### BOOK OF PRAYERS

Prayers for the Nations



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Unless otherwise stated, this work is a compilation of prayers written by Grace Bible Church members.

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#### **BOOK OF PRAYERS**

"Now to the one who is able to keep you from falling, and to cause you to stand, rejoicing, without blemish before his glorious presence, to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, and now, and for all eternity. Amen."

Jude 1: 24-25

Prayer is formative. When we devote ourselves to prayer, we are participating in the unfolding story of redemption. It is through prayer that the Holy Spirit shapes and forms us deeper into the image of our Creator. Prayer invites us to not only love God, but to grow into the likeness of His heart.

### PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND THANKSGIVING

**Adoration:** deep love and respect, to give worship to God

**Thanksgiving:** the expression of gratitude and thanks



I.

To the God of Abraham,
Issac,
and Jacob.
Worthy are You to receive all glory,
honor, and praise.

You are the covenant keeping God. You multiplied Abraham's descendants like the stars in the sky and the sand on the shore. You sustained a remnant through Noah and gave to us a hope that one day all of creation will be renewed. You established a kingdom through Your servant David that would never end and a King that would save us. You sent us Jesus, who paid for all our sins and offers us freedom and newness of life.

One day, You will right every wrong. One day, You will call to yourself people from every tribe, tongue, and language.

One day, You will receive all the glory, honor, and praise.
One day, we will see You face to face.

You are the covenant keeping God and You will keep all Your promises.

II.

#### Father God,

We are so delighted to see how You are working amongst the nations to bring people of every tribe and tongue to the throne of grace! Thank You for the opportunity to reach people from all over the world as You bring them to our doorstep as refugees, asylum-seekers, or immigrants. Forgive us for our selfishness with our time and resources when You are doing such an amazing work and giving us the opportunity to be used by You! Please help us to see these people with Your eyes and to love them with Your heart.

Amen



#### III.

#### Lord of the harvest,

Thank You for Your care and steadfast love toward Your people. For years we have been earnestly praying for You to send out laborers into Your harvest and we have never been disappointed with Your response. You continue to raise up laborers through the church, both locally and globally, and make disciples of all nations, guiding them and strengthening them with every step. We know that You will give them diligence and opportunities to share Your word and begin forming new churches with new believers - whom You love and long to be reunited with. We know that You are worthy of all worship and worthy of our hearts. Help us empty ourselves and give everything we have to You for Your glory and eternal salvation of the harvest.



"Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous deeds among all peoples."

1 Chronicles 16:24

# PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

**Confession:** acknowledgment of guilt and wrong to God

I.

Father, I confess my affections chase after lesser things.

I confess my lack of desire to seek You.

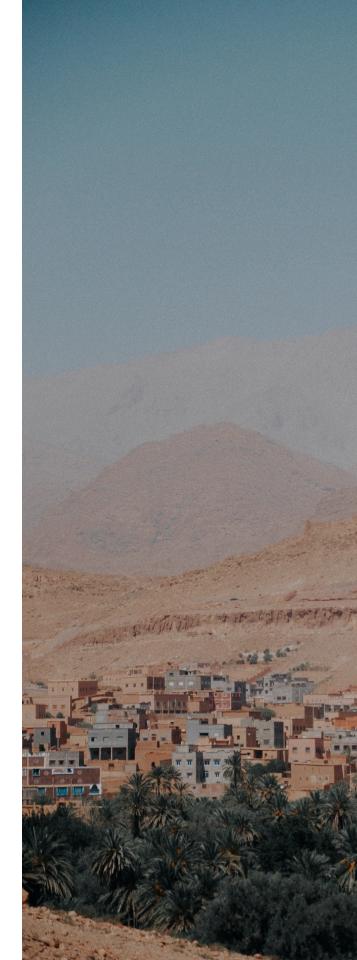
I confess my hunger for comfort rather than Your goodness.

Instead of seeking out Your church, I have sought my own kingdom.

Instead of seeking out Your people, I have sought my own pleasure.

Instead of seeking out Your will, I have sought my own desires.

Create in me a clean heart, O God.





"All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.

