Leader's Guide

Welcome to the Ten Days of Prayer 2027. It is so valuable to start the year with prayer!

God is amazing. His Word is sure. He has given us prophecy as the assurance that our future—and the future of this world—is in His trustworthy hands. The Holy Spirit has been given to us as our constant Counselor, Companion, and Friend. Jesus longs to walk with us daily through prayer, Bible study, and our trusting dependence on Him.

We believe your life and the lives of those you pray for will be changed as you join fellow believers around the world in praying for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, whom the Father has promised to give to those who ask Him (Luke 11:13).

This year carries a special significance. Our 2027 theme, "All Things New: Hope Starts Here," invites us to experience Bible prophecy in a fresh and personal way—and to discover afresh that the God who declares "the end from the beginning" (Isaiah 46:10) holds our future in His hands. These Ten Days are also the prayer launch pad for *OneVoice27*, the worldwide evangelistic emphasis that will culminate in September 2027, marking 2,000 years since Jesus' baptism and the beginning of His ministry. As we kneel together in January, we are preparing our hearts to lift up one voice in proclamation. Prayer leads to power, and power leads to mission.

Has God's voice been calling you to revival? The Bible is full of promises for you:

- "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chronicles 7:14).
- "Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near" (Isaiah 55:6).
- "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7).
- "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:13).
- "The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth" (Psalm 145:18).
- "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Revelation 3:20).

Wherever you are in life right now, God is closer than you think. He wants to pour out His blessings on your family, your church, your community, and your world.

General Items for Ten Days of Prayer

Daily Prayer Guides

We have provided a prayer guide for each of the ten days. Each guide includes a Bible passage, devotional reading, Bible texts to pray through, prayer suggestions, and song suggestions. We recommend that you copy the daily guides so each participant can have one to follow during the prayer time.

Churches around the world will unite in praying about each day's topic. Join them in praying through the verses and prayer requests, but don't feel that you must rush through the entire list of prayer suggestions. You may want to divide into small groups and have each group pray for a portion of your prayer requests.

We also included a document called World Church Prayer Requests. It's important to pray together for our world church family, but you may want to spend extra time praying for local needs if your group includes visitors from the community. Pray about how you can best welcome guests and make them feel a part of your group.

Suggested Times for Each Prayer Session
Keep your prayer time simple so the group can focus on actually praying. How much time you spend on each section will vary. The following guide is just a suggestion:

Welcome and introduction: 2 – 5 minutes
Read devotional (in daily prayer guide): 5 minutes
Pray through the verses in "Praying God's Word" (in daily prayer guide): 10 – 15 minutes
Pray about the items in "More Prayer Suggestions" (in daily prayer guide): 20 – 30 minutes
Respond in song and praise: 5 – 10 minutes

Pray for Others
Encourage each person to pray consistently for five to seven people that God has placed in their life. They can be relatives, friends, coworkers, neighbors, or simply acquaintances. Encourage them to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in choosing these names and in reaching out to these people during the ten days. As you pray for them now, ask God to prepare your heart—and theirs—for the *OneVoice27* outreach later this year. You may want to provide some cards or pieces of paper on which people can record the names they will be praying for.

Sabbath Services During Ten Days of Prayer
Have a special prayer focus and share testimonies of answered prayer during the church services on both Sabbaths. Be creative—there are many ways to share with the church family what is happening during the daily prayer meetings.

Final Sabbath Celebration
The final Sabbath should be designed as a time of great rejoicing in all that God has done throughout the ten days. Include ample time for testimonies of answered prayer, biblical teaching/preaching on prayer and prophecy, and singing. Lead the congregation in a time of prayer so that those who have not attended the daily meetings can experience the joy of praying with others. Please see the "Sabbath Celebration" handout for more ideas.

Follow-up to Ten Days of Prayer
Pray about how God wants your church/group to continue what He has begun during Ten Days of Prayer. This year there is a clear next step: let these ten days flow directly into *OneVoice27*. Perhaps you will continue with a weekly prayer session, begin a prophecy-focused Bible study series, or launch an outreach to the community that builds toward the September 2027 emphasis. Be open and follow where God leads. The document called Outreach Challenge is filled with ideas for service. Learn more about the worldwide emphasis at onevoice27.org.

