



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS  
INTERNATIONAL

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*Sowing, Saving, Reaping for Christ Around the World*

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## PRAYER GUIDE - October 2015

- 01 - The list of prayer requests is quite long this month and the unspoken prayer list is even longer. Richard seeks the Lord's guidance in the disposal of farm land. Kenneth asks prayer for back surgery and Tom guidance regarding retirement. Pat struggles with the effects of a stroke, Lynn asks prayer for healing, Stanley for travel mercies, Bill unspecified prayer and Jeff has medical needs. The Murray family is adopting a child and asks for the Lord's help and guidance. Healing is sought for Corey from serious accident injuries while Dick struggles with recovery from a stroke and Bill faces open heart surgery for a valve replacement. Prayer is much needed for the family of Andy who died recently, his death the result of violence. I AM, you are the only one who knows, understands, and can respond to these many needs. We bring them to your attention so you can more fully address them. We thank you for your unlimited love and concern.
- 02 -In our area (Western New York) harvest is in full swing. Choppers are harvesting corn for silage, combines are busy in corn and soybean fields, harvesters are gathering grapes for juice, potato diggers are bringing up the potato crop, laborers are in the orchards picking apples and pears, and various vegetables are being hand-picked and heading for market. Have you thanked God for the bounty we have in our land? King Solomon tells us in Ecclesiastes 3:13 *"Every one may eat and drink and find satisfaction in all his toil ... this is the gift of God."* Thank you, Lord.

- 03 - The leadership of Iran threatens to eliminate Israel and the USA. Meanwhile, our president 'negotiates' a treaty with Iran that virtually guarantees that this country can develop nuclear weapons and gives them the multiple billions of dollars to finance their treachery. Yet, our Bible tells us in Ephesians 6:12, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."* Messiah, we rest in your promise of eternal life. May we share your gift of forgiveness to any who will listen as long as we are able.
- 04 - Jesus was really angry with the religious leaders of His time when He said, *"Those people honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain, their teachings are merely human rules,"* Matthew 15:8. Could He say that about you and me? Master, we don't live life as we say we believe, either at times. Forgive us our folly and change our hearts. We want to be more like you!
- 05 - "How can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10:14. What a challenge to all of Christianity to get off our duffs and tell people about Jesus. Teacher, we have been lax in our evangelism. Break down the barriers of apathy, indifference, and laziness in us so that we can promote your kingdom wherever and whenever we go.
- 06 - *"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them and they with me"* Revelations 3:20. Jesus is always the gentleman. He wants to "break bread" with each of us but he never forces His way on anyone. What an all-powerful yet gentle God we serve. Savior, we struggle to comprehend your powerful yet gentle ways. Come in and soften our hard hearts so that we can reflect your love to those around us.
- 07 - *"As Jesus went on from there, He saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collectors booth. 'Follow me,' He told him and Matthew got up and followed Him,"* Matthew 9:9. It sounds easy doesn't it? Well, you and I are not Jesus but according to Acts 1:8, we do have His ability to witness. "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you: and you will be my witness in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Thank you, Father, for your Holy Spirit power.

that we don't recognize it. But, thank you for hearing and answering.

- 29 - I get a magazine called the Voice of the Martyrs. It chronicles the hardships that many of our brothers and sisters endure because of their Christian faith. While most of us the U.S. and Canada live pretty easy lives compared to brothers and sisters in countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Syria, North Korea, Nepal, India, and many other places who suffer pain, death, and deprivation. Redeemer, we pray today for our persecuted fellow Christians around the world and pray for a release from the discrimination they endure. We pray for peace first in their souls, then in their countries. We pray also for a revelation as to how we can best meet their needs.
- 30 - *"I (God) will establish my covenant between me and you (Abraham) and your descendants ..."* Genesis 17:7. News flash! Since we are the adopted sons and daughters of Abraham through Jesus, God's promises are for us as well. Wow! We Christians can also be called "God's chosen people." Lord of Lords, we welcome that Good News and we also ask for guidance to reach other people including God's original "chosen people" with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- 31 - Today is Halloween, a 'holiday' given to fun, pumpkins, spooky decorations and 'trick or treaters'. Fortunately, most of the tricks have been set aside and just treats (usually candy and fruit) are expected. While we may spoof about witches and goblins today, we know for sure about one spirit, your "Holy Spirit," who leads and guides us if we will allow Him to. Thank you for the precious gift of the Holy Spirit.

