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## FCFI Prayer Guide - December 2018

1. *That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him for that day, (2 Timothy 1:12).* Paul was in prison and faced death but he still trusted God for the outcome that would spread the Gospel. We pray to believe that no matter the setbacks and difficulties we face we can trust fully in God. **Please pray for Clark Phillips, recovering from heart by-pass surgery**
2. *For there are many rebellious people, mere talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision group, (Titus 1:10).* Some false teachers are merely misinformed. We pray to get our facts from the Bible to know what to believe and what to teach. **Please pray for Brian Miller, he had a farming accident and has several severe injuries.**
3. *If he (Onesimus) has done any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me, (Philemon 18).* Paul was personally guaranteeing he would take care of Onesimus' debts. We pray to remember Christ took care of our debts. **Please pray for Shirley Elliott. Her throat cancer has returned, and she will start treatment soon.**

4. *See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the Living God,* (Hebrews 3:12). Sin entices then attacks and destroys. We pray to have a heart that loves and is concerned for fellow believers and those who don't know Christ as Savior and Lord.  
**4-6 NE Power Farming Show, Lincoln, NE, Duane Reynolds**
5. *Listen, my dear Brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom He promised those who love Him,* (James 2:5). Often those who do not have the wealth to make things happen are the ones that have faith that God can. We pray to accept rich or poor we only have power through our Lord Jesus Christ. Please pray for Rob, board member CP Foster's brother, who has Lou Gehrig's Disease. **Pray that God would merciful to Rob and his family. He is going downhill rapidly.**
6. *Concerning this Salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care,* (1Peter 1:10). The prophets of old only knew there was a Savior coming. The people of Jesus' day had known of Him and His teachings personally. We pray to study God's Word and come to a saving knowledge of Jesus.  
**6-8 Tulsa Farm Show, Tulsa, OK, Ken Werner**
7. *So, I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have,* (2 Peter 1:12). Peter wanted them to know not to neglect the basics of their faith when they were seeking a deeper truth. We pray to remember Christ and Him crucified above all else. **Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day 7-8 Lawn and Rural Equipment EXPO, Roberts Center, Wilmington, Ohio, Gary Berry**
8. *If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us,* (1 John 1:8). Often it is easier to pretend we are strong, rather, than admit we are weak and sinful in nature. We pray to confess our sins and ask for forgiveness. **Please pray for the cotton farmers in Georgia and the Carolinas. This is the third year in a row they have seen bad crop years.**
9. *And this is love, that we walk in obedience to His commands,* (2 John 1:6). For Christians, love is not an option but a command. We pray to

*where the Child was. When they saw the star they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the Child with His mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh,* (Matthew 2:9-11). The magi sacrificed time and money to be able to worship the King. They brought gifts worthy for a king. **We pray to give God all we have...time, talents and a tenth... for it is He who gave us these gifts in the first place. As we prepare to start a whole new year please pray for God's direction and protection.**

30. *When they (Magi) had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. Get up, he said, take the child and His mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him,* (Matthew 1:3). This was the second dream that Joseph received from God. We pray to be receptive to God's guidance. **Please pray for traveling safety for those on the road this holiday season.**
31. *After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, get up, take the Child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the Child's life are dead,* (Matthew 2:19). Joseph had taken baby Jesus and Mary to Egypt because of a dream and then took them back to Israel because of a dream. May we be discerners of God's Word. New Year's Eve. **Please pray that people will not make foolish decisions tonight that will cost them and others much. May we glorify the Lord in 2019!**

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#### Share Your Prayer Items with Others

Continue to send in specific prayer requests either to the FCFI office or to Mary Jones (email: mdjones11@att.net) 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

with awe and wonder at the Good News of Jesus. **Christmas Eve. We are thankful for Santa but are blessed because of Christ...please say a prayer of thanksgiving.**

25. *The shepherds said to one another, Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. So, they hurried and found Mary and Joseph and the baby, who was lying in a manger, (Luke 2: 15-16).* The shepherds wasted no time in going to see Jesus. **Christmas Day! We pray to be excited about the birth of our Savior! Praise God He is with us!**
26. *When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them, (Luke 2: 17-18).* The shepherds didn't keep the "Good News" a best kept secret and neither should we. **We pray to share the Good News to all we come in contact with...with word or deed.**
27. *After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship Him, (Matthew 2:1-2).* There are many explanations as to who the "wise men" were and how many of them came and from where they came. God left all of that a mystery. The only thing we need to know is that wise men seek Him and rejoice when they find Him. When we encounter our Salvation, we want to give the best back to Him. **We pray a prayer of adoration and praise to the Babe born in a manger and to the King of kings!**
28. *But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel, (Matthew 2:6).* Matthew was quoting the Old Testament prophet Micah...5:2. Most religious leaders believed the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. They should have been seeking Him themselves, rather they became His worst enemy. **We pray to recognize when God is working in our lives.**
29. *After they heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place*

reach out to others in love. **Please continue to pray for those who's life circumstances were destroyed by hurricane Michael in Florida and Southwest Georgia.**

