

# THE WEEK AHEAD: Week 7

The studies this week will help you find out more about prayer.



## Sunday

Read the passage that will be preached at the church service you attend. If English is your second language, read the passage in your own language and also in English.

**On the other six days...**

## Day 1

Re-read **Philippians 4:2–9** and think about the answers you gave to the study questions on pages 29–32.

Memorize this week's memory verse:

**“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6**

Remembering the memory verse, pray about the things that make you anxious.

## Day 2

Read **Matthew 6:5–13**.

Matthew, one of the twelve disciples, is the writer of this Gospel. In this passage Jesus teaches his disciples about prayer.

**1** How does Jesus tell us we should pray in verses 5–8?

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**2** What does Jesus tell us not to do in verses 5–8? Why?

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**3** What are the first things that Jesus tells the disciples to pray? (see verses 9–10) (Note: “Hallowed” means “revered” or “honoured”.)

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**4** Why should we pray for these things first?

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**5** Go through the rest of the prayer phrase by phrase. What is Jesus teaching us about prayer in each phrase?

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Use Jesus' prayer as a model for your own prayer.

## Day 3

Read **Colossians 1:3–14**.

We have looked at passages from this letter of Paul to the Christians in Colosse before. Here Paul prays for the Colossian Christians.

**1** What does Paul thank God for when he prays for the Colossians? (see verses 3–4)

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**2** Where does the Colossians' faith and love come from? (see verse 5)

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3 What is the main thing Paul prays for the Colossians? (see verse 9)

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4 Why does he pray for this? (see verses 10–12)

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Use these verses as a model to help you pray for the people in your group.

#### Day 4

Read **Colossians 4:2–6**.

Here Paul is telling the Christians in Colosse the prayers he would like them to pray for him.

1 What do we learn from verse 2 about the way we should pray?

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2 Paul is in prison because he has been telling people the good news about Jesus (see the end of verse 3). So why is Paul's request in verse 3 surprising?

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3 How can verses 3 and 4 help you pray for other Christians who want to tell their friends about Jesus?

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4 What advice does Paul give about how we should act towards non-Christians? (see verses 5 and 6)

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Ask God to help you, and the others in your group, to tell people the good news about Jesus.

#### Day 5

Re-read the Bible passages you have read over the past week. Choose a verse that you found particularly helpful, write it down in the space below and memorize it.

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#### Day 6

Read **Philippians 4:10–23** in preparation for **Discipleship Explored**.