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PRAYER GUIDE - November 2013

- 01 - I would like to discuss the “walking stick” beads these next few days, but today, I would like to focus on the people who share the Good News of Jesus using these beads as a guide. Jesus, thank you for the person(s) who created the idea of the colored beads to use them on a stick to attract and remind people of Your message. Use and guide the “presenters” who take the time and make the effort to share your story with all who have ears to hear. Bless and multiply their efforts to draw people into your Kingdom and bring glory to your Holy Name.
- 02 - Since the beginning of time, gold has been viewed as very valuable and the writer of Revelations (21:2b) uses gold to describe the Streets of Heaven. It implies that Heaven is a place of unlimited beauty and value. We use the gold bead to represent Heaven, a place of infinite value and perfection where Christians can look forward to. Savior, thank you for paying the price so that we who acknowledge you as our Savior and Redeemer can confidently look forward to our future home, Heaven, the perfect place.
- 03 - Today is the last day of this year when we can “save” daylight. Remember to set your watches and clocks back one hour (fall back, spring ahead) as we return to “standard time” from “daylight savings time”. Holy One, we are so strange to think we can “save” time by

changing our "time piece". Thank you for creating day and night as You did.

- 04 - We use the black (dark) bead to represent sin, evil, and Satan. Often people commit their sins in darkness, thinking that no one will know " ...but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil", Romans 3:19. This describes all of us, "... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God", Romans 3:23 and this bars us from Heaven, the perfect place. Light of the World, you came to eliminate darkness and to defeat sin. We praise you for canceling our sin and offering us eternal life.
- 05 - Today is election day in the U.S. Remember to get out and vote and to select people of good character and integrity, There are few "big" elections today and the vote is mostly for state and local contenders. However, this does not mean that it is not important to vote. Shepherd, we are privileged to have the opportunity to have a voice in who will represent us in the halls of government. Inspire us to vote and to select men and women whose aim is to humbly serve, not dictate to their fellow citizens.
- 06 - We use the red bead to represent blood; not just anyone's blood, but the blood of Jesus. " ... He entered the Most Holy Place once for all by His own blood, having obtained eternal redemption", Hebrews 9:12. Blood represents life and Jesus gave His life for us all. "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us", Romans 5:8b. Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of eternal life that you purchased for us on that cross so many years ago. May we share that perfect gift with as many people as possible.
- 07 - White represents cleanliness, purity, or being washed clean. The white bead represents us after we have accepted Jesus as our Savior and that is exactly how Jesus sees us. "But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God", 1 Corinthians 6:11b. Reboni, you are the ultimate launderer, rubbing away every trace of uncleanness. Thank you for that precious gift.
- 08 - The green bead represents growth and God wants nothing more than for us to grow and mature in Him. John 15:8 tells us " ... this is to my Father's glory that you bear much fruit ...". 1 Thessalonians

4:1 says, "Finally brothers, we instructed you how to live in order to please God... Now we ask you ... to do this more and more". Master, we want to grow. Give us "the green light" to move forward, to be the person you have planned for us to be.

- 09 - "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?", Luke 17:17. This is the question Jesus asked the one man out of the ten who came to Jesus offering thanks for his healing. What's interesting is that the one giving thanks was a Samaritan ,not a native Jew. Are you like the one or the nine? Jesus, our Healer, thank you for restoring me. Thank you for healing my family, my church family, my community.
- 10 - "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace", Luke 7:50. "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace", Luke 17:46. "Rise and go; your faith has made you well", Luke 17:10. Do you think Jesus is trying to tell us something here? Hebrews 11:1 sums it up nicely, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, and certain of what we do not see". Thank you, Jesus for faith.
- 11 - Today is Veterans Day, a national holiday in the U.S. It was formerly called Armistice Day and it signified the end of World War I. Now on Veterans Day ,the nation honors all our military veterans, both past and present. Actually, Jesus himself is a veteran for He said in Matthew 10:34, "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword". Jesus, you are our ultimate warrior, fighting for our personal peace and for the glory of the Father.
- 12 - "Who ever is kind to the poor is lending to the Lord. The benefit of his gift will return to him in abundance", Proverbs 19:17. Relax the fingers holding on to all your possessions, my friend, and give to the poor and needy. We cannot afford to do otherwise. King of Kings, we who have been blessed (and that is virtually all of us) certainly should not ignore this promise. Show us those in need, both in material things and spiritually.
- 13 - "Greet Pricilla and Aquila ... who risked their own necks for my life", Romans 16:3,4. Here Paul commends Pricilla and Aquila for "risking their necks" on his behalf. Are we willing to "risk" our necks for someone(s) else? I suspect it depends on the level of risk. But,

Jesus, you risked everything as it says in Romans 5:8, "While we were still sinners, Christ (you) died for us". We are eternally grateful.

