

Praying for the Lost

Daily Prayer Journal








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Contents

A Simple Guide to Strategic Prayer	3
How to Pray for the Lost	4
Establish a Regular Rhythm	4
Pray Using a List	4
Show Grace to Yourself as You Pray Grace Over Others	4
Pray Scripture	5
Persist	5
Praying for B.O.B.	7
Burden Over Lostness	7
Open Eyes to See the Doors God is Opening Around Us ...	7
Boldness to Share as We Ought	7
Praying for Lost Family Members	9
Praying for Lost Friends	13
Praying for Lost Neighbors and Associates	17
Praying for Lost Acquaintances	21
Praying for Church Planters and Missionaries	25
Praying for the Unreached and Under Reached	29
General Prayer Needs	33
Praying Scripture	36
10 Ways to Pray for Church Planters	40



*“I am convinced
that when we stand
before God ... we will
discover that every
soul ever brought to a
knowledge of Christ was
in some way related to
intercessory prayer.”¹*

¹ Dick Eastman, *Love on Its Knees* (Old Tappan, NJ: Chosen, 1989), 19.

A Simple Guide to Strategic Prayer

The Praying for the Lost Journal was developed to help believers push back darkness by praying for the lost locally and globally.

Jesus modeled (John 17:20) and even commanded us to pray for the lost (Luke 10:2). However, our daily experience of interceding faithfully and fervently can be harder than it sounds as praying for the lost is engaging in spiritual warfare (Eph 6:12).

This journal provides simple tools to help:

- Strengthen your intercessory prayer life
- Bring focus to prayers
- Pray Scripture when fervency is lacking
- Push back darkness as you celebrate answered prayers

May the collection of prayers, spiritual reflections and celebrations recorded on these pages reflect incredible growth in your personal walk and the kingdom.

Discover more evangelism resources at kybaptist.org/evangelism.



The Cooperative Program giving of Kentucky Baptist churches provides resources to help churches reach Kentucky and the world for Christ.

How to Pray for the Lost

Each of the following sections provide prompts and principles for strategic prayer, but here are some general tips for getting started.

ESTABLISH A REGULAR RHYTHM.

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance...”
Romans 6:18.

Over time your sensitivity to the Holy Spirit’s prompting to pray responsively to lostness will grow. Establishing a new habit starts by making it obvious and easy. Place this journal and other prayer prompts in visible spots.²

PRAY USING A LIST.

The sections of this journal will help bring focus to daily prayers and clarity of recall as you pray for people and people groups over time.

SHOW GRACE TO YOURSELF AS YOU PRAY GRACE OVER OTHERS.

Satan will seek to discourage you by accusing that you are not praying frequently or fervently enough. Focus instead on the richness of your fellowship with the Spirit on days when you are able to pray for the lost.

PRAY SCRIPTURE.³

Remaining fervent in prayer becomes difficult when we seek to pray faithfully for the same person or people groups over time. We quickly feel unsure of what to pray. Praying Scripture aligns our hearts with God's over lostness.

PERSIST.

"Then He spoke a parable to them that men always ought to pray and not lose heart." Luke 18:1.

George Mueller provided a great example of persisting in praying for the lost. Mueller shared, "In November 1844, I began to pray for the conversion of five individuals. I prayed every day without a single intermission. Eighteen months passed before the first was saved. Five years lapsed, then the second was converted. Six years passed before the third was converted. The last two remained unconverted."⁴

