



Church of God Convention 2015 Prayer Guide

We invite each congregation of the Church of God to select one day each week, beginning the week of May 10, through the week of June 14, to fast and pray for your own congregation's needs, the global church family, and for the convention. You may find this weekly prayer guide helpful.

Week 1 Prayer Focus: Confession

Scriptures

Psalm 51; Psalm 139: 23–24; Jeremiah 17:9–10; 1 John 1:9

Invocation

Almighty God, you who know the contents of every heart and mind, and the preoccupations of each, here in your presence, I kneel in obedience of heart and confess my sins. Grant, Lord, the forgiveness promised. Thanks for your grace, love, and mercy. Amen.

Personal Prayers

- Pray that your heart will be freed from pretense.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to give strength to confess and let go of the sins that beset you.
- Pray for God to purify your heart and mind so that he will be honored in every area of your life.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal the truth about the inner condition of your heart and disentangle you from deceptive and hypocritical ways.
- Pray for Holy Spirit enablement so that you will be a person of integrity and truth.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray that the church will hear and respond to God's calling to be a people that confesses its sins.
- Pray that Christ, through the Holy Spirit in us, will bring about unity among us as a corporate body.

- Pray for a spirit of genuine humility to be awakened in us, and the spirit of pride to be denounced.
- Pray for Christ to confront us, calling us to the one great passion to love him.
- Pray for us to be delivered from conflicted and fragmented desires, as well as distractions.
- Pray for divisions and hostilities to be healed among believers.
- Pray that God would unite us in prayer with oneness of mind, empowering us to pray together with passion for Christ's glory and compassion for the world.

Hymns

- "Just as I Am"
- "I Surrender All"
- "Take My Life, and Let It Be"

Week 2 Prayer Focus: Desire

Scriptures

Psalm 27:4; Philippians 3:7–11

Invocation

Almighty God, I open my heart and mind to you; fill us with your love, peace, joy, and the desire to do your will. I long to know you and to experience the fullness of your presence and power in my life and work. Amen.

Personal Prayers

- Pray that the Holy Spirit will awaken your heart to seek God.
- Pray that the focus of the affection in your heart will be Christ.
- Pray that your heart will be filled with deep desire for God's name to be known and honored in your life and your home.
- Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you strength to let go of the things that inhibit you from fully yielding to Christ.
- Pray for your hearts to be ablaze with passion for his presence.
- Pray for your heart and mind to be ablaze with love and loyalty to Christ as King and Lord of all.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for God's holy anointing on Church of God Convention 2015, and that all attending will have ears ready to hear, and hearts committed to obey.

- Pray that God will bless each speaker/leader with the ability to discern what he desires his people to hear and receive.
- Pray that the hearts of all who will be gathered at the convention will be filled with deep desire for a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church.
- Pray that God will provide financial resources to pastors and leaders from small congregations so that they will be able to attend the convention.

Hymns

- “Prayer of My Heart”
- “More Love to Thee”
- “I Am Thine, O Lord”

Week 3 Prayer Focus: Priority

Scriptures

Matthew 6:33; Philippians 3:1–4

Invocation

*Lord, deliver me from the small loyalties of habit or tradition that would keep me from larger loyalties of the Spirit. Let me so incline myself to you that your presence in my life determines both what I think and what I do. Through Jesus, who understood the deeper meaning of freedom, Amen.—John Killinger, *A Devotional Guide to the Gospels*.*

Personal Prayers

- Ask God to show you the real priorities of your life.
- Ask God for the wisdom and courage to “seek first things, first”.
- Ask God to renew your passion for prayer and worship.
- Pray for the resurrection power to become a reality in your life and service.
- Pray for your heart to blaze with love and loyalty to Christ as King and Lord of all.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill your heart with hope so that you will actively pursue all that he has promised.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray that prayer will become the priority in our congregations.
- Pray for the word of God to be proclaimed boldly at Church of God Convention 2015, in our pulpits, missions, and ministry endeavors.
- Pray for God to raise up this generation and those who follow to fulfill his promises by the power and Spirit of God.
- Pray for God to raise up an army of intercessors who will prevail in prayer for:

- The millions of women and children caught in the net of slavery and human trafficking.
- The millions of orphaned and refugee children and those affected by wars and HIV/AIDS.
- The persecuted church and those directly affected by terrorism.
- An end to the great inequalities in wealth which leaves many in poverty.
- The millions of children who lack access to quality education at home and abroad.
- Pray that God will deliver us from small loyalties of habits or traditions that keep us from larger loyalties of the Spirit.
- Pray that God will enlarge the “tents” of our hearts, minds, and eyes so that we can envision and embrace a better future of kingdom enterprise.

