

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 COMMITMENT <i>Psalm 37:5</i> Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him ... <p style="text-align: right;"><i>New Year's Day</i></p>	2 CHOSEN <i>Deut. 7:6-8</i> ... The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. ... <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Epiphany</i></p>	3 LOVE <i>Zeph. 3:17</i> The LORD your God is with you ... in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing.	4 TRANSFORMED <i>2 Cor. 3:18</i> And we all ... are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.	5 OBEDIENCE <i>Romans 12:1</i> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God ...	6 WORSHIP <i>Matt. 2:9-11</i> ... they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts ... <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Epiphany</i></p>	7 CHRIST'S WORK <i>1 Peter 3:18</i> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. ...
8 STRENGTH <i>Isaiah 41:10</i> ... I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.	9 GOD'S FAITHFULNESS <i>Lam. 3:22,23</i> ... for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.	10 PEACE <i>1 Peter 5:7</i> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.	11 PROVISION <i>Philippians 4:19</i> And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.	12 GENEROSITY <i>Proverbs 3:9-10</i> Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing ...	13 GUIDANCE <i>Psalm 25:4,5</i> Show me your ways, LORD, teach me your paths. Guide me in your truth and teach me ...	14 HUMILITY <i>1 Peter 5:5,6</i> ... Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ...
15 PURITY <i>1 Peter 2:11</i> Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul.	16 JUSTICE <i>Amos 5:24</i> But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day u.s.</i></p>	17 INTEGRITY <i>Proverbs 11:3</i> The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.	18 FAITH <i>Hebrews 11:6</i> And without faith it is impossible to please God ...	19 GOOD WORKS <i>Matt. 5:16</i> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.	20 LEADERSHIP <i>1 Tim. 2:1,2</i> ... I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority ... <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Inauguration Day u.s.</i></p>	21 SOVEREIGNTY <i>Isaiah 46:10</i> I make known the end from the beginning ... what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, ...
22 RESCUE <i>Psalm 61:1,2</i> Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. From the ends of the earth I call to you,	23 CONFIDENCE <i>Psalm 16:7,8</i> I will praise the LORD, who counsels me; ... I keep my eyes always on the LORD. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.	24 HOLY SPIRIT <i>John 16:13</i> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. ...	25 THANKSGIVING <i>Ephesians 5:19,20</i> ... Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything ...	26 CONFESSION <i>1 John 1:9</i> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.	27 PRAISE <i>Psalm 146:1,2</i> ... Praise the LORD, my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.	28 THE NATIONS <i>Romans 10:15</i> And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? ... "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" <i>Chinese New Year</i>
29 GOODNESS <i>Psalm 119:65-72</i> ... Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands. ... The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold.	30 HOLINESS <i>Revelation 4:8-11</i> ... Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come. ... You are worthy, our Lord and God ...	31 GRACE <i>Ephesians 1:7,8</i> In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us. ...	<h1>January 2017</h1> <p>Start the New Year with a daily prayer focus. Read through each day following the topics and verses as a prayer prompt for that day.</p>			

D2GO

PRAYER



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FIRST, YOU LISTEN

By Lee Brase

**"My soul waits in silence for God only; from Him is my salvation....
My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him"**

PSALM 62:1, 5 (NASB)

WHEN I WANTED TO DEVELOP A DEEPER PRAYER LIFE, I chose as my mentors the praying people of the Bible. Their words gave me a language for my own prayers. They also taught me the need to listen to God—to wait on Him—before and as I pray.

This attitude of listening was a challenge to my activist tendencies. But as I studied my mentors from Scripture, I became convinced that the habit of waiting on God was key to a transformed prayer life.

WAITING IN SILENCE

"My soul waits in silence for God only; from Him is my salvation.... My soul, wait in silence for God only, for my hope is from Him" (Psalm 62:1, 5, NASB). There are different ways to wait on God, but perhaps the most intense is the one described here by David: waiting in silence. When we wait in silence, we give God an opportunity to communicate His thoughts to us. David closes Psalm 62 with two thoughts that God spoke to him during his silence: "Power belongs to God" and "Lovingkindness is Thine, O Lord" (verses 11,12, NASB). Though distressed by his circumstances and the wickedness of men, David found assurance in the character of God because he took time to listen to God.

A group of us were trying to learn to pray from God's heart rather than from our own thoughts and emotions. One person shared a very difficult home environment. Our first inclination was to rush into prayer to ask God to rescue our friend from her painful circumstances. Instead, however, we spent several minutes in silence, asking God to prompt our hearts and minds to know what He wanted us to pray.

After waiting in silence, it was amazing how united we were in our asking. For about 15 minutes we built upon each others' prayers. When we finished praying, I turned to our friend and asked, "Did you notice what God did *not* lead us to pray?"

Her immediate response was, "I certain-

ly did. I think God must want to change me rather than my circumstances."

We had entered the silence expecting God to use our prayers to change her circumstances, but God had something more important in mind for her. To accomplish His purpose, God changed what we asked of Him.