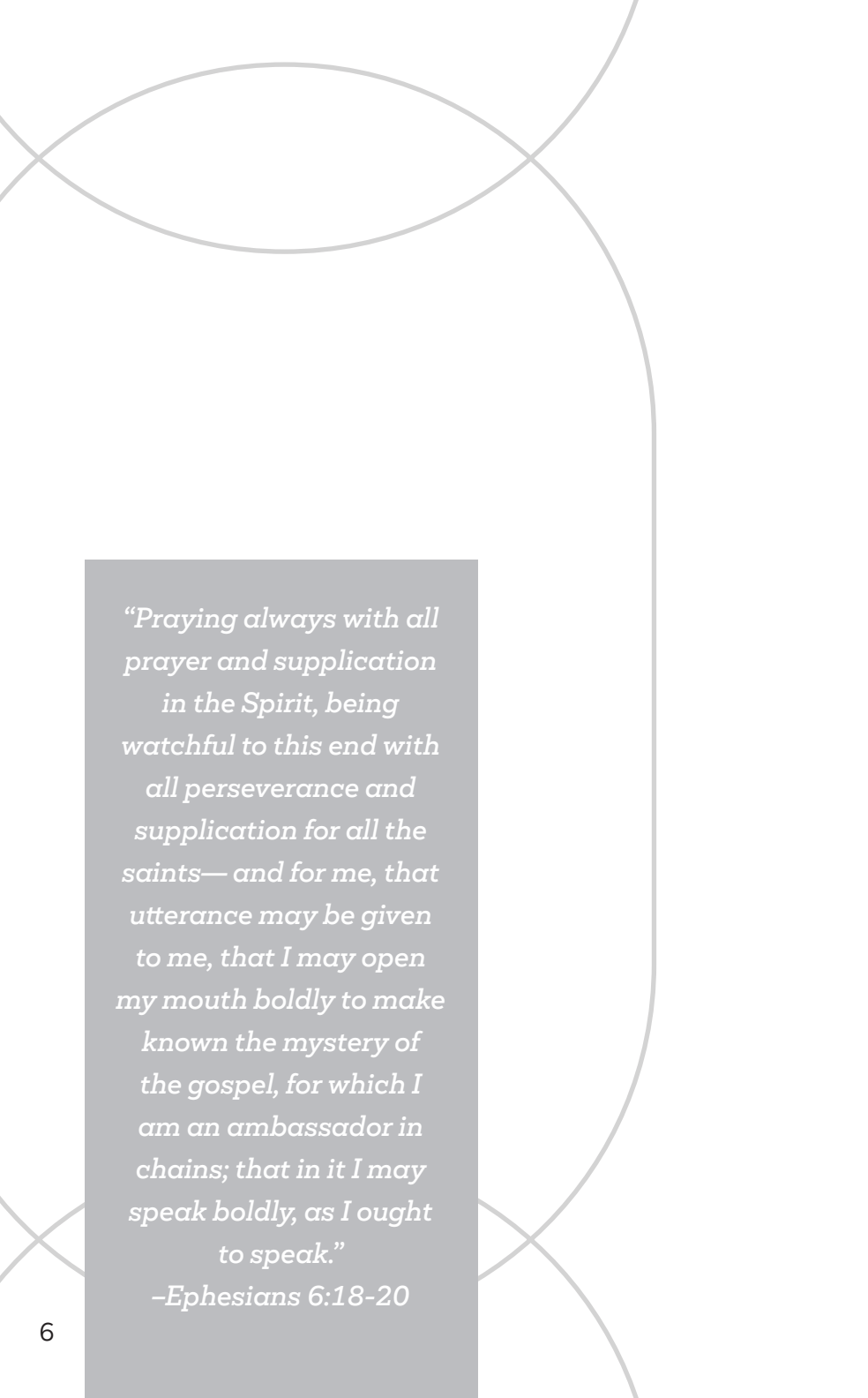
Towards the close of his life, Mueller was asked in an interview if he had spent too much time on his knees. Mueller replied, "I have been praying every day for fifty-two years for two men, sons of a friend of my youth. They are not converted yet, but they will be! How can it be otherwise?"⁵

² In *Atomic Habits*, James Clear provides a simple framework for establishing healthy habits and breaking bad ones.

³ *Praying the Bible* by Donald S. Whitney is an incredible resource for learning how to pray Scriptures.

⁴ George Mueller, quoted in Basil Miller, *George Muller* (Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 1941), 145

⁵ Parsons, Charles R., *An Hour With George Müller* (Kindle Locations 222-231).



*“Praying always with all
prayer and supplication
in the Spirit, being
watchful to this end with
all perseverance and
supplication for all the
saints— and for me, that
utterance may be given
to me, that I may open
my mouth boldly to make
known the mystery of
the gospel, for which I
am an ambassador in
chains; that in it I may
speak boldly, as I ought
to speak.”*

—Ephesians 6:18-20

Praying for B.O.B.

