

HOW TO PRAY FOR YOUR FAMILY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

“Prayers of Faith, Hope and Love”

Lessons on Prayer from 1 Thessalonians

Kalihi Union Church 2016

Pastor Jonathan Steeper

1 Pray “Grace and Peace” for the person you are lifting up to God.

In I Thessalonians 1: 1, Paul prays a blessing over the Christians, “*Grace and peace to you.*”

Begin by praying the same blessing over your relative, friend or neighbor.

Sample prayer: “Grace and peace to you Patricia.”

2 Thank God for the person with a prayer of thanks.

Key Words to pray: “**Thank you**”

Paul prays a prayer of thanks for the Thessalonians, “*We always thank God for all of you...*”(1:2)

Continue by thanking God for the person’s life and character.

Sample prayer: “Thank you God for Patricia’s faithfulness to you and that we have been together 32 years.”

3 Pray in Faith for the fruitful working of Christ.

Key Words: “**I trust you**”

Paul states that faith produces godly work, “*We remember before God our Father your work produced by **faith.***” (1:3)

In prayer we build our **faith** by affirming our trust in God’s presence and work around us.

Sample prayer: “**I trust You** Holy Spirit that you are working in Patricia’s life right now to strengthen her and to use her powerfully in serving you.”

4 Pray with Hope for the inspiration that comes from Heaven.

Key Words: “**I look forward to**”

Paul gained his inspiration for endurance from the second coming of Christ and the final **hope** of heaven.

*“your endurance inspired by **hope** in the Lord Jesus Christ.” (1:3)*

In this prayer we look forward to the finished work God has promised and our desire to see His handiwork *“on earth as it is in heaven”*

Sample Prayer: “I look forward to my relationship with Patricia in heaven where we will worship and laugh together in your presence.”

5 Pray God’s Love to bring full life for them and others through them.

Key Words: “**I love you**”

Paul explains that God’s love prompts us in our hard work, *“your labor prompted by **love**” (1:3)*

Later Paul prays, *“May the Lord make your **love** increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else” (3: 12)*

Sample Prayer: “Lord you love Patricia even more than I do. Let her be filled with your love as she teaches the children. May your love flow through her to them.”

*“. . . putting on faith and **love** as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.” (5:8)*