



Prayer Guidance Notes (2026):

1. To have intentional Personal and Together time set apart to seek God:

To communicate and commune with Him: Talking to God, Talking with God, Listening to God and Being with God.

Some helpful points as Jesus teaches on prayer:

Firstly, we read in Matthew 6: 5-6:

⁵“And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. ⁶But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

- We see Jesus making the point that prayer should not be hypocritical but real!
- Jesus directs His disciples when they pray, to go to their “inner room.”
- Since most people in these times did not have separate, private quarters in their homes, the meaning is most likely a metaphorical one to emphasize privacy and intimacy of the heart.
- The focus is on the intimacy of communion with God in our heart, which is at the centre of all prayer, whether it happens to be given publicly or privately.

Then we see the emphasis on intimacy and relationship is driven home by the fact **that we are to address God as ‘Father’ when we pray (V6).**

- **Our Father is there (God is there) waiting to welcome us** – praying to be seen by others destroys our prayer life, on the other hand, the sense of the very presence of God enriches our prayer life - in other words, there is nothing like being with God and to experience His presence – that joy and intimacy isn’t even comparable to getting some kind of notice or reward from others.

This is the essence of all biblical, Christian prayer – it is to seek God:

Psalm 27:8

⁸My heart says of you, “Seek his face!”

Your face, LORD, I will seek.



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- We seek Him to acknowledge the Person that He is: God is the creator, He is the One true and Living God, God is the righteous judge of all, God is our heavenly Father through Jesus Christ our saviour.
- We pray because we desire to meet with Him in the secret place, to come before Him in humility, in worship and adoration, in love and in trust – we seek His face.

2. To have intentional Personal and Together time to Adore God and to align ourselves with Him and His Kingdom purposes:

Some helpful points as Jesus teaches on prayer:

The first 3 petitions of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5-13) are focused towards God, positioning ourselves towards God and His purposes, giving us as followers of Jesus the right priorities. Or in other words, the first half of the Lord's prayer gets us into God's reality - as we read:

“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be **your name**,
¹⁰ **your kingdom** come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Your name ... Your kingdom ... Your will

This allows us in prayer to remember, worship and acknowledge who our God is – our personal Loving heavenly Father, and the all-powerful, creator and sovereign God - and to come primarily for Him – to seek Him, love Him, honour Him and also then God's concerns will be given priority - **Your name ... Your kingdom ... Your will**

- If we sincerely recognise God in this way then our priorities as a Christian are changed; what's important to Him becomes important to us, our hearts and values begin to shift:
- As Eugene Peterson (Message Translation) notes on this: “The first 3 petitions make us participants in the being and action of God.”

Therefore, the motive for intercession (praying for others) is love for others or indeed God's love for others.

- Think about it to even utter one word or sentence of intercessory prayer is a profound act of love.



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Richard Foster says this: “If we truly love people, we will desire for them far more than is within our power to give them, and this will lead us to prayer. Intercession is a way of loving others ... Intercessory prayer is selfless prayer. In the ongoing work of the kingdom of God, nothing is more important than intercessory prayer.”

- Jesus isn't presenting some form of a cosmic genie where occasionally what we wish for comes true if we figure out the right formula.
- He is presenting a way in which we begin to see the world from His perspective, through His lens if you like, where we get to participate in the bringing of His Kingdom and His will – on earth as it is in heaven.

In other words, when **we begin to pray and see from God's perspective**, we begin to see from heavens perspective, and we begin to **participate with God** in His plans and purposes.

3. To have intentional Personal and Together time to present our needs before God, and in doing so committing them to Him.

Now we see the second half and the next 3 petitions of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5-13) where the pronouns shift from 'your' to 'us' as we begin to pray for our needs, and in doing so committing them to God –

¹¹ **Give us** today our daily bread.

¹² And **forgive us** our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

¹³ And **lead us** not into temptation,^[a]
but deliver us from the evil one.^[b]

So, we see, Give **us** ... Forgive **us** ... deliver **us** ...

Having first expressed a desire for God's glory, His name and His kingdom in our lives and others we now express our total dependence on Him and His grace for our lives by presenting our personal requests to Him.

4. To have intentional Personal and Together time to be United and Persistent (Acts 1:14) in interceding and praying for the Vision, Mission and activities of the church – Including appropriating our Missional roots and our Mission and Evangelism Strategy.

5. To have intentional Personal and Together time to Encounter God, to lean into His prophetic voice over our lives and over the church and to appropriate our Pentecostal Roots a fresh - Including seeking a continuing infilling of the Holy Spirit and stepping out a fresh in operating in the Gifts of the Spirit.



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6. To have intentional Personal and Together time to pray for Revival in our Town and in our Nation.

Note A: United and Persistent Prayer:

Acts 1:12-14

¹² Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk^[a] from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. ¹⁴ **They all joined together constantly in prayer**, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Just as Pentecost came after constant prayer by the disciples, the history of the church (globally and throughout all of history) demonstrates that revival also comes only after persistent prayer.