Hymns

- “Be Thou My Vision”
- “Take My Life, and Let it Be”

Week 4 Prayer Focus: Vision & Ministry Resources

Scriptures

Exodus 36:1–7; Proverbs 29:18a; Ephesians 3:20–21; Philippians 4:19.

Invocation

O God, Our Father! I worship your name, and bless you for who you are. I acknowledge you to be the source and sustainer of my life. I thank you for the opportunities for service provided and the wisdom and strength to embrace them. Teach me to trust you in the changing seasons of life. Teach me to trust in your providential care in providing for the needs of every creature and preparing for the completion of your eternal purposes. In the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

Personal Prayers

- Pray that God will widen your vision for the world.
- Pray that God will enlarge your heart with compassion for the sick, imprisoned, institutionalized, marginalized, and poor.
- Pray that God will make you a wise manager of all that he has entrusted to you, the wisdom to recognize and the power to embrace divinely appointed opportunities to make a difference and impact.
- Pray that God will protect your heart and mind from anxious care, so that you can trust in his providential care.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for the gospel of the kingdom to be conveyed to the unevangelized peoples in neighborhoods, communities, and cities with clarity, wisdom and power.
- Pray that Jesus will be the focus and motivation for all our endeavors.
- Pray for the declaration of the gospel of the kingdom to be joined by demonstration of God's loving power.
- Pray for believers to engage in intercessory/prevailing prayer for all who suffer from oppression, poverty, injustice, and disease.
- Pray for those in the missionary community who are experiencing major health issues that they may receive God's healing and sustaining grace.
- Pray for encouragement for all our missionaries and leaders, and for the Holy Spirit to empower them to be effective leaders and witnesses wherever they are serving.
- Pray that God will raise up generous financial partners for the missionaries-elect who have been commissioned and are currently raising funds.
- Pray for new missionaries as they learn a new language and that God will give them a sensitive spirit toward those they serve, as they adapt to new cultures and build relationships.
- Pray for God to bless the new Pink Door Ministry in Berlin, Germany for those caught in human trafficking. Pray that lives will be transformed by Jesus' love in this safe haven.
- Pray for those serving in the Middle East and sensitive countries that God would cover them with protection and open doors of opportunity to share the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the rebuilding of lives in Malawi following the rains and mudslides, and that the church may be light and salt to the unreached and hurting.
- Pray for a spirit of unity in the body of Christ as we move forward to advance the kingdom of God for his glory.
- Pray for the national churches, that they may be life-giving to the unreached and multiply.
- Pray that God will raise up leaders with godly vision—vision that is right for the times, promotes faith and unity, motivates people to action, and glorifies God.
- Pray that the Lord would unleash a world-changing movement of prayer, worship, and evangelism on our world.
- Pray that God will unleash a spirit of consecration and generosity upon the hearts of believers akin to that of the people in Moses' time (Exodus 36:1–7) and the Macedonian churches (2 Corinthians 8:1–5).

Hymns

- “Be Thou My Vision”
- “The Voice of God is Calling”
- “I Would be True”
- “He Wants His Way in Thee”

Week 5 & 6 Prayer Focus: Renewal

Scriptures

Isaiah 44:3–5; Psalm 85:1–7; Joel 2:28–32

Invocation

O Lord, the house of my soul is narrow; enlarge it that thou mayest enter in. It is ruinous, O repair it! It displeases thy sight; I confessed it, I know it. But who shall cleanse it, or to whom shall I cry but unto thee? Cleanse me from my secret faults, O Lord, and spare thy servant from strange sins. Amen.—St. Augustine

Personal Prayers

- Pray that God will restore and increase your passion for a deeper experience of his presence in your life.
- Pray for a fresh outpouring of his Spirit upon you.
- Pray for renewed joy and peace in your life.
- Pray for God to impart his life-giving Spirit to you so that you will experience a new empowerment for service.

Prayers for the Church

- Pray for God to manifest his presence and glory as we gather at CHOG Convention 2015.
- Pray that God will form us to be a people that know and celebrate him together.
- Pray that God will not only be present among us as we gather at the convention, but that he will utterly preside over all our deliberations and celebrations.
- Pray for his forgiveness and joy to bring revival.
- Pray for great movements of people to experience the reviving mercy of God.
- Pray for our pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and church leaders to be protected, preserved, strengthened, and blessed, and bless their witness for his glory and his eternal Kingdom.
- Pray that through their witness the lost will be set free from spiritual bondage that have kept them in darkness.
- Pray that God will empower his people with his wisdom, discernment and all-encompassing love as they interact with those outside the Christian faith.
- Pray that the Lord will give us tears as we pray so that we will reap with songs of joy.

Hymns

- “Revive Us Again”
- “It is Truly Wonderful”
- “Fill Me Now”
- “With Thy Spirit Fill Me”