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### 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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- to be patient, to heal, and to restore. Thank you for your love that never fails, never gives up, never has any limits.
- 24 - *"To him who knows to do good and does not do it. To him it is sin,"* James 4:17. I suspect we are all guilty. We can all complete the sentence, "I should have ..."! Savior, we have failed. Thank you for your forgiveness. Thank you for giving us another chance. Thank you that others reached out to me in my time of need. Thank you for being the example that guides us all.
- 25 - *"I will praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made,"* Psalm 139:14. Have you watched a hummingbird hover as it drinks from a feeder, a butterfly emerging from its cocoon where it changed from an ugly worm into a beautiful butterfly, a hawk swoop down and grab a morsel to eat without ever stopping? If you think those are amazing consider yourself. Creator, you have made some amazing critters. But, I and my fellow man, we are the pinnacle of your creation. Why? Because we are made in the image of You. Praise, you Father God.
- 26 - *"I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ which is far better"* Philippians 1:23. I can't say I am hard-pressed between the two, I selfishly have places I want to go, things I want to see, family and friends I wish to visit. But, at the same time, I have to agree with St. Paul that being with Christ "is far better." Father in Heaven, your promise of a place in heaven is truly a heavenly offer and I look forward to going there - someday. Is my thinking off? Do I need to change my perspective? Should I be eager to change my residence soon? I look for your answer and thank you for it in advance.
- 27 - *"Your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly,"* Matthew 6:18. It reminds me of numbers 32:23 which says, and be sure your sins will find you out." Our Father sees all things, both good and bad. Jesus, if I do anything 'good' I am not looking for rewards for I already have the ultimate reward, eternal life, not because of what I have done but for what you have done for me.
- 28 - *"Constant prayer was offered to God for him (Peter) by the church,"* Acts 12:5. Remember the story, Peter was asleep in prison when an angel awakened him and led him to freedom. This was the result of prayer by the people of Peter's church. Yes, prayer works or should I say God works through our prayers. Lord, I sometimes think you answer prayer so subtly
- 08 - *"The teacher of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do for they do not practice what they preach"* Matthew 23:2, 3. I think that is where the saying "do as I say not as I do" comes from. Precious Lord, I don't want to be like the Pharisees. Guide me by your Spirit so that I might humbly demonstrate your love and grace with or without words.
- 09 - *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable-if anything is excellent or praiseworthy- think about such things,"* Philippians 4:8. In this troubled world with so much bad news let us stop and think about the good. Family, friends, church, good crops, a beautiful sunset, an ice cream cone, and our precious, eternal, loving, Creator God. Redeemer, you embody all that is good.
- 10 - 1 Corinthians 2:9 says, *"What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived-these things God had prepared for those who love Him."* Thank you, King of Kings for giving a heavenly and eternal perspective of what you have prepared for your family. May we never lose sight of your omnipotent love.
- 11 - *"The Lord turned to him (Gideon) and said, 'Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand ... Pardon me, my Lord, Gideon replied, but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh and I am the least in my family,"* Judges 6:14, 15. We all have what we think are pretty good excuses for not doing what God calls us to do. My Lord, we tend to believe that outcomes are dependent on us when we should realize that you called us to an action but you determine the results. Thank you for your guiding hand.
- 12 - *"... when the disciples were together ... Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you'. After He said this, he showed them His hands and His side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord,"* John 20:19, 20. Can you imagine the awe and joy when Jesus appeared to them after His death and burial? Good Shepherd, we have become too complacent about the historical fact of your resurrection. Your victory over sin and death should be the signature basis for our faith. Thank you for the miracle of miracles.
- 13 - Today is Columbus Day in the U.S. Though Columbus never actually set

foot on the North American continent (he landed on one or more of the Caribbean Islands) he did demonstrate to mankind (both Native Americans and Europeans) that the earth was round and bigger than anyone believed. Head of the Church, some are critical of Columbus because he and his men carried unknown diseases to the 'new world'. We should give him credit for his desire to tell the natives about Jesus and we need your guidance to tell other 'natives' about Jesus, too.

