



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN FARMERS  
INTERNATIONAL  
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*Sowing, Reaping, Reaching for Christ Around the World*

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## PRAYER GUIDE - February 2017

- 01 - Doyle N. and Tim C. have both been diagnosed with an aggressive cancer. Please pray for their rapid and complete recovery. Bill Brown, FCFI area leader, has a blood clot in his leg. Pray that the clot will dissolve and that no further treatments are necessary. Please continue to pray as well for those close to you who are struggling with health or other potentially debilitating issues, for good health, both physical and spiritual, and for your pastor and other spiritual leaders.
  
- 02 - Today is Ground Hog Day. I don't understand why this day has become such a wildly acknowledged special day and why Punxsutawney Phil has become such a celebrity. We'll have six or more weeks of winter-like weather regardless of what our furry friend does so let's make this a day of extra praise to the Creator of the Universe. It was His idea to create the seasons. Praise His Holy Name!
  
- 03 - As I write this our United States has just installed a new president. What a huge load he has put on this shoulders. He needs our prayer. Like you and me, he's a fallible person and he'll make many mistakes. Let's not write him off as unworthy to take the job or place him on a pedestal

expecting him to cure all our nations ills. Master, pour out your Spirit on Mr. Trump and his many advisors as they guide our country over the next four years.

- 04 - *“He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world,”* 1 John 4:4. If you are like me, you sometimes forget that we are a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19) and we are not alone in fighting our battles and resisting temptation. Holy Spirit, when I forget that you are here with me, be more aggressive, open my eyes and open my mind to receive all that you have for me.
- 05 - In the Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) we say “forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.” Does this mean that if we don’t or haven’t forgiven someone(s) that our sins aren’t forgiven? Some say “yes” but I don’t think so. Why? First of all, we can never know all the ‘sins’ we have committed; so, if this were so, we would all be doomed. Second, 1 John 1:9 tells us, *“If we confess our sins, He is ... just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* Jesus, I have sinned, known and unknown. I ask you to forgive me and cleanse me from all unrighteousness.
- 06 - “In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths,” Proverbs 3:6. May I include a little poem from Our Daily Bread? I know who holds the future and I know who holds my hand. With God things don’t just happen - Everything by Him is planned. We praise you Father God.
- 07 - *“... Peter went out and wept bitterly,”* Luke 22:62. This was after Peter denied knowing Jesus at the time of His arrest. I am sure that you and I, like Peter, wished we could unsay something we have said or undo something we did, We also know that this is impossible. But, like Peter, we do have a ‘way out’. If we ask, Jesus will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Thank you, Jesus, for your forgiveness and for restoring us to wholeness.

- 26 - *“You are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses ...,”* Hebrew 12:1. Can you think of the many people who have impacted your spiritual journey? Parents, siblings, aunts and uncles, teachers, pastors, several friends, employers, neighbors, the list is almost endless. Thank you, Emmanuel for the many people who are a part of who I am. Help me to be a part of the ‘history’ of many others.
- 27 - *“... be an example to believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity,”* 1 Timothy 4:12. I don’t think Paul left much out of his list of things Timothy (and we) should include in his example. Chief Cornerstone, Paul has given us the guidelines for proper behavior for a child of God; for our sake and for the sake of those who may emulate what we do (or don’t do) we need your help to do so.
- 28 - Today is ‘Mardi Gras’ which is also called ‘Fat Tuesday’ because people tend to ‘pig out’ on foods they will avoid during the forty days of Lent. Savior, Lent is a good time to recommit our lives to you and to some sort of self denial may help us to carry that out but inspire us to live a life of discipline every day, not just during Lent.

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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@fci.org) at the FCFI office.

