

# 31 DAYS OF PRAYING FOR YOUR PASTORS

People across America wonder why God is not moving in our churches. The Bible clearly states, "His house shall be known as a house of prayer," (Is. 56:7, Mt. 21:13). What better way of equipping our pastors than to lift them up in prayer. As we strengthen our pastors, our churches in America will also be strengthened! (Pastoral Care, Inc.)

"When churches cease to pray for ministers, ministers will no longer be a blessing to the churches." Gardiner Spring (1785-1873)

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**DAY 1:** Pray your pastors will love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Pray God's Spirit will work in their heart in power, and they will value and follow biblical priorities. (Dt. 6:5; Mt. 6:33)

**DAY 2:** Pray your pastors will cultivate strong character and uncompromising integrity. Pray their testimony will be genuine, and they will never do anything they would need to hide from others. (1 Ti. 1:5, 3:7; Eph. 6:10-12)

**DAY 3:** Pray for their personal walk with God—their soul and spirit will be nourished and strengthened in their quiet time with God, beyond sermon preparation. Pray they will spend more time in the Word of God. (Mk. 1:35; 2 Ti. 2:15-16)

**DAY 4:** Pray your pastors will counsel and teach with discernment through the wise use of Scriptures and faith in God's power to work. Pray they will be protected from the effects of sinful or negative attitudes they encounter as they counsel. (Mi. 2:7; Jm. 1:5-6; Jn. 17:15)

**DAY 5:** Ask God to protect your pastors' marriages and keep it healthy as a model of Christ's relationship with the Church. Pray your pastors will tenderly cherish their spouse, and they will respect and encourage their spouses. If your pastor is not married, pray for relationships with loved ones and those close to them. (Eph. 5:23-33)

**DAY 6:** Pray, God will protect your pastors' spouses from bitterness when their spouse is criticized. Pray their prayer and devotional life will be consistent, and they will guard their mind and heart. (Heb. 12:15; Pr. 4:23)

**DAY 7:** Pray for your pastor's children, especially that the ministry's pressures will not discourage or alienate them. Pray your pastors will provide Godly leadership in the home, not based on fear of what others will think, but according to scriptural truth. If your pastor does not have children, pray God will give many "spiritual children" to share the Gospel. (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:20-21)

**DAY 8:** Ask God to protect your pastors from evil plots of Satan. Pray they will not be corrupted as they rub shoulders with the world in the course of their ministry. (1 Jn. 17:15; Is. 54:17; 2Co. 2:11; 1 Pe. 3:12; Ps. 9:9-10, 91:9-10)

**DAY 9:** Pray, God will build a hedge of protection around your pastors' families. Pray your pastors will guard against any improper relationships, and their family time will be protected. (Ezk. 22:30; 2Co. 10:4-5; Mt. 19:6)

**DAY 10:** Pray your pastors will use discernment in the use of emails, internet, texting, and other media sources. Ask God to protect their heart concerning the purpose of their free time. Pray they will be morally pure, and they will wear the armor of God so they will not fall to sexual temptation. (Rm. 13:14; 1 Pe. 1:16; Eph. 6:10-18; 2Co. 10:4)

**DAY 11:** Pray God will bring Godly friends and encouragers to your pastors and their families, to strengthen them for the ministry and provide meaningful fellowship with times of rest. (Pp. 2:19-25)

**DAY 12:** Pray your pastors will be humble and authentic in their faith, not given to pride or hypocrisy. Pray they will have pure motives and give God the glory for every gain and victory. (Mc. 6:8; Ga. 6:14; Jn. 7:17-18; 1 Co. 10-13)

**DAY 13:** Pray your pastors will make wise lifestyle choices to protect their health, especially in the areas of exercise, eating moderately, and getting sufficient rest. Pray for times of relaxation and renewal to balance the stress of ministry. (Rm. 12:1-2; 1Co. 6:19-20; 9:27, 10:13; Jm. 3:1-2)

**DAY 14:** Pray your pastors will focus on the Word of God, instead of the fear of humanity, as they prepare their message. Pray they will seek to please God and pursue holiness rather than the praise of others. (Pr. 19:23; At. 6:4; 2 Ti. 2:15, 4:1-2; Hb. 11:6)

