

# PRAYER GUIDE

FEBRUARY 2023

## INTRODUCTION:

Thanks for being part of our prayer team! We believe God will move in and through Biltmore Church in huge ways in 2023. God both calls His people to pray and promises to answer those prayers. This month we are going through the sermon series *A Tale of Two Kingdoms*. In this series, we are walking through cultural tensions where we have to live as residents of the earth but as citizens of heaven. Let's pray that our church would yield their hearts to God and submit fully to His Kingdom.

## PREPARING TO PRAY:

Throughout the ages, people have approached God in many different ways (Acts 17:23). As Christ-followers we approach God our Father through Jesus Christ, His Son, and God's Word in Matthew 6 gives guidance and instruction. Prayer is about spending time with our Father, trusting Him, acknowledging His greatness and our need for Him, focusing our thoughts, and glorifying our Father as we pray before going through specific, targeted prayer requests.

## HOW TO PRAY:

### Confession:

Means admitting and agreeing with God about the sin in our lives, confessing it, and turning away from all things that dishonor God. *"Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." Proverbs 28:13*

### Adoration:

Means worship; recognizing and acknowledging God for who He is. *"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! ... The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." Psalm 103:1, 8*

### Thanksgiving:

Means thankful; spending time with God and thanking Him for the forgiveness of sins, the blessing of being His child, and the privilege of serving Him. *"I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds." Psalm 9:1*

### Supplication:

Means request – making requests to God on behalf of others, praying for God's will in the lives of family, extended family and friends, people in your sphere of influence: school, workplace, and neighborhood, as well as people around the world. *"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6*

### ***Prayer for Our Community:***

Lord, forgive me for the times when I've neglected to point others towards You and Your Kingdom. You are so merciful to allow us to have a relationship with you. You didn't need to create us, You didn't need to save us, and You didn't need to use us in your plan to reconcile the world to Yourself. You did this out of your goodness and mercy. Thank you for using us. Please give us boldness and wisdom in defending your Word and being the light to Your world.

### **REACH UP**

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth" – (John 4:24)

#### ***Pastor Bruce as he teaches***

- Pray for boldness, wisdom, and clarity as he preaches and proclaims the truth of God's word.
- Pray for wisdom in planning the services.

### **REACH IN**

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near." – (Hebrews 10:24-25)

#### ***Groups***

- Pray for our groups as they launch during the first week of this month
- Pray for wisdom for the group leaders as they teach the curriculum
- Pray for a fresh, strong commitment for those already in a group.

#### ***Kids, Students, Families***

- Pray for our Parent Conference, that it would be edifying and applicable to the families at Biltmore Church
- Pray for the physical and spiritual health of our members and guests.
- Pray for kids and student activities as they kick off for the Spring semester this month.

### **REACH OUT**

"I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." – (Isaiah 49:6)

#### ***Mission/Ministry Opportunities***

- Pray for our church plants in Brooklyn, Myrtle Beach, Jacksonville, and London.
- Pray for ministry opportunities to open up in South Asia with the Banya people, an unreached people group.
- Pray for the Bengali-speaking Muslims that our South Asia missionaries are trying to engage with the gospel.
- Pray for the continued partnership with Compassion International, the children served, and for additional children to be sponsored.
- Pray for foster families and the biological parents of the kids in foster care.
- Pray for those watching online and for others as they return to in-person services.
- Pray for continued ministry opportunities in our 828 communities.

### **THANKSGIVING FOR AND CLAIMING ANSWERED PRAYERS**

Take the time to go back through each request, declaring by faith, asking God to answer our prayers according to His divine will and purpose. Thank Him for hearing and answering our prayers and for the continued blessings over Biltmore Church.

*Thank you for praying for the health and safety of our members and staff during the upcoming year. Your fervent prayers are a source of great encouragement.*