

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

AN EXTRAORDINARY PRIVILEGE

Lifting one another before God in prayer is an extraordinary privilege. That the God who spoke creation into being, the God who breathes life into us, the One who holds the universe in His hands, would pause to listen to the cries of our hearts on behalf of others (even when we don't know the whole story, even when we can't see a way through, even when we have no words and nothing seems to change), that He would lean low to listen to us, is nothing short of extraordinary.

Prayer can move mountains, usher in miracles, and change us, opening our minds to the suffering others face and the circumstances they experience. As we pray, we grow in gratitude, humility, and hope.

Sometimes the most difficult part of prayer is stepping in. Use these prayers as a starting point; then, let God lead and let His Spirit speak.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS TO GET YOU STARTED

FOR HEALING

Father, You can heal us in a heartbeat! How I pray today for You to heal _____. You never promised us a pain-free life, but You do promise us joy. Open our eyes to see beyond the pain, the illness, and these circumstances to Your calling on [name's] life. Fill [him/her] with hope as [he/she] waits patiently and expectantly on You! How amazing that You invite us, Your weary and broken children, to lift one another in prayer before You. Such grace, Lord. Amen.

FOR STRENGTH

Jesus, You walked this earth. You understand our brokenness. You know our pain. I pray for those I know who are anxious, lonely, hurting, desperate, or living in fear. Soothe their pain, calm their fears, and fill them with Your undeniable peace. In Your mercy, Lord, hold them close, strengthening and encouraging them for this day. Amen.

FOR COMFORT

Lord, it's so hard to watch [name] endure so much pain. There is so little I can do—but You, O Lord, You stilled the wind and the waves with a single word. You stilled the wind and the waves. Speak now, for You are faithful and good, even in suffering, even when we don't understand. I don't know what to pray, but I lift [name] before You, knowing You are able, that Your Spirit intercedes with groans too deep for words. Make a way, Lord, make a way. Hallelujah and amen!

MEND WHAT IS BROKEN

Gracious God, You created [name] from nothing. Every breath, every dawn, and every atom is stamped with Your holy fingerprint. We are Yours, but that isn't always easy to remember when we are hurting like [name] is. Please mend what is broken. Rebuild what is damaged. Clear away all that isn't good or needed. Restore the years the locusts have eaten, and comfort [name] with Your peace. Give [him/her] the strength for the next breath, the next minute, or the next step. Please, Lord, may it be so! Amen.

OIL OF HEALING

Living Lord, Your love and faithfulness hold [name] and keep [him/her] sheltered under Your wings. Let the oil of Your healing flow over [him/her] like a stream of cool, clear water. Keep [name's] eyes on You, trusting that no matter how You lead, You will be with [him/her]. Amen.

DULL THE PAIN

Dear God, [name] is hurting so much right now. Please dull the pain, soothing [him/her] with Your love. Smooth the jagged edges and remind [him/her] that sorrow endures through the night, but joy arrives with the morning. There is no darkness You cannot quench, no place we cannot be found, and nothing that is able to separate us from You. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

PATIENT GOODNESS

Father God, cover [name's] wounds with Your grace. Shield [him/her] from sorrow and breathe Your tender hope into [him/her]. Speak peace over [his/her] heart and be a balm to [his/her] wounded soul. Comfort, strengthen, and encourage [name], Lord. In Your Son's good name, amen.