The Apostle Paul was consistently enlisting prayer partners. If Paul needed prayer to be a faithful witness, then certainly so do we! Praying for the lost, therefore, begins with praying over our own hearts. Pray for... ⁶

BURDEN OVER LOSTNESS.

Just as Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41), may our hearts be broken over lostness.

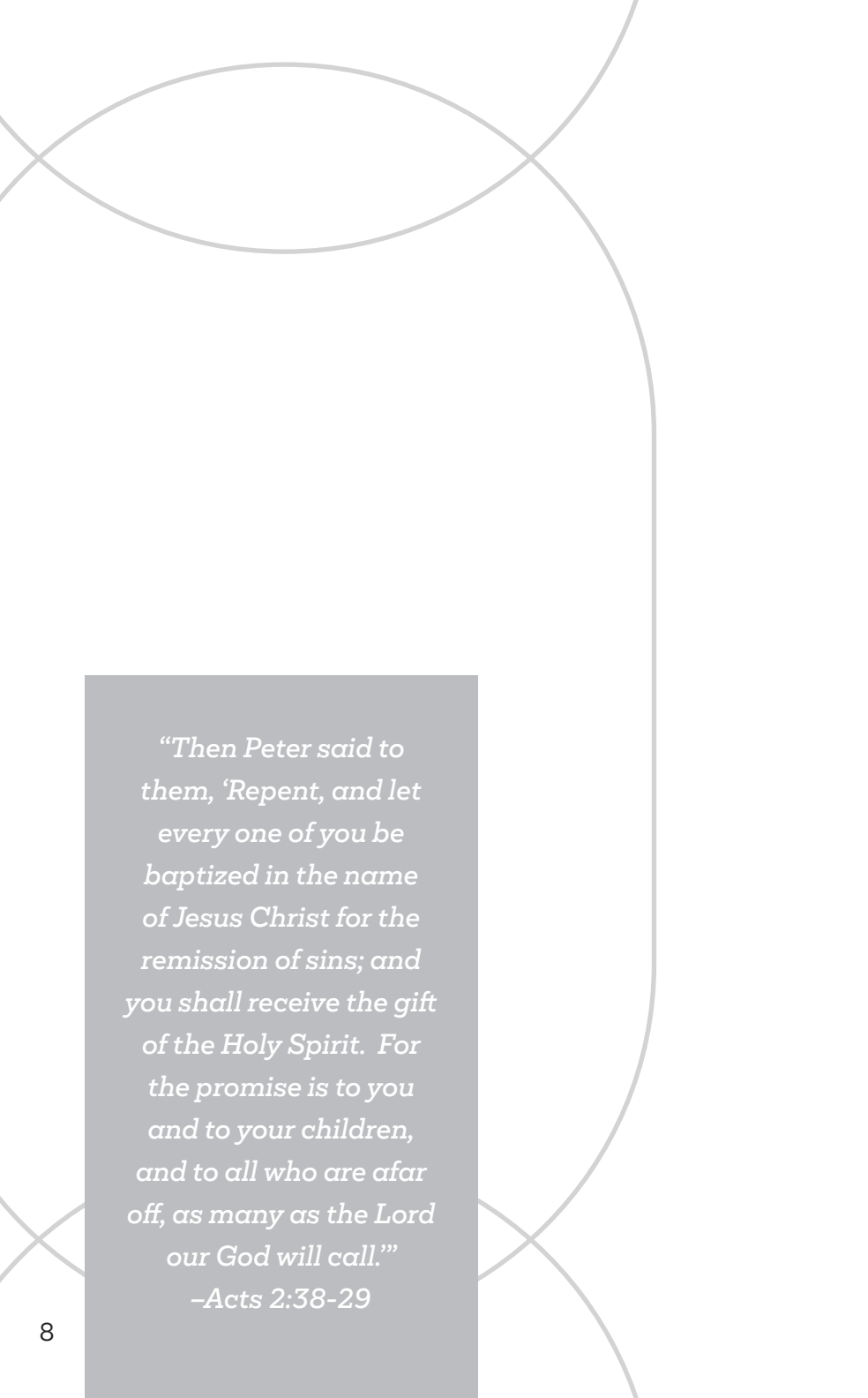
OPEN EYES TO SEE THE DOORS GOD IS OPENING AROUND US.

