

21 Days of Prayer

Gateway Baptist Church

9 February – 1 March 2026

Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you;
your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.

ISAIAH 26:8

Our Season of Prayer and Fasting

In His famous Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us how to pray. He says, “when you pray,” and then gives His disciples—and us—what we know as the Lord’s Prayer.

Immediately after this, in Matthew chapter 6, Jesus says, “when you fast.” You see, Jesus assumed that His followers, including us, would both pray and fast, just as He did.

Prayer and fasting are powerful because they stir in us a greater hunger and desire for God’s purposes and presence. When we pray, we engage in relationship with the God of the universe. When we fast, we set aside our physical desires to say that we desire God’s presence and power even more. Prayer and fasting lead to intimacy with God and a renewed hunger for Him.

That is why we’re inviting our whole church family to participate in our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. This is an opportunity to seek God intentionally in a fresh way, alongside your church family.

Throughout this season, we’ll be hosting a range of opportunities for you to engage in, along with some resources you can find on our website. We’ve also created a daily prayer Bible reading plan you can join in with. These passages have been intentionally chosen to lead you through the movements of consecration and confession, praise and petition, and invocation and intercession.

As we seek God together, He promises to hear our prayers. Our big prayer as a church is that God would pour out His Spirit, His grace, and His power upon us in a new way this season.

A call to pray

Prayer was a familiar concept to the disciples. In their culture, it was a common part of everyday life and practice. Yet, despite their experience with prayer, there was something different about the way Jesus prayed. He intentionally stopped and retreated to quiet places to be with God.

In this season of 21 Days of Prayer, our church is going to pray as Jesus did. Prayer can look like many things to many people, and this resource will help you explore some different ways of praying. As you go through this season and as you pray, remember to:

KEEP IT SIMPLE

Prayer doesn't need to be complicated; it is simply communicating with the One who loves you. There are many ways to address God: Father, Lord, friend, and many more. Even Jesus said "Abba" (Daddy) in prayer. Picture in your heart how you want to best begin talking to God, who loves you completely.

KEEP IT REAL

God loves you and accepts you as you are. Whether you are angry, frustrated, lonely, confused, or sad, God hears your prayer and knows exactly what you are going through.

1 Peter 5:7 reminds us to "cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you."

KEEP IT UP

You can pray anywhere and anytime. Scripture even encourages us to "pray without ceasing." Ask God to cultivate a habit of prayer so that you continue to pray in all circumstances, even when this season is finished.

Throughout 21 Days of Prayer, you're invited to engage with daily Scripture-based prompts that will gently lead you into praying God's Word and drawing closer to Him each day.

How you can pray

One of the best ways to pray is to simply pray Scripture. When we pray God's Word, we enter into His story, allowing His life, truth, and Spirit to shape our own. Scripture does not return empty; it works in us, through us, and around us. As we bring it before God in prayer, we experience its fullness in five ways:

Powerful – God's Word is alive and active, sharper than any double-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12). Praying Scripture calls forth the Spirit's power, equipping us to face spiritual battles with divine strength.

Promise-filled – Every promise God has made finds its "Yes" in Christ, and through Him, our "Amen" echoes to His glory (2 Corinthians 1:20). When we pray Scripture, we are not speaking our wishes, but declaring His promises over our lives.

Permanent truth – If we ask anything according to God's will, He hears us (1 John 5:14). Praying Scripture ensures our prayers are grounded in eternal truth, aligned with God's unchanging heart.

Prophetic – The prophetic Word is a light shining in a dark place, trustworthy and reliable (2 Peter 1:19). Praying Scripture invites God's light into our broken world, carrying hope and clarity where despair lingers.

Personal – Hidden in our hearts, God's Word protects and shapes us (Psalm 119:11). Praying Scripture transforms us from the inside out, guarding against selfishness and drawing us closer into His presence.

FIVE PRAYERS FROM SCRIPTURE TO PRAY IN 2026

Prayer for **fullness** in your life – Ephesians 3:17–19

Prayer for **favour** over your family – Numbers 6:24–26

Prayer for **faithfulness** in the Church – 2 Thessalonians 1:11

Prayer for **fruitfulness** in our community – Matthew 9:36–38

Prayer for **revival** in our nation – Psalm 85:6

A call to fast

For centuries, when people have hungered for the presence of God to bring breakthrough, they have fasted and prayed. When Jesus began His ministry, He spent 40 days in the wilderness, fasting and praying. He knew the power needed to fulfil His Father's purpose would be released when He fasted.

Jesus clearly expected that His followers would fast until He comes again, and He taught us what to do when we fast and pray so we will see revival in our hearts, our families, and in our land. When we fast, we come before God in weakness and humility to declare our hunger for His presence and our deep desire for Him to break through.

God is calling us as a church to fast and pray for 21 days to see revival break through into our lives, our local community, our nation, and across the world.

PREPARING TO FAST

Drink plenty of water, maintaining proper hydration and water intake leading up to the beginning of the fast. Eat healthier foods (fruit and vegetables) before the start of the fast. Avoid overindulging. When the fast is complete, ease back into your regular diet slowly.

If you have medical concerns, are pregnant, or breastfeeding, you should visit your doctor to make sure that you are physically able to participate. A condition such as diabetes or heart disease may prevent you from fasting.

Be prepared to feel emotionally and spiritually sensitive during the fast. Changing your eating habits could also affect your energy levels. You may feel fatigued, get headaches, or feel dizzy. You will feel hungry! This is a reminder to pray and listen to God during the fast.

How you can fast

Fasting can take many forms, and there is no single way to participate. These options are offered as a guide, helping you choose a fast that creates space to seek God intentionally while honouring your health, responsibilities, and season of life.

ALL MEALS

Fast from all food except for water, juice, and broths for the duration of the 21 days of the fast.

SOME MEALS OR ALTERED DIET

Eat only one meal each day (e.g. fast each day until 6pm) or eat an altered diet for the 21 days, such as a Daniel Fast (eat only fruit, vegetables, nuts, and legumes).

ONE MEAL

Fast from one meal each day, with an intentional time of focused prayer during the time normally spent eating.

NON-FOOD FAST

If you are unable to fast from food, you can consider fasting from other pursuits you usually turn to for comfort. For example, fast from technology, television, social media, computer games, or reading anything other than the Bible.

21 Days of Prayer Gatherings

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

Join us each week at every campus as we gather to pray, seek God's presence, and stand together in faith.

24 HOURS OF PRAYER

6pm 28 February – 6pm 1 March

As we close our 21 Days of Prayer, we will gather for 24 hours to seek God together—setting aside time that costs us something, quieting distractions, and hungering for His presence. We come desperate for breakthrough, listening for His voice, and calling on the name of Jesus as we pray for our families, our church, and our nation, believing for heaven to move among us.

UNIFIED PRAYER NIGHT

5pm 1 March in every campus

We're closing our 21 Days of Prayer with a unified night of prayer and worship across every campus. Come and celebrate, seek God together, and worship as one church family in many places.

For more information on all our prayer gatherings, visit:
gtwy.au/21

Heavenly Father,

As we set aside 21 days to seek You again,
we come with open hearts and willing hands.

Meet us in confession—
where we lay down what weighs us down
and receive Your mercy that makes us new.

Meet us in petition.
Teach us to ask boldly and humbly,
trusting that You know our needs before we speak
and that You delight to give good gifts to Your children.

Meet us in intercession.
Expand our hearts for others,
for our church, our city, and our world,
that we may stand in the gap with love and faith.

As we fast and pray, quiet our souls, sharpen our hunger for
You,
and form us into people who live from Your presence.
We offer these days to You again—
trusting, surrendered, and expectant.

Amen.

Week 1: Consecration & Confession

As we begin our 21 Days of Prayer, we start with consecration and confession.

Throughout Scripture, before God moves powerfully among His people, He first calls them to prepare (or consecrate) themselves. This same invitation exists for us today. Before God works powerfully through us, He graciously and deliberately seeks to do the deep work of consecration within us.

To consecrate ourselves is to submit to Spirit-led self-examination, inviting God in His kindness to reveal whatever hinders us from fully receiving and reflecting His grace and power. Some burdens we recognise; others God lovingly uncovers.

This is where the beautiful gift of confession takes its place. Since Genesis, our instinct when it comes to sin is to hide. But sin is not an accusation or a condemnation; it is a diagnosis. The issue is not that God has a tight moral grid and expects us to prove we're on His side by following His rules. Rather, sin restricts us from living as we were created to live—from receiving love and giving it freely.

Confession is the God-given conduit by which we bring our sin before Him and receive His cleansing grace, allowing us to be made holy in His sight. It is how we turn towards God, acknowledge His presence with us, and allow Him to heal what has been hidden.

Confession is where we lay down what weighs us down.

God has not lowered His standard of holiness. Instead, He has mercifully made a way for us to be made holy that does not depend on our own performance. In Jesus, our Great High Priest, holiness comes near. Through consecration and confession, we are invited into freedom, not shame. Confession is an essential part of consecration.

We begin by asking God to search us, trusting that He knows us better than we know ourselves. By the gentle work of the Holy Spirit, He reveals both what we see and what we've overlooked. Confession then becomes two movements: searching and naming. Searching is God's work; naming is ours. As we still our bodies and quiet our minds, we make space to listen, to respond, and to bring what is revealed into the light.

This week, as we confess and lay things down, we consecrate ourselves again and make room for God to meet us, renew us, and prepare us for all that lies ahead.

DAY 1 – CONSECRATE YOURSELVES

Read: Joshua 3:1–5

Pray: Reflect on what it means to set yourself apart for God today. Invite Him to show what you need to lay down in order to step fully into His presence. Where can you intentionally align your heart and habits with His purposes?

DAY 2 – A CLEAN HEART

Read: Psalm 51:1–12

Pray: Ask God to reveal areas where your heart needs cleansing. Consider what sin, compromise, or hidden patterns are keeping you from intimacy with Him. Bring these honestly before God and invite His renewing grace. Is there anything you need to change or put in place to break the pattern and remove future temptation?

DAY 3 – RESTORE JOY

Read: Psalm 51:12

Pray: Where has your life with Jesus grown dry, stagnant, or routine? Remember the joy of God's grace, forgiveness, and new life. Ask Him to restore that joy and help you live daily in the assurance that you are loved, redeemed, and saved.

DAY 4 – LAYING ASIDE WHAT ENTANGLES

Read: Hebrews 12:1–3

Pray: Take a moment to notice the weights in your life—anything that distracts or hinders your devotion. What slows you from freely following Jesus? Ask the Spirit to help you release these and fix your eyes on Him. Is there something God is asking you to stop so He can begin something new?

DAY 5 – FORGIVE ME AS I FORGIVE OTHERS

Read: Matthew 6:9–15

Pray: The gift of Jesus is His grace and forgiveness to us. He invites us to live as forgiven people who forgive. Is there anyone God is bringing to mind that you need to choose to forgive? To forgive is to surrender the right to get even. And, while forgiveness is a decision, it can also be an ongoing process, but one that ultimately brings us freedom.

DAY 6 – CHOOSING OBEDIENCE

Read: Luke 9:23–25

Pray: Consider where fear, comfort, or control has held you back from following Jesus fully. What does obedience cost you, and what is He inviting you to surrender today? Pray for courage to follow Him without reservation.

DAY 7 – A LIVING SACRIFICE

Read: Romans 12:1–2

Pray: Reflect on your life as an offering to God. What parts of your body, time, mind, or heart are hardest to surrender? Invite the Spirit to transform your thinking and desires so your whole life becomes a holy offering.

