

HYDE PARK SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

40 Days of Prayer for the Holy Spirit and Alignment with God's Perfect Will

February 17 – March 28, 2019

Key Text: Proverbs 3:5-6 – “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (NKJV).

Key Quotes: EGW, Steps to Christ, 93, 94 – “The darkness of the evil one encloses those who neglect to pray. The whispered temptations of the enemy entice them to sin; and it is all because they do not make use of the privileges that God has given them in the divine appointment of prayer. Why should the sons and daughters of God be reluctant to pray, when prayer is the key in the hand of faith to unlock heaven’s storehouse, where are treasured the boundless resources of Omnipotence? Without unceasing prayer and diligent watching we are in danger of growing careless and of deviating from the right path.”

EGW, Manuscript Releases 8:195-197 – “The prayer of faith is the key that unlocks the treasury of heaven. As we commit our souls to God, let us remember that He holds Himself responsible to hear and answer our supplications. He invites us to come to Him, and He bestows on us His best and choicest gifts—gifts that will supply our great need. He loves to help us. Let us trust in His wisdom and His power. Oh, what faith we should have! Oh, what peace and comfort we should enjoy! Open your heart to the Spirit of God. Then the Lord will work through you and bless your labors.

Shall we not humble ourselves before God in behalf of those who apparently have little spiritual life? Shall we not have appointed seasons of prayer for them? Shall we not pray every day for those who seem to be dead in trespasses and sins? As we plead with God to break the hearts of stone, our own hearts will become more sensitive. We shall be quicker to see our own sin.”

EGW, Signs of the Times, June 18, 1896, par. 8 – “The summing up of the benefit of prayer is that devotion that leads to faith in God’s promises. This faith is the key that opens the divine treasury, is the hand by which we appropriate to our use the richest gifts of God. The prayer of the contrite heart unlocks the treasure house supplies, and lays hold of omnipotent power. This kind of prayer enables the suppliant to understand what it means to lay hold of the strength of God, and to make peace with him. This kind of prayer causes us to have an influence over those with whom we associate. The prayer of faith is not listless, dry, and uninteresting. It wells up from perfect trust and assurance, and by its fervor makes manifest to the world, to angels, and to men, that you do believe in God, and have made Christ your personal Saviour. The Lord Jehovah accepts the argument that is presented in the name of his Son, and places the resources of his merit at your command. It is our privilege and duty to bring the efficacy of the name of Christ into our petitions, and use the very arguments that Christ has used in our behalf. Our prayers will then be in complete harmony with the will of God. Then it is that Christ clothes the contrite suppliant with his own priestly vestments, and the human petitioner approaches the altar holding the holy censer, from which ascends the incense of the fragrance of the merit of Christ’s righteousness.”

Main Devotional Book: *Prayer*, by Ellen G. White

Instructions:

1. Prepare yourself, your family, and those within your immediate, sphere of influence by prayerfully setting aside this period of time for relentless communion with God and soul-searching meditation.
2. Commit to praying without ceasing, and set aside at least 3 – 5 times daily for uninterrupted fellowship with God.
3. Select a prayer partner who will journey with you and hold you accountable during this period of time. Commit to praying and sharing with your prayer partner at least once daily during the 40 days period.
4. Follow the daily *Scriptural* and *Devotional* readings. Take a few moments daily to meditate on the assigned biblical passage, journaling the spiritual lessons that the Spirit impresses on your heart. Reflect on the devotional readings, taking notes of the lessons for effective prayer. Implement the lessons into your prayer life.
5. Seek opportunities to share nuggets of the spiritual lessons you've gleaned from the daily readings with family members, friends, neighbors, workmates, classmates, or with your social media followers.
6. As you spend time in prayer and meditation, pay special attention to the things that God will reveal to you regarding the changes He wants to see in your life.
7. Invite your family, friends, or neighbors, especially those who are unsaved, to join you at least once a week for a season prayer. Take the opportunity to teach, reflect, and implement what you have been learning about prayer. Commit to interceding daily for your unsaved loved ones, friends and community.
8. Seek to discern what God is saying to you and doing in your life.
9. Commit to interceding for the Hyde Park Church family.

Week One – Surrender to God's Will for Our Lives (Aligning Ourselves with God)

Summary: *During this week, we focus on the daily surrender of our lives and wills to God. This is not simply surrendering specific aspects of our lives to God, it is completely aligning ourselves with God's will, character, and purpose.*

Day 1 – Psalm 9:10; *Prayer*, pgs. 7 - 9

Day 2 – Psalm 11:1; *Prayer*, pgs. 10 – 16

Day 3 – Psalm 18:2; *Prayer*, pgs. 17 – 23.2

Day 4 – Psalm 18:30; *Prayer*, pgs. 23.3 – 32.4

Day 5 – Psalm 20:7; *Prayer*, pgs. 33 – 38

Day 6 – Psalm 31:1; *Prayer*, pgs. 39 – 45

Day 7 – Psalm 31:6; *Prayer*, pgs. 46 – 51

Week Two – Desiring and Pursuing God’s Will for Our Lives (Aligning Our Attitudes and Proclivities with God)

