



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

### FCFI Prayer Guide - December 2020

1. *So, as the Holy Spirit says, Today, if you hear His voice do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert, (Hebrews 3:7,8). It is easy for us to look at the Israelites of the Old Testament and see they were a rebellious and stiff-necked people - it is harder to admit we have not changed much through the years. We pray to not set ourselves against God. **Please pray for our country.***
2. *For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant, its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business, (James 1:11). Wealth and beauty are fleeting and we should not place these above securing our soul with God. We pray to remember material possessions are fleeting but a soul brought into God's family is everlasting. **Please pray for those still struggling with isolation.***
3. *It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the Gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things, (1 Peter 1:12). Peter was reminding his readers that God inspired through His Holy Spirit words that would help the people of his day. Nothing in God's Kingdom is random. We pray to be open to be used by God to accomplish His work here and now that will benefit others long after we are gone. **3-5 Wichita Farm and Ranch, Jeff Goss***

4. *Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit, (2Peter1:20,21). God has chosen to use mankind from the very beginning. As we, His people open our hearts to His use we will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to do things we never even thought of before. We pray to be in tune with the Holy Spirit. **Please pray for those who have no one to look after them if they are sick or hurting.***
5. *I write to you fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, dear children, because you have known the Father, (1John 2:13). Each stage of life in the Christian walk builds on the other. We pray to look behind only to inspire us to look ahead. **Please pray for the children of broken marriages.***
6. *To the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen, (Jude 25). Praise, honor and glory to God our Father and Jesus our Savior. We pray to be a people of praise! **Please pray for those struggling in the aftermath of Covid.***
7. *Then I looked and there before me was the Lamb, standing on Mount Zion, and with Him 144,000 who had His name and His Father's name written on their foreheads, (Revelation 14:1). 144,000 witnesses through the great Tribulation, sealed with God's love and blessings. We pray to let our tribulations here and now inspire us to be better witnesses. **Pearl Harbor Day Pray for our armed forces.***
8. *Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God, (Genesis 6:9). Sin immediately engulfed the world, but Noah stood apart in his walk with God. We pray to be people who stand up and out for God. **Please pray for the family of a young ag college student with the whole world ahead of her who has died as the result of an accident.***
9. *The man said, Who made you ruler and judge over us: Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian? Then Moses was afraid and thought, What I did must have become known, (Exodus 2:14). It is easy to excuse our sin and try to cover it up. But just like with Moses it always comes out! We pray to be a people of repentant hearts that do not run from God. **Please pray for young***

*and the bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold and 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. **Please pray for wisdom as FCF makes plans for 2021 and that God will provide the necessary funds.***

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. We pray to be discerners of God's Word. **New Year's Eve. Please pray that people will not make stupid decisions tonight that will cost them and others much.***

**Please send your prayer requests to Mary Jones at [mdjones11@att.net](mailto:mdjones11@att.net)**

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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](mailto:mdjones11@att.net), Text: 229-339-0126) 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 Schlager (email: [fellowship@fcfi.org](mailto:fellowship@fcfi.org)) at the FCFI office.  
 FCFI – PO Box 15 – Lexington, IL 61753  
 FAX: (309) 365-7023 Phone: (309) 365-8710

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. We pray to be excited about the birth of our Savior. Christmas Day. Please pray for a time of sharing the real meaning of Christmas.*
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. Please pray to have a bold witness.*
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! Please pray to have a spirit of praise and a song on our lips.*
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. Please pray to be usable by God.*
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 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,*

*parents as they try to do the best they can to raise their new babies when they are really babies themselves.*

10. *If he cannot afford a lamb, he is to bring two doves or two young pigeons to the Lord as a penalty for his sin, one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering, (Leviticus 5:7). God always makes a way for us to come to Him. We pray to give God a life of sacrifice of joy. 10-12 NE Ag EXPO, Lincoln, NE, Duane Reynolds*
11. *From there they continued on to Beer, the well where the Lord said to Moses, Gather the people (the Israelites) together and I will give them water, (Numbers 21:16). Often when life seems desolate God shows up...the Israelites gave Him praise for the water. We pray to be people of praise! Please pray for the Slover family, their son Mike recently passed away suddenly and unexpectedly.*
12. *See, the Lord your God has given you the land. Go up and take possession of it as the Lord, the God of your fathers, told you. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, (Deuteronomy 1:21). The Israelites had assured victory over their enemies and still they were afraid. We pray to be a people of courage as we reach out to do God's work. 12-14 Tulsa Farm Show, Tulsa, OK, Ken Werner*
13. *The 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. Please pray for those who are struggling with the flu.*
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 a young woman named Karen who is struggling with the spot in her heart that needs to be filled but she isn't sure it is with God.*
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 those who are homeless during this cold and holiday season.*

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 makes 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).* Gods 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 her stoned her 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. Please pray that as Christians we will let our actions this season be a drawing card to Christ.
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 a farmer from the mid-west battling cancer.**
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 works for our good and God's glory. **Please give a shout of praise for the Hurricane Sally work team that went to Alabama and returned safely home. They worked to rebuild structures, clean up trees and other debris.**
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. **Please pray a special prayer for those struggling with the injustices of their world. Pray they see they are loved by the Father.**
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).* Irony 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 with awe and wonder at the Good News of