

MONTH OF PRAYER

OCTOBER 2021

WELCOME

THANK YOU FOR COMMITTING TO JOIN WITH OTHERS FROM OCC TO PRAY DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER.

There really is the sense of significance during this season as we prioritize seeking God for all He has for us. The main idea of our month of prayer is to join Jesus in His priorities with our petitions. Each day we will read some Scripture and P.R.A.Y:

P:ause to be still. R:eflect on Scripture. A:sk for God's help Y:ield to His will in your life.

Keep in mind throughout the month that our goal is the obedience of prayer, not lengthiness of prayer. Don't get overwhelmed. And don't quit! THIS MATTERS. God has not called us to prayer for nothing, we are praying for OCC and the lives of those who do not yet know Him. If you miss a few days, just jump back in.

This is about deepening a relationship.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. Every branch in me that does not produce fruit he removes, and he prunes every branch that produces fruit so that it will produce more fruit. You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Remain in me, and I in you. Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me." John 15:1-4

DAILY RHYTHM

EACH DAY FOR 31 DAYS WE WILL BE JOURNEYING THROUGH 1 PETER, AND EACH WEEK WE WILL GATHER ON MONDAY EVENINGS TO PRAY TOGETHER.

Find a quiet time and a quiet space, it doesn't have to be morning but making this the first thing you do in your day does make it significant.

PAUSE: Sit in silence with God and invite Him to be present with you by His Spirit. Henri Nouwen says: *If solitude were primarily an escape from a busy joy, and silence primarily an escape from a noisy milieu, they could easily become very self-centered forms of asceticism.* But solitude and silence are for prayer. The Desert Fathers did not think of solitude as being alone, but as being alone with God. They did not think of silence as not speaking but as listening to God. Solitude and silence are the context within which prayer is practiced.

REFLECT: Use the plan opposite to read through 1 Peter. As you do, read slowly, asking God "What does it say?". There maybe a word or phrase that jumps out, ask God "What are you saying to me?". You may find it helpful to read the verses 2 or even 3 times, slowly.

ASK: This is the opportunity to ask ourselves "What do I want to say to God?" Be honest with where you are at and what is on your heart. As we journey this month together, take this opportunity to pray for others in OCC and your Gospel Community. You could also choose friends who do not yet know Jesus and pray for them each day, for opportunities for you to show and share Jesus. You can also use the Open Doors Prayer Diary or sign up for Elim Missions Prayerline email to focus on global issues: *www.elim.org.uk/missions/pray*

YIELD: As you finish, commit to take your prayers into the day. Ask God to bring to mind that which He has spoken through His Word to you throughout the day. Pray with others from OCC:

Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to You, in every way. Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet. Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say. Amen.

READING PLAN

Use the daily reading plan for 5 days of the week. On Saturday take some time to reflect on the past week; what God has said to you through His Word and how that has led you to pray and live each day. On Sunday join with us in person at the URC or with you Gospel Community.

- Monday 4th Oct: Acts 1:4-6
- Tuesday 5th Oct: Acts 2:1-4
- Wednesday 6th Oct: Acts 2:42-47
- Thursday 7th Oct: 1 Peter 1:1-2
- Friday 8th Oct: 1 Peter 1:3-5

Saturday 9th Oct: Reflect on the week Sunday 10th Oct: Rejoice with others at OCC 10:30am URC, Rother St.

- Monday 11th Oct: 1 Peter 1:6-9
- Tuesday 12th Oct: 1 Peter 1:10-16
- Wednesday 13th Oct: 1 Peter 1:17-22
- Thursday 14th Oct: 1 Peter 1:23-25
- Friday 15th Oct: 1 Peter 2:1-2

Saturday 16th Oct: Reflect on the week

Sunday 17th Oct: Rejoice with others in your Gospel Community.

- Monday 18th Oct: 1 Peter 2:4-8
- Tuesday 19th Oct: 1 Peter 2:9-17
- Wednesday 20th Oct: 1 Peter 2:18-21
- Thursday 21st Oct: 1 Peter 2:22-25
- Friday 22nd Oct: 1 Peter 3:1-7

Saturday 23rd Oct: Reflect on the week Sunday 24th Oct: Rejoice with others at OCC 10:30am URC, Rother St.

- Monday 25th Oct: 1 Peter 3:8-14
- Tuesday 26th Oct: 1 Peter 3:15-22
- Wednesday 27th Oct: 1 Peter 4:1-11
- Thursday 28th Oct: 1 Peter 4:12-19
- Friday 29th Oct: 1 Peter 5:1-13

Saturday 30th Oct: Reflect on the week

Sunday 31st Oct: Rejoice with others as we meet for our AGM.

CONTACT

PLEASE DO FORWARD ANYTHING YOU SENSE GOD MIGHT BE SAYING: