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## FCFI Prayer Guide - December 2021

- Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but He will heal us, He has injured us, but He will bind up our wounds, (Hosea 6:1). Israel did not understand the depth of their sin. They wanted God's blessing without true repentance and turning away from their sin. We pray to be a repentant, changed people. 11/30-12/2 Peoria Farm Show, Peoria, IL, Dennis Schlagel
- 2. You sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, that you might send them far from their homeland, (Joel 3:6). Small countries around Israel rejoiced in their downfall because they could then reap the rewards of being able to capture and plunder those who were left. Joel is prophesying that these countries will be punished. We pray to always remember that Israel is God's chosen land, and the Jews are His chosen people. **11/30-12/2 Amarillo Farm Show, Amarillo, TX, Jerry Rice**
- 3. This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me. The Sovereign Lord was calling for judgement by fire, it dried up the great deep and devoured the land. Then I cried out, Sovereign Lord, I beg You, stop! How can Jacob (Israel) survive? He is so small! (Amos 7:4,5). Prayer is a powerful privilege! We pray to intercede for our nation as Amos did for Israel. **2-4 Witchita Farm and Ranch, Jeff Goss**
- 4. The sea was getting rougher and rougher. So, they asked him (Jonah), What should we do to you to make the sea calm down for us? Pick me up and throw me into the sea, he replied, and it will become calm. I know

*that it is my fault this great storm has come upon you,* (Jonah 1:11,12). Sometimes we are our own worst enemy. It took a miraculous deliverance to get Jonah to do what God had asked of him. We pray to run toward God and not away from Him. **Benton Winter Fest, Benton, PA, Michael Steele** 

- 5. Do not prophesy, their prophets say. So not prophesy about these things, disgrace will not overtake us, (Micah 2:6). False prophets were telling the people not to listen to God's true prophets. Just like today the voice of reason is being shushed in every area of our great country. We pray to remember that God doesn't want revenge for our sin, He wants repentance. Please continue your prayers for Bill and Kathy Brown as Bill continues his chemo treatments.
- 6. Your (God's) eyes are too pure to look on evil, you cannot tolerate wrong. Why then do You tolerate the treacherous? Why are You silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves, (Habakkuk 1:13). The Babylonians were a vicious people. Habakkuk was questioning why God would allow a pagan nation to correct Israel. We pray to remember God's ways are higher than our ways and thoughts. Please pray for Jim, he has stage 4 adrenal gland cancer.
- 7. Woe to the city of oppressors, rebellious and defiled! She obeys no one, she accepts no correction. She does not trust in the Lord, she does not draw near to her God, (Zephaniah 3:1,2). The people of Jerusalem pretended to worship God, but in their hearts, they had become complacent in their sin. We pray to draw near to God and let Him correct our sinful ways. **7-9 NE Ag EXPO, Lincoln, NE, Duane Reynolds**
- 8. Then He showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The Lord said to Satan the Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire, (Zechariah 3: 1-2)? This Joshua represented Israel. God punished her through the fire of great trials. But, in His great love for her, He snatched back a remnant every time. We pray to be God's remnant in an evil world. **Please pray for Steve, he has a pinched nerve in his back.**
- 9. See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, or else I will come and

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, 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 2022 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 the 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.**

## **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, 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 Schlagel (email: fellowship@fcfi. org) at the FCFI office.

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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 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. 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 meet...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 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

*strike the land with a curse,* (Malachi 4:5). Elijah was the greatest prophet in the Old Testament. The Elijah Malachi was referring to here is John the Baptist, 400 years later. We pray to turn our hearts to our heavenly Father. **9-11Tulsa Farm Show, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Jerry Rice** 

- 10. 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 lift a halleluiah for Wren, he is back in school and doing well after an accident earlier in the year!!!!
- 11. The beginning of the gospel about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in Isaiah the prophet: I will send my messenger ahead of You, who will prepare Your way...a voice of one calling in the desert, Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him, (Mark 1:1-3). John the Baptist was born with a purpose well defined, even if he didn't realize it at the time. We pray to remember as Christians we, too, have a purpose. **Please pray for Wes and his family as they are recovering from covid.**
- 12. And you, my child, (John the Baptist) will be called a prophet of the Most High, for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace. And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he lived in the desert until he appeared publicly to Israel, (Luke 1:76-80). Zechariah, John the Baptist's father, prophesied about him and Jesus before either was born. We pray to know that each of us has a role to play in the salvation story. **Please pray for Judy as she recovers from surgery to repair a leaky mitral valve.**
- 13. 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 the homeless during this cold season.**
- 14. 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. Indiana Farm Equipment and Technology EXPO, Indianapolis, IN, Dennis Schlagel

- 15. 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.
- 16. 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.**
- 17. 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 Highest 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.**
- 18. Iam the Lord's servant, Mary answered. May it be to me as you have said. Then the angel left her, (Luke 1:38). Mary was young and I am sure was afraid...however she chose to believe and obey God's will for her life. We pray to be open to the direction God chooses for our lives. Please pray for Ric as he fights stomach cancer and pray, he keeps the faith after receiving Christ into his heart.
- 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 or divorce 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 up- coming 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 Louise as she recovers from a broken shoulder and a brain bleed from a fall.**
- 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 pray for Mary and others who are waiting on test results.**
- 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