



Charis Celebration Sunday

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

Leader Notes

Give thanks to the Lord,
call on his name;
make known among the nations
what he has done.

—Psalm 105:1 (NIV)



For more information, please visit
CHARISALLIANCE.ORG

During Charis Celebration Sunday, your church is encouraged to set aside a special time to thank God for his work in our global movement, and to ask for His blessing upon the churches and leaders that comprise it. As the weekend ministry rhythms of churches vary greatly, so will their response to this challenge. To accommodate this variety, these three prayer templates are available for use and adaptation in your church setting.

TEMPLATE 1

15 minute prayer focus

This template provides a concise overview of the Charis Alliance and an opportunity for brief prayer within the context of your typical service(s).

1. Provide context for the Celebrate Charis video 1 MINUTE

It's possible that many will have little understanding or appreciation for the reality that your local church is part of a global movement. Focus on the value you place upon forming part of a global movement of churches that share a common commitment to biblical truth, biblical relationship and biblical mission. Explain how today you are celebrating that movement by 1) learning more about it (the video) and 2) praying for spiritual progress in the countries it represents.

2. Show "Charis Celebration Whiteboard Video" 3 MINUTES

3. Provide instructions for the season of prayer 1 MINUTE

One tangible way we can demonstrate our solidarity with leaders and churches in other parts of the globe is to pray specifically for them. Ahead of time, print sufficient copies of the Charis Prayer Guide to distribute to your group. Obviously they will not have time to pray for more than two or three countries. Urge them to select countries at random, read the short description of the 'spiritual' soil, and pray specifically that God will fill believers with wisdom and boldness to share Christ in ways that make sense in that cultural context.

4. Season of prayer in small groups (2-3 people per group) 7 MINUTES

5. Special offering (optional) 3 MINUTES

Gifts given today will be used to facilitate communication, networking and deploying national missionaries throughout the Charis Alliance world. In addition to collecting this special offering, bring attention to the Charis Celebration giving sheets, which provide instructions for giving online.



TEMPLATE 2

30 minute prayer focus

This template provides a broader overview of the Charis Alliance and an opportunity for focused prayer in the context of an adapted service.

1. Provide context for the Celebrate Charis video 1 MINUTE

It's possible that many will have little understanding or appreciation for the reality that your local church is part of a global movement. Focus on the value you place upon forming part of a global movement of churches that share a common commitment to biblical truth, biblical relationship and biblical mission. Explain how today you are celebrating that movement by 1) learning more about it (the video) and 2) praying for spiritual progress in the countries it represents.

2. "Charis Celebration Whiteboard Video" 3 MINUTES

3. Provide instructions for the season of prayer 1 MINUTE

One tangible way we can demonstrate our solidarity with leaders and churches in other parts of the globe is to pray specifically for them. Ahead of time, print sufficient copies of the Charis Prayer Guide to distribute to your group. Obviously they will not have time to pray for more than two or three countries. Urge them to select countries at random, read the short description of the 'spiritual' soil, and pray specifically that God will fill believers with wisdom and boldness to share Christ in ways that make sense in that cultural context. Alert the group that you intend to provide an opportunity for them to share their impressions and what they are learning near the end of this prayer focus.

4. Season of prayer in small groups (4-5 people per group) 12 MINUTES

5. Public sharing 5 MINUTES

Possible ways to organize this section:

- Ask participants to share something specific they learned about the spiritual soil of one of the Charis Alliance countries.
- Ask participants to share impressions that came to their minds as they prayed that local believers would be filled with wisdom and boldness.

6. Special offering (optional) 3 MINUTES

Gifts given today will be used to facilitate communication, networking and deploying national missionaries throughout the Charis Alliance world. In addition to collecting this special offering, bring attention to the Charis Celebration giving sheets, which provide instructions for giving online.