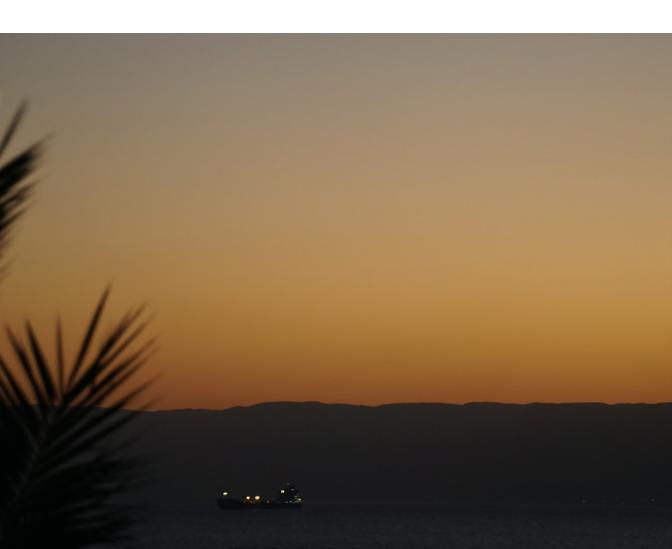
For kingship belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations."

Psalm 22:27-28

II.

God, I know You care more for the Middle Eastern women than I do.

Help me believe that You see them, know them, and love them. God I pray, that even in my doubts and witnessing the ruin of this world, I will believe that You are good.



III.

Oh Lord, I have not reserved my deepest affections for You.

My feet chase after lesser things.

My hands wring with anxiety, clench with selfishness.

My eyes wander, my vision is cloudy.

My ears get distracted by loud commotions.

My heart longs for cheaper comforts.

How beautiful the feet of those who bring good news!

How strong the hands that set the captives free!

How lovely the eyes fixed on You!

How sweet the sound of praise in Your courts!

How clean the heart that has a renewed spirit!

Oh Lord, Help me to care about the things that You care about. Set my deepest affections on You.

#### IV.

#### Father,

I confess that my heart is not correctly oriented.

I do not hurt for Your people as I should.

I do not long for Your gospel to be known in all the world as I should.

I do not believe there is a place for me in Your plan as I should.

I do not care for the lost around me as I should.

I do not give of my time, energy, or resources to Your mission as I should.

I do not want to be uncomfortable or have to live in hard places.

I fear if I say yes to You I will lose the good things I have in life.

I confess that I care far too much about the cares of this world and far too little about the greater things to come.

I want to live on Your altar but I fear so much.

Shape my hands and heart to be open.

Help me.

Amen.

"You did not choose me,
but I chose you
and appointed you
that you should go and bear fruit
and that your fruit should abide,
so that whatever you ask the Father
in my name,
He may give it to you."

John 15:16



# PRAYERS OF SUPPLICATION

**Supplication:** earnestly asking and seeking God's movement and action



I.

O God.

You desire that all people be saved and come to knowledge of the truth:

Prosper all those who live, preach, and teach the Gospel at home and in distant lands; protect them in all perils, support them in their loneliness, sustain them in the hour of trial; give them Your abundant grace to bear faithful witness; and empower them with burning zeal and love, that they may turn many to righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

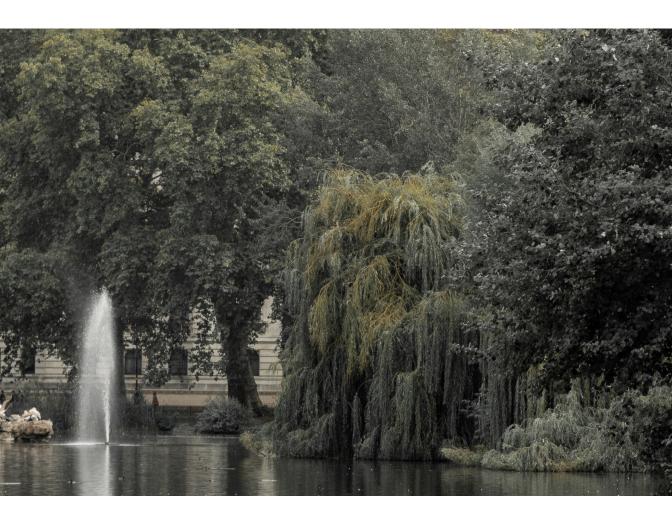
Amen.



