

Ten-Day Prayer Guide

2-12 June 2011

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In recent years the Global Day of Prayer has seen millions of Christians unite in a day of repentance and united prayer. Believers in every country of the world have lifted expectant praise and desperate prayer with one voice in stadiums, open fields, community centres and private homes. These prayers have the power to transform our world and to fill the nations with the glory of God.

On 12 June 2011, God is again calling the nations from the North, South, East and West to embark on this prayer journey with Him. God is moving in His awesome power, and He is challenging us to be part of this journey. It is a journey that is not about us, but about a world in desperate need for His glory and compassionate love. It is a call to respond to His invitation in 2 Chronicles 7:14 to humble ourselves, pray, seek His face and turn from our wicked ways. May He hear our prayers, forgive our sin and heal our land.

I humbly invite you to join hundreds of millions of Christians as we come before God for this day of repentance and prayer.

May we see His glory.

Graham Power,
Chairman, Global Day of Prayer

“And I...am about to come and gather all nations and tongues, and they will come and see My glory.”
– Isaiah 66:18

A Global Day of Prayer

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.” – Acts 2:1

A Call for Repentance and Prayer.

At the turn of the millennium, believers in South Africa sensed God calling them to seek Him in repentance and prayer and to call people across their country to assemble in united prayer for their cities and nations.

Soon gatherings like it—all meeting on the same day of the year—multiplied across Africa, and in the years that followed, all over the world. The result was the first Global Day of Prayer on Pentecost Sunday in 2005.

Across the face of the earth.

Many millions from almost every stream of Christian faith have gathered to answer the same call for repentance and prayer in the years that followed. The movement continues to spread and to deepen, packing large stadiums, filling homes with small groups, spilling out to the open squares of small villages, surging around the clock and uniting many churches in prayer for Christ’s greater glory and the blessing of all nations.

Strengthening ongoing movements of prayer.

On 12 June 2011, Christians will again gather to pray and to repent with sincere hearts and united hopes.

TEN leading up to ONE followed by NINETY

The Global Day of Prayer follows the three parts of the beginning of the Church: ten days of constant prayer leading to Pentecost, one day of prayer witnessed by the whole city and days of blessing that followed. For these reasons, the Global Day of Prayer has three parts:

10

Ten days of constant prayer: 2-11 June 2011. Beginning on Ascension Day, 2 June, millions of Christians will find ways to pray night and day throughout the ten days leading to Pentecost.

1

The Global Day of Prayer: 12 June 2011. On Pentecost Sunday, Christians in many countries will assemble to pray. Some will assemble in large stadiums and other public venues. Many will gather in small groups or in homes.

90

Ninety days of blessing: 13 June - 10 September 2011. As in the first Pentecost, transformed Christians transform their communities as they offer themselves to God as instruments through which their prayers can be answered.

The Global Day of Prayer anticipates the forming or furthering of local alliances among pastors, churches, missions and business leaders to bring practical, transformational blessing to their communities.

Praying Great Things

For the Glory of Christ and the Blessing of the Nations

The Global Day of Prayer is a call to encounter God with many others so that He can change us and bring forth all that He desires among the nations.

If you are reading this, you have probably heard God calling you, too. And He's put hope in your heart, a kind of yearning that He's not going to leave things as they are. Instead, He's going to make us like Jesus. Despite the gloom of mounting evil, He's going to heal so many families, lands and peoples that the earth will be covered with the sparkle and laughter of glory, right in the face of darkness.

Praying the Lord's Prayer.

To help us pray with united hearts and minds during the ten days before Pentecost, we'll follow the prayer that our Lord taught us to pray.

Praying great things.

We're gathering to pray for God to fulfill the great things that He has promised: His transforming blessing in every people, and the life-giving glory of Christ's Lordship in every community.

Concerning deepest needs.

As we stretch our hearts in hope for what God has purposed, He will help us pray with confident clarity for the urgent needs of our families, cities and nations.

Turning to God Together

A Moment of Hope: Repentance as a Gift from God

Answer God's call.

At certain moments in history, God summons His people to turn to Him in order to be forgiven, renewed and used by Him for His purposes. In recent years the Global Day of Prayer has sounded a call for a day of repentance and prayer. Leaders in different parts of the world have found that the book of Joel has helped many to respond to God's call to heartfelt repentance.

Returning to God because He desires to dwell with us.

The repentance Joel describes is not a superficial turning from any particular sinful behaviors. In fact, the gift of repentance is not merely turning from sin; the heart of repentance is turning to God. What matters most in the book of Joel is that God's people are dangerously and shamefully distant from Him, whether by their apathy or because of their sin. God opens His heart and calls the people to return to Him. His appeal is focused on the hope of repentance and all the goodness that God desires to bring forth.

