



## The First Five Minutes

Congratulations! You've made it a priority to spend some quality time with the Lord. Here are some ways to begin your prayer time, and commune with your God in a way that will strengthen your relationship with Him.

### PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Whether you're in your favorite easy chair, kneeling at the foot of your bed or on your way to work, prayer should start with praising God and thanking Him for all He has done for you already.

But first...*get comfortable.*

**Reflect on Psalm 46:10** *"Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."*

- Remove yourself from any common distractions, like the TV, computer or cell phones.
- If possible, choose a quiet room to pray in, close the door and tell family that you're spending some important time with God. (Matthew 6:6)
- Settle into a quiet space and ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit. If this is difficult initially, don't give up. Just take a few minutes until you can comfortably and quietly find your heart in a place of devotion.

**Speak the words of Psalm 147:1 aloud.** *"Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praises to our God, how pleasant and fitting to praise him!"*

- Think about all the things you are grateful for: Grateful for your home? Tell God about it. Happy that you have a job? Tell Him how you feel. Tell God how grateful you are for your family and friends. Even if you can find only the smallest, most seemingly trivial part of your life that is positive, be sure to thank God for it. "Lord, thank you for giving me the air I breathe". Find *something* to be glad for and THANK GOD.
- Listen to worship music, or sing a verse or two from a favorite song or hymn. Your heavenly Father doesn't care if you can't carry a tune!

Now you're ready to bring your requests to the God....

There are 5 focused areas of prayer. Spend 5 minutes praying for each focus by simply speaking the written prayers or expanding upon those prayers using your own words.

## **READ & REFLECT on Scripture related to prayers for The Next Generation**

1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity"

Matthew 6:33 "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled."

## **PRAY**

- We pray that You will draw the children and students at RiverGlen into the saving Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- We pray that they will be continually reminded of how much God loves them even when they are feeling unlovable.
- We pray that our children and students are filled with your Holy Spirit power to stand strong in faith, proclaiming the good news of the gospel to their friends, family members, neighbors and classmates
- We pray that they will choose to read the bible and pray daily for God's strength
- We pray that they will not be shaken when the temptation to sin is in front of them, but be reminded that God is bigger and stronger than temptation.
- We pray that our students and children will find their identity as a child of God so they can resist the pull to find significance in other things like popularity, achievement, material possessions, or intelligence

We lift all these prayers up to You Holy Father knowing that you have promised to be faithful to hear our requests.

In Jesus name we pray AMEN!

## **READ & REFLECT on Scripture related to prayers for The Pewaukee Campus**

Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified: do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Matthew 28:18-20 "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

### **Pray**

- Lord, bless the people in the Pewaukee community. Open their eyes to make them aware of the RiverGlen Pewaukee campus.
- Father, bring many people to the RiverGlen Pewaukee campus. Soften hearts and ignite the curiosity of those in the community who are not yet following you, so they will come and check us out.
- Lord, fill the volunteers at the Pewaukee Campus with the Holy Spirit so that they will be welcoming to new people and confident in their faith.
- Father, we ask that you raise up even more volunteers at the Pewaukee campus. Give people the courage to step out of their comfort zones as they serve the needs of others with their time, talents, and treasures.
- Lord, we pray that many new people will come to faith in you as a result of this new campus. We also pray that all who make RiverGlen Pewaukee their home would grow in faith, becoming better followers of Jesus.

We lift all these prayers up to You Holy Father knowing that you have promised to be faithful to hear our requests.

In Jesus name we pray AMEN!

## **READ & REFLECT on Scripture related to The Unfinished Journey**

Philippians 1:6 "Being confident of this that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Malachi 3:10 "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this", says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

### **Pray**

- Lord, give us the will and desire to trust you and to rely on your goodness for all of our needs. Give us your strength to finish strong in this Unfinished Journey. We acknowledge how you have regularly provided for our needs.
- God give us the desire and the will to make temporary sacrifices in our financial lives so we can take part in making lasting changes in the lives of others through our Unfinished commitments.
- We pray that our generosity will impact the lives of those who are far from you. We pray for our friends, families and people we have not yet met. We ask you to use our tithe to bring them to you.
- We pray for changed lives as we fulfill the pledges we have made to unfinished. Lord, we ask that each individual and family at RiverGlen would be changed through the Unfinished Journey.
- We pray that we would live our lives knowing that we cannot out give God. Remind us daily, that all of our needs are met through God and God is enough for us.

We lift all these prayers up to You Holy Father knowing that you have promised to be faithful to hear our requests.

In Jesus name we pray AMEN!

## **READ & REFLECT on Scripture related to The Leadership of the Church**

Acts 20:28 "So guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders."

Philippians 2:3-8 "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!"

### **Pray**

- Lord, we come before You to lift up our ministry leaders; Pastor Ben Davis, Pastor Don Rowe, and Pastor Dave Kowal as the pastoral shepherds of the RiverGlen flock. Thank you that you have given them the ability to care for this church.
- We pray that our leaders do nothing out of selfish ambitions or empty conceit as stated in Philippians 2, but that they humble themselves before You, God and daily carry the attitude of Christ Jesus as they walk in love and integrity toward those attending RiverGlen.
- Knowing that stricter judgment awaits them as teachers, help those who teach to concentrate first on their own personal devotion to you.
- Lord, we also lift up the staff and Elders of RiverGlen as they are a part of the body of Christ that oversees this church. As they continue to serve with a servant's heart, use them to increase the message of the love of Jesus.
- We ask that Your hand of protection shield the Elders, Pastors and staff from all the attacks of Satan, our enemy.
- Lord, we ask that you give our leadership the strength to resist temptations and to live with integrity daily.

We lift all these prayers up to You Holy Father knowing that you have promised to be faithful to hear our requests.

In Jesus name we pray AMEN!

## **READ & REFLECT on Scripture related to The Ministries of RiverGlen**

Ephesians 4:11-13 "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

### **Pray**

Consider all the ministries, their leaders and volunteers and contemplate their impact toward changing lives in the church.

- Father, please protect and guide our ministry staff, that they may be the hands and feet of your Son Jesus Christ.
- Keep our leaders and volunteers focused on the mission to make more and better to followers Jesus in the area where they serve.
- We pray that our First Impressions Team would have an attitude of love and humility for the attenders and guests at RiverGlen so that they can help create a welcoming environment for those seeking God and His grace.
- We pray specifically for all the ministries starting new things this fall – a new Alpha Discovery Group, new Life Groups, Celebrate Recovery meetings and a new semester of KidLife, EDGE, and SLIFE for students. Help many people to have the courage to attend these ministries for the first time and to open their hearts to teaching and guidance from God.
- We pray that many at RiverGlen would see our community as a place to share God's love. Give us compassion for those in need in Waukesha and Pewaukee, in Milwaukee and around the world where we contribute to God's work.
- We pray that the Arts team would authentically lead the congregation into close relationship with you and create an environment where the Holy Spirit can work in people's hearts.

We lift all these prayers up to You Holy Father knowing that you have promised to be faithful to hear our requests.

In Jesus name we pray AMEN!