “limited” rather than “total,” insofar as the leaders involved lacked either the ambition or the means to fully harness the entire material and human base theoretically available to them in order to achieve unlimited victory.

### **Spiritual Application**

Total War against the powers of darkness and every high thing that opposes the Lordship of Jesus Christ. All possible resources of the Christian engaged in Total War will be used solely for the purpose of complete annihilation of the above mentioned enemy. Resources include time, finances, gifting, expertise and anything and everything else the Lord has given right down to the last breath, heartbeat and second of time. Resources will be used in a manner deemed by the Christian to best achieves this goal.

### **Battlefield**

The only real power the demonic forces possess to oppose Christ is lies and their ability to blind human beings to the truth. Therefore the conflict is against those lies propagated by individuals or human institutions under the influence of the Devil. Nothing is off target, every bulwark and stronghold no matter how seemingly small or culturally respectable is marked for destruction. Bearing in mind always two caveats. Firstly, individual human beings are slaves of our enemy to be freed and not targets in and of themselves. Secondly, The Devil has already been defeated by Christ and a Christian's mission is merely to declare war on his kingdom not the demonic host itself.

### **Weapons**

Our weapons are not carnal but mighty in God for the pulling down of strongholds (2 Cor 10:3-5). The stronghold of the enemy is lies and therefore the primary weapon is truth, The Word of God. However those held captive by the Devil are unable to discern the truth by natural means as they are supernaturally blinded and morally incapable. Therefore Christian is utterly incapable of effecting change in and of themselves and require an act of God, consequently a secondary weapon but equally essential is prayer.

## **Practical Application**

A Christian involved in Total War must therefore dedicate every waking moment to both the acquisition and declaration of the truth of the Gospel and prayer. With the latter making up the greater proportion of the time available. From the moment of waking in the morning to sleeping in the evening every moment of the day will be allocated to the wielding of one of these two weapons unless necessarily involved in one of the below mentioned biblical requirements. Christian freedom means allocate resources beyond this scope is acceptable for a Christian but it must be understood that he is no longer implementing Total War. It must however be remembered that our enemy the Devil will continue to conduct his Total War against Christ and His Church.

### **Biblical requirements**

- Essential tasks to maintain health
- Serving the church
- Serving family members to maintain a godly witness and a biblical responsibility to them
- Meeting with brothers for mutual edification and upbuilding
- Meeting with friends for evangelistic purposes (must be ordained and proceeded by prayer)
- Any other project for the furtherance of the Gospel (must be determined through much prayer to be right and profitable)
- Secular Work (as necessary to achieve goal)

### **Scriptural Basis**

- For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. - Ephesians 6:12 (ESV)
- But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” - Acts 6:4 (ESV)
- Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. - 1 Corinthians 9:25 (ESV)
- making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. - Ephesians 5:16 (ESV)
- and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, - Ephesians 6:17–18 (ESV)

## **Prayer Discipleship Academy Structure**

It is not intended to dictate the structure by which each group is organised, but there are some guidelines that can aid in the effectiveness of their ministry. Therefore, it is strongly advised that these guidelines be taken seriously and only deviated from should it be clear that another approach is necessary or would in all likelihood be more effective.

### **Time**

A time needs to be chosen that will permit the group to meet unhindered by the changing schedule of everyday life. Those who commit to this work must realise the primacy of meeting together. It's a commitment not to each other but to the Lord. The group is not scheduling to meet each other but to meet the Lord. If a meeting with the monarch of England was scheduled and any request granted, nothing but a life-threatening emergency would keep us from it. How much more, the great King of Heaven? For this reason, it is advised to pick a time when interruptions are least likely to occur. Generally, a time between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. would facilitate this. Our Lord was accustomed to meeting with his Father during these hours. If this seems too extreme, this may not be the correct path for you right now.

### **Frequency**

The frequency with which the group meets is also of primary importance. The group must be committed to meeting regularly and often, but it is very easy for our sinful human frame to fall into asceticism and self-righteousness. Self-denial is an important aspect of the Christian life, but it must be Holy Spirit-led and not imposed on people. We therefore must be mindful of new members joining the group who may not be as far down that line of self-denial as are others. It is therefore strongly advised to meet once a week, with the option of more established groups meeting more regularly at times of intense warfare.

