

FCFI, P.O. Box 15, Lexington, IL 61753 <u>fellowship@fcfi.org</u> | (309) 365-8710

PRAYER GUIDE - August 2015

- 01 After a drunk driver hit her car, Delia Knox was paralyzed from the waist down. Twenty-two years later she attended a healing service and God restored her ability to walk. Psalm 149:3 tells us, *"He heals the broken hearted and bandages their wounds."* Author of our Faith, thank you for healing Delia and for reminding us that you are still on the throne, you are still in the healing business, and you still hear and answer our prayers. (To see the full story of Delia's miraculous healing Google "Delia Knox.")
- 02 "And God is able to bless you abundantly so that in all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work," 2 Corinthians 9:8.
 Paul uses the superlative here six times to make sure that you and I get the message that He is more than willing and able to bless and use us for His purposes. Thank you, Alpha and Omega for your promise of provision. Help us to realize that though we can do little by ourselves, with you "all things are possible."

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03 - While the month of August has no holidays, it has many farm shows and fairs where FCFI will be present. At times our FCFI workers will be "spread pretty thin." That is not the case with the Holy Spirit who has no limits. We praise God that "We proclaim Him, admonishing and teaching everyone

with all wisdom so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ," Colossians 12:8.

- 04 Have you had any "JW's" knock on your door lately? How about people from the "LDS" group? In most cases these folks mean well and often lead exemplary lives. But, John 4:1 says, *"Test the spirits to see whether they are from God because many false prophets have gone out into the world."* Savior, none of us has all the answers and we may have "holes" in our belief system. Guide us through your Spirit so that we can "Walk in His ways (and) keep His commandments, decrees, and laws," Deuteronomy 30:16a. (Special Prayer Request received July 23, 2015.) Deb Herrolds' dad died suddenly early in the week of July 19th just days before her parents were to have a 60th Wedding Anniversary celebration. Please pray for peace for Ron, Deb, Deb's mom and the entire family.)
- 05 Abortion on demand, same sex marriages, ISIS threats, IR scandals, bloated government deficits, Ben Gazi cover up, amnesty for illegals, sanctuary cities. It seems the list of atrocities, lies, cover-ups, is unending. How can we cope? Matthew 5:6 tells us, *"Jesus said, 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.""* 1 Peter 3:12 promises that *"The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and His ears are attentive to their prayers."* Hear our prayers, Master, our country and our world are falling apart. Come quickly! Restore honesty, integrity, and humility so that you alone will be glorified.
- 06 "Why are you downcast, Oh my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God for I will yet praise Him, my Savior and my God," Psalm 42:11. This verse is David's mind telling his heart to "get out of the dumps" because God hasn't abandoned or forgotten him. That is a message for us as well. Things may look bad but God is still on the throne and nothing phases Him. Wonderful Counselor, thank you for being there even when I don't acknowledge you. Thank you for being positive and for promising your ultimate and total victory. I read the end of the book! We win!
- 07 Do we really expect Christ to return? Are we ready for His return at any moment? I suppose that most of us would be totally unprepared if He knocked on our door today. Yet, 1 Thessalonians 5:6 tells us, *"Therefore let us not sleep as others do but let us watch and be sober."* Bright Morning

Teacher, your church has the ability to spread your Word around the world but often tolerates immorality. Guide us to be intolerant of all those things that are offensive to you.

- 28 "When you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing," Matthew 6:3. What I believe this verse conveys is that our giving be as anonymous as possible and/or that we give without any expectation of recognition or reward. Author of Our Faith, help us "clean up" our motives for giving. May we give only to honor you.
- 29 "Religion that our God accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress ...," James 1:27. This verse gives us a glimpse of the heart of God. He wants you and me to be most concerned with those who have the least power to help themselves. King of Kings, give us your 20-20 vision to see those whose needs are the greatest and the means and will to help them.
- 30 *"I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up,"* Isaiah 6:1. I think that many of us, though we love and worship our God, have little idea of the power and majesty that defines Him. This may be especially true in the U.S. where we don't have kings, queens, or other "royalty." But, Almighty God, we bow before you in awe and wonder as we seek to comprehend your all-encompassing greatness.
- 31 *"The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord,"* Romans 6:23. The gift of eternal life is offered to all for free. Yet, this fact is a stumbling block to many. We in our pride want to "earn" our salvation but we cannot pay the price. That is why Jesus did it for us. Thank you, Jesus, for your gift. We accept it with eternal gratitude.