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- is “Jesus.” Thank you, Jesus, for preparing a place for me and paying the price of admission beforehand.
- 22 - *“I suffer trouble ... even to the point of chains but the Word of God is not changed,”* 2 Timothy 2:9. You and I might be limited by time, frailty, or location but the Word of God knows no such restraints. Author of our Faith, your word knows no bounds. Use our limitations and weaknesses as a testimony to your unlimited all powerful presence to all mankind.
- 23 - *“If I have not appointed the ordinances of heaven and earth, then I will cast away the descendants of Jacob and David,”* Jeremiah 33:25,26. Are you prepared to see the return of Halley’s Comet on July 28, 2061? Because God carefully and precisely created the Universe, we can predict such things as the return of Halley’s Comet. Creator God, you are so remarkable that it is equally remarkable that many refuse to acknowledge you. Open our eyes and open the eyes of those around us to see that you are “our one wise God.”
- 24 - *“But we who have the mind of Christ ...,”* 1 Corinthians 2:16. What does that mean? I believe it means that we can see value in all things and especially in all people. Who would have thought that a small piece of bread and a taste of wine could have such importance. Who would think that a little guy who climbed a tree to see Jesus would invite Jesus to dinner. King of Kings, you notice things and people we often overlook. Encourage our ways, Lord, so we can be more like you.
- 25 - *“By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called ... and he went out not knowing where he was going,”* Hebrews 11:8. It is hard to imagine that Abraham packed up his family and his goods and started out to who knows where. The key to this whole episode is “by faith.” Carpenter, you have a way of testing each of us to “go by faith.” Allow my doubts but don’t allow my refusal to do. I want to be in your will.
- 08 - *“I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart,”* Romans 9:2. Why was Paul so sad? It was because his fellow countrymen had not come to know the love of Christ. Do you have that burden for those who have not asked Jesus to be their Savior? Messiah, open my heart to those around me who have not made you their Lord and Savior and give me the words and actions that convey your love and concern for them?
- 09 - *“In the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest for the land,”* Leviticus 25:4. Do you know of any farmers who let their land lay idle every seventh year? I don’t and I am not sure that advice still holds today. But, many farmers are learning that no-til, a method of farming that doesn’t disturb the soil is a rewarding and soil conserving practice. Teacher, we are all on a steep learning curve, May we know You, the original farmer, in all of our farming practices.
- 10 - *“Now, therefore, says the Lord, ‘turn to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning,’”* Joel 2:12. Prosperity had caused his people to become complacent and negligent in their commitment to their Lord, Sounds familiar to our present day society in the U.S., doesn’t it? Head of the Church, we need revival. Our culture is ‘coming apart at the seams’ and we need to return to our faith and trust in You.
- 11 - *“Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for it is He who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure,”* Philippians 2:12,13. No, we can’t earn our salvation for that is God’s gift to us but we must work through the trials and temptations that come our way. Though we have come a long way, we still have a long way to go. Thank you, Father for your patience and your encouragement.
- 12 - Today is the anniversary of Abraham Lincoln’s birthday. ‘Abe was the president who led the Union Army to victory in the nasty and bloody Civil War. He also wrote the Emancipation Proclamation which formally freed people of color from the tyranny of slavery. We give thanks to President Lincoln but even more thanks to the God whom he tried to

serve. May we ever proclaim that we are all created equal and deserve equal recognition and protection in all things. Praise God for His favor.

13 - *“Present your bodies as a living sacrifice ... which is your reasonable service,”* Romans 12:1. Another way to say it is that your reasonable service (serving others in every way possible) is presenting your bodies in a living sacrifice. Who among us couldn't do a better job of serving others? Jesus, I believe that is your challenge for us today. Who can we better serve?

14 - Today is Valentine's Day. We have two families in our church whose last name is Valentine. I often wonder how they handle Valentine's Day? More importantly, how do you handle this special day? Shouldn't we express our love to others everyday? Lord, we express our love to You. Help us to make that a daily observance as well.

15 - *“We are God's fellow workers ...,”* 1 Corinthians 3:9. On a test plot last year (2016) a farmer was able to get the unbelievable yield of over 500 bushels (a bushel of corn weighs 56 pounds) to the acre. That is more than double what many very good farmers get from the corn they plant. Obviously that farmer did many things right but without God's input he would have failed miserably. Creator God, we humans often try to take all the credit when we accomplish something but we leave out your critical and huge input. Help us remember to give You the honor and the glory.

16 - *“Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these things,”* Isaiah 40:26. When you look up into the sky on a clear night, you get a tiny glimpse of the vastness of creation. You are also seeing ancient history because most of the stars are 'light years' away from us. It takes over eight minutes for the light from our own star (sun) to reach us. How small we are and how small are the people who deny that God exists. Your power and vastness are beyond our comprehension, Jehovah. Praise to You, our limitless God.

17 - ...*“He who has mercy on the poor, happy is he,”* Proverbs 14:21. Some people are poor by choice, some are poor because of poor choices, some are poor because of things that happen beyond their control. But, it shouldn't matter to us, they need our help. Wonderful Counselor, there are poor among us. This is our chance to show your love and grace. Here is our chance to make a difference. This is our chance to serve You by serving them. Jesus, be our guide.

18 - *“We trust in the living God who is Savior to all men, especially to those who believe,”* 1 Timothy 4:10. Christianity is unique in many ways but especially because we don't worship or glorify a man or messenger who has long since died. But, we worship a living God. Jesus rose from the grave victorious over sin and death and He offers that victory to you and me. Praise His Holy Name!

19 - *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,”* Matthew 28:19. This is not a suggestion but a command by Jesus Himself. We may not be able to go very far from home but we can help support missionaries who can and we can pray., The Holy Spirit isn't limited by time, distance, or finances. Thank you, Savior, for prompting us to go, whether by body or spirit to reach the least, the last, and the lost.

20 - Today we celebrate George Washington's birthday and the birthday of every president who came after him. Aren't we fortunate to live in a country where we have some say in who leads us? Thank you, Jesus, for the men who have accepted the responsibility of leading our great country and thank you, Jesus, for accepting the responsibility of freeing us from the penalty of our sins.

21 - *“We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body according to what he has done,”* 2 Corinthians 5:10. I don't know what the SOP (standard operating procedures) are when we arrive at the 'pearly gates' except for one thing. When asked why we qualify for entrance, our only answer