10-1-90

Ten Days of Constant Prayer

Ascension Day, 2 June - Saturday, 11 June

Pray globally. Gather locally.

Gather in creative ways.

Many are forming prayer chains to build bonfires of 24-hours-a-day prayer. Others will meet for an hour or two of focused prayer. Some will be fasting. Look for how the Holy Spirit may give you fresh ways to pray with family and friends.

Children are praying!

Let's involve children as equal partners in our praying.

A special version of this prayer guide has been prepared for children. It will help many families pray together and find creative ways to help children lift their voices along with others. Find it at www.globaldayofprayer.com.

Young adults will be praying around the clock.

In many countries young people will be praying non-stop throughout the ten days. A special rendition of this prayer guide has been designed to catalyse and concentrate the prayers of young people of any age. Find this companion version at www.globaldayofprayer.com.

Pray with different languages.

This guide is being translated into about 50 languages, making it possible for many millions of Christians all over the world to be praying these same prayers. Find available translations at www.globaldayofprayer.com

"Return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping...Gather the people...bring together the elders, gather the children." — Joel 2:12, 16

Following the hope in Joel.

Because of the limitations of space, all of the important verses couldn't be printed here. Please read each of the five different selections from the second chapter of Joel in your own Bible. There is one selection for every two days to encourage you to reflect on Joel repeatedly during the ten days of constant prayer.

Repentance is a gift.

We shouldn't try to manufacture feelings of remorse. We should never fake or fabricate emotions. But we can sincerely open our lives to God. We can grow confident in His extravagant, constant love. Let's ask our Lord to grant us times of turning from darkness so that we can walk in His light as we never have before. Break out of your routines by fasting or connecting with others to pray.

It's time. Let's get ready to meet God.

DAY 1

Thursday 2 June

REVIVE

Our Father who is in heaven...

- for God to revive and unite His people as one family before Him.
- for wayward Christians to repent and return to God as Father, learning to obey and trust Him.
- for fresh movements of prayer, seeking the throne of grace with persistence.

DAY 2

Friday 3 June

REVEAL

...sanctify Your name...

- for the truth of God's character to be exalted and honoured.
- for God to distinguish Himself from every false god and to expose every false thing spoken about Him.
- for the word of God to be proclaimed in every people and place across the earth.
- for the Scriptures to be translated and made available in every language.

A call to *RETURN*

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “Return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting and weeping and mourning.” — *Joel 2:12 (NASB)*

Read Joel 2:12-14 aloud. Consider how the present hour could be a critical moment as in Joel’s day, a “yet even now” moment. For different reasons, many of God’s people have drifted away from Him. But now He is calling us to return with all our hearts.

Returning to God means more than going back to church and turning away from sin. It means turning our full attention to God, coming close to Him with confidence in His amazing love. As we turn to Him, He desires to turn toward us. His mighty love not only rescues us from our wrongs, but bestows blessing, empowering us to offer Him extravagant, grateful worship.

DAY3

Saturday 4 June

RULE

...May Your kingdom come...

- for many to be drawn by the power of the gospel to submit their lives to Jesus Christ, in order to love and follow Him as King.
- for Christ’s followers to walk in the fullness of God’s Spirit so that they can live in the likeness of Christ.
- for the Lordship of Christ to influence every part of our cities and societies.

DAY4

Sunday 5 June

TRANSFORM

...and may Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...

- for God’s people to bring the influence and blessing of Christ into every aspect of commerce, arts, education and governance in ways that bring lasting transformation.
- for God’s wisdom to be upon our government leaders, bringing changes that increase righteousness and justice.
- for the righteousness, peace and joy of Christ’s kingdom to be a reality by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A call to *GATHER*

“Gather the people...and let them say, ‘Spare Your people, O LORD...’Why should the peoples say, ‘Where is their God?’” — *Joel 2:16-17 (NASB)*

Read Joel 2:15-17. To repent as a people we must come before God together. He wants to encounter us as a people. That’s why He’s summoning us to break normal routines in order to assemble before Him in gatherings large and small. It’s a time to interrupt daily habits of life, fasting from our normal diet, even moving from familiar rituals of worship to assemble in special ways.

Why this urgency? Because something great is at stake for God’s glory. Let’s allow our hearts to be grieved by what we, as God’s people, have done to bring shame upon His name. To the watching world, it can appear as if we have no God. Consider what brings sorrow to the heart of God, and pray that He will transform us to bring Him the glory He deserves.

DAY5

Monday 6 June

PROVIDE

...Give us this day our daily bread...

- for the basic needs of food, water and health care for the poor, for the sick, for refugees and for children.
- that God’s people would become, by His Spirit’s help, agents of healing and change, bringing forth the abundance, justice and peace that God desires.
- for God’s people to break patterns of poverty in their communities, fulfilling God’s promise of blessing amidst all peoples.
- for Christians to act with compassion and persistence to eradicate diseases and to serve well in the aftermath of epidemics such as HIV/AIDS.