### **Duration**

The length of each meeting will depend on various factors, e.g., the size of the group, the frequency of meetings, the individual's personal schedule, and the season of prayer the Lord has the group in. Again, the danger of asceticism is more than likely to creep in. Therefore, it is strongly advised that meetings last somewhere between one and two hours. The length of the meeting may be changed at any time to facilitate what the Lord is doing. It is also strongly advised that, if any length of discussion is allowed in the meeting, meeting lengths should increase proportionately. It is suggested that any lengthy discussion be saved for another time so that the meeting can be given primarily to prayer.

### **Location**

Ideally, the group would meet in person, or at least as many as possible with others online. However, in today's society, with our personal connections extending beyond our local regions, it is not always possible. Therefore, meeting online can be a useful tool. It is strongly advised that using a non-subscription platform that limits the time of the meeting is unsuitable for this work. The distraction of such an interruption could destroy the flow of the meeting.

## **Size**

Each group will consist of a group leader and a number of disciples. It is important that every member of the group has equal opportunity to express themselves in prayer, and this therefore limits the size of the group. An ideal group will therefore aim to have between 3 and 6 disciples at any one time. Lord willing, by the time more disciples are presented for training, one of the established members of the group will be ready to take on the role of leading a new group themselves.

## **Constituency**

It is not necessary that the groups be single-sexed, although there may be some advantage to that being the case, and careful consideration should be given in each situation. One of the disadvantages of having both males and females in the group is female leadership. The biblical mandate is for male leadership where there is spiritual authority, but as the leaders do not carry spiritual authority, female leadership is not expressly forbidden. That being said, the role of male leadership is ubiquitous in the scriptures, so this is highly recommended in almost all situations, unless absolutely inevitable.

## **Ecumenicism**

Group leaders need to be wise when adding disciples to the group so that they will not disrupt established group members. All members need to be aware that the group is not a place to discuss or promote their theological perspectives either. Of course, our understanding of scripture affects our prayers, and leniency must be extended for people to pray as their consciences dictate. After all, they are petitioning God, not the other members, and God is quite capable of overlooking theological infractions to see the heart behind the prayer, so the same grace should be extended by others. Ecumenicism within the bounds of Bible-believing Christians is not only biblical but essential to wonder-working, mountain-moving prayer.

## **Recruitment**

The recruitment of disciples is of the utmost importance. Individuals need to have certain spiritual dispositions so that they are integrally wedded to the purposes and goals of this work. There is no doubt that should the Lord use this work as a means of advancing his kingdom, his enemy, the Devil, will seek to destroy it. The primary means of his attack is to cause people to lose heart or incite division. Part of the prayer system is included to combat this very great threat, but without adequate prudence in choosing those joining a group, it will be extremely difficult to stop. The philosophy with regards to recruitment is that God chooses and anoints individuals for the work. So it is the leader's responsibility to assess candidates and discern the mind of the Lord. It would be folly to leave this down to human wisdom, so the first role of the prayer system is dedicated to seeking God's divine help in selecting individuals.

## **Conspicuity**

Because God will be the one selecting new recruits, it is strongly urged that the work not be publicised and that extreme caution be exercised when discussing it with anyone who is not currently involved. Many people are drawn to prayer initiatives, which are frequently shown to be works of the flesh, and any initial passion rapidly fades. This task requires a calling and anointing, as well as faith in God that those who are called will be revealed clearly and unmistakably.



## **Promotion**

As the goal for each disciple is to become the leader of their own group, there needs to be a procedure for this transition. It would usually be preferred that a small group reach capacity before dividing into two separate groups, with one of the established disciples becoming the leader of the new group. However, a leader may lead multiple groups if they have the capacity. A new leader should consider attending their parent group on a regular basis at first. A suggestion of fortnightly or monthly would not be unreasonable.

Choosing a leader is one of the most critical decisions that can be made. As that leader could directly or indirectly occasion many groups, their zeal and conformity to our distinctives being heavily dependent on the new leaders zeal and conformity. To lose our distinctives is to end the Prayer Disciples Academy, and therefore, it would be better to limit growth or pass on new members to other groups than prematurely promote.

