

# How to Pray for Missionaries

*I Thessalonians 5:25 Brethren, pray for us.*

*II Corinthians 1:11 Ye also **helping together by prayer for us**, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.*



- Get in the battle through prayer *Romans 15:30 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's sake, and for the love of the Spirit, that ye **strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;***
  - Paul asks his brothers in Christ to pray for him
  - It wasn't a selfish prayer request but for the cause of Jesus Christ our Lord and because of the love of the Spirit
  - They could get really involved if they would pray for him
  - Real prayer will be work
  - To be disciplined to pray regularly
  - To be dedicated enough to know what to pray
  - To be interested enough to stay in touch

- To learn and really carry the burden of your laboring brother

1. Pray for protection **Romans 15:31** *That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints; II Thessalonians 3:1* Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: 2 And that we may be **delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.**

- a. There are often great dangers on the mission field
- b. What causes more trouble is that the hatred towards a person is caused by the message and the person that they represent
- c. **Satanic attack and oppression is a real thing**
- d. Loneliness, isolation, strange customs, language etc will only be part of the enemies arsenal against God's man

e. **We are in a spiritual war** Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord**, and in **the power of his might.** 11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be **able to stand against the wiles of the devil.** 12 For we wrestle **not against flesh and blood**, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*. 13 Wherefore take unto you the **whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15 And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 Above all, **taking the shield of faith**, wherewith ye shall be **able to quench all the fiery darts** of the wicked.

2. **Pray for an acceptable ministry** Romans 15:31 *That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be **accepted** of the saints;*

- a. *Just* because you preach the Bible doesn't mean that it can and will get through
  - b. What you are doing needs to be done in a way that is acceptable
  - c. This is **cross cultural ministry**--it is removing all of the barriers you and your background might cause for the kingdom
  - d. It is the new "well bucket" that Opie wants to give the poor guy
  - e. **Some missionaries never connect** so let's pray that your missionary does and can really enter into their lives
3. **Pray for success** *32 That I may come unto you **with joy** by the will of God, and may with you be refreshed.*
- a. When the missionary returns from the field pray that he can return with joy
  - b. **Pray that he will know that God has used him and will have great testimonies of God's grace** *Acts 14:25 And **when they had preached the word** in Perga, they went down into Attalia: **26** And thence **sailed to Antioch**, from **whence they had been recommended to the grace***

**of God for the work which they fulfilled.**

27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, **they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith** unto the Gentiles. 28

And there they abode long time with the disciples.

- c. You can be in the battle with all your missionary does
- d. You can stand with him as he preaches and teaches
- e. You can make a difference through prayer and add fruit to your account **Philippians 4:17** Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

4. Pray that God will **open doors** for the gospel

*Colossians 4:3-4* *Withal praying also for us, that God would **open unto us a door** of utterance to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds; That I May make it manifest, as **I ought to speak.***

- a. It is God that opens the doors for the preacher to preach
- b. It is God that causes the people to hear

- c. It is the Holy Spirit that convicts men of their sin and their need of a Saviour
- d. Pray that your missionary will know what to say and how to say it
- e. Crossing cultures makes that harder than ever and it is hard here

5. Pray that the Word of God might have free course and be glorified *II Thessalonians 3:1-2 Finally brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have **free course, and be glorified**, even as it is with you: And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.*

- a. Satan will do all in His power to stop the spread of the Word of God
  - i. He will cause the missionaries to be afraid
  - ii. He will cause the believers to fear
  - iii. He will multiply needs so that the missionary is too busy to do the work of God
- b. We want God to make His Word run unhindered through the people and culture

- c. We want the people to begin to glorify the Word of God with all that is in them.
- d. We want the people to learn and know the Bible truths like we do and practice them even more
- e. Your prayers can help as your missionary goes forward to do just this