In Colossians 4:2-4, Paul urges, “Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.”

BOLDNESS TO SHARE AS WE OUGHT.

Pray for boldness to share as we ought to speak.

⁶ Paul Worcester, Director of Collegiate Evangelism at the North American Mission Board, shared the BOB model at BCM training events hosted by KBC.

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“Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’”


—Acts 2:38-29

Praying for Lost Family Members

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered



*“The Lord is not slack
concerning His promise,
as some count slackness,
but is longsuffering
toward us, not willing
that any should perish
but that all should come
to repentance.”*


–2 Peter 3:9

Praying for Lost Friends

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

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*“And He has made from
one blood every nation
of men to dwell on all
the face of the earth and
has determined their
preappointed times
and the boundaries
of their dwellings,
so that they should
seek the Lord, in the
hope that they might
grope for Him and find
Him, though He is not
far from each one of us.”*

—Acts 17:26-27


Praying for Lost Neighbors and Associates

Have you considered that your home is more than just God’s gracious provision to you but also part of His plan for how He wants to use you? God’s sovereignty is always strategic. Perhaps He has graciously placed neighbors near you and associates around you in the workplace so that you could be a witness in their lives.

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered



*“Now all things are of
God, who has reconciled
us to Himself through
Jesus Christ, and has
given us the ministry
of reconciliation, that
is, that God was in
Christ reconciling
the world to Himself,
not imputing their
trespasses to them, and
has committed to us the
word of reconciliation.*

*Now then, we
are ambassadors for
Christ, as though God
were pleading through
us: we implore you on
Christ’s behalf, be
reconciled to God.”*

-2 Corinthians 5:18-20


Praying for Lost Acquaintances

Acquaintances are people with whom we interact frequently but currently have a limited relationship. Think about the places you frequent amid your regular activities. Who are the people you typically encounter? How can you be an ambassador in these spaces?

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Names	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered



*“Then He said to them,
“The harvest truly is
great, but the laborers
are few; therefore, pray
the Lord of the harvest
to send out laborers into
His harvest.”
–Luke 10:2*

Praying for Church Planters and Missionaries

Jesus commands us to pray for more laborers to be sent out into the harvest. As churches send out those answering the call to plant churches locally or globally, we have the privilege to “hold the rope” in prayer and to send them well through our support.⁷


“I WILL GO DOWN INTO THE PIT IF YOU WILL HOLD THE ROPE.” -WILLIAM CAREY

Planters/ Missionaries	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

7 Go to kybaptist.org/churchplanting to learn more about adopting KBC endorsed church planters in prayer. Imb.org/pray also provides great resources for praying for your International Mission Board missionaries.

Planters/ Missionaries	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Planters/ Missionaries	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered



*“Brethren, my heart’s
desire and prayer to God
for Israel is that they
may be saved.”
–Romans 10:1*

Praying for the Unreached and Under Reached

There are still more than 3,000 unreached people groups which remain unengaged with the gospel, which means there are no known ministries currently starting churches among them.⁸ There are also unreached peoples and under reached neighborhoods across Kentucky.⁹ We can engage them through prayer.

“PRAYER HAS AS NO LIMITS AND NEEDS NO PASSPORT.” -AYMAN IBRAHIM


Unreached/ Under Reached	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

⁸ <https://www.imb.org/fast-facts/> Go to joshuaproject.net for resources for praying for unreached people groups.

⁹ Go to kybaptist.org/snapshots to learn more and adopt strategic prayer needs in Kentucky.

Unreached/ Under Reached	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Unreached/ Under Reached	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

The background of the page features several large, thin, grey circles that overlap each other, creating a geometric pattern. One circle is particularly prominent, curving from the top left towards the bottom right.

