

THE  
PROMISE  
OF  
HOME

THE PRAYER GUIDE

**“Go, walk through the length and breadth  
of the land, for I am giving it to you.”**

Genesis 13:17



# W E L C O M E

Hey illuminate,

Thanks for joining us in studying the Bible and praying about The Promise of Home campaign. We are excited to see what God does as we look to secure land so that we can help more people find life in Jesus Christ.

This prayer guide is designed to be used Monday through Friday for 15 days – beginning January 15th. We'll wrap up on February 2nd – the same day as The Promise of Home prayer event.

## **The Promise of Home Prayer Event**

Please join with us in prayer at the prayer event on Friday, February 2nd, a 24-hour period of constant prayer for The Promise of Home campaign which will be held in the illuminate Church office.

## **How to Use this Prayer Guide >>>**

### **READ**

Read the scripture aloud. You may also find it helpful to look it up in the Bible and read the surrounding verses to better understand the context. [YouVersion](#) is a great online Bible that's easy to use.

### **REFLECT**

Read the reflective thought that explains the Bible passage and ask yourself how the passage applies to your life.

### **PRAY**

Communicate with God. Have a conversation with Him like you would a friend. Listen as much as you speak.

### **APPLY**

After reading through the day's prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.



# READ

“And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for.” 1 John 5:14-15 (NLT)

# REFLECT

During the next fifteen days, we'll be asking God to let us see things the way He sees them, to understand how much He loves those that are still far from Him, to become passionate about the unlimited potential illuminate Church has through the power of His Holy Spirit.

# PRAY

Thank God for being there even though you can't see Him. Acknowledge His amazing power. Pray that His will is done in the lives of the people of illuminate Church. Pray that each of us will fulfill the potential that we have and that we would not rely on our own power but God's power instead.

# APPLY

After reading through today's prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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# READ

“But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask Him!” Matthew 6:6-8 (NLT)

# REFLECT

No matter what you learn about the principles of prayer, always remember that prayer is primarily personal, intimate communication with God. God longs for you to spend time with Him and for you to be brutally honest with Him. He waits, He sees, and He rewards. Your reward may be the understanding that God actually knows your heart and hears your desires. It may be that as you pray you sense Him changing your heart and desires.

# PRAY

Ask God to teach you how to pray more faithfully and honestly. Practice being still and hearing from Him. Thank God for illuminate Church and ask Him to show you how you can help fulfill its mission to be a church for people who don’t go to church.

# APPLY

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## READ

“Joshua told the people, ‘Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you.’ Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

“Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10 (NLT)

## REFLECT

Throughout the Bible we see God’s people consecrating themselves for special purposes. This is the idea of being set apart or dedicated for something higher. This always includes repentance. God wants us to come to Him in humility; to repent and ask forgiveness for those things we do and think that are opposite of His ways. He hears the plea of a sincere heart that wishes to become loyal. At illuminate Church we have a higher purpose; higher than just having a more comfortable, convenient, or “cool” place to come each week. We are driven by the idea of people that are far from God finding their way home. If we’re to make steps in that direction, we must start with repentance in our own lives.

## PRAY

Ask God to clearly show you those areas of your life where you aren’t following His ways. Ask Him to forgive you and to “be transformed by the renewing of your mind”. Pray for God to work in the hearts of all those that currently attend illuminate Church; that He would show us our brokenness and give us His vision for a better way. Ask Him to keep front and center the purpose for which He is shaping our church.

## APPLY

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# READ

“Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy.” Matthew 6:9 (NLT)

# REFLECT

Our God is holy and we must do everything in our power to represent His name well. For some strange reason He trusts us to represent Him to those that don't yet follow Him. Our actions either glorify His name or give Satan another opportunity to distort how other's view Jesus. Lets hold on to what is right and be an accurate example of Jesus to our corner of the world. May His will truly be done here and now at illuminate Church!