II.

Heavenly Father - the nations are Yours, created by You for Your glory. Give me the grace and perseverance to love them well, as You have loved me in spite of my faults, my sins, and my little faith. Give me a love that abounds for the nations and a love that lays aside my own agenda to pursue an agenda that is Yours, to help the nations find and follow Jesus.

Amen.



"The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price."

Revelation 22:17

#### III.

To the faithful One who promises freedom and liberation, Come. To the loving One who promises nearness and closeness, Come. To the gracious One who promises mercy and forgiveness, Come. To the gentle One who promises to wipe away every tear, Come. To the beautiful One who promises to make all things new, Come. To the strong One who promises safety and refuge, Come. To the holy One who promises to make our sins white as snow, Come. To the worthy One who promises that every knee will bow to Him, Come.

#### IV.

How I long to sit before Your throne, listening to the voice of saints. From every corner of the Earth, raising joyful noise. So specific to them, their language, their culture, their heart.

How I yearn for the day when the work is finished, when all has been completed. From beginning to end, Jesus Christ over allmy King, my Lord, my God.

Amen.

#### V.

Let the gospel of Christ be preached among all nations to all peoples. Matthew 24:14

For how will anyone believe in him if they have not heard? How will they hear without preachers? How will they preach unless they are sent?

Roman 10:14-15

We pray for Your sovereign help in the spread of the gospel, for who else can put forth laborers except You, the Lord of the harvest. Matthew 9:38

Let the people who walk in darkness see a great light! Isaiah 9:2

Let light dawn on those who live in the regions of death's gloomy shadow. Matthew 4:16



# PRAYERS OF LAMENT

Lament: deep expression of grief and sorrow, weeping and mourning

I.

Father God,

There is no power that can keep You from opening the eyes of a heart.
Why, then, won't they open?

I have prayed. I have shared. I have loved.

And still, there is hardness. What else can I do? What faith am I lacking? Why do I not see your kingdom prevail? Bless me, oh Lord.

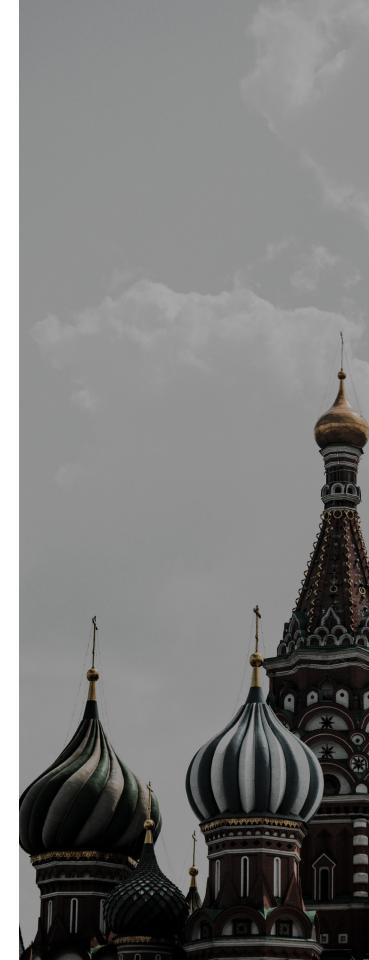
Give me patience. Give me endurance. Give me peace.

Your Word will not return void.
Your purposes will not be thwarted.

You have invited and allowed me to labor.

I continue to trust in You.

Amen.



II.

Lord, you say that Your eyes are on the righteous, Your ears are open to their prayers. If this is true then hear my cries.

My heart cries out for justice to right what has been wronged.

My heart cries out for rest in the weariness and in my wanderings.

My heart cries out for the nations to know You, for all to sing Your praise.

My heart cries out for Your light to overcome the darkness.

My heart cries out for Your grace to be given to all.

My heart cries out for a world that worships You and You alone.

