

Reconciliation / Forgiveness Volume 2 Issue 4

Prayer Pointers ~ Scripturally based topical prayers

Section markers are for those who wish to pray these petitions daily, over a week's time, to allow their truths to permeate their prayers.

Relationships are fraught with conflict, whether we are talking about our physical or spiritual families. Many people are facing situations where they are thrown together with family members or others with whom they have strained relationships—oftentimes these wounds have festered for many years. These often come to the fore as families gather for holidays or are thrown together at church gatherings. As we face our own difficult relationships, or pray for those of others, these scripture prayers can guide us to pray God's will into these situations.

Help us to be able to live in harmony, especially with others of the faith, and to live at peace.
Romans 12:16, 18

Help us to understand that each servant stands and falls in Your eyes alone, and You are willing and capable to make Your servants stand. And that You will enable us to stand, as well.
Romans 14:4

May we be aware of Satan's schemes and tricks so we will not be deceived or out

witted. Help us to see the role forgiveness plays in this.
2 Cor. 2:11

May we be both fully reconciled to You, and be reconcilers, for You have given us the ministry of reconciliation, leading others into union with You and one another. 2 Cor. 5:18-20

May You, who gives us endurance and encouragement give us a spirit of unity among ourselves as we follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth we may glorify You, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 15:5-6

Keep us from participating in divisions, rather keep us perfectly united in mind and thought with those believers with whom You have united us. 1 Cor. 1:10

If we come to worship or to serve You, and remember that someone has something against us, help us to have the courage and obedience to go to that person and be reconciled. May we not put this off, but quickly keep short accounts with anyone with whom we are in conflict.
Matt. 5:23-24

We have asked You to forgive our sins against You, and You have linked that forgiveness we seek to our obedience in forgiving those who have offenses against us. May we be faithful to forgive others their sins against us. Matt. 6:12, 14.

You have not told us to ignore offenses against us, rather to humbly confront, even rebuke sin, seeking to offer an opportunity for the other person to repent, even if that person sins against us repeatedly. The disciples prayed for You to give them more faith after You told them this. Increase our faith to be able to forgive as You do, so reconciliation is always possible, as far as we are concerned.
Luke 17:3b-6

May those excluded from the Body because of sin, be restored, forgiven, and their grief comforted so they will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. May we in the Body reaffirm their love for them. May they be restored so Satan will not win by separating out the weak one to devour him/her.
2 Cor. 2:7

Paul links forgiveness with our battle against Satan, so we know unforgiveness, unreconciled relationships, hardness of heart, and bitterness are the playgrounds of the enemy. Paul also says we are not unaware of Satan's schemes. May this be true of us, that we do not let ourselves become deceived and become tools of the enemy. 2 Cor. 2:10-11

Thank You, Jesus, for coming to be our peace—with God and with others. You have broken down the walls of barrier and hostility. You reconcile us all as one through the cross, putting to death those things which separate us. May we partake of this peace, and the power You bring to obtain this peace. Eph. 2:14-16

May we not permit bitterness, rage and anger, quarrels and slander, or any form of malice to be present in our lives. May we get rid of any hint of it, as we examine our lives before You.

Instead may we be kind and compassionate toward one another, forgiving each other just as in Jesus God has forgiven us.

May we do this in imitation of You, in our position as dearly loved children of Yours. For if we are aware of who we are to You, we will be able to live this life of love, just as Jesus loved us and gave Himself up for us.

Help us to see our forgiveness of others as a fragrant offering, a sacrifice

pleasing to You. Eph. 4:31-5:2

Help us to be mindful of who we are to You, what our foundation is—as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved.

May this awareness help us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.

May we have Your compassion, Lord, so we will be able to have open hearts toward even those who have offended us, knowing that hurting people hurt others and need our compassion rather than our judgment.

May we put on Your kindness, so we will treat others with gracious acts of love, especially when they do not "deserve" those kindnesses. Just as You have continually been kind to us, though we do not deserve such grace.

May we have humble hearts, so we will not take offense easily, we won't walk with chips on our shoulders, and we will not be quick to dismiss criticism, instead looking to see if there is any truth in it You can apply to our lives, despite its unwelcome assault or rude delivery. May humility allow us to keep our hearts open, and to not harden against others. Also we know that You resist the proud, and we need so much of Your grace. May we grow in the humility necessary to deal well with the offenses of others.

May our responses be gentle

when provoked, instead of giving a harsh or angry reaction.

And may we be patient with others, knowing that we all need Your grace, and how long-suffering and patient You have been with us. May we bind all these things with love, for love holds all of this together in perfect unity. Col. 3:12-14

You have warned us to above all things to guard our hearts. So help us to guard our hearts from anything which hardens it. For our if our hearts are hard toward anyone else, they are hardened to that degree toward You. May we keep in mind that You have clearly said if we say we love You, but do not love our brother/sister, we do not, in truth, love You. May we not allow such hardness to drive us from our intimacy with You. Prov. 4:23; 1 John 2:9-11

Lord, You have warned us that quarrels and disputes come from our desires at battle within us. Our selfish desires, vain ambition, and false motives cause dissension and division. Convict us of judging or criticizing others. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to humble ourselves with You and with one another. May we seek Your kingdom, and not our own. And may we work together, shoulder to shoulder, for Your kingdom. Refine our motives, so they are focused on Your desires and not our own.