

Week 5 Prayer Guide

Receiving Guidance from God (2 – For Our Leaders)



It's been a difficult season for our church. Our Pastor sensed that it was time to move on, the pandemic hit, and we haven't been together in order to work through all the issues facing us. We need guidance in all areas. Then, due to all that has been happening, our current leadership is very thin, and those making decisions are necessarily isolated from the weekly life of the church that we all miss. We NEED to pray FOR leaders and FOR OUR leaders.

Day 1 – Do We Trust God to Supply?

Read: The verses below from the Philippians 4, written when the Apostle Paul was in prison:

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

⁸ And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. ⁹ Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ How I praise the Lord that you are concerned about me again. I know you have always been concerned for me, but you didn't have the chance to help me. ¹¹ Not that I was ever in need, for I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. ¹² I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. ¹³ For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength....

¹⁸ At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Think/Meditate:

- Do I bring my worries and concerns about Queensway to God? What are those worries and concerns?

Pray:

- Pray that those matters God has brought to your attention will be resolved well.
- Then pray that you may have the strength and wisdom to give those concerns to Him and to trust the results.

Day 2 – Prayer For Our Leaders

What kind of preparation is required to be a leader in the Church?

- It's *not* simply a matter of education—plenty of men and women with no formal education have changed the world.
- It's *not* simply a matter of time—the Apostle Paul preached days after his conversion (though he did then go to Arabia for three years of study under Jesus).
- It's *not* simply a matter of position—leadership is influence, with or without a title.
- **It's a matter of having a heart surrendered to God.**

Read: These verses from Philippians 4 again:

⁶ Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷ Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

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Think/Meditate:

- Do I pray for my leaders at Queensway? Do I pray for their yieldness to God? Do I pray for them to be filled with God's Spirit? Am I ready to follow those whom God has given to us as they seek his wisdom and truth?

Pray:

- Pray for our leaders and staff in this season that they are filled with God's Spirit and that they know His strength and guidance in this difficult and lonely season.
- Pray that they find the right paths toward re-opening, toward seeking a new pastor, and toward dealing with any issues that exist in the church before we call a new Pastor.

Day 3 – Prayer for God to Supply Needed Leaders

Read: Consider this verse from Philippians 4 again:

¹⁹ And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.

Then look at what God has promised to give His Church (Romans 12):

⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. ⁷ If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. ⁸ If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Think/Meditate:

- What does this suggest about our need for leaders at Queensway? Where will they come from?
- What prevents people from stepping into leadership? Can God supply their needs in this?
- Is there a role for you in this difficult season in our life as a church?

Pray:

- Pray that God will supply the leadership that we need. Pray that He will shower spiritual gifts on our church? Pray that people will overcome shyness and fear and step up as we begin to plan to re-open and move forward.
- Pray that your own heart will be moved and challenged in this regard.

Day 4 – A Leader’s Prayer Too

Pray: Read: The verses below. We know them well by now. Why not just recite them from memory?

*23 Search me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
24 Point out anything in me that offends you,
and lead me along the path of everlasting life. Psalm 139*

Think/Meditate: How can we pray this prayer for our current leaders and for those leaders we are praying to God to provide? Think through each line of the prayer.

Pray: Pray this prayer on behalf of our leadership and staff. Pray it for yourself as you respond to our leadership and as you consider God’s possible call to picking up part of the task of leading.

Other Days & Continuing

Leaders cannot lead a people who will not be led. Leaders cannot be led unless they be people who are willing to be led by God’s Spirit. Read the following verses and apply them both to yourself and to our leaders.... Present and Future!

¹² Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. ¹³ Make allowance for each other’s faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful.