

Prayer Strategy

30 January 2017 – 5 February 2017

Let's pray fervent prayers this week based on Michael Manyuni's sermon entitled, in Pursuit of Spiritual Maturity.

Prayer Point 1

- Pray against the natural death of the goals you set at the start of the year.
- Pray that you don't forget that which you dreamt of at the start of the year.
- Pray for those that do not have goals to develop a culture of writing down their goals and developing a compass for their lives.
- Pray that we embrace spiritual maturity as one of our core goals.

Prayer Point 2

Galatians 4:19

My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you,

Ephesians 4:13

until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Heb 5:12

In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food!

- Pray that becoming more like Christ will be our measure and benchmark.
- Pray that we grow to a place where we can impart to others.
- Pray that you become a growing Christian, seen in:
 - Your inclination to pray first before consulting people
 - Dealing with the flesh (anger, covetousness etc)
 - Surrender to the will of God for your life
 - Greater enjoyment of spiritual things
 - Grace and willingness to do something about your areas of stagnation

Prayer Point 3

Read the passage below and then pray accordingly:

Philippians 3:1-17

1Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

2Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; **3**for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh, **4**although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: **5**circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; **6**as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

7But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. **8**More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, **9**and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith, **10**that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; **11**in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

12Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. **13**Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, **14**I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. **15**Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you; **16**however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

17Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us. **18**For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* enemies of the cross of Christ, **19**whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things. **20**For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; **21**who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

- Pray that you become willing to hear messages over and over again getting even more revelation each time.
- Vs 7 pray that things you used to count as gain (your tribe, your education, your wealth etc), you can now see as loss in comparison to Christ. This includes anything in your life competing with Christ; things that gave you a sense of value in society. Pray to get rid of those things that are crowding Christ out (your ancestry, your nationality etc).

- Vs 12 Pray for God’s grace to assist you to take hold of that for which Christ took hold of you. That’s your purpose.
- V13 Pray that you may be able to forget the things that are behind that weigh you down and rather focus on who you are in Christ.
- Pray that your value would be completely in Christ as opposed to your children’s success and other things.

Prayer Point 4

Matthew 13:22

The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

- Pray that the Word of God in your life will not be choked up
- Pray that you have strength to prioritize God over things that might be competing with Him such as:
 - TV
 - Eating
 - Sleeping
 - Work
 - Voracious reading of things that do not build up
 - Sport (playing or watching)
- Pray for complete faith in Christ that relies on His finished work and not on works of self-righteousness.

Isaiah 64:6

6For all of us have become like one who is unclean, And all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment; And all of us wither like a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

- Pray for deeper levels of abiding in Christ, serving Him from a place of rest without striving.
- John 15:4-5**
“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me. 5“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.

Prayer Point 5

Philippians 3:10

I want to know Christ--yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,

- Pray that we grow in our desire to know Christ this year.
- Pray against regression and lowering of standards in our lives
- Pray that we give attention to Jesus throughout the day

Prayer Point 6

Philippians 3:13

No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead,

Jeremiah 29:12-14

Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13‘You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. 14‘I will be found by you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will restore your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.’

- Pray that we don't settle for second best
- Pray against the "I have arrived mentality."
- Pray that we become vessels that can contain that which God wants to do in and through us.
- Pray for increased sensitivity to what God is saying to you about your wife, husband, kids, business etc.
- Pray for tenacity. The mindset that says, "I will not leave until I have been blessed."
- Pray that the people of God will become desperate for breakthrough, willing to fast and not settle.