



October

Prayer & Fasting

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Leader Guide (October 15-21)

What We Are Praying For

During the month of October we will be praying for the following seven prayer topics on a rotating, cyclic basis:

1. That God will lead His people into true repentance for sin.
2. That our children may be prepared to stand alone for truth.
3. That our local churches may experience Biblical unity.
4. That God will lead truth seekers to our local churches.
5. That God will guide church leaders with discernment and wisdom.
6. That God will direct the decisions and actions of political leaders.
7. That God will prepare His people to receive the latter rain and the seal of God.

This Week's Prayers and Scripture Readings

Date	Scripture Reading	Prayer Focus
October 15	1 John 1:9	Prayer for cleansing and protection from sin.
October 16	Esther 4:15-16	Prayer that our children will have the courage of Esther.
October 17	Galatians 5:22-23	Prayer for the fruit of the Spirit.
October 18	Acts 2:37-38	Prayer for those attending evangelistic meetings.
October 19	Philippians 4:6	Prayer for division and world church leaders.
October 20	Psalms 22:28	Prayer for national leaders.
October 21	Joel 2:23	Prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit's latter rain.

Complete schedules by date and by topic are available to view and download at www.PrayFastNow.com.

October 15

Prayer Topic	That God will lead His people into true repentance for sin.
Prayer Focus	Prayer for cleansing and protection from sin.
Scripture Reading	“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).
Devotional Thought	The gospel contains the good news of salvation from sin. As Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth” (Romans 1:16). At creation God’s power was displayed as He spoke a world into existence. Today, in our lives, the power of God’s Word can still be seen in the change that takes place in a person’s life when they place their faith in Jesus Christ. Old ways of thinking, speaking, and acting suddenly lose their strength. At the same time, the Holy Spirit brings God’s power into the life, working a total transformation. The good news of the gospel is that God has power not only to forgive sins committed in the past, but that He also has the power to protect the born again Christian from falling into those same sins again. This cleansing is something that God promises can happen here and now, even as we live in the midst of a sinful world. Pray today that God will forgive your sins and cleanse you from all unrighteousness.
Prayer Promise	“Only to those who wait humbly upon God, who watch for His guidance and grace, is the Spirit given. The power of God awaits their demand and reception. This promised blessing, claimed by faith, brings all other blessings in its train” (<i>The Desire of Ages</i> , p. 672).

October 16

Prayer Topic	That our children may be prepared to stand alone for truth.
Prayer Focus	Prayer that our children will have the courage of Esther.
Scripture Reading	“Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer: Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day; I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish” (Esther 4:15-16).
Devotional Thought	Raised by her cousin Mordecai as an orphan, Hadassah (later to become Esther) probably never dreamed that she would one day become queen of the Persian Empire. However, God had called her to that specific position for a specific purpose, to courageously stand for Him and for God’s people in a time of crisis and peril. Her decision to appear before the king uninvited, and at the risk of forfeiting her own life, is a tribute to the power of God at work in a person’s life. Pray today that God will give our children the courage of Esther, for they may one day need to stand without fear as she did.
Prayer Promise	“Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing. A revival need be expected only in answer to prayer” (<i>Selected Messages</i> , book 1, p. 121).

October 17

Prayer Topic	That our local churches may experience Biblical unity.
Prayer Focus	Prayer for the fruit of the Spirit.
Scripture Reading	“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law” (Galatians 5:22-23).
Devotional Thought	We as humans often categorize or rank the seriousness of sins according to our own wisdom. However, the Bible says that all sin is deadly, for “whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all” (James 2:11). Sin is deadly in our personal lives, and it is deadly to the spiritual life of a church family. In Galatians 6:20, Paul warns against “hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, [and] envyings,” fruits of sinfulness that often plague far too many churches. Is your church family suffering from these sour fruits? It may be a sign that the Holy Spirit is absent. Pray today that our local churches will pursue and experience Biblical unity and the fruit of the Holy Spirit.
Prayer Promise	“We should pray as earnestly for the descent of the Holy Spirit as the disciples prayed on the Day of Pentecost. If they needed it at that time, we need it more today” (<i>Testimonies for the Church</i> , vol. 5, p. 158).