**DAY 15:** Praise God for your pastors' leadership and pray they will make Godly decisions. Pray they will lead with a shepherd's heart, as they continue to foster a spirit of generosity and hope. (1 Ki. 3:9; Jr. 3:15; Rm. 12:6-8; 1 Pe. 5:2)

**DAY 16:** Pray your pastors will be courageous in the pulpit in proclaiming Christ and confident in their use of the Word of God. Ask God to help them speak with insight, transparency, and humility. (Co. 1:28, 4:3; Ep. 6:19)

**DAY 17:** Pray your pastors will be "Great Commission People" committed to personal evangelism and equipping the saints to seek the lost. Pray they will have the heart to develop a successful missions program in their church. (Mt. 28:19, 20; Lk. 19:10; Rm. 10:15)

**DAY 18:** Pray your pastors will be people of prayer, worship, and lead by example—teaching the congregation how to walk in a close relationship with the Father. (Mt. 4:10; Mk. 1:35; Lk. 22:36; At. 1:14; 1 Th. 5:17)

**DAY 19:** Pray your pastors will use wise time management, seeking God's perspective for their schedule, and guarding their time against unnecessary interruptions. (Ps. 90:12; Jn. 9:4; Ep. 5:15-16; Co. 4:5)

**DAY 20:** Pray for a fresh divine anointing on your pastors' ministries. Pray God's working will be powerfully evident in their personal lives and the congregation's spiritual life as we start the "Be Renewed" stewardship series. (Rm. 15:18-19; 1Co. 9:27; 2 Ti. 1:7)

**DAY 21:** Pray your pastors will not give in to discouragement. Let them deal with inevitable criticism and conflict by committing themselves into the hands of God, who judges righteously. (1 Pe. 2:23)

**DAY 22:** Let them teach the congregation with wisdom and serving with God's "agape" love. (Lk. 9:23-24; Jn. 13:5-9; Ga. 5:13; Pp. 2:3-4)

**DAY 23:** Pray for spiritual unity in the church staff and among the church's spiritual leadership. Pray the enemy will not be allowed to create division, strife, or misunderstanding among church leaders. (Rm. 14:19; 1Co. 12:25)

**DAY 24:** Pray God will give your pastors a clear, biblical vision of what your church can and should be doing for His glory. Pray they will communicate that vision clearly and confidently to the church. (Pr. 29:18; Ml. 3:11; Jn. 15:16, 17:17; 2 Ti. 3:5)

**DAY 25:** Pray your pastors will seek God for revival in their personal lives, your church, and the community that we might be renewed in our hearts, in our thinking, and in our spirit. (2 Ch. 7:4; Ps. 69:32)

**DAY 26:** Pray your pastors will think biblically, with the mind of Christ. (1Co. 2:16; Ep. 4:17; Co. 2:6-8)

**DAY 27:** Pray, they will earnestly seek God's will and be committed to instant and complete obedience—ready for God to work powerfully in and through their ministry. (2Co. 10:3-5; Lk. 9:23-24)

**DAY 28:** Pray they will strive for personal excellence and believe God for all He wants to do in the congregation and pastors' lives. (Co. 3:23-24; 2 Pe. 1:3)

**DAY 29:** Pray your pastors will be people of faith and the love of God, not giving in to worry, fear, or an anxious spirit. (Pr. 3:5-6; 1 Jn. 4:18)

**DAY 30:** Ask God to provide for the financial needs of your pastors and families. Pray they will be a wise steward of their finances and the church's finances, being renewed by the promises of God in our faithful giving. (Ps. 37:25; Pp. 4:19; 1 Ti. 6:11; Heb. 13:50, Rm. 12:2)

**DAY 31:** Ask God to heal any hurts that your pastors have suffered in the ministry. Pray they will serve the Lord with gladness and encourage the congregation to worship God with a joyful surrendered spirit. (Is. 61:3)

Adapted from Revive Our Hearts, 2005, by Nancy Leigh DeMoss.

Want to join the prayer team? Contact Jim Brantley 850-830-0107