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7. Public prayer 5 MINUTES

Ahead of time, ask one or two persons to prepare to lead the group in a closing prayer for the three areas of the Charis Commitment to Common Mission: Church Planting, Leadership Training and 'Doing Good' in their Communities (Integrated Ministries). Specifically intercede that God provide concrete ideas for cooperation between churches, that He provide the people and funds to put these ideas into practice, and that a spirit of God-given unity permeate these efforts.

Download the Charis Commitment to Common Mission at EncompassWorldPartners.org/CCCM





TEMPLATE 3

60 minute prayer focus

This template provides an in-depth overview of the Charis Alliance and an opportunity for significant prayer as an alternative to your regular service(s).

1. Provide context for the Celebrate Charis video 1 MINUTE

It's possible that many will have little understanding or appreciation for the reality that your local church is part of a global movement. Focus on the value you place upon forming part of a global movement of churches that share a common commitment to biblical truth, biblical relationship and biblical mission. Explain how today you are celebrating that movement by 1) learning more about it (the video) and 2) praying for spiritual progress in the countries it represents. Take a moment to explain how you intend to organize this sixty-minute prayer focus.

2. "Charis Celebration Whiteboard Video" 3 MINUTES

3. Provide instructions for a first season of prayer 1 MINUTE

One tangible way we can demonstrate our solidarity with leaders and churches in other parts of the globe is to pray specifically for them. Ahead of time, print sufficient copies of the Charis Prayer Guide to distribute to your group. **During this period, groups should have sufficient time to pray through half of the guide.** Please clearly indicate where they are to stop, and let them know that they will continue praying through the guide later. Urge them to read the short description of the 'spiritual' soil, and pray specifically that God will fill believers with wisdom and boldness to share Christ in ways that make sense in that cultural context. Alert the group that you intend to provide an opportunity for them to share their impressions and what they are learning at the end of this prayer section.

4. First season of prayer in small groups (4-5 people per group) 12 MINUTES

5. Public sharing 5 MINUTES

Possible ways to organize this section:

- Ask participants to share something specific they learned about the spiritual soil of one of the Charis Alliance countries.
- Ask participants to share impressions that came to their minds as they prayed that local believers would be filled with wisdom and boldness.

6. Second season of prayer in small groups (4-5 people per group) 12 MINUTES

Mix the groups, then assign the task of praying through the remaining half of the guide.

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7. Show “The Charis Alliance” Video 6 MINUTES

This video was created at the conclusion of the historic Charis Leadership Summit (Bangkok, November 2015) where 19 countries met to finalize the Charis Commitment to Common Identity and to formally create The Charis Alliance. Although some of your group may have seen the video previously, we encourage you to show it at this time. It will provide a welcome break to the intensity of intercessory prayer, and it will thrill the group to witness how God has answered prayer for our movement in the past.

8. Provide instructions for the final season of prayer 1 MINUTE

One of the primary purposes of The Charis Alliance is to encourage regional and international cooperation in the areas of church planting, leadership training and ‘doing good’ in our communities (integrated ministries). Ahead of time, prepare copies of the Commitment to Common Mission for distribution to the group. Ask them to read each section, then pause for a short season of prayer in which they ask God to provide concrete ideas for cooperation between churches, that He provide the people and funds to put these ideas into practice, and that a spirit of God-given unity permeate these efforts.

9. Third season of prayer in small groups (4-5 people per group) 7 MINUTES

10. Closing thoughts on John 17 5 MINUTES

Prepare a short closing devotional on John 17:20-26, focusing on the powerful testimony we display when believers demonstrate unity (see especially v. 23).

11. Special offering (*optional*) 3 MINUTES

Gifts given today will be used to facilitate communication, networking and deploying national missionaries throughout the Charis Alliance world. In addition to collecting this special offering, bring attention to the Charis Celebration Giving Cards, which provide instructions for giving online.

12. Public prayer 4 MINUTES

Focus these closing moments on public prayers of thanksgiving for our brothers and sisters in The Charis Alliance. And ask that we truly learn to live and serve in unity as we continue our united quest to make disciples among all nations.







charis
grace - gracia - grâce

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