October 18

Prayer Topic	That God will lead truth seekers to our local churches.
Prayer Focus	Prayer for those attending evangelistic meetings.
Scripture Reading	“Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:37-38).
Devotional Thought	The Holy Spirit’s work is to “reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment” (John 16:8). Truth, when it is prayerfully and biblically presented with the Holy Spirit’s power, always brings conviction to those who hear it. However, God leaves the decision about how to respond to that conviction up to each person. Pray today that all those currently attending evangelistic meetings or Bible studies will be sensitive to the Holy Spirit’s leading. Pray that they will surrender their lives to God, place their faith in Him, and obey His Word.
Prayer Promise	“The Lord gives us the privilege of seeking Him individually in earnest prayer, or unburdening our souls to Him, keeping nothing from Him who has invited us, ‘Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.’ Oh, how grateful we should be that Jesus is willing and able to bear all our infirmities and strengthen and heal all our diseases if it will be for our good and for His glory” (<i>Medical Ministry</i> , p. 16).

October 19

- Prayer Topic** That God will guide church leaders with discernment and wisdom.
- Prayer Focus** Prayer for division and world leaders.
- Scripture Reading** “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6).
- Devotional Thought** During their wilderness wanderings, Moses organized the Israelites into groups of tens, fifties, hundreds, and thousands, and then set leaders over each organizational level. “And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves” (Exodus 18:26). This order among the Israelite’s camp is, in a very general way, reflected in the organizational structure of God’s church today. Leaders at every level of the church’s structure need divine guidance, discernment, and wisdom. Pray today that God will give division and world leaders the ability and courage to lead God’s people faithfully and biblically.
- Prayer Promise** “Walk continually in the light of God. Meditate day and night upon His character. Then you will see His beauty and rejoice in His goodness. Your heart will glow with a sense of His love. You will be uplifted as if borne by everlasting arms. With the power and light that God imparts, you can comprehend more and accomplish more than you ever before deemed possible” (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 514).

October 20

- Prayer Topic** That God will direct the decisions and actions of political leaders.
- Prayer Focus** Prayer for national leaders.
- Scripture Reading** “For the kingdom is the Lord’s: and he is the governor among the nations” (Psalm 22:28).
- Devotional Thought** The leaders of the world’s nations come to power in different ways, for different reasons, and for different lengths of time. However, every president, prime minister, king, or dictator has one thing in common—they are simply stewards of the authority and power that belong to God alone. He is the ultimate ruler, or governor, among the nations. Pray today for the national leaders in your country, that they will recognize God’s power and authority, and submit to His will as revealed in the Bible.
- Prayer Promise** “Our Heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one principle of making the service of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish and a plain path before their feet” (*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 481.)

October 21

Prayer Topic	That God will prepare His people to receive the latter rain and the seal of God.
Prayer Focus	Prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit's latter rain.
Scripture Reading	"Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month" (Joel 2:23).
Devotional Thought	The Bible tells us to pray for the latter rain of the Holy Spirit. The prophet Zechariah wrote, "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field" (Zechariah 10:1). As we see prophetic events unfolding around us, we should pray earnestly for the latter rain of the Holy Spirit. However, there is also a work for us to do in preparation for receiving the latter rain. "Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you" (Hosea 10:12). The hard ground of our "fallow hearts" must be broken up through repentance for sin. Without this repentance and turning away from sin, we can never experience the blessing of the latter rain. Pray today that God will send the latter rain in His appointed time. Pray that you will be prepared to receive it.
Prayer Promise	"Strength and grace can be found in prayer. Sincere love is to be the ruling principle of the heart" (<i>Testimonies for the Church</i> , vol. 2, p. 476).