



PRAY LIKE CRAZY

PRAYER FIELD GUIDE

YOUR KINGDOM COME.

Your will be done.
In Fort Wayne as it is in heaven.

Pray Like Crazy

Prayer isn't meant to be polite, occasional, or safe—it's meant to be bold, honest, and constant. Pray like crazy: when life is beautiful, when it's breaking, when you have answers, and when you have none. This field guide will help you build a fearless, everyday rhythm of prayer that draws you close to God, reshapes your heart, and teaches you to lean fully on His wisdom, power, and grace.

In this guide, you will find:

1. How to Pray

Practical guidance for building a prayer rhythm, using the ACTS prayer pattern, and continuing to pray when prayer feels difficult.

2. Weekly Sermon Resources

Reflection questions to help you respond to each week's message and put what you are learning into practice.

3. What to Pray

Guides to help you pray intentionally for your family, friends, church, school, work, health, community, and those who do not yet know Christ.

You do not need perfect words or a perfect routine. Begin where you are, trust that God hears you, and take the next faithful step.



HOW TO PRAY

How To Pray

Your Kingdom Come

Jesus taught His disciples to pray for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10). That prayer is both personal and expansive. We ask God to rule our desires, shape our decisions, restore our families, guide our church, renew our city, and send us into the world as faithful witnesses.

OUR LOCAL PRAYER

Your kingdom come. Your will be done. In Fort Wayne as it is in heaven.

Establish Your Prayer Rhythm

Begin Where You Are

A sustainable prayer life usually grows through simple, repeatable practices. Choose a rhythm you can keep, not an idealized plan you will likely abandon. Five focused minutes every day can form a stronger habit than one long prayer time followed by weeks of silence.

Pick a Consistent Time, Not a Perfect Time

Whether you pray in the morning, during your lunch break, or right before bed does not matter. What matters most is consistency, not the "ideal" moment. Developing a rhythm of prayer starts with choosing a consistent time. Eventually, the rhythm can become natural enough that you no longer need a reminder.

Attach Prayer to an Existing Habit

- After I pour my first cup of coffee, I will pray
- Before I check messages, I will pray
- When I park at work or school, I will pray
- At the dinner table, our household will pray
- Before I turn off the light, I will pray

Pair Scripture with Prayer

When you are not sure how or what to pray, a great place to start is Scripture. Read a passage and shape your prayers around it. Think of prayer as a response to God's Word. This practice will often lead you to pray about things you had not considered before and give your prayer time a distinct focus.

Choose a Simple Framework for Your Prayer

Using a consistent framework, such as ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) or another common pattern, provides

direction and gentle guidance for your prayer time.

Give Yourself Grace When You Miss a Day or Two

Prayer is a journey, not a competition. When you get off track, begin again and move forward.

DO NOT WAIT FOR PERFECT FEELINGS

Prayer is an act of trust. Begin even when you feel distracted, tired, uncertain, or spiritually dry.

The ACTS Prayer Pattern

ACTS is not the only way to pray, but it gives us a balanced path when we do not know where to begin.

Adoration

Adoration focuses on who God is. Before beginning with our needs, we remember His character: holy, faithful, wise, just, merciful, patient, powerful, and near.

TRY THIS

Complete the sentence: "God, You are..." Name three qualities of God and thank Him for each one.

Confession

Confession is honest agreement with God about our sin. We do not hide, excuse, or minimize. Because of Christ, we confess with confidence in God's mercy and ask for strength to turn in a new direction.

A HELPFUL QUESTION

Where have my attitudes, words, actions, or omissions failed to reflect the love and holiness of Jesus?

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving trains us to notice grace. We thank God for spiritual blessings, ordinary gifts, answered prayer, people, provision, correction, and even the ways He sustains us in difficulty.

Supplication

Supplication means asking. God invites us to bring personal needs and to intercede for others. Ask boldly, while also surrendering the timing and outcome to God's wisdom.

Examples of Supplication

Pray for Work and School

- Integrity when no one is watching
- Wisdom for decisions and priorities
- Patience with difficult people
- Courage to admit mistakes and ask for help
- Opportunities to serve coworkers, classmates, customers, and leaders
- Healthy limits, rest, and freedom from identity based only on achievement
- A gracious and credible witness

Pray for Health and Suffering

- Accurate diagnosis and wise treatment
- Strength for patients and caregivers
- Relief from pain and fear
- Endurance when healing is slow or does not come as expected
- Presence and support from the church
- Wisdom about practical next steps
- Hope rooted in Christ rather than a guaranteed outcome

Pray for Decisions

- A heart willing to obey, not merely receive preferred answers
- Clear biblical wisdom
- Freedom from panic, pride, and impulsiveness
- Wise counsel from mature believers
- Honest awareness of motives and consequences
- Patience when more time is needed
- Courage to take the next faithful step

When Prayer Is Hard

Difficulty in prayer does not necessarily mean failure. Scripture includes prayers of joy, confusion, grief, anger, waiting, repentance, and hope. Bring your actual heart to God rather than the heart you think you should have.

