

PRAY FIRST

DECEMBER 2018 PRAYER POINTS

Dec. 1 - As the Christmas holidays begin, pray we would not become burdened and distracted by the busyness of the season, but be changed by the mystery, profound love, and joy of Bethlehem. (Luke 2:11)

Dec. 2 - Pray for those attending the Next Steps class today to be able to connect to what God is doing at CB and more fully understand what He wants to do in their lives and how these two things fit together. (I Cor. 15:58)

Dec. 3 - Pray for our Toy Drive this season to be a time when CB shows up in generosity not out of duty or obligation, but out of sheer joy because of all Jesus has done for us at Bethlehem and Calvary. (Luke 2 & 23)

Dec. 4 - Ask Jesus to remind us He needs nothing from us. He has it all! Pray we realize more fully what He desires most is to be with us: Immanuel... He is with us always! We are not alone. (Matt. 1:23)

Dec. 5 - Pray during this season our hearts and minds not be so full of the clutter and clamor of this world that there is no room for Jesus. Pray we welcome Jesus into the mundane of our world! (Luke 2:7)

Dec. 6 - Pray for us to be strengthened in gospel generosity this season, giving because of all Christ came to give us, sharing joyfully this season in winsome and practical ways. (Luke 6:38)

Dec. 7 - As the women of CB gather for Shine tonight, pray it is a time of refreshing and insight into how much Jesus rejoices over them, and they find what they need to manage holiday stress in the faces of the women, the teaching, and worship. (Luke 1:49-54)

Dec. 8 - Ask Jesus to bring order to our holiday chaos, de-clutter our minds, and help us turn to Him in worship and prayer during this special time when we can reflect on His great gift to us. (Luke 1:79)

Dec. 9 - Pray we remember the favor God has granted us as His children by sending His Son as a ransom for us, asking many to be reminded today of His grace and know His mercy anew. (Luke 2:14)

Dec. 10 - Pray CB students sense God's great love for them, asking Jesus to reveal more of Himself during this time that can be stressful for them as they finish finals and try to find their purpose in the season. (Luke 1: 76-79)

Dec. 11 - Pray we are reminded of the joy of the angels heralding our Savior's birth, and we are filled with this joy as we seek His presence more than any other present. (Luke 2:7-15)

Dec. 12 - Pray as we reflect on Jesus' extraordinary gift this season, we are moved to pour out our cares to Him because He cares for us, and we allow Him to exchange our pressures for His peace. (Matt. 2:11b)

Dec. 13 - Ask Jesus to fill our hearts with a new sense of His joy and peace as we celebrate His love and provision for us through His Son this season. (Luke 2:14)

Dec. 14 - Pray we remember God kept his promise of a Savior born in Bethlehem and welcome Him with full access to our hearts! (Luke 3:4-6)

Dec. 15 - Pray we learn to anticipate God's goodness, accepting the possibility of the impossible when we pray, bringing Him into every moment and waiting on Him with anticipation. (Luke 1:36-37)

Dec. 16 - Pray the Holy Spirit will reveal Jesus today to visitors, family and neighbors as we invite others to services, and ask that they receive Him with a child-like heart. (John 1:12)

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Dec. 17 - Pray we are true worshipers of our Savior, not because everything is going well and we have all we want, but because He is King and Savior, who freely gave us all of Himself. (Matt. 2:11)

Dec. 18 - Pray we remember why God sent His only Son: because He loves us! Pray we are captivated by His love today in beautiful ways, just as the Shepherds were captivated by Him at the manger. (John 3:16)

Dec. 19 - Pray we will choose over and over to follow Jesus wherever He leads. Just as the Star in the East was a sign to follow Him then, the gospel is the light to our path today. (Matt. 2:9)

Dec. 20 - Pray we receive God's gift with joy this season: freedom, right standing, forgiveness, and most of all, an intimate relationship with Him through His precious Son. (Luke 2:10-11)

Dec. 21 - Pray we see Jesus as the gentle Shepherd that leads in humility, not judging or shaming. Help us hear His voice leading us in loving, wise, and gentle ways. (Matt. 2:6)

Dec. 22 - Pray we know how good our God is, so we don't look for satisfaction elsewhere, asking God to help our unbelief when we struggle, and believing He IS the treasure we most want and need! (Psalm 16)

Dec. 23 - As we begin our Christmas Eve celebrations, pray for those far from God. Ask that they move from the fringes of knowing about Jesus to the intimacy of experiencing His saving grace and transforming power in their lives. (Eph. 2:8-9)

Dec. 24 - As we celebrate Christmas Eve, pray we all join in proclaiming the good tidings of great joy, and we see His birth was for His death, His death was for our rebirth! (John 1:29)

Dec. 25 - Pray as we celebrate Christmas today, we humbly welcome Jesus into our families, homes, schedules, wallets and hearts as the shepherds welcomed Jesus all those years ago. (Luke 2:16)

Dec. 26 - As we wind down the holidays, pray we remember to rest fully in Him, giving Him all our frustrations, chaos, or holiday let-downs, resting in His complete care for our situation. (John 1:14a)

Dec. 27 - Pray as we look to a new year, we not look to resolutions and trying harder, but we rest in Christ's finished work, and rely on His power working in us as we walk in step with His Spirit. (Gal. 5:16-25)

Dec. 28 - Pray for those who are far from God to draw near and be open to life with Him as the center and the source of all they need. (John. 3:16)

Dec. 29 - Ask we be open to God's work in our lives this coming year, being flexible as He moves in and makes changes, and be willing to rethink our plans when we sense Him leading us differently. (Luke 1:38)

Dec. 30 - As we rest today with our families, worshipping Jesus in unique ways, pray we find His presence completely satisfying, bringing peace to our souls after the hectic holidays. (Luke 1:50)

Dec. 31 - Pray that as we look ahead to 2019, we look to Jesus to fulfill our deepest longings, meet our most secret needs, and mend the hurts from this past year. (II Tim.2:8)