DAY6

Tuesday 7 June

FORGIVE

...Forgive us our sins...

- for the Spirit of God to move on the hearts of men and women so that they will be able to see how God is grieved and how their lives are being destroyed by sin.
- for the Spirit of God to empower people to abandon patterns of sin and find grace to renounce allegiance to powers of darkness.
- for recognition of and repentance from sins that bring about war, poverty and injustice.

A call to *HOPE*

“Then the LORD will be jealous...and take pity on His people...Be not afraid...be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things.” — *Joel 2:18, 21*

Read Joel 2:18-22. We can be zealous to repent because God is so jealous for His name and for His people. Because of God’s great love, our repenting should be bold and fearless. Our God will contend with the forces that devastate our communities. As great as the evil may be, God will do even greater things. Such hope brings joy as we sincerely turn to God, knowing that He desires to bring great goodness throughout the earth, transforming our cities, restoring our economies and healing our lands.

DAY7

Wednesday 8 June

RECONCILE

...as we forgive those who sin against us...

- to break the cycles of resentment, revenge and racism so that relationships are restored.
- for signs of Christ’s reconciling power in the midst of militarized conflict, revealing God’s desire to end all wars.
- to restore relationships between women and men, to bring reconciliation in marriages and to renew relationships of children with their parents.
- for those who suffer for the name of Christ to endure persecution in the Spirit and grace of Christ.

DAY8

Thursday 9 June

LEAD

...And lead us not into temptation...

- for Christians to be filled with such love and zeal to please God that they are unmoved by enticements of materialism and sexual perversity.
- for God’s people to continue walking in the light of His ways and wisdom in order to fulfill His purposes throughout the earth.
- that Christ would guide leaders of business, education and government so that the curse of corruption would be overcome throughout cities and entire economies.

A call to *CELEBRATE*

“You will have plenty to eat and...praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you.” — *Joel 2:26 (NASB)*

Read Joel 2:23-27. When God’s people return to Him with all their heart, there is promise of tangible changes and great joy in their communities. Where there has been the curse of oppressive poverty, God desires to bring forth an abundance so that many will gratefully praise His name. An even greater spectacle will be God making His home in the midst of His people. He will act wondrously in both goodness and power, surprising the world by revealing His presence among His people.

DAY9

Friday 10 June

OVERCOME

...but deliver us from evil...

- that God would restrain Satanic powers, revealing the truth of the Gospel, liberating many people to follow Christ.
- that people would be delivered from idolatry, witchcraft, demonic oppression and depression.
- for Christ to break powers of darkness which corrupt and dominate businesses, governments and cities.

DAY10

Saturday 11 June

GLORIFY

...for Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

- that signs of Christ’s kingdom will so fill the earth that many will be moved to celebrate the hope of His coming.
- that Christ’s power will be seen in the humility and compassionate service of His people.
- that Jesus would be honoured openly, worshiped extravagantly and glorified globally.

A call to *REVEAL*

“I will pour out my Spirit on all people...And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.” — *Joel 2:28, 32*

Read Joel 2:28-32 and consider how these promises could be fulfilled in greater ways than ever before. Turn to God with expectancy. He is about to advance His purpose to reveal His salvation globally. Even during days of dreadful shaking and difficulty, He will pour out His Spirit so that people all over the earth—elders and children, poor and rich, men and women—will resound with the call of God. From every race and in every place, people will hear and speak of God’s call. Many will be saved to the glory of His name.

10-1-90

The Global Day of Prayer

Pentecost Sunday, 12 June

Pray with your church on Pentecost

Devote portions of your Pentecost Sunday morning service to united prayer. Help everyone realize that on this day we are all praying with the world as we pray for the world. Among proven ideas:

- Announce the fact that millions across the world are gathering to pray for the glory of Christ and the blessing of the nations.
- Read “A Prayer for the World” aloud as a congregation.
- Share reports of prayer from the ten days of constant prayer.

Gather in homes or public places

On the afternoon and evening of Pentecost, all over the world, Christians from many diverse streams will gather in their homes, or where appropriate, assemble in stadiums, public auditoriums and open squares.

Some meetings will be small. Others will be large, but each one will be praying with the same vision of repentance and hope. As at the first Pentecost, we'll worship God openly in Christ's name and pray for the healing and blessing of the nations. As much as possible, we are seeking to gather in places beyond the walls of our church buildings.

- Help organise a gathering in your city. Confer with your pastor and other trusted local leaders. Find practical ideas to organise gatherings at www.globaldayofprayer.com.
- Not all gatherings will be large. Many are uniting in small groups in homes or public settings in their communities. If large gatherings aren't planned near you, why not host a prayer gathering in your home?