“I do not know what to say.”

Begin with a Psalm, the Lord’s Prayer, or one sentence of honesty. Silence before God can also be prayerful when it is offered in trust.

- Read Psalm 23 or Psalm 121 aloud
- Use ACTS and write one sentence for each letter
- Pray: “Lord, have mercy. Show me the next faithful step.”

“My mind keeps wandering.”

Distraction is common. Do not spend the whole prayer time condemning yourself. Gently return your attention to God.

- Write names or requests before you begin
- Pray aloud quietly
- Use a timer for five focused minutes
- Turn each recurring distraction into a short prayer

“I feel spiritually dry.”

Feelings matter, but they are not the measure of God’s presence. Continue in simple faithfulness and ask trusted believers to pray with you.

- Read a Psalm of lament
- Thank God for one concrete gift
- Keep the commitment small and steady
- Tell a mature Christian what you are experiencing

“God seems silent.”

Waiting can be painful. Avoid inventing answers or treating every coincidence as a message. Keep returning to Scripture, Christian community, wise counsel, and patient obedience.

- Ask what God has already made clear in Scripture
- Continue doing the next faithful thing
- Record the request and revisit it over time
- Allow others to carry hope with you

“My prayer has not been answered.”

The Bible invites bold requests but does not promise that every desired outcome will occur. God’s wisdom, timing, and purposes remain greater than our understanding. We may pray for healing, reconciliation, provision, and change while also surrendering the result.

- Name your disappointment honestly
- Ask for endurance and wisdom
- Seek practical care and action where appropriate
- Refuse simplistic explanations for another person’s suffering

“I am angry with God.”

God is not threatened by honest lament. Speak truthfully without abandoning reverence. Many Psalms move from protest toward trust without pretending the pain is gone.

- Read Psalm 13, 42, or 77
- Name what hurts and what you wish God had done
- Ask God to keep you near while questions remain
- Invite a pastor or trusted believer into the struggle

“I feel guilty returning to prayer.”

The gospel invites us to come because of Christ’s mercy, not because we have performed well. Confess, receive forgiveness, and begin again.

- Read Luke 15:11–24 or 1 John 1:5–9
- Confess specifically
- Reject shame that tells you to hide
- Take one small step of renewed obedience

When to Seek Pastoral Care

- You are grieving or facing a significant crisis
- A relationship is unsafe, abusive, or severely broken
- You are carrying persistent spiritual doubt, shame, or despair
- You need help finding counseling, recovery support, or practical assistance
- You need prayer and guidance for a major decision

IMPORTANT

Prayer is not a replacement for medical care, counseling, emergency help, financial guidance, or reporting abuse. Seeking appropriate help can be an act of faith and wisdom.



SERMON RESOURCES

Week 1 : Future

Study and Reflection Questions:

James 4:13–15 warns against presuming on tomorrow. What’s the difference between praying about your future and simply telling God your plans?

Proverbs 3:5–6 calls us to “lean not on your own understanding.” Where in your life is it hardest to surrender your own understanding to God in prayer?

When you pray about the future, do you tend to ask for specific outcomes or for God’s will to be done? What drives that difference?

Matthew 6:33 tells us to “seek first the kingdom.” How might that reorder the things we usually pray for regarding our future?

Have you ever prayed for something in your future and received a “no” or a “wait”? How did that shape your view of prayer?

What role does trust play when we pray about things we cannot see or control?

How can uncertainty about the future actually deepen our prayer life rather than discourage it?

What is one specific area of your future you’ve been hesitant to bring to God—and what holds you back?

Week 2: Family

Study and Reflection Questions:

Job “regularly” interceded for his children (Job 1:5). What does it look like to pray consistently for family members, and why might consistency matter?

Hannah dedicated Samuel to the Lord in prayer (1 Samuel 1:27–28). How does praying for our family reflect the truth that they ultimately belong to God, not to us?

Colossians 1:9–12 is a model prayer for others. What does Paul pray for—and how does that compare to what we usually pray for our own families? Is it harder to pray for family members than for others? Why do you think that might be?

How do you pray for family members who don’t share your faith or who have hurt you?

Ephesians 6:18 urges praying “on all occasions.” How can prayer become woven into everyday family life rather than reserved for crises? What’s the difference between praying about your family’s problems and praying for your family members themselves?

How might praying for your family change you, even before it changes them? Who in your family have you perhaps stopped praying for—and what would it look like to begin again?

Week 3: Finances

Study and Reflection Questions:

In the Lord's Prayer, Jesus teaches us to ask for "daily bread" (Matthew 6:11). What does it mean to pray for daily provision rather than long-term security?