Week 2: Praise & Petition

As we move into Week 2 of our 21 Days of Prayer, our focus shifts from inward to upward—to praise and petition. Here, we lift our hearts to God in gratitude and bringing our needs, the needs of others, and the needs of our world before Him.

Praise and thanksgiving are always appropriate, certainly. And it's certain that our final prayers will be all praise—heaven reverberating with our amens and hallelujahs—so practising the scales of praise is always a good idea. But for here and now we mostly ask. Jesus taught us to ask.

– **EUGENE PETERSEN**

Prayer is not a distant ascent of the soul; it is an honest conversation with God in the midst of our ordinary days. But this is not only for the big, dramatic moments in life. In fact, Jesus pulls prayer out of sacred, ornate spaces and places it in the ordinary rhythms of daily life. He invites us to bring our “daily bread”—the everyday demands, obligations, and privileges of life—to Him.

Praise is the God-given reward for those who can faithfully bring the small things to Him. When we bring our requests with gratitude and praise, we are reminded that God is in control and we are not. Petition replaces our desire to control with trust, teaching us to rely on Him for both what we want and what we need. In asking, we acknowledge that God alone provides—sometimes in ways we expect, often in ways that surprise us. Petition is a pathway to praise: small, everyday requests build our trust, and bold, vulnerable petitions stretch our faith.

This week, we will practise the balance of praise and petition: rejoicing in God's character and faithfulness, and asking boldly and vulnerably for His work in our lives, our families, our city, and our mission. As we lift our hearts in praise and bring our needs before Him, we trust that God hears, meets, and transforms.

DAY 8 – PRAISE FIRST

Read: Psalm 100:1–5

Pray: Begin with praise. Thank God for who He is—His goodness, faithfulness, and sovereignty. Reflect on His character before bringing your needs. How does knowing Him as Lord change the way you see your circumstances today?

DAY 9 – HUNGER FOR GOD’S PRESENCE

Read: Psalm 63:1–8

Pray: Seek and hunger for God’s presence in your day. Ask Him to dwell in your heart and guide your thoughts, words, and actions. How can you make space today to sense His nearness and wisdom in everything you do?

DAY 10 – CONFIDENCE IN PETITION

Read: Matthew 7:7–11

Pray: Reflect on God’s character—a loving Father who invites His children to ask, seek, and knock. Bring your personal requests before God with confidence. Ask for what you need, both big and small. Reflect on how trusting Him reshapes your heart, and how praise and petition work together in daily life.

DAY 11 – PERSISTENCE IN PETITION

Read: 1 Kings 18:41–46

Pray: Reflect on Elijah’s persistence in prayer and his expectation that God would send rain. Identify areas where you have grown weary or stopped praying. Commit to praying again with perseverance and faith, trusting God to move even when the answer is not yet visible.

DAY 12 – BOLD FAITH IN PETITION

Read: Ephesians 3:14–21

Pray: Praise God for His power at work within the Church. Ask Him to do immeasurably more than you could ask or imagine in your life, in our church, and in our city. Let your prayers stretch beyond what feels safe or reasonable.

DAY 13 – TRUSTING IN PETITION

Read: Psalm 24:1–11

Pray: Bring your grief, loss, or discouragement before God. Ask Him to meet you in the valleys of your life, to refresh your soul, and to restore hope. Be honest about your struggles, and allow your lament to become a prayer of trust. Praise God for His steadfast love even when circumstances feel heavy, and ask Him to guide your heart towards hope, resilience, and joy in His presence.

DAY 14 – PEACE IN PETITION

Read: Philippians 4:4–7

Pray: Take a moment to notice the small, ordinary blessings in your life. Praise God for His provision and faithfulness in daily life. Ask Him to cultivate a heart of gratitude that transforms how you live, work, and relate to others. Pray that His peace, which surpasses all understanding, would guard your heart and mind as you trust Him in every circumstance.