# PRAY

Thank God for trusting you with such a huge responsibility. Ask Him for the strength and wisdom to represent Him well. Ask Him to let those in your life who are far from Jesus see Him through your relationship with them. Commit to using your time, money, and talents to being a tangible expression of Jesus in their lives and making illuminate Church into a place where they can bump into Jesus.

# APPLY

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# READ

“Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path. I’ve promised it once, and I’ll promise it again: I will obey your righteous regulations.” Psalms 119:104-106 (NLT)

# REFLECT

God has given us the amazing gift of knowledge through the Bible to understand who He is. As we spend time in it, we get to know Him, what He wants us to do, and His vision for our lives. Being a follower of Jesus isn’t a state of being or a title; it’s a journey. Through each of our spiritual journeys, we are transformed and equipped to make a difference in the world around us.

# PRAY

Thank God for the Bible and connecting with you through it. Ask Him for the courage to follow the path that it outlines for your life. Ask Him to give you a “me too” attitude when sharing His truth and grace with those around you. As you love the people in your life, ask God to help you commit to sacrificing your hopes, dreams, and desires on their behalf.

# APPLY

After reading through today’s prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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# READ

“Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God’s promises to be fulfilled. May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus.” Romans 15:4-5 (NLT)

# REFLECT

There are a lot of challenges before us today: as a church with the The Promise of Home campaign and in our individual lives with the countless challenges we face daily. We certainly need hope, encouragement, and patience. One of the awesome things about the Bible is that it’s full of stories of broken ordinary people stepping out in faith to do and endure things they never thought possible. Commit today to read the Bible daily if you’re not already doing it. Whether it’s one verse or one chapter, read it and ask God to help you apply it. The result will be more hope, more encouragement, and more patience.

# PRAY

Thank God for the hope, encouragement, and patience that come from reading the Bible. Ask Him to help you to be faithful in reading and applying it to your life. Continue to ask Him what steps you need to take to be faithful in your actions, finances, and relationships.

# APPLY

After reading through today’s prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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# READ

“Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.” Hebrews 11:1 (NLT)

# REFLECT

If you read through the rest of Hebrews 11, you’ll read story after story of people that did crazy things based on a confidence in things they couldn’t see. Faith always leads to action. And when they acted God showed up. God responds to faith. When we have faith in His word, we can pray believing that He hears every prayer, whether spoken or unspoken.

# PRAY

What is God asking you to do? Ask Him.

# APPLY

After reading through today’s prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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## READ

“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. You love Him even though you have never seen Him. Though you do not see Him now, you trust Him; and you rejoice with a glorious, inexpressible joy.” 1 Peter 1:7-8 (NLT)

## REFLECT

Joy is a mark of true faith in Jesus. Have you experienced that joy - a joy that is greater than your circumstances - a joy that only God can give you? When we meet with Jesus by praying, reading the Bible, and pursuing other spiritual disciplines like fasting and giving, we can experience that kind of joy. Let God fill you today. Joy does not come from our circumstances or what we possess; it comes from who we trust!

## PRAY

Ask God to help you keep your focus in the right place. Ask Him to help you put self-interests aside and go all out serving Him and others, so that you can be filled with His “inexpressible joy”. Ask Him to help illuminate Church experience this kind of joy as we surrender ourselves to His faithful leading in every area of our lives.

## APPLY

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# READ

“And whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:44-45 (NLT)

# REFLECT

When you consider that Jesus left a perfect home in heaven for a life on an imperfect earth, you have to wonder why. What motivated Him? You did. Did He come to be served? No. Did He come to serve? Yes. Did He come to sacrifice His life for us? Yes. Let the significance of these truths bring us to the same place where Isaiah said, “Here I am, send me” (Isaiah 6:8).

# PRAY

Thank Jesus for coming to earth to serve you and ask Him for the strength to serve and love others like He did. Ask Him for a clear vision of how you can help others through serving at illuminate Church. Ask Him to help your response to His love and service be the same, to love and serve.

