

## 31 DAYS OF PRAYING FOR YOUR PASTOR

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*Brothers, pray for us.*  
1 Thessalonians 5:25

*“Let the thought sink deep into the heart of every church, that their pastor will be such a pastor as their prayers make him. ... How perilous is the condition of that pastor ... whose heart is not encouraged, whose hands are not strengthened, and who is not upheld by the prayers of his people! ...*

*“It is at a fearful expense that pastors are ever allowed to enter the pulpit without being preceded, accompanied, and followed by the earnest prayers of the churches. It is no marvel that the pulpit is so powerless, and pastors so often disheartened when there are so few to hold up their hands. ... When the churches cease to pray for pastors, pastors will no longer be a blessing to the churches.”*

Gardiner Spring (1785-1873)

There is no greater gift you can give your pastor and the leaders of your church than to pray for them.

Pastors cannot win the battle alone; they need committed people to lift them up in fervent, specific prayer. Imagine how the power of God might be released in our churches if we faithfully prayed for our pastors?!

Pastors are human, too - they face the same challenges that their people do, with some additional ones! They grow tired, are tempted to sin, and may find it difficult to balance their roles and responsibilities. They need the encouragement and support of those they lead.

Prayer for your pastor is crucial to the growth and health of your pastor, his family, and your church.

If you want to encourage your church leaders (and their wives!) let them know you are praying for them. From time to time, ask them for any specific prayer requests and reassure them you will pray accordingly.

Use this 31-day guide and accompanying Scriptures to begin praying for your pastor in practical ways. (i.e. On the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month, read the Scriptures for Day 10 and pray over the corresponding topic.)

By Nancy Leigh DeMoss

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- Day 01 | Deuteronomy 6:5; Matthew 6:33**  
Pray that he will love God with all his heart, soul, mind, and strength.  
Pray that God's Spirit will work in his heart in power and that he will value and follow biblical priorities.
- Day 02 | Ephesians 6:10-12; 1 Timothy 1:5, 3:7**  
Pray that he will cultivate strong character and uncompromising integrity.  
Pray that his testimony will be genuine, and that he will never do anything that he would need to hide.
- Day 03 | Mark 1:35; 2 Timothy 2:15-16**  
Pray for his walk with God; that God will nourish and strengthen his soul and spirit in their time together.  
Pray that he will spend more time in the Word of God than researching other articles, blogs, and books.
- Day 04 | Malachi 2:7; John 17:15; James 1:5-6**  
Pray that he will counsel with discernment through the wise use of Scripture and faith in God's power.  
Pray for his protection from the effects of sinful or negative attitudes that he encounters as he counsels.
- Day 05 | Ephesians 5:23-33**  
Ask God to protect his marriage and keep it strong as a model of Christ's relationship with the church.  
Pray that he will love and lead his wife, and that she will encourage, respect, and submit to his leadership.  
*(If he is not married, pray for his relationships with his loved ones and those who are close to him.)*
- Day 06 | Proverbs 4:23; Hebrews 12:15**  
Pray that God will protect your pastor's wife from bitterness when her husband is criticized or critiqued.  
Pray that her prayer and devotional life will be consistent, and that she will guard her mind and heart.
- Day 07 | Ephesians 6:4; Colossians 3:20-21**  
Pray for his children; especially that the pressures of the ministry will not discourage or embitter them.  
Pray that he will provide godly leadership as the father in his home, according to scriptural truth.  
*(If he does not have children, pray that God will give him "spiritual children" as he shares the gospel.)*
- Day 08 | Psalm 9:9-10, 91:9-11; Isaiah 54:17; John 17:15; 2 Corinthians 2:11; 1 Peter 3:12**  
Ask God to protect him from the evil plots of Satan.  
Pray that he will not be corrupted as he rubs shoulders with the world in the course of ministry.
- Day 09 | Ezekiel 22:30a; Matthew 19:6; 2 Corinthians 10:4-5**  
Pray that God will make him and his wife aware of the potential for any improper relationships.  
Pray that their family time will be protected.
- Day 10 | Job 31:1; Romans 13:14; 2 Corinthians 10:4; Ephesians 6:10-18; 1 Peter 1:16**  
Pray that he will use discernment in his use of emails, the internet, media, and technology.  
Ask God to guard his heart concerning the time he spends alone and the his use of free time.  
Pray that he will be pure and that he will wear the armor of God so that he will not fall to sexual temptation.
- Day 11 | Philippians 2:19-25**  
Pray that God will bring godly friends and encouragers to him and his family.  
Ask God to strengthen them for the work of ministry and provide meaningful fellowship and times of rest.
- Day 12 | Micah 6:8; John 7:17-18; 1 Corinthians 10:13; Galatians 6:14**  
Pray that he will be humble and authentic in his faith, not given to pride or hypocrisy.  
Pray that he will have pure motives and give God glory for every gain or victory.
- Day 13 | Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 9:27, 10:13; James 3:1-2**  
Pray that he will make wise lifestyle choices in order to protect his health; exercise, eating, and resting.  
Pray for times of relaxation and renewal to balance the stress of ministry.
- Day 14 | Proverbs 19:23; Acts 6:4; 2 Timothy 2:15, 4:1-2; Hebrews 11:6**  
Pray that he will focus on the Word of God and walk in the fear of the Lord as he prepares his sermons.  
Pray that he will seek to please God rather than men, and pursue holiness rather than the praise of men.