*“Therefore, I exhort
first of all that
supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and giving
of thanks be made for
all men, for kings and all
who are in authority,
that we may lead a
quiet and peaceable
life in all godliness
and reverence. For
this is good and
acceptable in the sight of
God our Savior, who
desires all men to be
saved and to come to the
knowledge of the truth.”*

–1 Timothy 2:1-4

General Prayer Needs

Prayer Need	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Prayer Need	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Prayer Need	What I Am Praying	How & When God Answered

Praying Scripture

JOHN 6:44

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Lord, please draw _____ to a saving knowledge of You.

COLOSSIANS 4:1-4

“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward those who are outside, redeeming the time. Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”

Lord, please help me remain vigilant in praying for _____ with thanksgiving. Please place a witness in the life of _____ who will boldly share the gospel with grace.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:6-7

“I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.”

Lord, please send multiple witnesses to sow and water gospel seed in the heart of _____ and cause those seeds planted to flourish unto life eternal.

ACTS 16:14

“Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us...The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul.”

Lord, please open the heart of _____ to the truth of the gospel.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:3-4

“But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

Lord, please open the eyes of _____ so that they might see the light of the gospel.

LUKE 19:10

“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Lord, thank you for continuing to pursue _____ in your love that they might be saved. Please help me more faithfully join you in pursuing the lost.

ROMANS 1:16

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”

Lord, thank you that your gospel is powerful enough to save _____. Please give _____ faith to believe.

1 PETER 3:9

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

Lord, thank you for your longsuffering patience towards _____ and me. Please help me remain patient and persistent in praying that _____ would come to repentance.

Other verses I am praying...

10 Ways to Pray for Church Planters

*Lance Parrott, Pastor of Preaching and
Vision at Christ Fellowship*

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S COMMUNION WITH GOD.

1

The greatest need for any church planter or really any Christian is to abide in Christ. God cares about what he is doing in us long before he bears fruit through us. Pray for the planter to make every moment an abiding one before the work and in the work.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S PREACHING MINISTRY.

2

The primary task of the planter will be to herald God's Word every single week. Pray for the planter to first be affected and shaped by the Word before he preaches it to others. Pray for the planter to treasure Christ before he helps others see Him on Sunday.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S MARRIAGE AND FAMILY.

3

The church planter's first ministry begins in the home. His ministry must begin with the loving care of his wife and children. Pray for the planter to selflessly serve and pursue the joy of his family in Jesus.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S FAITHFULNESS TO THE WORK.

4

Church planting is not easy work. There will be long days of what seems to be fruitless conversations with lost people. There will be attempts to reach the city that will seem to come up empty. Pray for the planter to focus on faithfulness to God over fruitfulness.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S GOSPEL COMMUNITY.

5

The church planter is part of the body of Christ. Before he is a pastor or a planter, he is a Christian. He needs a gospel community to encourage him and spur him on just like you. Pray for the Lord to provide brothers and sisters where he can be known and loved.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S PASSION TO MAKE DISCIPLES.

6

The one task that the Lord Jesus left for his followers was to make disciples. At the heart of church planting is the desire to share Jesus and raise up faithfully followers of Jesus. Pray for the planter to see the lost, to boldly share the gospel, and to make disciples.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER TO FIND FAVOR IN THE CITY.

7

The work of church planting is primarily God's work for God's glory. The church planter is simply looking at where God is at work and getting involved. Pray for the planter as he is looking to connect to his city. Pray that the Lord prepares the hearts of others to receive.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER TO SEE GOSPEL FRUIT.

8

While the church planter's primary focus is faithfulness, we want to beg the Lord to bring fruit through the efforts of the planter. We want to see people cross over from death to life. Pray for the Spirit's help in the planter's preaching and ministry to save sinners.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S PURSUIT OF HOLINESS.

9

One of the greatest targets of the enemy is attacking the planter's pursuit of holiness. It's sad when you see the casualties in the kingdom due to a lack of purity and integrity. Pray that the Lord would give the planter both passion for, and joy in, holiness.

PRAY FOR THE PLANTER'S IDENTITY IN CHRIST.

10

The most important work for every church planter is the finished work of Christ. It's Christ' perfect performance that defines the planter more than his best efforts. Pray for the planter's identity to be found in who he is in Christ more than what he does for Christ.

