Introduction

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. Here are just a few testimonies from a previous year:

> *Ten Days of Prayer gives our family intentional motivation to begin each new year with prayer and complete dependence on God. During these ten days, we set aside time to pray together as a family, lifting up one another's needs and seeking God's guidance for the year ahead. Ten Days of Prayer reminds us that we are not praying alone—we are part of a global movement of faith, hope, and mission. (J.K.)*
>
> *My prayer life has been deeply transformed. I have experienced unhurried, intimate moments in prayer, and my devotional time has become more meaningful and fulfilling. Above all, I have felt God's closeness, love, and protection in powerful ways. (T.K.)*
>
> *I've seen a powerful shift in both my home and my heart. I now find myself calling my family more often and saying, "Let us pray," and they gladly join me. Prayer is rebuilding our family altar and drawing us closer together. At night, I experience a deep sense of peace—I sleep better, and the heaviness that once filled the atmosphere is lifting. God is restoring rest, unity, and spiritual strength in our lives. (A.B.)*

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.

Our Prayer Theme: All Things New: Hope Starts Here

During the Ten Days of Prayer 2027, we invite you to understand and experience Bible prophecy in a new and personal way. Jesus appeared personally to Daniel as the "man clothed in linen" (Dan. 10:5, KJV) and to John as "One like the Son of man" (Rev. 1:13). Jesus also told many prophetic parables. Our future is important to Him! He wants us to believe Him and trust Him. He also wants us to know the future and not be afraid because He holds the future in His hands and has told us beforehand what is coming. "I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe" (John 14:29).

Notice this powerful promise: "When the books of Daniel and Revelation are better understood, believers will have an entirely different religious experience. They will be given such glimpses of the open gates of heaven that heart and mind will be impressed with the character all must develop in order to realize the blessedness which is to be the reward of the pure in heart. The Lord will bless all who will seek humbly and meekly to understand that which is revealed in the Revelation. This book contains so much that is large with immortality and full of glory that all who read and search it earnestly receive the blessing to those 'that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein'" (Rev. 1:3) (Ellen G. White, *Testimonies to Ministers and Gospel Workers,* p. 114).

Join us on this journey of prayers and prophecy, that as we seek this "entirely different religious experience," our lives and the lives we influence for heaven may be transformed and experience the promised "all things new"!

Suggested Guidelines for Prayer Times

- Keep your prayers short—just a sentence or two on one topic. Then give others a turn. You can pray as many times as you'd like, just as you talk in a conversation.
- Do not be afraid of silence, as it gives everyone time to listen to the Holy Spirit.
- Singing songs together as the Spirit leads is also a huge blessing. You do not need a piano for this; singing acapella is fine.

Rather than using up valuable prayer time talking about your prayer requests, simply pray them. Then others can also pray for your requests and claim promises for your need.

Claiming the Promises

It is our privilege to claim God's promises in our prayers. All His commandments and counsels are also promises. He would never ask from us something that we could not do in His strength.

It is so easy to focus on our needs, our difficulties, our challenges—and to wail and whine about our situation when we pray. This is not the purpose of prayer. Prayer is meant to strengthen our faith. That is why we encourage you to claim God's promises in your prayer time. Take your eyes off yourself and your weaknesses and look to Jesus. By beholding Him, we become changed into His image.

Ellen White offers this encouragement: "Every promise in the Word of God is for us. In your prayers, present the pledged word of Jehovah and by faith claim His promises. His Word is the assurance that if

you ask in faith, you will receive all spiritual blessings. Continue to ask, and you will receive exceeding abundantly above all that you ask or think" (In Heavenly Places, p. 71).

How can you claim His promises? For instance, when praying for peace, you can claim John 14:27 and say, "Lord, You have told us in Your Word, 'Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.' Give me the peace that You promised to leave with us." Thank the Lord that He is giving you peace, even though you may not feel it right then.

Fasting

We encourage you to do a Daniel Fast during these ten days. Starting the year with prayer and fasting is a wonderful way to consecrate our lives to God for the upcoming year. Ellen White tells us, "Now and onward till the close of time the people of God should be more earnest, more wide-awake, not trusting in their own wisdom, but in the wisdom of their Leader. They should set aside days for fasting and prayer. Entire abstinence from food may not be required, but they should eat sparingly of the most simple food" (Counsels on Diet and Foods, pp. 188, 189).

We know about Daniel, who ate fruits and vegetables for ten days. We likewise encourage you to adopt a very simple diet during these ten days. If we want clearer minds for hearing God's voice, and if we want to draw closer to Him, we need to make sure that our diet is not hindering us.

Fasting is not only about abstaining from food. We also encourage you to fast from TV, movies, computer games, and even social media. Sometimes things that are not bad in themselves can take so much of our time. Put aside everything possible so you can have more time to spend with the Lord.

Fasting is not a quick way to obtain a miracle from God. Fasting is all about humbling ourselves so God can work in us and through us. Let's draw closer to Him through prayer and fasting, and He will draw closer to us.

Holy Spirit

Be sure to ask the Holy Spirit to show you what you should 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 who intercedes for us.

"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).

Faith

We read in the Spirit of Prophecy that "prayer and faith will do what no power on earth can accomplish" (The Ministry of Healing, p. 509). We are also told that "for any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received" (Education, p. 258). So make a habit of thanking God in advance through faith for what He is going to do and how He is going to answer your prayers.

Pray for Others

During these ten days we encourage you to pray consistently for the people God has placed in your life. Choose five to seven people—they can be relatives, friends, coworkers, neighbors, or simply acquaintances. Take some time to ask God whom He would like you to pray for. Ask Him also to give you a real burden for these people. Write the names on a piece of paper and keep it in a prominent place, such as in your Bible. As you pray, ask God to open a door this year—through OneVoice27—to share with them the hope of His soon return. You'll be amazed at how God works in response to your prayers!

Ten Days of Prayer Outreach Challenge

Jesus calls us not only to pray but also to serve the practical needs of those around us. "For I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me" (Matthew 25:35, 36).

In *The Ministry of Healing* we read, "We must live a twofold life—a life of thought and action, of silent prayer and earnest work" (p. 512). We have received so much love from our Savior, and we have the privilege of sharing that love with friends, neighbors, and strangers in need.

Ask God how you and your church can serve others during and after Ten Days of Prayer—and how those acts of love can become bridges to the *OneVoice27* outreach in September. As you work to organize service activities, avoid letting the arrangements distract you from praying. "Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer; for it requires great wisdom to understand the science of saving souls. Before communicating with men, commune with Christ. At the throne of heavenly grace obtain a preparation for ministering to the people" (*Prayer*, p. 313).

In the online Ten Days of Prayer resources, you'll find a document with dozens of outreach ideas. Jesus invites you to be His hands and feet to a world in need!

About the Author

Dr. Clinton Wahlen is an Associate Director of the Biblical Research Institute in Silver Spring, Maryland, USA, where he has served since 2008. After pastoring in California for seven years, where he experienced a life-changing conversion from atheism to faith, he earned a Ph.D. in New Testament from Cambridge University. Dr. Wahlen has taught New Testament and Greek in Russia and the Philippines, published numerous scholarly articles, and authored or edited several books, including two Sabbath School lesson quarterlies. He and his wife, Gina, have two grown children and two grandchildren.

Ten Days of Prayer materials were prepared by the Ministerial Association of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

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.