## **Accountability**

As stated above, each group acts autonomously and is accountable to the Lord only. However, a loose connection between groups would facilitate mutual encouragement. This will be available through this website, set up for this specific task. Reports can be left for the edification of others, finding a group for new disciples, and advertising organised events. An event can include regional or national conferences or prayer gatherings. It is encouraged that each group register online so that they can be kept informed, but it is not necessary. Each group, whether they are registered or not, should use this website. Regularly reminding themselves of our distinctives and using the prayer list and documents.

## **Prayer Meeting Structure**

The specifics of the prayer meeting itself are down to the leader of that group. However, in order to maintain conformity to our distinctives, the prayer meeting has three goals.

### **Goal One**

Seek the Lord's help for the Prayer Discipleship Academy as a whole. Praying for new disciples to be prepared and added, leaders to be raised up from within our midst, conformity of all groups to our distinctives and goals, unity and protection from the evil one, and that they might be powerfully used for God's glory.

### **Goal Two**

Seek the Lord's help for each member of the group to grow in holiness and their love for one another. Each person may be fully equipped for their calling and ministry and grow in power and zeal in prayer.

### **Goal Three**

To be led by the Spirit of God to pray for those things in our churches, families, and nation that are within the will of God to change.

## **Prayer Lists**

In order to try and maintain a good and healthy balance between all three goals, we have produced three prayer lists.

### **ARPT**

Firstly, the American Revival Prayer Trip (ARPT), which is the founding prayer list for this work (see history), consists of 8 subjects, each containing between 7 and 12 individual prayers. It's probably not expeditious to pray through a whole section in each meeting, as it will leave less time for other matters. It is an important document, however, and should be used in the meeting at least once a year. One suggestion would be to pray through the ARPT, one section per week, each time a new member is added to the group. It is also a useful document when praying for the work in private devotions.

### **Scriptural**

The second list is made up of selected prayers from scripture taken from the Desiring God website. It is similar to the ARPT and, therefore, could be used in a similar manner.

### **Essentials**

Finally, the PDA Essential Prayer List consists of 7 sections, each containing only 3 individual prayers. It is a condensed version of the ARPT and contains all that is necessary to cover our first two goals. It is not comprehensive by any means, but if prayed through regularly, it will keep the group on the right track.

All prayer lists can be viewed in the supplementary materials.

## **Use of Scripture**

In order to lay the right foundation for the prayer meeting, it is right to start prayer with scripture. We have therefore suggested some scriptures to use from three categories. The categories are our sinful state without Christ, Christ's work in reconciliation, and the benefits we now enjoy in prayer.

It is suggested that the leader pick one text from each category and read it out before praying starts. The use of scripture is important, but it is up to each leader to decide how he does it.

These can be viewed in the supplementary materials.

## **Joining Requirements**

### **Disciples**

- I agree with and hold to the statement of faith.
- I am a born-again, baptised believer, and member in good standing of a Bible-believing Trinitarian Church.
- I am committed to attending each meeting. (distinctive one).
- I am committed to the Spirit's sanctification and the necessary personal development to become a serious man or woman of prayer. (distinctive two).
- I am committed to implementing total war and seeking the Lord's help to ensure that it will be progressively actioned in my Christian walk. (distinctive three).

### **Leaders**

- As above and in addition,
- I agree to lead in the spirit of this work, upholding and inspiring others to achieve all our distinctive goals, and, when necessary and in grace, removing from participation those who hinder the work either through disruption or slothfulness.
- I agree to pray regularly and often for myself so that I may lead the meetings powerfully by the Holy Spirit.
- I agree to pray regularly and often for leaders to be raised up from among my disciples with the same spirit.
- I agree to pray regularly and often for the disciples under my care so that they may grow in sanctification in life and zeal in prayer.
- I agree to pray regularly and often for the advancement of this ministry and for God to be glorified through it.
- Leaders must be at least one step ahead of the disciples in maturity, spiritual devotion, fervour, and being able to admonish, exhort, and inspire members.
- If, by God's providence, someone added to the group or someone within the group excels the leader in maturity, spiritual devotion, and fervour, then the leader should prayerfully consider stepping down and handing over leadership in due time.