Agur prays for "neither poverty nor riches" (Proverbs 30:8–9). Why might both extremes be spiritually dangerous—and how does that shape how we pray about money?

Philippians 4:6 links prayer with thanksgiving. How does gratitude change the way we pray about our finances? Do you find it easier to pray about money when you're in need or when you're comfortable? What does that reveal?

1 Timothy 6:10 warns that "the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil." How can prayer guard our hearts against that love?

Is it appropriate to pray for financial blessing? Where's the line between faithful asking and treating God like a means to wealth?

Philippians 4:19 promises God will "supply every need." How do we discern the difference between our needs and our wants in prayer?

How might praying about your finances lead you toward greater generosity rather than greater accumulation?

What financial worry have you been carrying that you've never actually brought to God in prayer?

Week 4: Friends

Study and Reflection Questions:

James 5:16 says, “Pray for each other so that you may be healed.” Why is mutual prayer among friends so powerful? How can praying together deepen a friendship in ways that ordinary conversation cannot?

Paul writes, “my heart’s desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved” (Romans 10:1, ESV). Do you have that kind of longing for anyone right now? What stirs it—or what dampens it?

In 1 Timothy 2:1–4, Paul urges prayer for “all people” because God “desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth” (ESV). How does knowing that God wants your friends to be saved change the confidence with which you pray for them?

In Luke 5:17–20, friends carried a paralyzed man to Jesus. What “roofs” might we need to tear through—effort, awkwardness, persistence—to bring our friends to Christ in prayer?

Jesus says, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him” (John 6:44, ESV). If God is the one who draws people, what is our role, and why does prayer matter so much in that work?

In Colossians 4:3, Paul asks for prayer “that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ” (ESV). What might an “open door” look like in your friendships—and how would you recognize one? Do you find it easier to pray about a friend’s problems than to pray for their salvation? Why do you think that is?

Romans 10:14 asks, “And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?” (ESV). How does praying for someone prepare us to be part of the answer to our own prayers? What fears or assumptions keep us from praying boldly—or speaking openly—about Jesus with the people we care about?

Who are the four friends God is placing on your heart this week? Be sure to fill out your list of four friends and commit to praying for each of them by name.



WHAT TO PRAY

Pray Scripture

30 Great Prayers from the Bible

Matthew 6:9–13 — The Lord's Prayer

Daniel 9:4–19 — Daniel's Great Prayer of Confession

Psalms 23 — The LORD Is My Shepherd

John 17:1–26 — Jesus' High Priestly Prayer

1 Samuel 2:1–10 — Hannah's Prayer of Praise

Psalms 51:1–17 — David's Prayer of Repentance

Ephesians 1:15–23 — Paul's Prayer for Revelation and Wisdom

1 Kings 8:22–53 — Solomon's Prayer at the Temple Dedication

Psalms 22:1–31 — A Prayer of Anguish and Trust

Luke 22:42 — Jesus in Gethsemane

Nehemiah 1:5–11 — Nehemiah's Prayer for His People

Psalms 91 — Dwelling in the Shelter of the Most High

Ephesians 3:14–21 — Paul Prays for Strength and Fullness in God

Habakkuk 3:1–19 — Habakkuk's Prayer of Awe and Trust

Psalms 139:1–24 — Search Me, O God

Acts 4:24–30 — The Early Church's Bold Prayer

Genesis 32:9–12 — Jacob's Prayer Before Meeting Esau

Psalms 103:1–22 — Bless the LORD, O My Soul

Luke 1:46–55 — Mary's Magnificat

Jonah 2:1–9 — Jonah's Prayer from Inside the Fish

Psalms 27:1–14 — The LORD Is My Light and Salvation

Philippians 1:9–11 — Paul's Prayer for Abounding Love

Exodus 33:12–18 — Moses Seeks God's Presence

Psalms 63:1–8 — Earnest Longing for God

Colossians 1:9–12 — Paul's Prayer for Spiritual Wisdom

Luke 23:34 — Jesus' Prayer of Forgiveness from the Cross

Psalms 130:1–8 — Out of the Depths I Cry

1 Thessalonians 3:11–13 — Paul's Prayer for the Church

Numbers 6:24–26 — The Aaronic Blessing

Revelation 22:20 — Come, Lord Jesus

Pray for Your Family

Our families are among the greatest gifts in our lives and among the greatest responsibilities God entrusts to us. Psalm 127 reminds us that children are a “heritage from the Lord” and that unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain. Praying for our families is not just asking God to fix problems; it is inviting Him to be the true builder and guardian of our homes. When we pray for our families, we cover the people we love most in the protection and presence of God.

Who Is My Family?