Summary: *During this week, we focus on nurturing a passion for God. We ask God to develop in us a thirst for spiritual things and a hunger for His Word. We open before God our attitudes and proclivities that tend to separate us from Him, and ask Him to consecrate us to His will. We desire to have the mind of Christ and a heart for God.*

Day 8 – Psalm 34:22; *Prayer*, pgs. 52 – 56.4

Day 9 – Psalm 37:3; *Prayer*, pgs. 57 – 63

Day 10 – Psalm 37:5; *Prayer*, pgs. 64 – 69

Day 11 – Psalm 40:3; *Prayer*, pgs. 70 – 75.2

Day 12 – Psalm 64:10; *Prayer*, pgs. 75.3 – 81.4

Day 13 – Psalm 71:1; *Prayer*, pgs. 82 – 85.4

Day 14 – Psalm 73:28; *Prayer*, pgs. 86 – 89

Week Three – Embracing and Implementing God’s Will for Our Relationships (Aligning Our Alliances and Associations)

Summary: *During this week, we focus on embracing and living God’s will for our relationships and associations. We ask God to reveal the alliances in our lives that obstruct the fulfillment and manifestation of His will in our lives. We prayerfully surrender all of our relationships and alliances to God, asking Him to break, or to give us the strength end or modify, relationships that have become toxic. We ask God to reveal and establish new, Heaven-ordained alliances and relationships, and transform or re-invigorate existing ones that Heaven desires to see flourish.*

Day 15 – Psalm 92:2; *Prayer*, pgs. 90 – 95

Day 16 – Psalm 115:9; *Prayer*, pgs. 96 – 103.5

Day 17 – Psalm 115:10; *Prayer*, pgs. 104.2 – 115

Day 18 – Psalm 115:11; *Prayer*, pgs. 116 – 121

Day 19 – Psalm 118:8; *Prayer*, pgs. 155 – 160.2

Day 20 – Psalm 118:9; *Prayer*, pgs. 160.3 – 166

Day 21 – Psalm 125:1; *Prayer*, pgs. 167 – 172.3

Week Four – Living and Thinking God’s Will for Our Lives (Aligning Our Livelihood and Mindfulness)

Summary: *During this week, we focus on prayerfully assessing the spiritual impact of our livelihood, mindfulness, and commitments on God’s will for our lives. We pray that God will give us wisdom to identify the extraneous things in our lives; that He would grant us courage to align our livelihood and mindfulness with His ideals, regardless of the temporal consequences; and that He would give us grace to lay up treasures in Heaven, rather than stockpiling materialistic junk here on Earth. We implore God to help us to contemplate the things that are holy, pure, just, righteous, and true. We ask God to help us to make Christ the subject of our mindfulness.*

Day 22 – Psalm 141:8; *Prayer*, pgs. 173 – 177

Day 23 – Proverbs 3:5; *Prayer*, pgs. 178 – 188

Day 24 – Proverbs 22:19; *Prayer*, pgs. 189 – 197

Day 25 – Proverbs 28:25; *Prayer*, pgs. 198 – 206

Day 26 – Proverbs 29:25; *Prayer*, pgs. 207 – 216

Day 27 – Isaiah 26:4; *Prayer*, pgs. 217 – 221

Day 28 – Isaiah 31:1; *Prayer*, pgs. 222 – 227

Week Five – Ministering and Serving According to God’s Will (Aligning Our Spiritual Gifts and Service)

Summary: *During this week, we focus on prayerfully evaluating our stewardship and service to the Kingdom of God. We ask that God will reveal our Spiritual Gifts to us and show us how to best utilize those gifts in Kingdom building. We prayerfully assess whether we are giving of our best to God and His work. We ask God to help us to discontinue dead-end ministries and services, so that we can give ourselves to more meaningful, God-inspired, ministries and services.*

Day 29 – Isaiah 50:10; *Prayer*, pgs. 228 – 237

Day 30 – Jeremiah 7:4; *Prayer*, pgs. 238 – 242

Day 31 – Jeremiah 39:18; *Prayer*, pgs. 244 – 251

Day 32 – Nahum 1:7; *Prayer*, pgs. 252 – 258

Day 33 – Zephaniah 3:12; *Prayer*, pgs. 259 – 266

Day 34 – Mark 10:24; *Prayer*, pgs. 267 – 273

Day 35 – 2 Corinthians 1:9-10; *Prayer*, pgs. 274 – 279

Week Six – Total Passion for, Praise to, and Pursuit of God and His Reign (Aligning the Totality of Our Lives)

Summary: During this week, we focus on total passion for, praise to, and pursuit of God and His Reign. We declare and intercede that God's will in Heaven will be done on Earth. We pray that our every thought, action, motive, conversation, plan, interaction, association, and choice will be in accordance with the Divine will. We pray that the totality of our lives will be aligned with God's will.

Day 36 – Philippians 2:19, 24; *Prayer*, pgs. 280 – 288

Day 37 – 1 Timothy 4:10; *Prayer*, pgs. 289 – 303

Day 38 – Philemon 1:22; *Prayer*, pgs. 304 – 313

Day 39 – Hebrews 2:13; *Prayer*, pgs. 314 – 320

Day 40 – Proverbs 3:5-13; *Prayer*, pgs. 122 – 154