# **Supplementary**

## **Statement of Faith**

### **God**

There is one God, who exists eternally in three distinct but equal persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God is unchangeable in his holiness, justice, wisdom and love. He is the almighty Creator; Saviour and Judge who sustains and governs all things according to his sovereign will for his own glory.

### **The Bible**

God has revealed himself in the Bible, which consists of the Old and New Testaments alone. Every word was inspired by God through human authors, so that the Bible as originally given is in its entirety the Word of God, without error and fully reliable in fact and doctrine. The Bible alone speaks with final authority and is always sufficient for all matters of belief and practice.

### **Humanity**

All men and women, being created in the image of God, have inherent and equal dignity and worth. Their greatest purpose is to obey, worship and love God. God created us male and female, which is identified by our biological sex. Marriage is the exclusive union of one man and one woman and is a picture of the relationship between Christ and his bride the church. Sexual intimacy is a gift from God to be enjoyed only within the context of marriage.

### **The Fall**

As a result of the fall of our first parents, every aspect of human nature has been corrupted and all men and women are without spiritual life, guilty sinners and hostile to God. Every person is therefore under the just condemnation of God and needs to be born again, forgiven and reconciled to God in order to know and please him.

### **The Lord Jesus Christ**

The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life in obedience to the Father. He taught with authority and all his words are true. On the cross he died in the place of sinners, bearing God's punishment for their sin, redeeming them by his blood. He rose from the dead and in his resurrection body ascended into heaven where he is exalted as Lord of all. He intercedes for his people in the presence of the Father.

### **Salvation**

Salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and cannot be earned or deserved. It has been accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ and is offered to all in the gospel. God in his love forgives sinners whom he calls, granting them repentance and faith. All who believe in Christ are justified by faith alone, adopted into the family of God and receive eternal life.

## **The Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit has been sent from heaven to glorify Christ and to apply his work of salvation. He convicts sinners, imparts spiritual life and gives a true understanding of the Scriptures. He indwells all believers, brings assurance of salvation and produces increasing likeness to Christ. He builds up the Church and empowers its members for worship, service and mission.

## **The Church**

The universal Church is the body of which Christ is the head and to which all who are saved belong. It is made visible in local churches, which are congregations of believers who are committed to each other for the worship of God, the preaching of the Word, the administering of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; for pastoral care and discipline, and for evangelism. The unity of the body of Christ is expressed within and between churches by mutual love, care and encouragement. True fellowship between churches exists only where they are faithful to the gospel.

## **Baptism and the Lord's Supper**

Baptism and the Lord's Supper have been given to the churches by Christ as visible signs of the gospel. Baptism is a symbol of union with Christ and entry into his Church but does not impart spiritual life. The Lord's Supper is a commemoration of Christ's sacrifice offered once for all and involves no change in the bread and wine. All its blessings are received by faith.

## **The Future**

The Lord Jesus Christ will return in glory. He will raise the dead and judge the world in righteousness. The wicked will be sent to eternal punishment and the righteous will be welcomed into a life of eternal joy in fellowship with God. God will make all things new and will be glorified forever.

## Scripture For Meetings

### **Sinfulness and Guilty**

- as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.” “Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive.” “The venom of asps is under their lips.” “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.” “Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known.” “There is no fear of God before their eyes.” **Rom 3:10-18**
- The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. **Ps 14:2-3**
- Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— **Rom 5:12**
- For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, “Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them.” **Gal 3:10**
- For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. **Tit 3:3**

### **Reconciliation through Christ**

- that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. **2 Cor 5:19-21**
- for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. **Rom 3:23-25**
- yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. **Gal 2:16**
- But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. **Eph 2:4-9**

- Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **Rom 5:1-2**
- He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. **Col 1:13-14**
- 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**
- Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. **Ps 32:2**

### **Practise and Benefits of Prayer**

- This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. **1 John 5:14-15**
- Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. **Mark 11:24**
- If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **John 15:7**
- And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. **Luke 11:9**
- Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **John 14:13**
- And whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. **1 John 3:22**
- And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? **Luke 18:7**
- Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly. **Matthew 15:28**
- He said to them, “Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.” **Matthew 17:20**
- For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. **Matthew 8:9-10**
- You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. **John 15:16**

- And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.” **Matthew 21:22**
- For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” **1 Peter 3:12**
- 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. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. **Rom 8:26-27**
- In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. **Hebrews 5:7**
- Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, **Ephesians 6:18**
- Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. **Matthew 6:9-13**
- For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.” **Matthew 18:20**
- If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! **Matthew 7:11**
- if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. **2 Chronicles 7:14**
- You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. **James 4:2**
- When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. **James 4:3**
- But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. **James 1:6**
- Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. **James 5:16**
- He regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer. **Psalms 102:17**
- If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. **Psalms 66:18**
- The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. **1 Peter 4:7**
- Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **Philippians 4:6**



- 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 4:16**
- So we fasted and implored our God for this, and he listened to our entreaty. **Ezra 8:23**
- And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.” **Mark 11:25**
- But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, **Matthew 5:44**
- The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. **Psalms 145:18**
- In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears. **Psalms 18:6**
- The Lord is far from the wicked, but he hears the prayer of the righteous. **Proverbs 15:29**
- In these days he went out to the mountain to pray, and all night he continued in prayer to God. **Luke 6:12**
- Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered. **1 Peter 3:7**
- Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” **Matthew 26:41**
- But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. **Matthew 6:6**
- Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. **Colossians 4:2**
- And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. **Ephesians 6:18**
- Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing. **1 Timothy 2:8**

## **ARPT Prayer List**

### **Holy Life**

- A life committed to holiness.
- Humility, to be desired more than health, freedom, and possessions.
- A desperation and crying out to God to grow in the fruits of the spirit.
- A dedication to the word of God and a heart that longs for the mysteries contained in it.
- A daily burden to grow more like Christ.
- Deep conviction for sin and a desire to run from it.
- A greater understanding of the cost of the cross.
- A greater passion and ability to memorise scripture.
- To know and apply scripture for every situation and decision I must make.
- Faith that moves mountains.

### **Surrendered Life**

- A life totally surrendered to God and His purposes, no matter what.
- Joy in suffering.
- An intimacy with God that cost me everything and a willingness to pay it.
- A greater intimacy with the Holy Spirit and a desire to walk in step with Him.
- A passion to forsake those things of the world that limit the things of the Spirit.
- A willingness to forsake all things for the glory of God.
- The privilege of a victorious death, to be taken when it brings greater glory to God than to live.
- To truly say and live out with the Apostle Paul, 'for me to live is Christ, to die is gain'.
- A desire that men and women of like passion be raised up and a sacrificial heart to encourage them.

### **Private Prayer**

- A heart that is always in total tune with God and His will.
- A life dedicated to prayer.
- A faith that understands the promised answers to prayer and pursues them no matter what.
- That my greatest desire and longing is to be in secret prayer with God.
- A greater thirst for fellowship with God and prayer than for food and water.
- A heart that will pay the greatest of costs to draw closer to God in secret prayer.
- An inner thermostat that highlights my need to flee to a place of secret prayer.
- To hear the Spirits prompting immediate prayer for those unseen dangers and trials.
- An increased desire in the saints for all these things.
- To pray without ceasing.
- That the Holy Spirit leads me into a deeper and more powerful ministry in prayer.

## **Corporate Prayer**

- God to raise up a people of prayer for my area.
- Put vision and burden on their hearts.
- God to raise up prayer leaders and coordinators.
- Corporate unity in prayer.
- Desperation to see God move in power.
- Wrestling with God until a prayer burden has been granted.
- Men and women that weep over the lost.

## **Church Mission**

- Local church to grow in number, love, unity, and fellowship.
- Strategy for moving forward.
- God to raise up leaders.
- Fellowship groups, starting and growing.
- Strategy and teams for reaching the lost.
- Outpouring of God's Holy Spirit to save the lost and transform the area.
- An outpouring like England has not seen before.
- One that receives secular national recognition and shows all that our God is alive and reigns.
- one that will flow out and affect the whole nation.
- UK to be so set ablaze by God that burning embers will rise out of her and impact the nations.
- God to be glorified in everything that's done.

## **Word of God**

- The gospel message to go out in power.
- The gravity of the gospel message to be felt.
- The weight of conviction of God's holiness.
- Conversions to be true.
- Greater holiness in the church so that the separation between it and the world is wide and distinct.
- The weight and gravity of the Christian pursuit of God to be lifelong and life-changing.
- The majesty and heaviness of God's presence to be felt in the community.
- People come running under conviction to hear the gospel message preached.
- A greater understanding of the beauty of the gospel and a desire to see more of it.