Families are not just made up of those living under the same roof. When you think about your family, that can include:

- Your immediate household, including your spouse, children, parents, and siblings
- Your extended family, grandparents, cousins, in-laws, aunts, and uncles
- Your future family, including a future spouse, future children, and generations to come

What to Pray for My Family

- Healthy relationships with family members, including marriage, sibling bonds, and parent-child connections
- A home marked by peace, grace, and safety
- Each family member to know and follow Jesus personally
- Healing for broken or strained relationships
- Wisdom, patience, and consistency for parents
- Growth in faith, character, and purpose for children
- Forgiveness rather than resentment
- God’s protection from division, temptation, and harm

Pray as a Family

Creating a rhythm of family prayer is similar to creating a rhythm for your personal prayer life. It does not need to be complex, but consistency helps establish the rhythm. If praying as a family is new, start small and simple. Here are some ideas:

- Pray at meals—even a short blessing builds a habit of gratitude
- Pray at bedtime—speak a blessing over your children as they fall asleep
- Pray in the car—turn commutes and school drop-offs into prayer moments
- Pray in hard moments—pause and pray together when tension rises
- Pray Scripture over family members—personalize a verse using their names

Pray for Those Who Do Not Yet Know Christ

Prayer is often the first and most important step toward someone coming to faith. God is at work long before a conversation ever happens. When we pray for those who do not know Jesus, we partner with the Holy Spirit, who alone can truly soften a heart. Our role is to love, pray, and trust God with the outcome.

Who Is on Your List?

Who are four people in your life who do not know Christ? Think of them now. Write down their names and commit to praying consistently for them every week.

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Suggestions for Prayer

- That God would open their eyes to see their need for Him (2 Corinthians 4:4)
- That He would place other believers in their path
- That He would create spiritual curiosity and honest questions
- That He would soften their hearts to receive truth
- That God would give you courage, wisdom, and the right words when the moment comes
- That barriers or past hurts—especially those involving church or faith—would be gently healed

Pray for Your Church

- A deep love for Jesus and confidence in the gospel
- Wisdom, humility, unity, and protection for pastors, elders, staff, and ministry leaders
- Worship that is centered on God and shaped by truth
- Faithful teaching and responsive hearts
- Children, students, young adults, families, singles, and senior adults
- Small groups and ministry teams that practice genuine care
- Courage to serve Fort Wayne and the world
- Wise stewardship of people, facilities, finances, and opportunities
- Healing, reconciliation, and spiritual renewal
- **For Blackhawk Christian School**
- Students to grow in wisdom, character, courage, and faith
- Teachers and administrators to lead with truth, patience, and love
- Safety and protection for students, staff, volunteers, and guests
- Athletics, arts, academics, and activities to develop gifts without becoming idols

Pray with Your City, for Your City

A Movement with Roots at Blackhawk

What is now the citywide Love Fort Wayne movement began right here at Blackhawk. In 2003, our church brought the Global Leadership Summit to Fort Wayne, casting a vision to grow and empower leaders both inside and outside the church. Over the next decade, that gathering grew from a few hundred leaders to many hundreds more, becoming a cornerstone event for our city. As the vision expanded beyond our four walls, it eventually became its own citywide effort—and in 2018, God stirred a new calling toward citywide prayer, uniting believers to seek the restoration of our community so that every man, woman, and child might hear the gospel.

Today, that same heart continues through these monthly gatherings. Join believers from across Fort Wayne on the **first Wednesday of every month from 7:00–8:00 AM** to pray for our city. Hosted by **Love Fort Wayne at the Parkview Mirro Center**, these gatherings bring together familiar faces from the Blackhawk staff and church family alongside brothers and sisters from congregations all over the city.

A to-go breakfast is provided immediately after prayer at 8:00 AM. The event is **free and open to all**—we would love to see you there!

Location

Parkview Mirro Center
10622 Parkview Plaza Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Time

7:00–8:00 AM

Upcoming Dates

- September 2, 2026
- October—EVENING | Worship at the Clyde Theatre: Tuesday, October 6, 6:30–8:00 PM
- November 4, 2026
- December 2, 2026
- January 6, 2027
- February 3, 2027
- March 3, 2027
- April 7, 2027

Closing Prayer

Father, thank You for inviting us into relationship with You. Keep us from turning prayer into performance, pressure, or a scoreboard. Form in us a steady dependence on Your grace. Teach us to adore You, confess honestly, give thanks freely, and ask boldly. Make us attentive to Scripture, responsive to the Holy Spirit, and faithful in practical love.

Let Your kingdom come in our hearts, our homes, Blackhawk Ministries, Blackhawk Christian School, Fort Wayne, and the nations. Use our prayers to change us, guide us, unite us, and send us. May Jesus be known, neighbors be loved, burdens be carried, and hope be renewed.

**Your kingdom come. Your will be done.
In Fort Wayne as it is in heaven. Amen.**