My heart cries out for the return of the King to take His throne.

My heart cries out to You, O Lord. Hear my cries.

"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer."

1 Peter 3:12

#### III.

Surely, it will be the most joyous celebration that anyone has ever known. With songs and dancing that never end, and a body that never grows weary or bored. An amazement that never diminishes, and a smile that is always full.

Surely, it will be the most satisfying feast to ever have tasted. With foods so lavish and sweets so rich, that my heart could never desire anything less. With friends so sweet and company so safe, no one could ever long to be anywhere else.

Surely, this day will come.
Surely, all peoples and tribes will dance before Your throne.
Surely, all languages will praise Your name.
Surely, the nations will taste and see that You are good.
Surely, we will all celebrate and feast together.
Surely, this day will come.



V.

How long Will the nations wait for the news of hope and healing?

How long Will they sit in sorrow and wailing, as they send their loved ones to their graves?

How long
Will we remain worried about
our earthly futures, and
unworried about the eternal
futures of those You created
who sit by us each day?

How long Until I will admit I don't need to be perfect before I serve You?

How long
Until I surrender to the reality
that it is You who will do all the
work, and I am just the
Instrument?

How long Until I can rest in being the servant, the slave? Will Your Spirit Blow over us as it did before, awaken us out of our slumber, and into rejoicing and proclamation?

Will Your Spirit Nudge, prod, push us into a deeper awareness of who You are and who we are in light of You?

Will You
Comfort me in every trial?
Strengthen me in every battle?
Give me the words to speak?

Will You
Use even me?
The least of these?
The chief of sinners?

Hallelujah -What You have done from the beginning You are doing today and You will do tomorrow.

Hallelujah -Your promises are sure; O unchanging God, trustworthy, eternal.

Hallelujah -Your love will reach every nation, every tongue, every tribe.

Hallelujah -Nothing will stop Your love on the earth.

# PRAYERS SPECIFIC TO REGION

South Asia

Japan

Nomadic areas of Africa

North Africa

Italy

France

Central Asia

Iran

Congo

Columbia

Ukraine

War-torn countries of

the Middle East

Lebanon

Southeast Asia



## I. South Asia

Lord this region has the largest number of unreached people groups in the world - make Your Spirit move among those people who do not know about the One who became flesh and dwelt among us.

Send several Christians to go and help meet their physical and spiritual needs. God, break through the barriers that keep the people of South Asia far from You.

Remove the strongholds of their worship to lesser gods and fill them with awe of King Jesus, the only God worthy of our worship and praise.

Strengthen local believers to be a light to their communities throughout all of the area.

Plant churches and grow them.

Father, bring more workers into the harvest of South Asia!

# II. Japan

God, we thank You for the churches You are raising up in Japan. More and more the people of Japan are becoming receptive to the gospel.

Father, continue to soften their hearts and remove any skepticism towards Your good news.

Call laborers to go to Japan and share Christ with them. Raise up strong faithful Christian men and women in the business place, strengthen them and give them open doors to share the gospel in their workplaces.

Grow and fill Japanese believers with boldness and courage to share Christ with their families and friends.

Help the people of Japan to see the futility of having their meaning and purpose in the material world and to see that their greatest needs are found in You alone Lord!



#### III. Nomadic areas of Africa

Lord of the harvest, send laborers into the nomadic areas of Africa to minister life to the people there.

Holy Spirit,

soften the hearts of these wandering people so that they will be receptive to Your gospel.

Father,

save key leaders in these tribes who will openly profess Jesus as Lord and influence their families and communities to Christ.

God.

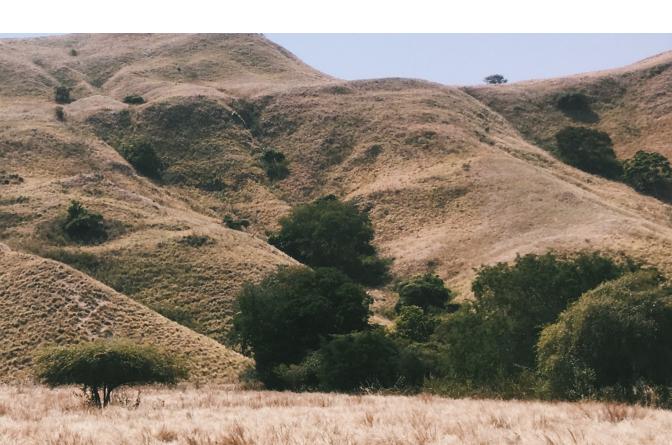
raise up prayer teams who will begin breaking up the soil through worship and intercession.

