



7 Days of Prayer for the Pastor

Written by

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Monday – Marriage/Family

Pray for your pastor's marriage and family. Pray that he or she will keep their family as priority even over the church. Pray that he or she is reminded that family is the first ministry. Pray for unity and peace in their home. Pray that they and their spouse will remain on one accord and guard against dissension or divorce. Pray for their children and extended family members. The call to ministry often wreaks havoc on the family of the one who is called. This does not have to be so, your prayers can help make sure of it.

Tuesday – Temptations

While your pastor is a tremendous spiritual leader, he or she is also a flawed individual. No one is perfect – your pastor is not the exception. He may be gifted, but he or she is still human. They carry God's treasure in an earthen vessel (II Corinthians 4:7). This means that your pastor is not above yielding to temptation. Pray that he guards against temptation and that they have the proper boundaries and accountability system in their lives to help keep them away from a fall. If you prayed for your pastor every time YOU were tempted, imagine how many prayers your pastor would receive each day! Pray that he would not be led into temptation.

Wednesday – Work/Career

Many pastors are bi-vocational. They hold secular jobs in addition to their spiritual work leading the church. Even those pastors who are full-time in ministry often wear many hats both within the church and community. Pray that the Lord would bless the work of their hands and the fruit of their labors. Pray that their ministries, careers, business endeavors, and educational pursuits would be blessed and successful. The pastor's work and career outside of the church only helps to broaden the reach of the church into the community. Pray that he carries the light of Christ's love and the ministry of the church with them as they work.

Thursday – Thoughts/Ideas

Many pastors are visionary leaders. As such, their minds are constantly bombarded with thoughts and ideas. Pray for clarity as they think and develop ideas for the growth of the church. Pray that they would have the mind of Christ (Philippians 2:5) and that they would not fall prey to prideful thoughts. A pastor that can think clearly can lead clearly. Pray for focus and clarity of vision so that they can lead effectively.

Friday – Finances

Contrary to what we see on TV, most pastors are woefully underpaid. They work long hours, have many sleepless nights, and many retire with very little to show for it. The Bible says that the workman is worthy of his keep (Matthew 10:10). Pray that your pastor is able to provide for his or her family and take care of the temporal needs of their home. Pray for both the finances of the pastor and the church so there would be one less stressor on his or her mind. You pray for God to meet your needs...do the same for your pastor each week.

Saturday – Sabbath (Rest)

The Bible commands us to rest. God rested on the seventh day of the week. Yet, many pastors are so busy doing the work of the Lord that they don't take time out for rest and self-care. This is why so many pastors experience burnout and many end up leaving the ministry altogether. Pray for your pastor to get the requisite rest so that he or she can operate at an optimal level the remainder of the week. When possible, provide opportunities for your pastor to rest by offering to watch the kids or perform a task that he or she would normally do to give them a few extra hours of rest. Tired pastors usually preach tired sermons. If you want the sermon to be blessed, make sure the pastor has some rest.

Sunday – Strength

Sunday is generally the busiest and most stressful day of the week for most pastors. While many church members devote an hour or two on Sundays to the church, most pastors (like Jesus) get up *early* Sunday morning to begin preparing for the day. For most pastors, Sunday is a long and full work day, especially for those who preach or lead multiple services each week. This is not to mention the spiritual attacks they face when standing to deliver the message. Pray that your pastor's strength doesn't fail. Pray that when they are weak, God will be strong for them.

When you pray for your pastor every day you empower him or her to more effectively do what God has called them to do. Your prayers are more powerful than you can imagine. There is no better investment of your time and energy for the overall health and growth of your church than the time you take to pray for your pastor. Remember, the effective and fervent prayers of the righteous avail much (James 5:16). Pray for your pastor every day. In fact, you can start today!

See more at: <http://www.tejadohanchell.com/>

