



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS  
INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 15 • Lexington, IL • 61753 • [fellowship@fci.org](mailto:fellowship@fci.org) • [www.fci.org](http://www.fci.org)

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

P. O. Box 15, Lexington, IL 61753



FCFI, P. O. Box 15, Lexington, IL 61753  
[fellowship@fci.org](mailto:fellowship@fci.org) | (309) 365-8710

## PRAYER GUIDE - January 2017

- 01 - **Happy New Year!** We made it through 2016 - some joys, some sorrows, some accomplishments, some failures. But today is the day to give thanks. Since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. Hebrews 12:28, *“Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.”*
  
- 02 - Have you made any New Year’s resolutions yet? Have you broken any resolutions that you made yesterday? Luke 19:10 tells us, *“(Jesus) came to seek and save the lost.”* 1 Timothy 2:3,4 says, *“God, our Savior, wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of truth.”* Jesus, we would like to be part of your work force to seek and save the lost.
  
- 03 - Some prayer requests that just came in (12/22/16) are the following: Pray for the family of Susan Dietz who died December 19th; Fred P. seeks wisdom from His Lord in 2017; Keith P. has been in treatment for cancer for the last two years; Richard P. has unsaved loved ones; Michael F. wants to make the best use of the resources God has given him; Leslie M. needs to sell a vacant mobile home and three acres of woodlot; Howard J. that we continue to love and serve the Lord

especially with our Jewish neighbors; Duncan MacKiddie who has an inoperable tumor and has been given just three months to live; John Avery Jr. has been diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Hear our prayers, Great Physician.

- 04 - Savior, we are reminded that there are many pastors, teachers, mission workers, and other servants who work full time to serve the needs of your people. Many others devote part of their time to ministry. Remind us daily that these folks need our prayers and our support. Use us to provide for their needs, we pray in Jesus name.
- 05 - *"You are an epistle of Christ,"* 2 Corinthians 3:3. When I was in high school, I dreamed of getting a "letter" for participation in a varsity sport. But, alas, my athletic skills were far too poor to accomplish such a feat. But, the Bible tells us that each of us is an epistle, a letter to those around us. My prayer today is that each one of us can and will be a "good," epistle, living Christ's message of grace to all we encounter.
- 06 - *"Therefore, let him who thinks he can stand take heed lest he fall,"* 1 Corinthians 10:12. The newspapers and air waves are full of stories of political figures who have had moral failures. But that isn't half of the stories. The Bible tells us, *"all have sinned and fall short of the God's glory"* (Romans 3:23). All means all. King of Kings, we tend to think ourselves better than "the lowly sinner" when we are counted among his numbers. Forgive us our pride, hear our pleas for forgiveness of all our sins and count us among the righteous through You alone.
- 07 - *"What does the Lord your God require of you but to fear Him and love Him,"* Deuteronomy 10:12. To fear means to have the highest respect for Him. To love Him means to place His needs (demands) above our own. How are we doing so far? My answer is "not so good." Jesus, we toss around such words as "Lord" and "Master" without thinking what they mean. Forgive us our lack of insight and even more our nonchalance about who you are. May we approach you as truly Lord and Master.
- 08 - *"Be filled with the fullness of God,"* Ephesians 3:19. Are you filled with the "fullness of God? I suspect many of us would have to say, "not

everything will be a 'bed of roses' but our faithful God will help us survive. Praise his Holy Name!

- 30 - *"Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ,"* Galatians 6:2. Few things illustrate our love for others more than bearing another's burdens, may they be sickness, broken relationships, financial problems, loss of a loved one, or misplaced trust. Savior, I am not always good at seeing the burdens another might be carrying so open my eyes and my heart to see and respond to their needs.
- 31 - *"The contention became so sharp that they parted from one another,"* Acts 15:39. This was the contention between Paul and Barnabas over taking Mark with them. We all have 'contentions' and some have lasting consequences. We pray that the long-term effect will be reconciliation like Paul and Barnabas and/or a good result like that of Paul and Barnabas. You see because of the contention the result was two mission trips rather than one. King of Kings, use our agreements and our contentions to bring your Word to needy people.