- Day 15** | **1 Kings 3:9; Jeremiah 3:15; Romans 12:6-8; 1 Peter 5:2**  
Praise God for his leadership and pray that he will make godly decisions.  
Pray that he will lead with a shepherd's heart, and that he will always speak the truth in love.
- Day 16** | **Ephesians 6:19; Colossians 1:28, 4:3a**  
Pray that he will be courageous in preaching Christ, and confident in his use of the Word of God.  
Ask God to help him preach with humility, insight, passion and transparency.
- Day 17** | **Matthew 28:19-20; Luke 19:10; Romans 10:15**  
Pray that he will be committed to help people find and follow Jesus and to equip others to do the same.  
Pray that he will have a heart to develop an intentional focus on the mission of the local church.
- Day 18** | **Matthew 4:10; Mark 1:35; Luke 22:46; Acts 1:14a; 1 Thessalonians 5:17**  
Pray that he will be a man of prayer and worship, and that he will lead by the example of his lips and life.  
Pray that he will teach the local church how to walk in a close relationship with the Father.
- Day 19** | **Psalms 90:12; John 9:4; Ephesians 5:15-16; Colossians 4:5**  
Pray that he will use wise time management, and that he will seek God's perspective for his schedule,  
guarding his time against unnecessary interruptions.
- Day 20** | **Romans 15:18-19a; 1 Corinthians 9:27; 2 Timothy 1:7**  
Pray that God's work will be powerfully evident both in his personal life and in the life of the local church.
- Day 21** | **1 Peter 2:23**  
Pray that he will not give in to discouragement, but that he will deal with criticism and conflict by  
committing himself into the hands of God, who judges righteously.
- Day 22** | **Luke 9:23-24, 10:43b-45; John 13:5-9; Galatians 5:13b; Ephesians 6:7; Philippians 2:3-4**  
Pray that he will practice servant leadership, teaching with wisdom and serving with God's "agape" love.
- Day 23** | **Romans 14:19; 1 Corinthians 12:25**  
Pray for unity among the leadership of the local church (pastors, elders, deacons, members, etc.).  
Pray that Satan will not be allowed to create divisions, strife, or misunderstanding among them.
- Day 24** | **Proverbs 29:18; Malachi 3:11; John 15:16, 17:17; 2 Timothy 3:5**  
Pray that God will give him a clear, biblical vision of what your local church can be and should be for His glory,  
and that he will communicate that vision clearly and confidently to the local church.
- Day 25** | **2 Chronicles 7:14; Psalm 69:32**  
Pray that he will seek God for personal revival, and revival in your local church and community.
- Day 26** | **1 Corinthians 2:16; Ephesians 4:17; Colossians 2:6-8**  
Pray that he will think biblically, with the mind of Christ.
- Day 27** | **Luke 9:23-24; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5**  
Pray that he will earnestly seek God's will and be committed to immediate and complete obedience -  
ready for God to work powerfully in and through his ministry.
- Day 28** | **Colossians 3:23-24; 2 Peter 1:3**  
Pray that he will strive for personal excellence and will believe God for all He wants to do in the church.
- Day 29** | **Proverbs 3:5-6; 1 John 4:18**  
Pray that he will be a man of faith and passionate love for God, not giving in to anxiety, fear, or worry.
- Day 30** | **Psalms 37:25; Philippians 4:19; 1 Timothy 6:11; Hebrews 13:5**  
Ask God to provide for the financial needs of your pastor and his family.  
Pray that he will be a wise steward of both personal finances and church funds.
- Day 31** | **Isaiah 61:3**  
Ask God to heal any emotional, physical, or psychological hurt that he has suffered in the ministry.  
Pray that he will serve the Lord with gladness, and encourage the church to worship God with joy.