Week 3: Invocation & Intercession

As we enter the final week of our 21 Days of Prayer, our focus turns outward to invocation and intercession, calling on God's presence and standing in the gap for others.

This kind of prayer is a profound invitation. It is the most profound invitation God offers us on the other side of grace, and it is not reserved for the overly pious or spiritual—it is for all of us. Invocation is the act of calling upon God to invite His presence, guidance, and blessing into our lives, our gatherings, and our prayers. It centres our hearts on Him and opens the way for His Spirit to move.

Intercession is the practice of praying for others, of standing in the gap between God and those in need. True intercessory prayer flows from love. It is not a way to manipulate outcomes or make wishes come true; it is a willing, intentional act of turning from our own desires and needs to the needs of others. Each word of intercession is an expression of love, inviting God's power into places where that love is lacking.

When we intercede, we are joining God's work of restoring creation, restoring what sin and brokenness have damaged, and participating in His kingdom purposes. Jesus' teaching—"Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"—frames intercession in two movements: releasing and asking. "Your will be done" reminds us to release control, surrendering our own agendas. "Your kingdom come...on earth" invites us to see our lives, our relationships, our communities, and our world through God's eyes, praying with hearts full of faith and hope.

This week, we will practise calling on God's presence and praying on behalf of others. We will lift up prayers for our families, our church, our city, and the nations, trusting that as we intercede, God's power, love, and kingdom purposes flow through our prayers. In invocation and intercession, we step into the privilege and responsibility of joining God's work—as his co-labourers—bringing His kingdom and will into the everyday reality around us.

DAY 15 – PRIORITISING PEOPLE AGAIN

Read: Acts 2:42–47

Pray: Reflect on the example of the early church – how they devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer together. Ask God to help you intentionally prioritise relationships in your life, making time to love, encourage, and support those around you. Pray for a renewed heart for community, both in your church and among the people God has placed in your daily life.

DAY 16 – INTERCEDING FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS

Read: Numbers 6:24–26

Pray: Lift your family and friends before God today. Ask Him to bless them, protect them, and give them peace. Pray for their growth, joy, and alignment with His purposes, trusting that your prayers invite God's presence and power into their lives.

DAY 17 – INTERCEDING FOR OUR CHURCH & COMMUNITIES

Read: 1 Thessalonians 5:11–24

Pray: Pray for our church and local communities, asking God to strengthen and encourage His people. Lift up leaders, ministries, and every member, that they may live in faith, hope, and love. Pray for unity, encouragement, and holiness to abound, that God's Spirit would work powerfully in every gathering and relationship.

DAY 18 – INTERCEDING FOR OUR NATION & OUR GENERATION

Read: Psalm 85:1–7

Pray: Lift up our nation and our generation before God. Pray for wisdom, justice, and integrity in our leaders, communities, and institutions. Ask God to bring His blessing, mercy, and righteousness across every sphere of society. Pray that this generation would seek His kingdom, reflect His love, and live in ways that honour Him.

DAY 19 – PLANT AGAIN

Read: Matthew 28:16–20

Pray: Praise God for the growth and fruit He has already brought through our church. Pray for boldness, wisdom, and unity as we step into planting new campuses again this year. Ask God to prepare hearts and provide what is needed to see His mission expand.

DAY 20 – PROSELYTISE AGAIN

Read: Mark 1:16–20

Pray: Reflect on the call to share the good news of Jesus. Pray for boldness, wisdom, and love in communicating the gospel. Ask God to help your words and actions point others to Him, and to give courage to step into opportunities to share His truth.

DAY 21 – SURRENDER AND ASK IN FAITH

Read: Colossians 1:9–14

Pray: Conclude 21 days of prayer and fasting by lifting your heart in surrender and intercession. Ask God to continue His work in your life, the church, and the world. Pray with confidence, trusting that as you release control and ask in faith, His kingdom will come in ways beyond what you can imagine.