

PRAY EVERY DAY June 7, 2020 Resource

A Paul Prayer from Ephesians 1:17-19, NRSV

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2020 Challenge

More resources at www.vaumc.org/2020BibleChallenge

May 27 – June 16 “Fruit of the Spirit: Patience”

June 8: Revelation 3:10

June 12: Ephesians 4:1-3

June 9: Matthew 18:21-35

June 13: 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15

June 10: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

June 14: 2 Timothy 2:22-26

June 11: Galatians 5:22-23

A Prayer of Saint Boniface

Eternal God, the refuge of all your children,
in our weakness you are our strength,
in our darkness our light,
in our sorrow our comfort and peace.
May we always live in your presence,
and serve you in our daily lives;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Small Group or Personal Study

Pastor Joel is preaching a series on the theme of “temple.” The temple (and tabernacle which was a “tent temple”) theme runs through the Bible as a way that God dwells with us. One of the images for the Church in the New Testament is a temple. In this image, God dwells in a “people temple.”

Read Ephesians 2:11-22.

- Ephesians 2:11-22 portrays all who have put faith in Jesus are being joined together into a temple for God. Rather than each follower of Christ being an individual temple, this points to an image of all believers together being the dwelling place of God with us on earth. This “people temple” has a foundation upon which we are placed (apostles, prophets, with Christ as chief cornerstone). Who has laid a foundation of faith for you and how did they do so? Who are the people of faith God is joining you with today into a dwelling place for God in the world? With whom have you shared faith for a long time? With whom is God connecting you with next in faith?

- 1 Peter 2:9 says, “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light” (NRSV). How well are we doing in being a holy people where God dwells with us and shares grace with the church and world? How can God’s holy presence be embodied in our words, touch, thinking, hearing, seeing, being, and work? Where is one area in your life you need to be built up in grace to grow in being a part of God’s “people temple”?

- Take 15 minutes to silence yourself and pray God's name by breathing, in and out, through your mouth as we learned in Week 1 of the "temple" themed series. Breathe in, "Yah" and breathe out, "way." If mouth breathing becomes strained, resume regular breathing resting silently in God's presence.

Spend time in silence

Prayer for others and yourself

The Lord's Prayer

The Bishop Sharma Lewis Call to Pray at Noon Every Day

Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

We thank you for your blessings, past, present and future. You are our rock and the source of our hope in all things and at all times. As Jehovah Jireh, our provider God, we ask you this day to stretch out your mighty hand and eradicate from the face of the earth forever this virus called COVID-19 (coronavirus) that is spreading rapidly from continent to continent.

We also pray that you, Jehovah Rapha, our healing God, would place your hand upon all of those who have been stricken by this virus and restore them to full health. Be with those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. Protect all who are caring for those with this virus and keep them from contracting it themselves. Calm our fears and provide us with your peace that surpasses all understanding. Strengthen us with the joy of the Lord and help us to hold firmly to the hope that only you can provide.

Unify us that we, the Virginia Annual Conference, may be able to experience anew the promise of your presence in and through the unity of our faith, hope and trust in you in the days ahead and forever. We offer this prayer in the mighty name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share about it this week in small group for support and prayer.

A Paul Prayer from Ephesians 3:14-21, NRSV

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend with the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.