- 14 - "A new commandment I give you, that you love one another", John 13:34a. This is what Jesus spoke to his disciples at the last supper and that commandment applies to you and me today as well. Jesus, you set the example for all of us as you state in John 15:14, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another". I seek your grace, Holy One, to love unconditionally.
- 15 - "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, Oh Lord", Psalm 19:14. I would like this verse to be our prayer for today. May we all consciously control what we say and think about others. Words can hurt, second hand as well as first hand.
- 16 - "Whoever desires to be great among you should be your servant," Mark 10:43. I think this verse is easier to understand if we turn it around; "Whoever shall be your servant, shall be great among you." We need to take this admonition seriously. Do you want to be great? Be a servant. Messiah, you came to serve and you are the greatest of all servants. Help us to do likewise.
- 17 - "Beware that you do not forget the Lord, your God", Deuteronomy 8:11. When "God gives to us richly all things to enjoy" (Timothy 6:17), we often spend more time, effort, and money on the things rather than the giver of them. Heavenly Father, you have blessed us richly. Guide us to look to You, not the things that can easily crowd You out of our everyday consciousness.
- 18 - "Pride, arrogance, the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate", Proverbs 8:13. The Bible is pretty clear about how God feels about the proud. Matthew 23:12 says, "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled and whoever humbles himself will be exalted". 1 Peter 5:6 tells us, "Humble yourself, therefore, under God's mighty hand that He may lift you up in due time". We hear you, Lord, you alone are to be exalted. Please keep reminding us, we pray.
- 19 - "If there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy, meditate on those things", Philippians 4:8. Have you ever had trouble getting to sleep because of some disturbing or harmful thought that just

won't go away? Some wise person said, "to fall asleep, don't count sheep but talk to the shepherd". Good advice! Shepherd, you always have a solution to every problem. Help us clear our minds of the junk that crowds you out.

- 20 - Natural disasters abound. Loved ones or neighbors struggle with poor health, financial problems beset some, relationships may deteriorate. You may want to add your specific concerns to your prayers today. Hear our prayers, Oh Lord, for all the problems that surround us. Restore, revive, renew, as we pray. Hear us as well as we praise and rejoice over who you are and what you do.
- 21 - "Take heed and beware of covetousness for one's life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions"; Luke 12:15. We heard something like this in Exodus 20:17 (the tenth commandment) "You shall not covet". In other words do not wish for anything that belongs to your neighbor who may have more than you. Father, we want to be satisfied with all that you have provided for us. Help us to be thankful for whatever you have given.
- 22 - "We have been delivered from the law ... so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit", Romans 7:16. In an intense study of Galatians, we learn that Paul rails against the Judaizers who want to bring Jewish law back into the Christian faith. He tells the Galatians in 1:6, "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel ...". Savior, we weak Christians need to be continuously reminded that salvation is by faith in Jesus plus nothing. "For it is by grace you have been saved through faith ... and this not of yourselves, it is a gift from God", Ephesians 2:8.
- 23 - "My servant, David, ... followed me with all his heart"; 1 Kings 14:8. Do you, like me, wonder how God could say this about David after all the foolish things he did? I think it was because David, like you and me, was a sinner. He never wavered in his respect and devotion to God. Messiah, David committed many grievous sins but never allowed his devotion to you to diminish. Allow me the grace to follow you with all my heart.
- 24 - "My little children, let us not love (just) in word or in tongue but in deed and truth", 1 John 3:18. In God's economy, little things can be

big things. A letter, a call, a visit, a dinner invitation can be just as important as grocery money, paying an overdue bill, or taking a day off to take someone to the doctor. Servant King, there are hundreds of opportunities to show our love (and Jesus' love) to others. Open our eyes and our hearts to see and respond to the needs of others.

- 25 - "The Word of God came to John (the Baptist) ... in the wilderness", Luke 3:2. Why would God call out to the strange man who lived apart from almost everyone else? It was because He had a purpose for John and He has a purpose for you and me no matter how obscure we might think we are. Nazarene, what is my call? How do you want me to live? Where do you want me to go? Who do you want me to see, to minister to, to help out? Hear I am, Lord. Send me.
- 26 - "Praise Him, all you stars of light", Psalm 148:3. Wow! If all the stars are praising Him, that is a lot of praise for there are uncounted numbers of stars. You and I should join in that chorus of praise. Creator God, how magnificent is your creation! Your beauty and creativity are boundless! Your majesty is awesome! Your wisdom is unsurpassed! We praise You!
- 27 - "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world", John 4:4. The story of Saul's conversion to Paul has always fascinated me. How could Saul who intensely persecuted the Church ... and tried to destroy it (Galatians 1:13) be transformed into the zealous minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles? Perhaps you know a "Saul" who is so anti-Christian that he (she) is unreachable. Don't believe it for "He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world"(Galatians 1:13). Master, are there any "Saul's" in my life that you would have me reach out to? Please show me, I pray.
- 28 - Happy Thanksgiving! Have you made your list of things to be thankful for? In Mark 6:41, Jesus gave thanks for the five loaves and two fish that He had even though there were over 5000 people to feed. That demonstrates that giving thanks has some powerful outcomes. It also tells me to be thankful for what I have and not to despair over what I do not have. Jesus, you gave us the example to be thankful in all things. I want to thank you for family, friends, provision, and all the grace you extend to all of us. Praise God!

- 29 - "Lord, save me", Matthew 14:30. That is what Peter cried out when he began to sink while walking toward Jesus on the water. That is about the shortest prayer you can say .The Bible says in verse 31, "Immediately Jesus reached out His hand and caught him". We don't need long prayers or eloquent speech to talk to God. In fact, I think He prefers that we get right to the point. Jesus, help! I need . . .
- 30 - I think that it is interesting what the Bible has to say about self-righteousness. Here are a few examples. "Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight", Isaiah 5:21. "Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him", Proverbs 26:12. "If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself", Galatians 6:3. Teacher, we are all guilty of thinking more highly of ourselves than we should. Forgive us and guide us to be more humble for "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall", Proverbs 16:18.

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@fcfi.org) at the FCFI office.

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