## **Intercessors Heart**

- A broken heart and bitter tears for the lost in town, nation, and world.
- A heart that is burdened for those that are lost.
- A prayer burden that cannot be ignored but must cry out to God.
- A total reliance on the sufficiency of God to meet all of the church's needs.
- Prompting of the Spirit during the day or night to pray for that which is on the heart of God.
- Looking to God for His strength alone and be constantly aware of His sufficiency.
- Faith to believe and grab hold of the promises of God no matter what happens in the natural.
- An expectancy of great things and a faith-filled pursuit of them in prayer.
- One or two prayer partners with the same heart for prayer.
- A raising up of intercessors in their own area of influence so that our country is saturated in prayer.
- To see once again in our country the power and influence of intercessory prayer.
- That the next outpouring on our nation be the greatest ever seen and come soon for the glory of God.

## **Social Action**

- A heart that suffers with those that are suffering.
- An empathy that enters into others suffering.
- Strategy for meeting the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the lost.
- Raising up of men and women with the same heart and desires to meet their needs.
- Strategy for building infrastructure.
- Faith that looks to God alone to provide resources.
- Boldness in proclaiming the gospel.
- Men and women with totally surrendered lives will be raised up for the work of the kingdom.
- People longing to be discipled and godly people to do it.
- People desperately longing for more of God.

## **Scriptural Prayer List**

### **Glory of God**

- **Pray that God would exalt his name in the world.**

*"Pray then like this: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.' " (Matthew 6:9)"*

- **Pray that God would extend his kingdom in the world.**

*"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." (Matthew 6:10)"*

- **Pray that the gospel would speed ahead and be honoured.**

*"Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honoured, as happened among you. (2 Thessalonians 3:1)"*

- **Pray that God would save unbelievers.**

*"Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. (Romans 10:1)"*

- **Pray that God would send out labourers.**

*"Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:38)*

*"While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. (Acts 13:2–3)"*

## God's Provision

- **Pray for the fullness of the Holy Spirit.**

*"“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” (Luke 11:13; cf. Ephesians 3:19)”*

- **Pray that God would supply our daily needs.**

*“Give us this day our daily bread.” (Matthew 6:11)*

- **Pray that God would send out labourers.**

*“Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:38)*

*"While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. (Acts 13:2–3)”*

- **Pray that you would do good works.**

*"[We have not ceased to pray for you that you would] walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work. (Colossians 1:10)"*

- **Pray for the forgiveness of your sins.**

*"“Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” (Matthew 6:12)"*

## **Personal Protection**

- **Pray that your faith not be destroyed.**

*"I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." (Luke 22:32)"*

*"But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man." (Luke 21:36)"*

- **Pray for protection from the evil one.**

*"Deliver us from evil." (Matthew 6:13)*

- **Pray for strength and endurance.**

*"[We have not ceased to pray for you to be] strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy. (Colossians 1:11; cf. Ephesians 3:16)"*

- **Pray that you might not fall into temptation.**

*"Lead us not into temptation." (Matthew 6:13), "Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41)"*

- **Pray for miraculous deliverances.**

*"So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church. . . . When he realized [he had been freed], he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. (Acts 12:5, 12)"*

*"About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake. (Acts 16:25–26)"*

## Spiritual Growth

- **Pray for greater faith.**

*"Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, 'I believe; help my unbelief!'" (Mark 9:24; cf. Ephesians 3:17)"*

- **Pray for wisdom.**

*"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. (James 1:5)"*

- **Pray that God would complete your good resolves.**

*"To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfil every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power. (2 Thessalonians 1:11)"*

- **Pray for a mind of discernment.**

*"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. (Philippians 1:9–10)"*

- **Pray for boldness in proclamation.**

*"[Pray] at all times in the Spirit . . . and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel. (Ephesians 6:18–19)"*

*"'And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness.'" (Acts 4:29)"*



## Greater Knowledge

- **Pray for a knowledge of God's will.**

*"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding. (Colossians 1:9)"*

- **Pray to know God better.**

*[We have not ceased to pray for you to be] increasing in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1:10; cf. Ephesians 1:17)*

