

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 27

PERSONAL PRAYER TIME

Start your prayer time by reading Psalm 27 and then spend some time praying about the various topics.

I. Remember and rejoice in the character of God. Reflect and meditate on the character of God: he is all powerful, all knowing, never-changing, ever-present, full of loving-kindness, mercy and grace toward all who call on his name.

<u>Psalm 27:1-2</u> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

II. Pray about your specific fears. Express your fears, anxieties, and concerns to the Lord. Pour out your heart to him.

<u>Psalm 27:3-5</u> Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. III. Sing a song of praise to God. Sing or listen to a hymn, song, or psalm. As you do, reflect on the Lord's goodness, and ask him to help you trust him with your fears.

<u>Psalm 27:6</u> And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

IV. Pray for your community and needs around you: family members, neighbors, medical workers, governing officials, those who are suffering financially, and those who are sick. Ask the Lord to sustain, provide, heal, and guide. Ask him to give his people endurance, wisdom, and hope.

<u>Psalm 27:7</u> Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

V. Pray for those who do not know the Lord. Ask the Lord to open their eyes, ears, minds, and hearts to the truth of his Word. Pray that they would turn to the Lord and find salvation, refuge, and help.

Psalm 27:8-10 You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in. VI. Ask the Lord to teach you and protect you. Pray for protection—both physically and spiritually. Ask the Lord to use this time to draw you closer to him and teach you more about his Word and his ways.

<u>Psalm 27:11-12</u> Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

VII. Ask the Lord for endurance for yourself and our ministry partners.

<u>Psalm 27:13-14</u> I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Spend some time meditating on what you've been learning. What is God's Word teaching you? What truths about God are comforting your soul? How is this experience changing you to be more like Christ?

PRAYERS FOR AND FROM OUR LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS

South Texas Alliance for Orphans

- Every child in foster care to find a loving, safe family that reflects the love of Jesus and provision for compassionate, trauma-informed adults to guide them towards healing and healthy attachments. Pray for children and their separated siblings, affirming their worth and ensuring they feel valued, wanted and deeply loved.
- Healing for parents from past traumas, wisdom and endurance as they work toward reunification with their children. Strong, healthy relationships between biological families, foster families, and caseworkers, fostering teamwork that prioritizes the children's best interests and supports parents in their journey from surviving to thriving.
- Families to courageously step into the fostering process, equipped with endurance and the hope of Jesus as they enter challenging situations. May they be surrounded by supportive church communities, become trauma-informed, and experience the strengthening of their marriages, remembering their unconditional love can forever change a child's life.
- The overwhelmed system patience, wisdom, and unity among all parties working tirelessly to serve the best interests of children and families. May caseworkers, attorneys and judges see tangible evidence of Jesus' love through the church's support, feeling encouraged and appreciated as they fight on the frontlines to ensure truth prevails and the lives of vulnerable children and families are improved.

Young Life Alamo Heights

- New leaders, eager to give their life away, to send into the mission field that is the hard world of teenagers in Alamo Heights (Matthew 9:38 "the harvest is plentiful the workers are few).
- Fruitful summer camp trips for middle schoolers, high schoolers and students with disabilities. Students to encounter Jesus in a way they never have before and to connect with the Gospel.
- Endurance to finish the school year strong (Galatians 6:9 "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up).

Meant to Soar

- Families will feel the love of God through Meant to Soar and others sent to serve them. Prepare hearts and minds to discern needs of existing and new clients.
- Continue to lean into the Lord for all we need and trust Him to start bring new families to serve as we continue to grow.
- For the Board and staff to withstand the trials and errors of this world, stand and walk upright, united with other nonprofits and serving as needed, doing our Father's business.
- Strength and courage to keep walking through the doors the Lord has opened before us.
- Discernment and provision, spiritually, mentally and financially as we walk forward in His will.

Life Restored

- Volunteers to seek and trust the Holy Spirit's way to connect with participants' hearts to bring the Gospel message.
- Clarity in whether or not to move forward with creating temporary safe house living space.
- Provision of volunteers to help drive participants to and from events so that transportation is not a hindrance.

<u>AWC</u>

- Bring clients who are considering terminating the life of their child.
- Soften clients' hearts to receive the truth and love of Jesus.
- Bring clients to the new mobile unit which will go into service May 2.