# APPLY

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# READ

“This is real love—not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins. Dear friends, since God loved us that much, we surely ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. But if we love each other, God lives in us, and His love is brought to full expression in us.” 1 John 4:10-12 (NLT)

# REFLECT

Did you catch that? The best way for people that are far from God to see Him is for those of us who are followers of Jesus to love each other. As imperfect and messed up as we are, He still uses us to be His representatives. If illuminate Church is going to be anything meaningful, we must sacrificially love others with a humble attitude.

# PRAY

Thank God for the people in your life who have shown you His love, those people that were part of your journey to something better - to freedom. For many of us those people have been people we've bumped into at illuminate Church. Pray that God would continue to lead us to be a church that passionately, recklessly, and sacrificially shares His message of freedom with the hurting world around us in a relevant way.

# APPLY

After reading through today's prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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# DON'T FORGET:

## **The Promise of Home Prayer Event**

Please join with us in prayer at the prayer event on Friday, February 2nd, a 24-hour period of constant prayer for The Promise of Home campaign which will be held in the illuminate Church office.



# READ

“Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, “We have seen amazing things today!” Luke 5:26 (NLT)

# REFLECT

To see God do great things you must ask Him to do great things. Have you seen God do great things in your own life, or in the lives of others? It is an amazing thing to see God work in our lives. Let’s expect God to work in a remarkable way through The Promise of Home.

# PRAY

Ask God to prepare and strengthen you in the coming day, and to help you to surrender your life completely with a believing and faithful heart. Seek help to be strengthened by His word and ask to be ready for greater things to be done.

# APPLY

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# READ

“But God is so rich in mercy, and He loved us so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead” Ephesians 2:4-5 (NLT)

# REFLECT

God loved us even before we knew Him. He was merciful to us before we ask for His mercy. His love joined us together with His son, our savior Jesus. Through His gift of the advocate, the Holy Spirit, we are alive with Jesus.

# PRAY

Thank God for His mercy to you. Praise Him that He made you alive and continues to guide and protect you. Ask Him to help dedicate you to love, serve, and honor Him for all of your life.

# APPLY

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# READ

“This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen Him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that He is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then He was revealed to us.” 1 John 1:2 (NLT)

# REFLECT

Jesus has had an impact on your life and you have a unique story to tell because of how He’s impacted your life. Share your story with those God sends your way and to those you intentionally seek out in your community.

# PRAY

Thank God for how He has impacted your life. Ask Him to help you tell others of your story, and to teach you how to declare the truth of Jesus’ gospel to a world full of broken people.

# APPLY

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# READ

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all He has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind He will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship Him.” Romans 12:1 (NLT)

# REFLECT

God has forgiven us because He loves us as His children. He wants us to give up our right to living only for ourselves and live for Him. We are daily fighting the battle between the Adversary and the Advocate. Jesus says, “Come follow Me.” Plan how to make a deliberate commitment to following God’s way - the way of peace and joy.

# PRAY

Ask God how to walk in His ways. Seek out how to be filled with His Holy Spirit so that you can be more receptive to His will.

# APPLY

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# READ

“Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. ‘For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.’” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NLT)

# REFLECT

God loves when we give quickly once the opportunity presents itself. All we have belongs to God and He calls us to be good stewards of these resources. Generosity flows naturally from the hearts of those who love Him. Think of how you can cheerfully give as an act of gratitude for God’s love and mercy.

# PRAY

Ask God to direct you about what to give, and how to give generously. Thank God for the gift He has given of His son, and how He has made an eternal difference in your life. Ask God how you can make an eternal difference in your living and your giving.

# APPLY

After reading through today’s prayer guide, write down any thoughts or ideas that apply to your growth as a follower of Jesus or to your involvement in The Promise of Home campaign.

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CHURCH

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