

## Prayer guidelines for the week of 25-31 May 2009

### **0 – 5 min: Become quiet.**

Focus on becoming relaxed. Sit comfortably, close your eyes, and breathe deeply. Pray: "Jesus Christ, Son of God, guide me through your Spirit" over and over, until your focus shifts completely to God. The idea is simply that you become aware of God and that you enter into conversation with him. As soon as other thoughts enter your mind, gently pray: "Jesus Christ, Son of God, guide me through your Spirit".

### **5 – 10 min: Pray a Psalm.**

Pray through Psalm 104:24-34.

### **10 – 20 min. Scripture of the week**

#### **Acts 16**

Reflect prayerfully on the text. Choose one thought that stands out for you, reflect on it until you "hear" what God is saying to you and to the congregation. By reflecting on the text in this way and by meditating on it for a time, we are "listening" to God. You will find that you often receive new insight and understanding. Sometimes you will have specific thoughts of things God wants to ask or tell you. Write these things in your journal. If you receive something specific that you want to share, send Rethie a message at [rethie@global.co.za](mailto:rethie@global.co.za) or give it directly to Liésl at the church office.

### **20 – 25 min. Hallowed be thy name.**

Spend 5 minutes praying for the hallowing of God's Name in your own life; in and through the congregation's leadership; in and through the congregation. Pray against the violation of God's Name and confess the case(s) you know of in your own life and in the congregation as a body. Remember that God called you as his representative. When you live and act in such a way that people get to know God through you, his Name is being hallowed.

### **25 – 35 min. Thy kingdom come.**

- ✠ Pray specifically for the three people on your list. Pray the Scripture for them (something that is relevant). Ask God how you can reach out to them and care for them. Wait and listen what is on God's heart.
- ✠ Please pray for Pentecost all week. Pray that the Spirit will guide Chris with Pentecost and his preparation thereof. Pray for Rethie and the children's Pentecost. Pray for Deon Binneman and the Pentecost in the retirement homes. Pray that the Spirit will prepare people's hearts for Pentecost, that people will make time in their busy programs to attend the services and that it will be a meeting with God. Pray that we will hear the Spirit's calling in our lives and that we shall answer faithfully.
- ✠ Pray for Pentecost Festival Sunday on for Chris, who will be leading it. Pray that Jesus will meet people in the Communion and strengthen our faith. Pray for Gerrit and Sonja, who



will be sharing some information regarding their ministry. The NMMU Choir will also take part in this service. What a wonderful way for us to live our hospitality! Pray that this won't be just another show for the choir, but that they will feel welcomed and meet God. Pray that the Spirit will work in their hearts. Pray also that it won't just be another "show", but that they will guide us in worship.

- ✝ Our Circuit had a wonderful meeting with the URCSA Presbytery a couple of weeks ago. All the URCSA congregations in the city have one single Pentecost Festival. They invited us to attend their service. Pray that many of our members will attend this celebration and that the Spirit will strengthen our unity.
- ✝ As you know, Chris was originally not going to lead Pentecost. Therefore it has not been worked into his (very busy) program. Pray that God will give him strength for all the work he needs to do - physical, spiritual and emotional strength.
- ✝ Pray for the "Week of Bounty". Pray that God will open people's hearts so that they will give freely. Pray that the things that are given, will be a blessing for those that receive it. Pray also that the week will have a permanent impact on our lives, building the values of hospitality en responsibility.
- ✝ Pray that God will make our congregation a harbor that shows hospitality not only for one another, but that we will move over borders in our hospitable outreach toward others.
- ✝ Pray for the Pentecost dinner. Pray for the people doing the organizing. Pray that God will bless the dinner.
- ✝ Pray for Monday's Management meeting. Pray for discernment. Pray that they will seek the Lord's will in everything they talk about.
- ✝ Pray for the teenage-discipleship. Praise God for all the spiritual growth that already happened. Pray that the Spirit will continue working in the teenager's lives and that their relationships with God will be strengthened. Pray also for the young people who are not completely committed to the process: pray that the Spirit will continue working in their lives. Pray for the group leaders for wisdom and patience.
- ✝ We are planning a congregation meeting on 21 June - maybe even a lunch. Pray that the Lord will guide us in planning the meeting and that there will be people willing to plan the lunch. Pray that God will bless the day, that it will be a celebration of his goodness.
- ✝ Pray for all members of the congregation who are ill - on the announcements, and others that you know of.
- ✝ Pray for Elspeth.

### **35 – 40 min. Thy will be done.**

- ✝ Give yourself to God so that His will can be done through you. Pray that he will reveal his will to you and to the congregation, and that all of us will live in such a way that his will may be done through us.
- ✝ Pray that God will continue leading us regarding our worship services.
- ✝ Pray that God will reveal his will regarding a possible Drama- and Arts ministry.
- ✝ Pray that God will lead us regarding our communication. Pray that He will send able people to help with this crucial issue. Pray that God will use our communication to keep our eyes on our calling, to His glory.
- ✝ Pray for the unity between Summerstrand and Klema, specifically in light of the changes in Deon's ministry.
- ✝ Pray that God will lead us regarding the development of the Elder Council. We had our first meeting this week and will be meeting again on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Until then, we shall be praying

according to Luke 10:2: "pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Please pray with us.

- ✠ Remember to share your thoughts regarding the "tortoise" on our blog <http://www.ngkerksomerstrand.co.za/blog/> (of course you are still welcome to e-mail me). If it is true that we slow down in the second quarter, let us pray that we will not miss God's work during this time. Pray that we will continue growing spiritually, that we will still discern God's voice faithfully, that we will learn to have a tortoise-faith during tortoise-times: steadfast, faith that keeps growing, even if we don't see the impressive rocket-effect.
- ⇒ *Did God reveal anything to you at this time regarding His will?*

#### **40 – 45 min. Give us this day our daily bread.**

- ✠ Praise God for every one of his children who are obedient in their stewardship.
- ✠ Praise God for being a God of abundance, that he always provides and cares for his children - even if it is not always in the way we expected!
- ✠ We have already received R86000 in May and still need R55900. Thank God for what we have already received and pray that he will provide the rest.
- ✠ Pray that our members will be obedient in their stewardship and that there will be greater generosity.

#### **45 – 50 min. Forgive us our debts...**

Ask God for forgiveness for yourself and the congregation where we might have been disobedient to God. Don't rush over this. Wait on God to show you if there is anything you need to confess.

#### **50 – 55 min. Lead us not into temptation...**

Pray that God will make us vigilant against any form of temptation. Pray also for freedom from any bindings, for us as a Body, as well as the people on your list.

#### **55 – 60 min. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.**

Spend time confirming God's greatness, praising him for who He is.

#### **Feedback**

Remember to send feedback if something became clear to you during your time of prayer (you may also do so anonymously).

Love & blessings  
Rethie