Pray with One Voice

A Prayer for the World

On the following pages (pages 12-14), you will find “A Prayer for the World.” This prayer will be read in unison at every Global Day of Prayer gathering on 12 June. It was prepared by members of the International Prayer Council. It has been translated into many languages, many of them available at www.globaldayofprayer.com.

Consider praying this prayer as part of your church services on Pentecost morning.

A Prayer for the World

Almighty God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

Together with believers all over the world, we gather today to glorify Your Name.

You are the Creator of heaven and earth.

There is no one like You, holy and righteous in all Your ways.

We submit to Your authority as the King of the universe.

We pray with one voice to enthrone You in our hearts and to honour You before the world.

Lord God, You alone are worthy of our praise and adoration.

Our Father in heaven,

Thank You for loving the world so greatly.

You gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to die on the cross for our sins so that we could be reconciled to You.

We are grateful to call You Father and to be called Your children.

Nothing can separate us from Your love.

Thank You Father, for adopting us into Your family because of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Lord Jesus Christ,

You alone are worthy to open the scrolls of history, for You were slain and have redeemed us to the Father by Your blood.

We confess that You are Head of the Church and Lord of all heaven and earth.

May people from every tribe and language become Your followers so that Your blessing brings transformation among all peoples.

Let Your kingdom be established in every nation of the world so that governments will rule with righteousness and justice.

And may Your Name be great, from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Jesus Christ, You are the Saviour of the world and the Lord of all.

Father of mercy and grace,

We acknowledge that we have sinned and that our world is gripped by the power of sin.

Our hearts are grieved by injustice, hatred and violence.

We are shamed by oppression, racism and bloodshed in our land.

We mourn all loss of life in murder, war and terrorism.

Our homes are broken and our churches are divided by rebellion and pride.

Our lives are polluted by selfishness, greed, idolatry and sexual sin.

We have grieved Your heart and brought shame to Your Name.

Have mercy on us as we repent with all our hearts.

God of mercy, forgive our sins. Pour out Your grace and heal our land.

Spirit of the living God,

Apart from You, we can do nothing.

Transform Your Church into the image of Jesus Christ.

Release Your power to bring healing to the sick, freedom to the oppressed and comfort to those who mourn.

Pour Your love into our hearts and fill us with compassion to answer the call of the homeless and the hungry and to enfold orphans, widows and the elderly in Your care.

Give us wisdom and insight for the complex problems we face today.

Help us to use the resources of the earth for the well-being of all.

Holy Spirit, we need Your comfort and guidance. Transform our hearts.

Lord Jesus Christ,

Because You were dead, but are now risen, and the Father has given You a Name above all names, You will defeat all powers of evil.

Tear down strongholds and ideologies that resist the knowledge of God.

Remove the veil of darkness that covers the peoples.

Restrain the evil that promotes violence and death.

Bring deliverance from demonic oppression.

Break the hold of slavery, tyranny and disease.

Fill us with courage to preach Your word fearlessly, and to intercede for the lost faithfully.

Almighty God, deliver us from evil.

King of Glory,

Come and finish Your work in our cities, our peoples and our nations.

We lift our voices in unison with believers from Africa and Asia, from the Middle East and Europe, from North and South America, and from Australia and the Pacific Islands—together we cry:

Lift up your heads, O you gates! Be lifted up ancient doors so that the King of glory may come in!

As Your deeds increase throughout the earth, and as Your blessings abound to all the nations, they will seek You, asking, “Who is this King of glory?”

Together we will answer:

He is the Lord Almighty! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Come fill the earth with Your glory as the waters cover the sea.

The Spirit and the Bride say:

Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

10-1-90

Ninety Days of Blessing

Monday, 13 June - Saturday, 10 September

Becoming the Blessing of Christ

The Global Day of Prayer can become a catalytic moment. Those who pray together can become those who serve together, bringing practical, transformational blessing to their communities. To help you dream and plan about how you might become part of the answer to your prayers, check out “90 Days of Blessing” at www.globaldayofprayer.com.

Keep on Praying!

To help you keep growing in prayer during the 90 days, make use of the excellent resources available at www.globaldayofprayer.com:

- The 90-Day Prayer Guide. A daily guide to pray toward transformational blessing.
- Seek His Face. Learn to devote yourself to God daily with an hour of prayer.
- 24/7 Prayer Watches. Many will be continuing 24/7 prayer in many styles and ways during the 90 days.

The Global Day of Prayer beyond 2011

In many parts of the world, the Global Day of Prayer will continue to grow in the years beyond 2011. Watch www.globaldayofprayer.com for announcements about future Global Day of Prayer events.

“Even now,” declares the LORD, “Return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping...” Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity... Gather the people, consecrate the assembly, bring together the elders, gather the children... --Joel 2:12-13, 16