- **Pray for power to comprehend the love of Christ.**

*"I bow my knees before the Father . . . [that you] may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. (Ephesians 3:14, 18–19)"*

- **Pray for a deeper sense of assured hope.**

*"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers . . . that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints. (Ephesians 1:16, 18)"*

- **Pray for a deeper sense of God's power within you.**

*"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers . . . that you may know . . . what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe. (Ephesians 1:16, 18–19)"*

- **Pray that God would direct the use of the sword of the Spirit.**

*"Take . . . the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. (Ephesians 6:17–18)"*

## Mighty Works of God

- **Pray for signs and wonders.**

*"“And now, Lord, . . . grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness . . . while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” (Acts 4:29–30)”*

*"Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit. (James 5:17–18)”*

- **Pray for the healing of wounded comrades.**

*"Let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. (James 5:14–15)”*

- **Pray for the healing of unbelievers.**

*"It happened that the father of Publius lay sick with fever and dysentery. And Paul visited him and prayed, and putting his hands on him healed him. (Acts 28:8)”*

- **Pray for the casting out of demons.**

*"And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.” (Mark 9:29)”*

- **Pray for the raising of the dead.**

*"But Peter put them all outside, and knelt down and prayed; and turning to the body he said, “Tabitha, arise.” And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up. (Acts 9:40)”*

## **Church**

- **Pray for unity and harmony in the Church.**

*"I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17:20–21)"*

- **Pray for the building up the body of Christ.**

*We pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith. (1 Thessalonians 3:10)*

- **Pray that God would vindicate his people in their cause.**

*"And will not God vindicate his elect, who cry to him day and night?" (Luke 18:7 RSV)"*

- **Pray that God would establish church leaders.**

*"And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Acts 14:23)"*

- **Pray for the success of other missionaries.**

*"I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints. (Romans 15:30–31)"*

**- Prayer list taken from [www.desiringgod.org](http://www.desiringgod.org)**

## **PDA Essentials Prayer List**

### **Spirit of Prayer**

- Bring us into greater intimacy with your Holy Spirit; Grant us the mind of Christ and break our hearts for what breaks yours.
- Help us to appreciate your precious intimate presence and guard it jealously with all of our being and strength.
- Share Christ's intercession by his Spirit, concerning those things he wants to do in and through us.

### **Prayer of Faith**

- Grant us faith so that we might trust your leading, know your hearing and expect your answers.
- Cause our faith to be steadfast and sure, not faltering or ceasing before we have what we are asking for.
- Lord, cause our faith to grow as we witness increasingly powerful answers to our prayers.

### **Vessels of Prayer**

- Make us holy and vessels fit for the Master's use by the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit.
- Give us a hatred of those things in our lives that hinder prayer and cause us to fall upon your mercy until they are eradicated.
- Give us a greater zeal to see our brothers grow in faith and prayer and be mighty used for Christ's glory.

### **Power for Prayer**

- Help us to see the cross in all its glory.
- Give us a heart that longs for God's glory, and everything we do be done for that chief end.
- Conform our hearts, minds, and wills to your word and grant us a greater zeal to know it and a greater love to apply it.

### **Prayer Gatherings**

- Grant us a greater love for prayer and communion with the living God than anything else in our lives.
- Increase our love for one another, so that we prefer one another and rejoice to see others used more than ourselves.
- Protect our unity in prayer from the schemes of the evil one.

### **Prayer Academy**

- Each new member is prepared by God, joins the right group, and grows in his or her understanding of the seriousness of this work and their usefulness to it.
- Prepare leaders to lead in accordance with our values, in great solemnity and to facilitate the work of the Spirit.
- New gatherings to be planted and used mightily for the Lord's glory.

### **Prayer Outworking**

- The gospel to go out not only in word but in power, transforming lives, pulling down strongholds, and glorifying Christ.
- The Church in our nation turns from her idols of ease and comfort and pursues the glory of Christ with all vigour and zeal.
- Revival in our nation: the kingdom of Christ advanced, and the kingdom of darkness crushed under the foot of the church with Christ seen victorious as its head.