Pay it Forward

- Pray for Ben to have a better understanding to identify needs of the organization and have a plan of action to accomplish what needs to be done.
- The staff will develop an atmosphere of connection in order to grow stronger together while supporting their clients.
- Wisdom to best support those who serve in this climate where mental health is always changing.

PRAYERS FOR AND FROM OUR LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

- Staff member Stephanie and her husband are on a fertility journey. Pray the Lord would grant them the blessing of being parents.
- God would lead FCA to the right person to fill a much needed position of Area Director for Northeast ISD.
- Wisdom as they develop strategic plans to reach youth club and travel teams in San Antonio.
- The Lord's leading as they seek additional Board members who will be a great fit to help advance the local FCA ministry.

The Porch

- Pray the Board will complete its reorganization soon to the glory of God.
- God will raise up capable, dedicated younger people to serve in leadership roles in this 52 year-old ministry.
- Provision to rehabilitate their building to better serve Young Life partners and east side community.
- Pray for the Young Life students as they prepare to go to summer camp in Colorado. For many it will be their first time to leave San Antonio.

Habitat for Humanity

• The homebuying program will bring more stability to homebuyers' lives.

<u>CAM</u>

- Strength and understanding to work alongside community to come up with solutions to homelessness and CAM's role in the homeless response system.
- Ability to operate in the system and influence change that is impeding people from succeeding.
- Discernment and commitment as they work with individuals daily who need support and to help guide them towards a higher quality of life.
- Wisdom and resources to sustain the property and location for the next 50 years. If that means buying the property, pray God will help them do that with the church that owns it and they will see God's plan for this work.
- Pray for Dawn and the staff to have courage, stamina, discernment, humility, a listening ear and an open heart.
- The staff would be encouraged and have hearts of mercy and joy as they do this work. Pray the Lord would shield them from burnout and the team would be united to make a difference in the lives of hose they serve.

Young Life SA East

- Student leaders will rise to carry the Gospel out and take ownership of the ministry.
- God's will be done and peace to rest in that knowledge.

SAMMinistries

- Provision of strong team members who will demonstrate empathy and compassion in service to their clients.
- Soften the hearts of neighbors so SAMM can build more affordable housing units to continue serving those experiencing or facing homelessness in our community.

Haven for Hope

- Give the staff peace and stamina to continue to serve with compassion.
- Wrap around their clients and light their path to renewal and redemption.
- Open the heart of the community to see those experiencing homelessness as God's children so they respond accordingly.

School Connect

- Praise for a successful CAFÉ' last week. Pray for follow-up and strategic partnerships between schools and local community partners.
- For the upcoming Church/School Workshop, that God will bring more churches to be bold and engage with their area schools.
- Stamina for Margaret and the team as they finish out the school year and to listen to God's voice for clear direction about next steps.

PRAYERS FOR AND FROM OUR LOCAL MISSION PARTNERS

Intervarsity

- Establishment and growth of faculty prayer groups at Trinity and UTSA.
- Equipping of the saints on campus for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.

SA Hope

- Transportation for girls to come to the Bible study at Life Restored.
- Smooth transition as new people are hired and the focus on housing support is increasing. Pray that God will be in all of it.
- Pray for the Bible study on Fridays with Panida and her husband that many will consistently come and lives will be changed.

Youth for Christ

- More loving, Christian adults willing to love and teach the youth that attend youth group and Bible study weekly.
- Students who are facing difficult struggles and trials. Many are choosing to walk down a path the Lord is not leading them to—pray He will guide, protect, and bless them and call them home. Open hearts and minds to listen and obey Him.
- God would provide girl level 3 volunteers and weekly food and hot meals for High School City Life, increase the core student numbers and all students would continue to experience the love of God through the leaders at City Life.

<u>GoodHood</u>

- Restoration of families and their ability to break cycles and generational curses.
- Youth and their emotional and spiritual healing as they deal with ongoing trauma.
- The community would flourish in a way that is authentic and honoring for them and the Kingdom.

Mission Road

- Every client would know they are valued, accepted and included by the community and by Jesus.
- Loving, caring staff and volunteers to work diligently to make sure all in their care feel peaceful and valued.

Morningside Ministries

• Pray for the health and wellbeing of residents at Morningside Ministries (The Meadows, Menger Springs, and The Chandler Estates).