A LISTENING ATTITUDE

Asking is the easy part of prayer; knowing *what to ask* is the difficult part. That's why waiting on God is so critical when we intercede for one another.

How can you learn to listen to God before you rush into asking? Begin by *placing yourself in a listening attitude*. Think of a time when you were listening intently to someone. You focused your attention on them, you were quiet, and you absorbed their thoughts. That's what you can do with God.

Solomon urged, "Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God" (Ecclesiastes 5:2). Instead of blurting out your list of requests, enter into silence and stillness with one question: "Lord, what do You want me to ask of You concerning the need before me?" Expect God to remind you of a Scripture passage or to put a thought in your mind. If you have already decided what you think God wants to say, you will close your heart to any other thoughts from Him, so give Him the opportunity to say anything He wants to you.

WHERE'S YOUR FOCUS?

Another key to listening to God is to *focus your attention on Him*. One way to focus on God is to look at how He has acted in biblical history. In Acts 4, Jesus followers faced great danger. Their lives were threatened by the same people who had condemned and crucified Jesus a few months earlier. The disciples were told "not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus" (Acts 4:18).

What would you pray in these circumstances? I can imagine asking God, "Protect us from these evil people. Don't let

us get caught proclaiming Your name." But listen to what the disciples prayed (verses 24-30):

Sovereign Lord ... you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: "Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One." Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.

These threatened believers recalled a time in biblical history when people made threats against God. Then they traced God's response in history. After reviewing how God's victorious plan had involved suffering, the disciples did not ask God for safety, comfort, or an easy way out. They made two requests: one for boldness and one for miraculous works to give their bold words credibility. God answered their prayer.

FROM GOD'S HEART TO YOURS

If we are to co-labor with God through intercession, we need to learn to listen before we ask. Silence and waiting will not come easily at first, but as you practice this discipline, you will grow in it.

This week during your time of intercession, wait silently before God before you speak. As you become more comfortable with waiting, you will discover that your prayers are coming right from the heart of God.

Lee and his wife, Marilyn, recently retired after 59 years of ministry with The Navigators. Lee coauthored the Bible study guide *Praying from God's Heart* (NavPress).



WALK PRAY PAY ATTENTION LISTEN

Walk and pray through your neighborhood, believing that the Gospel is transformative today and that God's Spirit is at work in your unique situation. What a great opportunity to look for ways you can love your neighbors well.



Prayer Tool

The Prayer Hand provides an easy-to-remember tool highlighting five essential aspects of prayer: confession, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise. Use it for your own spiritual growth and to share with someone else.

Download at
navlink.org/prayer-hand



To purchase these books visit Navpress.com or call our publishing partner Tyndale House toll free 855-277-9400.

Neighborhood Prayer Walk

By Kirk Lauckner, NavNeighbors

Day 1 Lord, would You please deepen my love for my neighborhood, this place I call home. "The Word became flesh and moved into the neighborhood" (John 1:14 MSG).

Day 2 Do I know the names of my neighbors? Lord, help me to learn the names of those living by me.

Day 3 Lord, thank You for the gift of a new day! May You surprise me as I walk these streets and may a divine appointment happen today!

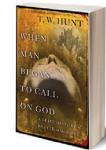
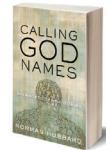
Day 4 Lord, would You give me the time and capacity to practice hospitality? Is there someone we could invite for dinner within the next month?

Day 5 Lord, help me to be faithfully present in my neighborhood. May I intentionally say "yes" and "no" to the right things so I have more time for my neighbors.

Day 6 What promises am I praying for my neighborhood? While I am walking today bring to mind specific Scripture that speaks to loving people, the neighborhood, and the expansion of the Gospel.

Day 7 Are there other Christ-followers in my neighborhood? Who else can join us? Lord, would you please help me identify "people of peace" or people who care deeply about my neighborhood.

Download a 30 day prayer walk for your neighborhood at navlink.org/prayerwalk



Dirty Glory: Go Where Your Best Prayers Take You by Pete Greig

Read story after story of the 24/7 prayer movement, illustrating how God's faithful interaction with human prayer changes lives and cultures.

Calling God Names: Seven Names of God That Reveal His Character

by Norman Hubbard An in-depth study of seven names of God in the Old Testament, *Calling God Names* intertwines Old and New Testament Scripture with real-life relational stories to help you reflect and draw closer to God.

When Man Began to Call On God: A Brief History of Prayer in the Bible

by TW Hunt This book-by-book analysis of prayer not only examines the intensely relational nature of God but also reveals how communication with Him is central to a vibrant life of faith.

Come to the Family Table: Slowing Down to Enjoy Food, Each Other, and Jesus

by Ted & Amy Cunningham Inspired by the slow food movement, *Come to the Family Table* seeks to encourage families with intentional strategies to engage one another and create the table as a space for practical ministry to their community.