King over all, establish Your throne in this region.



#### IV. North Africa

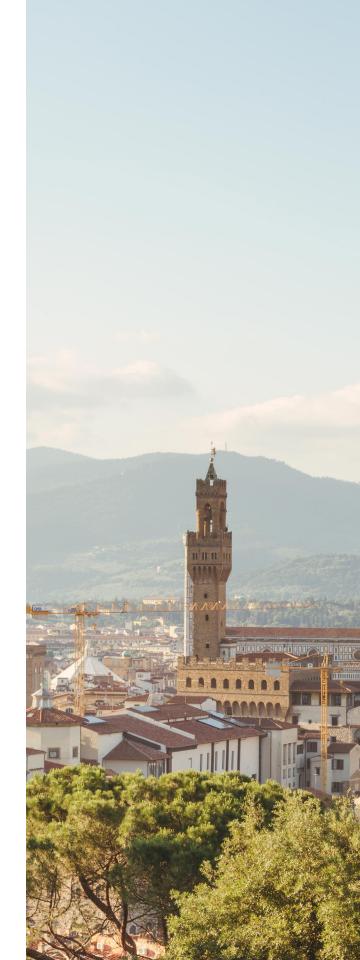
Father in heaven,
We ask that You would strengthen, encourage, and protect
the small number of believers in the Arab region
of North Africa. Grow in the North African
believers a passion to share you with their own
people and present the gospel clearly.
God, bring to completion a bible translation
in their primary language. Grow and multiply
strong and faithful churches in the region
so that whole families and communities can
come to faith in Jesus together. We pray that
North Africa would become known for
strong discipleship. You love Your people,
bring them to Yourself.



# V. Italy

Father,

We ask You to pour out Your salvation on the people of Italy. Open their eyes to the desperate need they have of the eternal life You offer them by faith alone in Your Son. Pierce them with a sense of their emptiness and lostness apart from Him, that they might be driven into His arms to find true life! Draw them to faith, raise them up to maturity in Christ, and send them out in the divine resourcing and identity that You give so generously to all your children. Amen.





## VI. France

Jesus, I pray for the people of France, for locals and for refugees and immigrants coming in. I pray for revival in this place where the church has dried up and locals have become hostile to God and the vulnerability that it requires to come to Him. I pray for the Christian population there to be clearly set apart and that French people would be drawn to their light. I pray for Christians to continue to love refugees and immigrants so radically that they come to know Jesus as well! In Jesus name, Amen.



#### VII. Central Asia

Jesus, I pray for Central Asia. I praise You for sending so many believers to these countries and for raising up more local believers! I ask that You would break up the soil in the hearts of locals who have long rejected you and held fast to cultural or even devout Islam. Make their hearts soft to receive the gospel. Give believers there great endurance, Your work in local's hearts is often a slow one! Give them some of the patience that You hold for Your children! Give them an undying love for these people, that they would continue to be poured out for the sake of Your glory in Central Asia.

In Jesus name, Amen.

## VIII. Iran

Lord,

settle the hearts of Your children in Iran in face of the recent protests. May Your peace rule Your church despite circumstances.

Today, tomorrow and forever.

Amen.

IX. Congo

God,

Would You give wise and humble leadership to this country's government?

Would You bring healing to these people who have seen violence and chaos?

Would You cause believers to cast down their idols mixed in with their practices of Christianity and worship You alone, through the only way of Jesus Christ?

Would You create great joy and peace to this nation as they turn from their own way to follow You as Lord?

in Jesus Name, amen!