10. *For we wanted to come to you, certainly I, Paul, did, again and again, but Satan stopped us, (1Thessalonians 2:18).* Many of the difficulties that prevent us from accomplishing God's work can be attributed to Satan. We pray to see Satan as our adversary and not people. **Please pray for Glenn Brown, Bill's brother, who had a stroke.**
11. *And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right, (2Thessalonians 3:13).* Idle people often become busybodies. We pray to guidance from God as to what He would have us to do, and to get to work. **11-13 Indiana Farm Equipment and Technology EXPO, Gary Beery**
12. *I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone, (1Timothy 2:1).* God has chosen to let us change the world through our prayers. We pray to remember our prayers have powerful results. **Please pray that folks will focus on the real meaning of Christmas through this busy season.**
13. *A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham, (Matthew 1:1).* The New Testament starts out by telling us who Jesus is. We pray to show others who Jesus is to us by sharing our testimony.!
14. *This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother, Mary, was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit, (Matthew 1:18).* We pray to celebrate the birth season rather than the buying season. **Please pray for Michael who has shingles.**
15. *God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary, (Luke 1:26).* Mary was young, poor, and female. In her day this would have made her unusable. We pray to trust God when He gives us mission. **Please pray for Iris as she has upcoming test.**
16. *The angel went to her and said, Greetings, you are highly favored!*

*The Lord is with you*, (Luke 1:28). When Gabriel appeared, he always brought important news. We pray to live lives that will make us be “highly favored” by God. **Please pray for those who will not be home for the holidays.**

17. *But the angel said to her, do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son and you are to give Him the name Jesus*, (Luke 1: 30-31). God's favor does not automatically bring instant success, but it does bring great reward. We pray to wait on God's plan for our lives and trust Him even when the task scares us. **Please pray for those who are grieving...the holidays compound their grief.**
18. *How can this be, Mary asked the angel, since I am a virgin. The angel answered, the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God*, (Luke 1: 34-35). Jesus was born holy. We pray to call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to save us from our sins. **Pray for people to come to Christ as they see Him in Christmas.**
19. *Because Joseph was a righteous man and did not want to expose her (Mary) to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly*, (Matthew 1:19). Joseph was faced with a difficult decision when he learned Mary was pregnant. He could have had her stoned or divorced her quietly. God gave him another option. **We pray to be open to God's guidance in our lives and supportive to the calling of others.**
20. *But after he (Joseph) had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins*, (Matthew 1: 20-21). Jesus means “the Lord saves”. Jesus came to earth to save people from our sins because we can't save ourselves. We pray to believe Jesus is the Immanuel, God in flesh. **Please pray for our farmers as the year ends and they are making decisions for the upcoming year.**
21. *When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had*

*commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son and he gave him the name Jesus*, (Matthew 1:24-25). Sometimes we avoid doing what is right because of what others might think. We pray to be like Joseph and choose to obey God rather than seek the approval of others. **Please pray for me, Mary Jones, as I have some important decisions to make this upcoming year.**

22. *In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to his own town to register. So, Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem in the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child*, (Luke 2:1-5). God controls all history. By the decree of Emperor Augustus, Jesus was born in the very town prophesied for His birth, even though His parents didn't live there. We pray to be open to seeing everything in our lives work for our good and God's glory. **Please pray for generous giving so churches and charities will receive enough funds to do God's work.**
23. *While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn*, (Luke 2:6-7). The Jews expected the Messiah to be born as a worldly king, instead God placed Him in a common, ordinary stable. So, the common, ordinary person would feel a connection to the King of kings. We pray to always have room for Jesus in our lives.
24. *And there were shepherds living in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you, He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you, you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger”*, (Luke 2:8-12). Ironic that God would reveal to the shepherds, who probably supplied lambs for sacrifice in the temple, the perfect Lamb of God, who would take away the sins of all the world forever. We pray to be filled