

OUT

YOU & THE WORLD

The last relationship we must maintain is the one we have with our wider community/city. In the Bible Jesus only cried twice: once over His friend (Lazarus) and once over His city (Jerusalem). As followers of Jesus, our hearts should be broken by the things that break His. Jesus came to restore shattered people and broken cities to the Father. We are the ones He chose to do this work through. If we can't operate with love toward the strangers we encounter then who will? We are the ones who change the world one loving act at a time.

- 💡 **REFLECT:** How do you treat the strangers around you? Your neighbours?
- 👂 **LISTEN:** What do you feel God would say to you about how you see your city and the people in it? Are you moved with love? Are you irritated and annoyed?
- 👂 **LISTEN:** What do you feel God would ask you to change in your heart or behaviour toward your city? Your neighbour?
- 👉 **ACT:** What is one thing you can do this week to love the stranger and the neighbour around you?
- 🗣️ **PRAY:** Father, forgive me for times I am apathetic, unloving or focused only on myself and my own needs. Break my heart for the broken-hearted around me. Give me eyes to see the lonely, the lost and the hurting in my everyday life. Give me the grace and boldness to show love in radical and even inconvenient ways. I want to display your heart to the world.

📖 **READ:** Matthew 9:36-38, James 1:19-27, Hebrews 13: 1, Romans 12:9-18

If you found this prayer guide helpful, please keep it.

Stay up to date on future citywide prayer & worship gatherings, download this prayer guide, and get connected with other resources at prayercollective.nz



PRAYER GUIDE

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 3:4-6

PRAYER
COLLECTIVE

A Helpful Handbook for Self-Guided Contemplative Prayer

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START HERE.

Keen to pray but not sure where to start? All good. Try this.

Life is made up of three key relationships: 1. you and God, 2. you and others, 3. you and God's missional dreams for the world. When any one of these relationships is unhealthy or out-of-balance, your life will be out of balance as well. Use this prayer guide to tune up each of these three relationships, connect with your loving and creative Father, and become the best possible version of yourself. Let's get started.

UP

YOU & GOD

The God of the infinite universe not only created you but values you as His son/daughter. His desire to connect with you is not merely a "requirement of good Christians" but a literal lifeline in this chaotic world. You were made to be with Him. You are part of Him (John 14:20). Trying to live life apart from Him is like trying to charge your phone without plugging it in.

Let's take a moment to reconnect with our loving Father. (Open the ears of your soul to hear His Spirit speak. Consider writing down what you sense.)

💡 **REFLECT:** How are you and God? When was the last time you connected?

👂 **LISTEN:** What do you feel like God is saying about the current state of your connection with Him?

👉 **ACT:** How would you like to respond to this?

🗨️ **PRAY:** Father, draw me to yourself. Wrap me in your unconditional love and acceptance. Remind me of your thoughts toward me. Remind me of the amazing things you have in store for me.

📖 **READ:** Romans 5:8, Jeremiah 29:11-13, Ephesian 3:14-21, 1 John 5:14

IN

YOU & YOUR TRIBE

As humans, we were built to live in tribes, in families, in tight community with others. God created family as the most important structure in the world but, in our brokenness, we've invited dysfunction, distance and distortion into this beautifully sacred design. God's great desire is to heal and repair our broken relationships and enable us to live at peace with one another. Your relationships with your family and friends are like a garden: if you don't water them, weed them, and care for them they eventually wither and die. Rather than allowing that let's fight for our tribes.

💡 **REFLECT:** Do you have any broken relationships in your life (family or friends)? Ask God how you can work toward healing with that person or those people.

🗨️ **PRAY:** Maybe someone in your tribe is suffering or separated from God. Pray for the ones who need to know the deep love of their kind Father. God hears you.

👉 **ACT:** Ask God what He would have you do to invest more deeply in your closest relationships (then do it).

🗨️ **PRAY:** Father, I know you are present in my family and through my friendships. Show me how to love beyond my natural abilities. Show me what I can do to demonstrate this kind of love to my tribe.

📖 **READ:** Psalm 133:1, Ephesian 4:1-5, Ephesians 4:25-32