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PRAYER GUIDE - October 2013

- 01 - In mid September , the FCFI leadership met to re-examine and establish the top five jobs (visions) facing FCFI in the near future. We will pray for each of these five in the next few days. However, today I'd like us to pray for our FCFI leaders. Heavenly Father, You have called each of the board members and staff to lead and direct our organization. Pour out Your Spirit on each one of these men and women that they may put personal differences aside and seek Your will and Your unity and that You receive the honor and glory that You deserve and require. "Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always".
- 02 - The "bread and butter" activity of FCF has been the "walking stick" ministry at farm shows and fairs across North America . Our leadership wants that to continue with this. We could and should do a better job at follow-up and that is part of our number one job description as well. Messiah, you came to seek and save those who were lost and we want to be a part of that. Move among your people to continue that valuable out reach and help us to not only tell folks about your saving grace but to disciple them as they grow in their new or renewed relationship with You.
- 03 - Mission trips is the second job of our organization. Many people have joined FCF because they first went on a mission trip, myself included. Who can count the impact our mission trips have had upon people

in far-off and not so far-off places such as Russia, Mexico, Jamaica, Greece, Albania, Romania, Missouri, and Florida? King of Kings, our dream is to use the broad mix of skills You have given us to improve the lives both physically and spiritually of needy people around the world and You have blessed us with the funds to do it. So we ask You now to open doors for all our FCF people and their friends and families to get out of our comfort zones and reach out to the people You have in mind.

- 04 - Fires, floods, hurricanes, tornados, blizzards, and other "natural" disasters continue to devastate farmers and other businesses across our land. Our third job is to continue efforts to provide rapid, and not so rapid, help to get folks who have been harmed back on their feet and their businesses and homes back in working order. Lamb of God, continue to lead us to those people and places where damage and devastation have put people in a predicament that is beyond their own abilities to cope with and provide the men and women and materials needed to get them back to normal as quickly as possible.
- 05 - An area where FCF in the U.S. has been lacking to a degree is in establishing local chapters. A fourth goal of FCF is to form many chapters that will provide fellowship, accountability, spiritual growth, and local eyes to see much that we, as individuals, could easily miss. Carpenter, we need Your impetus to get moving and the means to make FCF strong locally as well as nationally and internationally.
- 06 - Christian farmers in New Zealand are eager to get an FCF organization going and flourishing in that small island country. Australian farmers have also expressed an interest in an FCF presence there as well. Our fifth job is to those, and perhaps other countries, to move into their farming communities with God's precious Word. Chief Cornerstone, farmers throughout the world have the same need to hear and respond to Your message of grace, forgiveness, and salvation. Pull on heart strings to help FCF reach out with whatever is needed to put Your gospel into the hands and hearts of spiritually needy people wherever they are.
- 07 - "You shall have no other gods before me", Exodus 20:3. This is the first of the ten commandments and there is a good reason for it, I believe. It is the most often and flagrantly violated command. Beside all the other "gods" we cater to, our self is the god we worship and serve most often. Teacher, we seek forgiveness for our sin of self worship and we seek the humble and servant attitude that You so ably demonstrated

when You were with us so many years ago.

- 08 - "Six days you shall labor and do all your work . . . , in it (the seventh day) you shall do no work", Exodus 20:9,10. This verse was quite a change for the recently freed Israelites who were used to working all seven days as slaves. And, in our modern culture, we are used to working seven days as well; if not at our job, we are working around the house or property. Lord, you designed the Sabbath not for You but for us, a time to be physically and spiritually refreshed. Forgive us for thinking we know better than You. Help us to design our schedules so we can take that seventh day as a day of rest, not a day to "catch up" on all the doings on our agenda.
- 09 - "Whatever you do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not to men", Colossians 3:23. Do you consciously think about serving God as you go about your work routine? No? Neither do I, at least not very often. But, here, Paul exhorts to "do it heartily as to the Lord". Just think how much more productive we all could be if we responded to this verse. Jesus, I tend to be a slacker, especially toward the end of the day when I "excuse" myself because I am tired. Re-work my work day so that I do my work "heartily" even when the day is nearly done.
- 10 - Galatians 1:9 says, "If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, that person be under God's curse". Those are pretty strong words from Apostle Paul but he was upset by what the Galatians were doing; they were drifting back into Christ plus (in this case, Jewish law) as if Christ wasn't sufficient. Messiah, You paid the price, the complete price for our salvation. Help us to take a stand with Paul, that anyone who preaches and teaches that it requires anything more than You have done is preaching false teaching.
- 11 - " . . . on the outside you (Pharisees and teachers of the law) appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness", Matthew 23:28. Jesus didn't mince words when He confronted the religious leaders of the day, What makes you think the world would do differently if He were here today? Jesus, we are often not much different from the Pharisees. While we seek forgiveness, we also need a change of attitude and a good dose of forgiveness to those whom we judged as less religious than we.
- 12 - Psalm 118:24 says, "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it". Certain days seem to have a special significance like Christmas, New Year's, a birthday or anniversary. Yet, our Bible tells us