- A well-known statement is 'that when God wants to do something special in the world, he first gets his people to start praying'.

We see in V14 that -¹⁴ **They all joined together constantly in prayer,**

We see here two keys:

1. Firstly, they all joined together (United Prayer):

- The word translated "together" (homothymadon) literally means "with one mind or passion".

As we as a people, as a church community begin to pray together and in agreement (with Scripture and prophetically) and through the lens and perspective of God's kingdom purposes, anything is possible!

2. Secondly, we read of 'prevailing or persistent prayer' as we see that - They all joined together 'constantly' in prayer:

- The word translated "constantly" "is often connected with prayer (Acts 1:14; 2:42, 46; Rom. 12:12; Col. 4:2)... . It means resolute, persistence."
- This same word is used across the New Testament with the use of perseverance in prayer.

This is a profound key to a powerful individual and church prayer life!

- ***Prayer makes us ready***, for it's in communion with God that our hearts are attuned to his will.



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See, the prayer that took place in Jerusalem before the day of Pentecost was persistent prayer. This can happen today as well. We as a church and as a people can apply this principle.

- It is a simple principle, but one that we must be regularly reminded of, as we can very easily fall into a cycle of prayerlessness.

So, we have seen that ¹⁴**They all joined together constantly in prayer**, and this reminds us of and encourages us to be in **'unity' (of one mind and passion)** in our prayers and to be **'persistent'** in our prayers - in full expectation and faith for God to answer in His timing and in line with His purpose.

Note B: Regarding Prophecy - In our Church Vision and Mission statement, we say this:

We direct our efforts to accomplish the vision that Christ gave us for our community while being open to the prophetic voice of the Holy Spirit for what God is doing today.

Our Current Vision Trajectory and Prophetic Journey (Summary – Please see full notes on this in appendix):

"You are the light of the world. A Town built on a hill cannot be hidden".

(Matthew 5:14)

As the Church of God Kilsyth our current and foreseeable **church direction and vision emphasis** under the theme of **Matthew 5:14** – Is that God is calling us and saying **"You are the light of the world. A Town built on a hill cannot be hidden"**. That as we continue to centre ourselves on Jesus, we will **radiate** the love, light and warm of His presence to our community and beyond.

Former Things and a New Thing:

We sense that God has been speaking about us as a Church **'By Faith' stepping into something and to somewhere new. This idea of a New Thing.** That to keep moving forward as a church, **it is going to require us to conquer something new** - to move to a new place (Spiritually and by faith) in order for God to do a new thing. **Not just a continuation of the old, but the new.** And that **The key that unlocks the door is faith.** Amen!

Isaiah 43:18-19

¹⁸ "Forget the former things;
do not dwell on the past.

¹⁹ See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.



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We sense that God is saying to us as church at this time - Can we 'by faith' step out knowing and believing that something has been conquered in Kilsyth in the past and something can and will be conquered again!

You see, as a church only by moving forward 'by faith' in God and His promises can we begin to grasp and perceive the new thing that God has for us. Amen.

Now speaking to us as a church today these verses can propel us forward to the new thing that God has for us. God would say to us together - **the past can be a springboard to launch ourselves into the future with God.**

There are especially **two key aspects** of our Church's DNA (in our History) that God is asking us in this season to pick up again with fresh faith, even if aspects of methodology may be different – i.e. we are not necessarily asking God to move in the same way as the past by we are asking God to move in the same Power as the past.

1. **Our Pentecostal Roots**
2. **Our Missional Roots**

We need prophetic vision in this season we are in as a church (Vision Sunday - September 2025)

Remember what season we are in as a church.

Tery Virgo says regarding Prophecy: "If we want to be a prophetic people we need to respond to the prophetic word. Once the prophetic stream is moving, God will keep speaking into it. We must take care that we do not throw in defensiveness, hostility or cynicism and thus break the flow".

So, what is God saying over the life of our church? How do we respond to what God is currently speaking into the life of our church? How can we step a new into this season and be a prophetic people?

1. **It's a season of anticipation and expectation:** Do we perceive it? Do we hear the sound? We need to lean into the prophetic voice of God at this time.
2. **It's a season of Holy Spirit empowered, and faith filled activity:** It's not a season of waiting or of coasting but of rolling up our sleeves, as we do the work of God's kingdom as Jesus builds His church. This means ***a season of mission and evangelism as we continue to appropriate our missional roots***, but it needs to be fuelled and led by the Spirit.



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3. **It's a season of united and persistent prayer:** Our church prayer life needs a momentum shift as with one voice we cry out for God to move again.
4. **It's a season of being a Pentecostal Church:** Not just in theology but in practice as we appropriate our Pentecostal Roots and seek to operate a fresh in the Gifts of the Spirit, and we seek to be a church of encountering God.
5. **It's a season of the body all playing its part.** In 1 Corinthians 12:12 we see the themes of unity and diversity in relation to serving in the body of Christ and spiritual gifts. We see here how the differences that we have are moulded together into a special unity and that unity is found in God, the gospel and what God is doing. In other words, we need each other!