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. FCFI – PO Box 15 – Lexington, IL 61753 FAX: (309) 365-7023 Phone: (309) 365-8710 you can use me, here I am.

- 23 "Whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved," Romans 10:13. Someone might complain that they don't want to be a Christian because Mr. X calls himself a Christian and he is proud, loud, and stingy. But being a Christian doesn't depend on what anyone does or says except Jesus. Now there is the example we can depend on. Master, help us to take our eyes off of others and keep our eyes only on Jesus. It is His throne we should go to.
- 24 "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome," Nehemiah 4:14. This is what Nehemiah told the workers who were rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem while under threat of enemy attack. Romans 8:31 tells us, " ... if God is for us, who can be against us?." Almighty God, help us to keep our eyes on you and not on the person or problem that confronts us. Only you can dispense all fear.
- 25 "They shall bear fruit in old age; they shall be fresh and flourishing," Psalm 92:14. The psalmist here is talking about the righteous person as compared to the unrighteous. For those of us who are "on the back nine" that is encouraging news. True Vine, a concern of many of us older folk is that we are no long "fruit bearers." Your Word is a comfort to us. "Here I am, send me."
- 26 "The Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath," Joshua 2:11. This is what Rahab told the Israelite spies. How did she know that? She had heard about how God parted the Red Sea to allow them to escape their pursuers. We should never hesitate to tell of God's great and small accomplishments in our lives. Someone may hear and seek our great God. Jesus use us and our testimony whenever and wherever it is appropriate so that others may know the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
- 27 "I know your deeds, your love and faith, your service and perseverance and that you are now doing more than you did at first. Nevertheless, I have this against you. You tolerate ... Jezebel who ... misleads my servants into sexual immorality," Revelation 2:18-20. This is the angel's message to the church in Thyatira. It could also be a message to the church of today.

Star, forgive us for not taking your warning seriously. Guide us to be prepared to meet you, your angels, or to give our testimony to whomever might ask.

- 08 A Christian friend of ours asked a mutual friend who is an atheist what he would say to St. Peter when asked, "Why don't you believe in God?." He answered saying, "I didn't see enough evidence." To my way of thinking that is a pretty lame excuse since the Bible says in Psalm 19:1, *"The heavens declare the glory of God."* When I look at the starry expanse on a clear night, I am in total awe of God's creation. Thank you, Creator God, for the amazing evidence of your power, might, and creativity that surrounds us.
- 09 Dick has gradually become almost completely paralyzed and doctors don't know why, Sandy will have a parathyroid gland removed, Bill's heart is functioning at only 36 percent, Ken seeks deliverance from alcohol dependence, and Janet, wife of our FCFI Exec. Director, has auto immune disorder. Healing is sought for all these conditions. Some areas of the U.S. are battling extreme wet weather and flooding while others are experience drought. Certainly there are needs in other families and areas around all of us. Advocate, hear our prayers for healing, restoration and relief of stress.
- 10 "Martha said to David, "You are the man," 2 Samuel 12:7. Nathan was pointing out to King David his sins of adultery and murder. Do you and I try to hide our sins from public view? Yes, that sin is probably almost universal. Head of the Church, we cannot hide our sin and failure from you. Forgive us our sins and restore us to right relationship with both you and with our fellow man.
- 11 *"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away, behold all things have become new,"* 2 Corinthians 5:17. Do you feel like a new creation? I suspect that many would answer, "No!" But God isn't done with us yet. He is still "creating." Bread of Life, thank you for your persistence recreating us and for giving us a second, third, 100th chance to become more like you.
- 12 "After the earthquake a fire but the Lord was not in the fire and after the fire a still small voice," 1 Kings 19:12. When we people want to get our point across, we often increase the decibels a bit. But, God doesn't usually

do that. He wants us to settle down and be quiet so we can give Him our undivided attention. Word of God, come to us in our quiet time. Help us to tune out the world around us so we can tune in to what you have to share with us.