---

#### 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

- 24 - *“Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep,”* Romans 12:15. Paul here admonishes us to not be selfish with our rejoicing and weeping but to join with others in their victories and defeats. We and they will be the better for it. Jesus, expand our horizons to include the emotions of those around us.
- 25 - *“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation ...,”* 2 Corinthians 5:17. Think about it. When we are ‘born again’, we are a new freshly created being. Do you feel like a new creation? If you are like me, the old self wants to hang around and spoil my newness. Jesus, You promised that You haven’t given up on me (Philippians 1:6). Thank You for your patience, your grace, and your forgiveness.
- 26 - *“An angry man stirs up strife and a furious man abounds in transgression,”* Proverbs 29:22. Few of us can say that we have never said or done anything in a fit of anger that we wish we could undo. Anger tends to stamp out logic and control. Prince of Peace, we all have had our moments. Help us to control our words and actions. Come quickly if tempers flare.
- 27 - *“Be still and know that I am God ...,”* Psalm 46:10 and another Bible verse (among many) tells us to *“Praise Him ...,”* Psalm 103:2. Can we be still and praise Him at the same time? Of course, we can. Being “still” doesn’t necessarily mean being quiet. Let us focus today on praising Him not so much for what He does as for who He is, the great I AM. We praise You, Father God.
- 28 - *“You are my friends if you do whatever I command you,”* John 15:14. Have you ever thought about all the ‘hats’ that Jesus wears? Friend, brother, teacher, Master, Creator, sustainer, Savior, lover, Lord to name just a few. Jesus, you are our all-purpose, all-weather God. Thank you for being exactly what we need whenever we need you.
- 29 - *“When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned,”* Isaiah 43:2. Do you think Isaiah is talking about a literal fire? I don’t think so, I think he is talking about the challenges, disappointments, failures, and hurdles that we all face from time to time. He is not promising quite.” Because if we are really full of God’s goodness then there would be no reason for our own or Satan’s ‘badness’. Teacher, why do we make room for the ‘badness’ that continually creeps into our lives. Help us to blot out the sin that so easily overtakes us.
- 09 - *“If you show partiality, you commit sin,”* James 2:9. I think this verse condemns us all. In my lifetime, I have never met a person who isn’t prejudiced one way or another. As sin flawed people, we automatically judge and categorize others. Messiah, you came to witness to an unruly bunch. But, don’t give up on us. There is always room for improvement ... when we have You as our guide.
- 10 - *“He is my God and I will praise Him,”* Exodus 15:2. This is what the Israelites did after they passed through the Red Sea. We should take a cue from them. We woke up this morning, we had clothes to put on, we had breakfast in a warm dry home, etc. Yes, Master, you take good care of us better than the ‘lilies of the field’ and we praise you.
- 11 - *“While Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols,”* Acts 17:16. Paul would be provoked today, not so much by idols of stone, wood, or metal but by the idols of fame, wealth, beauty, sports. Emmanuel, we humans seem to require something to worship. Come, take your place of eminence in my life today.
- 12 - *“God will wipe away every tear from their eyes,”* Revelation 21:4. We as Christians can look confidently toward our heavenly experience but what the experience will be like we have no idea. When asked what heaven is like, my reply is ‘I don’t know but if it is good enough for God, it’s good enough for me’. Father, while we may not be excited to leave this world today, we are excited by our heavenly home. Thank You for preparing a place for us.
- 13 - *“Suddenly there was a great earthquake so that the foundation of the prison was shaken,”* Acts 16:26. Usually, an earthquake is not a pleasant thing but, in this case, it gave Paul and Silas a chance to witness to the jailor. Often a calamity opens doors (literally and figuratively) to reach

the unsaved or to strengthen our own faith. Creator God, if we need an earthquake or other disaster to reach someone, bring it on.

- 14 - *“Fear God and keep his commandments for this is the whole duty of man,”* Ecclesiastes 12:13. King Solomon was the wisest, most powerful king in Biblical history. But he was disillusioned because *“his wives turned his heart after other Gods and his heart was not loyal to the Lord his God ...,”* 1 Kings 11:4. It is best we follow Solomon’s last words, *“fear God and keep his commandments.”* Otherwise we, too, could ‘lose it all’. Thank you, Father, for this advice from your Word.
- 15 - *“Train up a child in the way he should go ...,”* Proverbs 22:6. Few of us take this as command, not as a suggestion. But, how do we do that? The best way, I believe, is to be an example. Children tend to mimic their parents. I can hear many parents saying, ‘Oh, oh, me, too!’ But we have another parent, our heavenly Father and His example is perfect. Father in Heaven, thank you for filling in this weak spot in my example.
- 16 - *“Narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life and there are few who find it,”* Matthew 7:14. If you have done much ‘walking stick’ ministry, you know that few people grasp the fact that Jesus died for our sins, *“our works are as filthy rags,”* (Isaiah 64:6). We enter the narrow gate because of Jesus’ “works,” not ours. Savior, you are our righteousness. Thank You for that blanket offer of forgiveness if only we will acknowledge your priceless gift.
- 17 - *“The heart is deceitful above all things,”* Jeremiah 17:9. It looks like Jeremiah is lumping us all in the same category. If so, we had better examine ourselves and see if we can’t root out the deceitfulness that so easily manifests itself in us. Lord, there is deceitfulness in all of us. Help us to see our sinful ways and seek both help and forgiveness.
- 18 - Today is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a national holiday. Perhaps the most remembered of all his speeches is the following: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.” May we all join Dr. King in implementing that dream. Father God, be our help and our guide.
- 19 - *“Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you”* Psalm 55:22. One of the greatest burdens one can have is to have no burdens. We saw during the recent presidential election when people with nothing more important to do ‘demonstrated’. Teacher, we all need ‘quality leaders. You are unique in giving us burdens and then helping us to handle them for your honor and glory.
- 20 - *“This I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and discernment,”* Philippians 1:9. What does Paul mean when he says to love with knowledge and discernment? I believe he is saying that love can be amplified when we take time to know more completely the objects of our love. Master, we are often ‘shallow’ lovers because we don’t really know the person who is the object of our ‘love’. The same is true about our love for you. Help us to develop your kind of agape love.
- 21 - *“Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you...and you are not your own,”* 1 Corinthians 6:19. How good are you at taking care of the “temple of the Holy Spirit”? Not too great? Me, too, Holy One, I forgot that you live in me. I forget to eat the right foods and to not overeat as well. I forget to honor your dwelling place. Help me to change. You deserve the best.
- 22 - *“Whoever hears these words of mine and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock,”* Matthew 7:24. Who or what is the rock? It is Jesus Christ. How do we know that? It is because God’s Word, the Holy Bible tells us so. Rock of Our Salvation, guide us into all truth and help us avoid the ‘sand’ that so many place their faith in.
- 23 - *“He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways,”* Psalm 91:11. I must admit that I don’t know much about angels and I seldom think about their duty to protect me. But, that doesn’t mean that they aren’t there. Lord God, thank you for all the angels that are on duty day and night to see me through each day.