#### X. Columbia

Jesus, come awaken Your children in the nation of Colombia! Would You bring healing and rest to this land? Let repentance be widespread from the leaders to the displaced people, and let violence cease in the name of Jesus. Let unity come and cover the Church and let the Church go out and show Your character to a people who rejects You and Your ways. Let those who have done wrong know that they have forgiveness and family in You and let them come home to You. Let Your name be praise in this culture!

Amen.

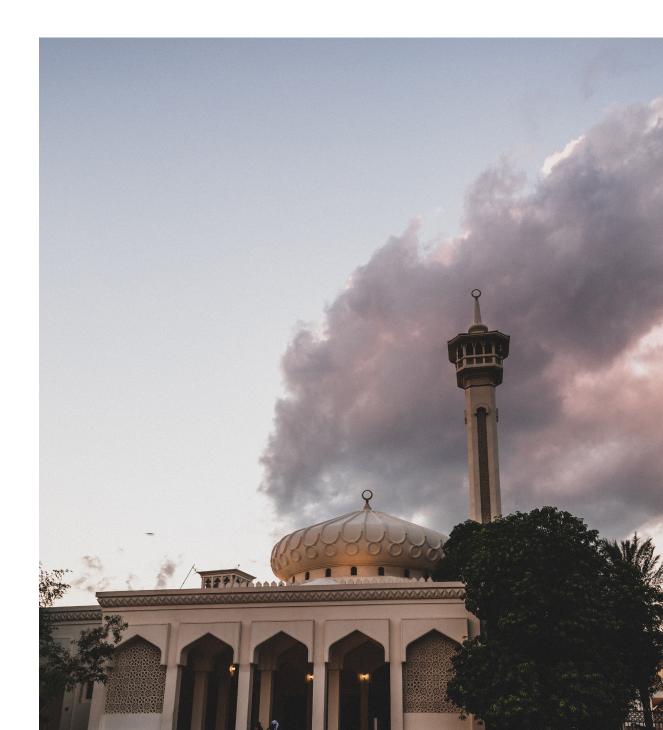
#### XI. Ukraine

God please grant Ukraine supernatural compassion from countries all around the world, that Ukrainian refugees and soldiers would be supplied with food, shelter, and resources. God I pray that Your children would continue to pray for these people and that believers would share the hope of the Gospel with those in Ukraine. God please reveal Yourself to Russia's leaders, change their heart to love You and desire Your will in their life.

Bring Your worship to Russia and Ukraine for Your glory!

"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

# 1 Peter 2:9



## XII. War-torn countries of the Middle East

Father, I pray for the people who inhibit war-torn countries of the Middle East. Jesus, You know that these people have seen so much violence in their country for so long, and that they desire an end to the fighting. I pray that You would draw more people to repentance, that they would find salvation and a deliverer in You alone. I pray that as they come into the family of God, and yet continue to see violence and endure suffering, that they would look forward to the country and the day where it is said, "No longer will violence be heard in your land, nor ruin or destruction within your borders, but you will call your walls Salvation and your gates Praise. Isaiah 60:18" Let them look forward to their inheritance that is surely coming, and let it strengthen them, and cause them to cling to You now.

in Jesus name, Amen!

#### XIII. Lebanon

Father, the people of Lebanon are hurting. They have endured so much pain and tragedy. They have lost so much and need You deeply. Despite the darkness, there are many who are turning towards You and putting their faith in Christ. Lord call up Your people and fill them with boldness to reach out and share the love of Christ with the people of Lebanon. Give Lebanese believers opportunities to share their faith with their own people. Loosen the grip of tradition Muslim culture and open doors for the gospel to be preached. Raise up strong local churches and give endurance to the believers putting in the work to make Your gospel truth known. Use stories, dreams, media platforms, and Your people to bring forth Your Kingdom in the place of Lebanon.

# XIV. Southeast Asia

# Father,

Let the knowledge of Your glory grow in Southeast Asia. May those who follow You proclaim the gospel of grace with boldness and love.

May families and communities put their faith in You.

May those who are being persecuted for Your

name receive Your help in time of need.

We trust in Your steadfast love and great power

Amen.

to bring about the salvation of many in Southeast Asia.