Testimonies
Please share stories of how God has worked through Ten Days of Prayer! Your stories will be an encouragement to many others. Testimonies may be submitted online at www.tendaysofprayer.org.

United Prayer Pointers

Agree Together
When someone prays a request to God, be sure some others pray for that same request and agree together—this is powerful! Don't think that because one person has prayed about the request, no one else needs to. "Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 18:19, KJV). How encouraging it is to be lifted up in prayer!

Claiming God's Promises
Encourage the group to claim God's promises as they pray. It is so easy to focus on our problems. But when we claim God's promises, we increase our faith and remind ourselves that nothing is impossible with God. The promises help us take our eyes off our weaknesses and difficulties and set them on Jesus. For every weakness and every struggle, we can find Bible promises to claim. Encourage people to search for more promises and write them down so they can claim them in the future.

Fasting
Invite those joining you in Ten Days of Prayer to consider some type of fasting, such as fasting from TV, secular music, movies, the Internet, sweets, or other types of food that are hard to digest. Use the extra time to pray and study the Bible, asking God to help you and your congregation to abide more fully in Christ. By adopting a simple diet, we allow our minds to become more receptive to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit
Be sure to ask the Holy Spirit to show you what to pray for in a person's life or in a particular situation. The Bible tells us that we do not know what to pray for and that the Holy Spirit is the one making intercession for us (Romans 8:26, 27).

"We must not only pray in Christ's name, but by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. This explains what is meant when it is said that the Spirit 'maketh intercession for us, with groanings which cannot be uttered.' (Romans 8:26). Such prayer God delights to answer. When with earnestness and intensity we breathe a prayer in the name of Christ, there is in that very intensity a pledge from God that He is about to answer our prayer 'exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think' (Ephesians 3:20)" (Christ's Object Lessons, p. 147, emphasis supplied).

Journaling
Keeping a prayer journal during the Ten Days of Prayer can help participants to internalize the daily prayer theme, make concrete commitments to God, and recognize His blessings. Writing out our prayers and keeping a record of God's answers is a proven path to encouragement.

If you wish, you might provide time during the prayer meeting for people to journal their responses to God in private prayer journals. Or you could keep a group journal of prayer requests and answers—either in a notebook, on a large poster, or online. It is exciting and faith-building to look back and see how God has answered prayers!

Reverence
Encourage and model a reverent attitude. We are approaching the throne room of the King of the universe. Let's not treat this prayer time carelessly in our posture or mannerisms. However, it is not necessary that everyone kneel continuously. You want people to be comfortable for an hour, so encourage everyone to kneel or sit or stand as God leads and as they are comfortable.

Sentence Prayers
Prayers should be short and to the point. This gives others an opportunity to pray as well. Try to limit your prayers to a few sentences. Each person can pray multiple times. Short sentence prayers keep the prayer time interesting and allow the Holy Spirit to impress the group how to pray. You don't need to open and close each short sentence prayer with phrases such as "Dear God" and "Amen." It is an ongoing conversation with God.

Silence
As a leader, don't dominate the prayer time. The goal is to get others praying. Times of silence are wonderful, as they give God time to speak to our hearts. Allow the Holy Spirit to work and give everyone time to pray.

Singing
Spontaneous group songs, mingled between prayers, add beauty to the prayer meeting. Suggested songs are listed at the end of each theme sheet. Do not feel that you need to use all the songs—these are simply suggestions. Singing is also a good way to transition from one prayer section to another.

Taking Prayer Requests

Don't ask for prayer requests from the group. Instead, tell people to pray their requests and encourage others to join in agreement and prayer for those requests. Here's why: time! Talking about the requests will take up most of your prayer time. Satan is thrilled if he can keep us talking about the problem instead of praying about the problem. Group members will often begin counseling and suggesting solutions. The power is from God! The more we pray, the more His power is unleashed.

Your Daily Time

This is so important! Make sure that you as a leader are spending time daily at the feet of Jesus, talking with Him and reading His Word. If you will make knowing God a first priority in your life, it will open such a beautiful experience to you. "From the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the Great Reformation. There, with holy calmness, the servants of the Lord set their feet upon the rock of His promises" (The Great Controversy, p. 210). When a leader prays, God works on hearts!

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture passages are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Texts credited to KJV are from the King James Version. Scripture quotations marked ESV are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.