

# HOW TO PRAY & WHAT TO PRAY

By WAYNE ALCORN

God's people are asking two important questions regarding prayer in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: *How* to pray and *What* to pray.

## HOW TO PRAY

How we pray never changes. The simple instruction Jesus gave is, ***“When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name’*** (Luke 11:2). Prayer always begins with centring our heart upon the Father in loving adoration, worship, and thankfulness. It is important that in this unprecedented time to not act or pray out of fear. One antidote to this is to abandon our hearts to the wonder of Jesus in moments of personal devotion and love. He is still ‘beautiful beyond description’ (Ps 27:4) and in His presence is fulness of joy! (Ps 16:11).

So still your heart, learn to connect with the Father's presence in your life, and be encouraged to ‘keep yourselves in God's love’ (Jude v21). One simple tool we can use is a playlist of praise and worship songs that help us connect our heart to His. He will inhabit your praise and the Holy Spirit will inspire your prayers.

## WHAT TO PRAY

What to pray doesn't really change either because we are commissioned to bring heaven to earth. Jesus went on to instruct us to pray, ***‘Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven’*** (Luke 11:2; Matthew 6:10).

One of our highest privileges as believer's is to ‘stand in the gap’ and partner with God through prayer that His goodness, glory, and power would be manifest in the earth. We are called to pray bold, faith-filled prayers that seek to bring heavenly solutions to earthly challenges and trials.

At this time, let's pray:

- For our leaders in government to have expert information available to them, wisdom with that information, and courage to make the decisions that need to be made.
- For all those in the medical fraternity working with infected people and those who are working towards a vaccine for the Corona irus.
- For the spread of the Coronavirus to stop and the ‘curve to be flattened’.

- For healing for those already infected with the virus and for an increase of healing and the miraculous in our nation and around the world.
- That God's people (the Church) would be salt and light in their community and neighbourhood, and that we would make the most of every kingdom opportunity.
- For peace to pervade our society and for people's mental and emotional well-being.
- For family life to prosper.

Finally, join the National and Global call to stop and pray at 1900 (7pm in your time zone) and pray for 19 minutes.

***'THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS PERSON IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE'*** (James 5:16)

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