that everyday is a special day because God created it and gives it to us. Precious Lord, we marvel at your magnificent creation and all the joys and privileges it grants us but thank you especially for today. We rejoice in the fact that we are here, able to live, to love, to laugh, to cry, to see, to hear, to eat and sleep, to be.

- 13 - "Be content with such things as you have. For He Himself said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you'", Hebrews 13:5. This is such an appropriate message for us today for it seems that no matter what we have, we want more. Some wise person said, "Contentment is not getting what we want but being satisfied with what we have". Master, how can anyone complain when they read Your promise, "I will never leave you or forsake you"? But, we all do. Forgive us and restore us to "contentment".
- 14 - Today is Columbus Day, a day to honor the man to whom many attribute the discovery of the "Western Hemisphere". There are those who consider Columbus a bad person because he and his men brought European diseases to which the natives of the area had no natural immunity. Son of Man, there are always unintended consequences to the things we do. Yet, we pray that men and women of courage and vision, like Columbus, will continue to explore, invent, and improve the way things are. And, thank you, for giving them courage and vision to probe the unknown.
- 15 - "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see Your good works and glorify Your Father in heaven", Matthew 5:16. How brightly is your light shining these days? Does it need a little cleaning off? I know my light does? Jesus, You exhort us to let our light shine not to bring attention to ourselves but to bring glory to our Father in heaven. Please help us to do just that.
- 16 - America has troops stationed in almost every country throughout the world. They are there in part to protect American interests but they are also there also to protect the interests of the host country and its people. Let us pray today that the Lord will protect our servicemen and women from ungodly influences and that they fulfill every purpose our Lord requires of them.
- 17 - When several FCFI representatives visited Haiti two years ago, we spent part of our time in the home of Carl and Maya Gilles. Carl, a native Haitian, and Maya, who is from Quebec, Canada, are called to train Haitian pastors. This is a much needed ministry because many

Haitian pastors have no formal training. Teacher, provide Carl and Maya with all that they need to equip fellow pastors in a country that is long on worshipping evil spirits and woefully short on men and women who love You and want to share Your Holy Spirit with their fellow countrymen.

- 18 - "The whole world is full of His glory", Isaiah 6:30. Have you ever watched a "Daddy Longlegs" walk, noticed a walking stick hiding in plain sight, a "Killdeer" faking a broken leg or damaged wing as she hobbles away from her nest? How about a butterfly emerging from a cocoon or a woodpecker hammering on a tree to get his lunch? Amazing? Yes! A picture of God who is so unique and creative beyond our imagination? You bet! Father God, Your glory is on display everywhere we look. Thank you.
- 19 - Jesus, Head of the Church, we pray today for our local church, our pastor, lay leaders, teachers, worship leaders, and others in positions of responsibility. First, bless their families, keep them strong and focused, and provide for their needs. Second, build the church family with clarity of purpose and a unified spirit. Third, provide Your church with the tools and resources to reach the entire community with the Good News of Jesus.
- 20 - Chief Cornerstone, there are those in this world who would destroy any expression of freedom so that their own desire to rule and dominate the world scene would come to pass. Death, violence, and terror are the tools they use to subdue any who oppose them for these are the traits of their, father, the devil (see John 10:10). We pray for them today that they will have a change of heart and we pray for freedom for them and for us for it is You who gave us a free will (John 8:36).
- 21 - Election Day will soon be here in the U.S. and since it is an "off" year when few statewide or national offices are up for election, voter turn-out tends to be off too. Please don't shrink from your duty as a voter because local elections are often a "stepping stone" to state and national office. Son of Man, you have allowed us in the U.S. and in Canada to vote for our leaders. Encourage God fearing leaders to step forth and for the rest of us to fulfill our duty and responsibility to elect them.
- 22 - "We do not lose heart ...", 2 Corinthians 4:16. Sickness injuries damaged relationships, loss of loved ones, financial problems all tend

