



Imagine what might happen in our churches if our pastors were covered in prayer by their congregations!

Pastors are the target of much criticism, the subject of gossip, the bull's eye for harsh words. What if, instead, the pastor became the subject of passionate prayer?

Would you commit yourself to pray daily for your pastor? Would you rally others to the same commitment? Would you be willing to see what God could do through a church whose pastor is covered head-to-toe in heaven's power released through the prayers of the church? The prayers of the church are the most powerful prayer force in the cosmos.

"His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Eph 3:10-12).

When the church, in any of her gathered forms, prays, we are announcing to the heavenly realms the manifold wisdom of God. Power and authority are exercised through the church's united prayers. Use that force to undergird your pastor and see what happens.

If you are going to commit to praying for your pastor, then you will also have to make some other commitments. Refuse to gossip or join in complaining.

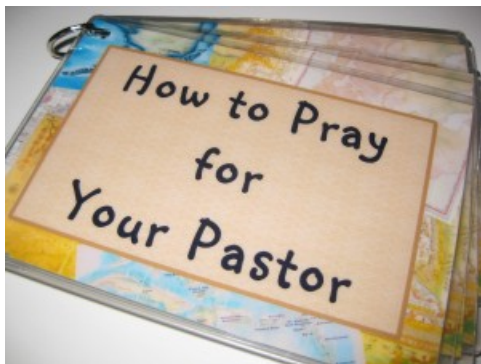
Turn every critical or judgmental thought into prayer instead. Invite anyone who seeks to criticize or complain to you to join you in your prayer initiative instead.

Don't start this venture thinking that maybe prayer will make your pastor into the person you think your pastor should be. From the beginning, recognize that prayer will release all the power and provision of God in your pastor's life and will accomplish His purposes, not your purposes. Pray first that God will give you a heart of love, compassion, and gentleness toward your pastor. Ask the Lord to change any wrong attitudes in you toward your pastor. Ask God to make you a person who builds your pastor up and encourages your pastor's heart.

Do not start out with an agenda of your own. Sign onto God's agenda and let Him do the work in His way, at His time. Be open during this whole experience for the Holy Spirit to convict and correct you about wrong attitudes.

If you are willing to step out in this grand adventure, then you might want to use this guide as a starting place. Use the suggested prayer as just that a suggestion. Pray as the Spirit leads you, covering your pastor in prayer authored by God.

Since one key to powerful prayer is perseverance, use this guide over and over.



Scriptural Prayers for Your Pastor

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is his good, pleasing and perfect will” (Rom 12:2). I pray that You will be continually transforming

my pastor's mind thinking, attitudes, perceptions so that my pastor will be will always be walking in Your good, perfect, pleasing will.

"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed" (Mark 1:35) I pray that my pastor will develop a habit of solitude and silence where you can speak clearly to my pastor's heart and mind.

"The Sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back" (Isa 50:4-5).

Father, let my pastor speak with a tongue that You have instructed, speaking words that sustain the weary. Waken my pastor morning by morning and teach my pastor from Your own heart.

Lord, search my pastor's innermost being and refine and renew my pastor from the inside out. (Prov 20:27).

I pray that my pastor will give You full attention, attentive only to Your words. (Prov 23:12).

Give my pastor success as he meditates on Your Word and then fills his mouth with Your Words. Give my pastor strength and courage, being aware of Your presence wherever he goes. (Josh 1:6-9).

God of Peace, equip my pastor in every way to do Your will. (Heb 13:20-21).

Father, instruct and teach my pastor. Counsel and watch over him. (Ps 32:8).

Holy Spirit, speak directly to my pastor and show my pastor your way for him. (Isa 30:21).

Give my pastor a heart of integrity and grant him skill and insight as he shepherds those in his care. (Ps 78:72).

In the Name of Jesus, I stand against the enemy's schemes in my pastor's life. I pray that You will provide my pastor the inner strength and spiritual power to stand firm, resisting the devil. (1 Peter 5:8-9).

Father, teach my pastor the power of the cross to crucify flesh, dying to the world's false promises. Keep my pastor from the pride that the enemy would like to develop in him, and may he boast only in the work of the cross in his life. (Gal 6:14-15).

I ask that Your Holy Spirit will teach my pastor all truth and keep him from error and false teaching. (2 Tim 2:15).

Father, I pray for my pastor as he prepares his messages that You will give him just the right words and illustrations to communicate effectively to Your people. (Col 4:5).

I pray that my pastor will speak the messages You give him to speak with power, with the Holy Spirit, and with deep conviction. I pray that his message will be fleshed out as he lives his life openly before Your people. Protect him from hypocrisy. (1 Thess 1:5-6).

Lord, I ask You to fill my pastor with Your joy and peace and that my pastor will trust in You more fully each day. I pray that the result will be that my pastor overflows with hope and peace to the congregation You have entrusted to him. (Rom 15:13).

Father, Give my pastor a great love for Your church, and discernment to be watchful over his own life for the church's sake. (Acts 20:28-29).

Lord, I pray that You will comfort my pastor when he endures criticism and harsh judgment. Give Him an increased outpouring of Your Spirit to respond in the power of the indwelling Christ. (1 Peter 2:20-24)

I ask that my pastor will be empowered to keep his spiritual eyes fixed on You and will follow You only. (Prov 4:25-27).

I pray that You will bring the right workers and place them in the right ministries so that my pastor has the freedom to be a person of the Word and of prayer. I pray that You will create in my pastor a passion for Your presence and Your Word. (Acts 6:4).

I pray that my pastor will be empowered to stand against the devil's schemes. I cover him with all the armor of God, each piece a description of Jesus Himself. (Eph 6:10-18).

Provide my pastor with wise and godly advisers so that he will increase in strength and grow in knowledge. (Prov 24:5-6).

May we become a house of prayer, led by a man of prayer. Teach us to be watchful and observant of Your work, always in an attitude of thanksgiving. (Col 4:2).

Make a Prayer Promise – sign up for a weekly time slot to pray. Go to the Prayer Community and join a prayer group or create a group of your own



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