



PRAYER FOR YOUR PASTOR:

Leave a Legacy Through the Ministry of Prayer

Being the pastor of a church is often harder than most people realize. It can be one of the most discouraging jobs—especially if they face criticism instead of support from their congregations.

One simple way to quietly leave a legacy in your church—a legacy known primarily by God—is to pray regularly for your pastor. When you consistently spend time asking the Lord to undergird your church's staff with the power of the Holy Spirit, you'll find it difficult to criticize them. Through prayer, criticism and cynicism often give way to blessing, thanks, and praise!

In God's Word, He calls Christians to unity: "*I plead with you ... by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you*" (1 Corinthians 1:10, NKJV). By praying for your pastor, you're obeying Scripture's command and helping strengthen the body of Christ. Here are some simple ways to get started:

- **Be intentional.** Choose a specific day of the week to pray for your pastor.
- **Write.** Consider writing your pastor a kind note of encouragement and gratitude. Will Graham, grandson of Billy Graham, has said, "A word of affirmation costs you nothing, but I guarantee it means so much more than you can imagine to your pastor."
- **Help.** Your pastor and other members of your church's staff may benefit from practical help like babysitting, assistance with house repairs, or prepared meals. Ask them what they would most appreciate!

- **Reconcile.** Disagreements can build lasting walls within congregations. Spend time in prayer and in Scripture to discern the best way to put aside your differences.

“I will give you shepherds according to My heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.” —JEREMIAH 3:15, NKJV