

A Lot to Pray About

by Bryan Gibson

I went through the New Testament recently, with one main objective—looking for things Christians should include in their prayers. What follows is certainly not an exhaustive list, but it will keep us busy for a long time.

We should pray...

1. That the Lord's will be done (Matthew 6:9-10; Jesus' example in Matthew 26:39).
2. For deliverance from temptation and sin (Matthew 6:13; Luke 22:39-40, 46).
3. For forgiveness, when we do sin (1 John 1:9; Acts 8:13, 18-24; Matthew 6:12, 14-15).
4. That our faith, and the faith of others, should increase and not fail (Luke 22:31-32; 17:5; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-10).
5. That our love would abound (Philippians 1:9-11).
6. For wisdom (James 1:5-8).
7. For spiritual growth in all areas (Colossians 1:9-12; 4:12; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17).
8. That laborers be sent into the harvest, i.e., the harvest of souls (Matthew 9:35-38).
9. That the word of God be preached boldly (Acts 4:18-21, 29; Ephesians 6:18-20; 2 Timothy 4:16-17).
10. For open doors for the word of God (Colossians 4:2-3; 2 Corinthians 2:12; 1 Corinthians 16:7-9).
11. That the word of God run swiftly, or spread rapidly (2 Thessalonians 3:1-3).
12. For government rulers—at all levels (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
13. For our enemies (Matthew 5:44; Luke 23:34; Acts 7:60; Romans 10:1).
14. For all saints (Ephesians 6:18; John 17:20-23).
15. For elders, and for others with special responsibilities (Acts 14:23; 6:6; 13:3).
16. For those who are suffering—those in need of comfort and strength (Luke 22:39-43; James 5:13; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; 7:5-6).
17. For our marriages (1 Corinthians 7:1-5).
18. For our daily bread (Matthew 6:11).
19. For good health—for ourselves and for others (3 John 1:1; Philippians 2:27; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10).
20. For safe travel (Philemon 1:22).
21. In time of need, which will obviously be every day (Hebrews 4:14-16).