to pull us down and chip away at our faith in God. Master Healer, we have many who struggle with one or more of these problems. We ask that you minister to each person's deepest need and that they do not "loose heart". Thank you for being our "all in all".

- 23 - "... be an example to the believers in word and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity", 1 Timothy 4:12. This was Paul's advice to Timothy, a student and co-worker of Paul's. The sound advice given is easier said than done. Wonderful counselor, I know this applies to me as well as to Timothy, but I cannot do it by myself. I need Your help and Your guidance.
- 24 - "Those who walk in pride He is able to put down", Daniel 4:37. We have all been warned as well in Proverbs 16:18 which says, "Pride goes before destruction ...". Shepherd of Our Souls, we have all been there. Yet we can take comfort in Lamentations 3:31-33 which reads, "For men are not cast off by the Lord forever. Though He brings grief, He will show compassion, so great is His unfailing love. For He does not willingly bring afflictions or grief to the children of men". Thank you for this encouraging message from Your Word.
- 25 - "They (the followers of Jesus) need no lamp or light of the sun for the Lord God gives the light", Revelations 22:5. Jesus said "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". Jesus, I don't want to be in darkness. Please lead and I will follow.
- 26 - "The Apostles said to Jesus, 'Increase our faith'", Luke 17:5. I, too, say increase my faith and I will add, "Increase my faith in Jesus Christ, not in some other person, place, thing, or belief system". I am depending on You, Lord, for this addition to the way I live each day.
- 27 - Today is Sunday but I am going to call it Son-day because we should take extra time today to worship the Son. "Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy ... for in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath Day and made it holy", Exodus 20: 4,11. God, remind us that Sunday is that seventh day and help us to keep it in a manner that is pleasing to You.
- 28 - "Let the wise listen and add to their learning", Proverbs 1:5. Why are the wise, wise? It is because they listen, pay attention, associate with other wise people, ask questions, and continue to search for answers.

Jesus, I want to be wise and, since You are the source of all wisdom, I choose to sit at Your feet as often as I can to learn as much as I can. Help me to do this.

- 29 - "Keep His decrees and commands . . . so that it may go well with you and your children", Deuteronomy 4:40. Father in Heaven, I especially like the part that says, "go well with your children". You and I both love our children. Help me to keep your "dear ones" so that our children are safe and prosperous.
- 30 - "Let us then approach the throne of grace to help us in our time of need", Hebrews 4:16. We seldom approach our Lord seeking His help, advice, or counsel until we have run out of our own ideas. Take a few moments today to talk to Jesus; tell Him your deepest concerns; tell Him your highest hopes and your major failures. He always has time to listen. Remind us Lord to go to You first rather than to ourselves for answers to whatever confronts us.
- 31 - Genesis 2:20 says, "And Adam named all the animals and birds . . . but for Adam no suitable helper was found". Maybe Adam was stumped but God wasn't. God told Adam to "take a nap" and when he awoke, there was Eve. I'll guess Adam said something like, "I like it. I like it". Thank you, Creator God, for your ingenuity and creativity. Thank you for all the suitable "helpers". You are an awesome God.

Share Your Prayer Items with Others

Continue to send in specific prayer requests either to the FCFI office or to Clark Phillips (email: CSPCows@aol.com) by the 13th or 14th of the month so they can be included in the Prayer Guide for the following month.

Urgent Prayer Requests

Can be placed on the website prayer list page at any time, forward urgent, immediate attention prayer needs to Dennis Schlagel (email: fellowship@fci.org) at the FCFI office.

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