14 - I doubt if many realize that yesterday was 'Old Farmer's Day'. While it is not a national holiday and probably is not noted on any calendar, it is important to a select few of us. I want to announce that I have joined FFA - Former Farmers of America and I want to thank God for the privilege and honor of being a farmer. I hope fellow septuagenarians and octogenarians will join me in praise to the one who rules over us all. We praise you Father God!

15 - *"He (Mordecai) sent back this answer (to Esther), 'Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape for if you remain silent at this time ... deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place but ... your father's family will perish and who knows but that you have come to a royal position for such a time as this'"* Esther 4:13, 14. Master, I believe each of us has or will be placed in a critical situation that requires the testing of our faith. We pray that we recognize the challenges set before us and respond positively for your honor and glory.

16 - *"The peace of God will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus,"* Philippians 4:7. Do you have a heart or mind that needs guarding? I know mine does at times. Lover of My Soul, I get pretty anxious at times because things are not happening the way I think that they should. Forgive me my impatience and also my lack of trust in you. Be the guardian of my heart and mind.

17 - *"Wisdom is the principle thing. Therefore, get wisdom,"* Proverbs 4:7. All the knowledge in the world is useless without wisdom. The same goes for ability, ambition, wealth, and fame. Our One Wise God, we humans are pretty good at patting ourselves on the back for one characteristic or another, yet failing to use that gift properly. Come, Lord Jesus, straighten our crooked thinking.

18 - *"Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to me,"* Colossians 3:23. Most of us are not pastors, Bible teachers, or Christian entertainers

but, according to Paul, whatever our vocation be, we still need "to do it heartily as to the Lord." Teacher, you have called each of us to help provide for the needs of others whether physical or spiritual. May everything I do reflect the love and care that you extend to us each and every day.

19 *"Be obedient to those who are your masters,"* Ephesians 6:5. This is not found in a marriage handbook because in marriage we are "equally yoked." But in the workplace a chain of command must be established and adhered to if things are to run smoothly. Master, may those at the 'top' recognize the value of those he or she commands and workers recognize the leadership and authority of their managers. May all recognize that you are the ultimate manager.

20 - *"Why do you spend money for what is not bread and your wages for what does not satisfy?"* Isaiah 55:2. Have you noticed how much time, money, and hard work people spend to have fun? Isaiah noticed that too. Our God Who Provides, we are a restless people trying to buy happiness. Help us to put our trust in you, not in the things of the world. Only through you can we find true happiness and satisfaction.

21 - *"They need no lamp or light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light,"* Revelation 22:5. This verse is telling about those who have preceded us to heaven and it is an assurance that heaven is a real place. Heavenly Father, we too often think of heaven in some abstract way that diminishes the fact that heaven is real and that you, the God of All Creation, make that your home too.

22 - *"... that I might win those who are without law,"* 1 Corinthians 9:21. We all have family, neighbors, co-workers who have not yet accepted Jesus as their Savior and the challenge is 'how do we reach them with God's message'? Our pastor says, "How do we 'bother' them with the gospel?" Rabbi, I want to 'bother' my neighbor, and co-workers. Show me how to do that gently but effectively.

23 - *"It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by their arms ..."* Hosea 11:3. Remember when our kids or grandkids were just learning to walk? We would help them stand and then we would hold their hands while they took a feeble step or two. We didn't complain or give up on them when they sat down or leaned heavily on us so they didn't fall. God is like that too (only better). King of Kings, we often underestimate your willingness to forgive,