



**PRAY** 24/7



## Praying for The Lost Art of Friendship Series

### Theme Verse:

**“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42 (NIV)**

Thank you for joining with other members of our church family for Pray 24/7! This is an exciting opportunity for Saddleback to be more deeply committed to the wonder and power of prayer than ever before. It’s incredible to think that you are standing alongside your brothers and sisters to ensure God is hearing from Saddleback Church every minute of every day!

### Pray 24/7 Worship Playlist

The Saddleback Worship Team has curated a music playlist specifically around this month’s Prayer Focus. Click [here](#) for the playlist or visit the Saddleback Worship page on Spotify.

**Prayer Tips:** When you approach God during your prayer time, take the time to make space for the Holy Spirit. Listen and dialogue on what the Holy Spirit is sharing with you.

### What You’ll Need:

- Your Bible. Whether it’s your trusted leatherbound Bible or an app on your phone, have your Bible with you during your prayer time. The 30-minute guide often comes with Scripture for you to read and respond to.
- A comfortable place. Find a place and position where you are at ease, but not tempted to take a nap. This may be the same place you go to for your daily quiet time, or it may be a special place only used for Pray 24/7.
- A timer. You may want to bring a timer or use a timer app on your phone so you can set times for each part of the prayer guide. Setting a timer allows you to focus on prayer, rather than constantly checking your watch.
- Something to write with and write on. Whether it’s a journal or notepad, you may want to have something ready to jot down any distracting thoughts or reminders that pop into your head during your prayer time. Writing them down frees you from trying to remember them later.





## A 30-Minute Guide to Prayer Guide

### ***Quiet Your Heart Before God (5 minutes)***

Set a timer on your phone for five minutes. Close your eyes and sit in silence. Focus on taking deep breaths. Choose one phrase to center you. Some good options include, “Come, Holy Spirit,” “Speak, Lord, I’m listening,” or “Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me.”

### ***Gratitude and Worship (2 to 3 Minutes)***

Take five minutes to brainstorm all the things you’re thankful for. Get creative and specific. You might want to write this list down. You can also go through the alphabet and think of something for each letter. The sky’s the limit here. Praise Jesus for who he is and what he has done. He is the giver of every good thing.

### ***Confession (2 to 3 minutes)***

Think through the last 24 hours. Are there any areas of your life that have not been honoring to God (thoughts, attitudes, words, behaviors)? Confess those things to God and invite him into your broken places. Receive his forgiveness and love for you.

### ***Ask (20 minutes)***

Start with you and your personal life and move to lifting your vision to praying for those around you. Use these or other Scriptures that come to mind to focus and fuel your prayers.

#### **Prayer Focus:**

**We are praying for God to guide our church to be a community where people can find real belonging and develop friendships.**

- **ME** - Invite the Holy Spirit in to have a conversation of who he wants me to reach out to. Is there someone God has put my heart to develop a friendship with?

“Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.”

Psalm 1:1-3 (NIV)





- **MY CIRCLE** – Ask God what friendship in my life is waiting for me to take the next step? Who is God asking me to initiate a deeper and better friendship with? Is there anyone’s influence I need to remove myself from?

“As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, ‘Lord, don’t you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!’ ‘Martha, Martha,’ the Lord answered, ‘you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her.’” Luke 10:38-42 (NIV)

- **MY CHURCH** – This month pray for all our campuses, extensions, and online community to be in places where people are drawn into friendship with Jesus and that we will experience God’s beautiful and diverse family as a church. Pray for Pastors Andy and Stacie as they visit our Santa Rosa and Hong Kong campuses in October, and for our campus in Whittier as they prepare to launch October 1.

“Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way. When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today.’ So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly. All the people saw this and began to mutter, ‘He has gone to be the guest of a sinner.’ But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, ‘Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.’” Luke 19:1-10 (NIV)

- **MY REGION AND WORLD** – We are more connected to the world than ever, but perhaps more confused in relationships than ever. Pray for our world to find Jesus as the only true answer to the longing they already have. Pray for our Hong Kong campus as they celebrate 10 years, and that God will continue to guide them with their future vision. Continued prayers for our Vancouver campus as they grow.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25 (NIV)

“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.” Romans 12:10-13 (NIV)





To finish, meditate on what God wants you to take away from his Word, or from your time with him today. Invite him to guide your words and thoughts as you go about your day.

**Got Questions?**

For any questions, please read the Pray 24/7 FAQ [here](#) or email [pray247@saddleback.com](mailto:pray247@saddleback.com).