- 13 "Nor was there anyone among then who lacked," Acts 4:34. This is how Luke described the early Christian church. Can we say the same about our church today? We probably and sadly say, "No." We have lost the ability (or sensitivity) to help others and those who have needs but have not made their needs known. Alpha and Omega, we need and want to be more like the early church. Help us to recognize and fill the needs of those around us so that it can be said of us, "Nor was there anyone among them who lacked."
- 14 "Do not fear or be dismayed ... for the lord is with you," 2 Chronicles 20:17. This was the Lord's message to Moses who was often challenged by the tasks our Lord had assigned him. That message applies to us as well. When we have our eyes on the problem instead of on our Lord, we, too, become "dismayed." Master, we pray that fear and dismay will no longer be a part of our vocabulary.
- 15 *"The thing I greatly fear has come upon me,"* Job 3:25. Apparently Job had a highly successful and rewarding life yet, he quietly feared that he would lose everything he had. Do you have things you greatly fear? Redeemer, tough times are bound to happen in life but thanks to you and Job's story we can be confident that the end will be greater than the beginning. Thank you for that beautiful illustration.
- 16 "God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ," Galatians 6:14. The cross is the symbol that transcends all other symbols. Jesus died on the cross that we might live. Savior, while the cross may be offensive to some unbelievers, it is the symbol that we believers rally toward in challenging times. May we always cherish the symbol of you, our bridge from mortal to eternal.
- 17 *"When pride comes, then comes shame; but with the humble comes wisdom,"* Proverbs 11:2. When you "toot your own horn," you become spiritually deaf. Master, there is a touch of pride in all of us and we need

your help to overcome it. Come, replace our pride with humility and instill the godly wisdom we need.

- 18 "The Book of the Genealogy of Jesus Christ, Son of David, the Son of Abraham," Matthew 1:1. Have you ever thought about Jesus' ancestry? There was royalty but also in His lineage a prostitute, adulterers, liars, and foreigners. You and I probably have a similar ancestry. But what is important to God is where we are going, not where we have been or who begot us. Chief Cornerstone, we base our life on you, our rock and our salvation. Thank you for reaching out to us and ushering us into your family.
- 19 *"The days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise,"* Ephesians 5:16,17. We have been delivered from condemnation but we still risk harm and loss because of our sinful tendencies. Messiah, help us to avoid those places and situations that tempt our sinful nature so that we can remain clean and not be a temptation to others.
- 20 "Now to Him (Jesus) who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us," Ephesians 3:20. Do you notice all the superlatives that Paul uses here exceedingly, abundantly, above all? Wow! Why do we continue to do things in our own strength when we have a promise like that? Lion of Judah, forgive us our mental slowness. Open our eyes to the fantastic power and wisdom you present to us. Thank you for the next opportunity to further your Kingdom.
- 21 "Jesus said, ' I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me'," John 14:6. Many people object to this truth. They wish there was some other way their way. But, truth is truth. If you want to take the cap off a soda bottle, you must twist counter-clockwise. If you insist on turning it clockwise, you will get real thirsty. Jesus, you are the way to the Father. Thank you for taking care of our biggest problem sin!
- 22 "There is born to you this day in the City of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord," Luke 2:11. A couple of very modest means gave birth to a baby in a stable in an obscure rural town. But, that baby forever changed the course of history. God doesn't need famous people or royal trappings to accomplish His goals. Father in Heaven, I am not a headline maker but, if