

## SPEND DAILY TIME WITH GOD AS YOU READ, THINK, PRAY, + ACT.

**2026 Focus:** 12 Months of Prayer | **June:** Being Still Before God

Each month, journey through a different biblical model of prayer.

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### Day 1 [Philippians 1:9–11](#) | Overflowing Love

**And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge of depth of insight.**

Philippians 1:9

Paul writes a letter of deep affection to the church in the city of Philippi. He has walked with them for ten years, sharing life and faith. He knows their joys and tensions—and he knows they have relational struggles. The church community faces conflicts that threaten its unity. Paul doesn't simply instruct them on how to behave. He talks to God about their struggles and writes a prayer asking God to help them grow increasingly in love for one another.

In another letter to the Corinthians, Paul teaches us that love is more than a feeling—it's an action. It's how we treat others when the feeling isn't there. Paul defines love as a way of treating people: patient, kind, not easily angered, and never keeping score ([1 Corinthians 13](#)). This kind of love isn't something we can manufacture on our own. Paul's answer isn't to try harder—it's to pray. To rely on God to give us what we need, to love as he loves, and to persevere when it doesn't come easily. We can pray for each other that by God's strength alone we will overflow in love for one another.

**PRAYER DAY #29:** Pray for others in your life to grow in this kind of abounding love. Think through people in your family, your small group, your church community. Use this prayer: "Gracious Lord, please provide \_\_\_\_\_ with overflowing love, guided by knowledge and insight, resulting in honor and praise to you."

### Day 2 [Philippians 1:10](#) | Insightful Love

**So that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.**

Philippians 1:10

As Paul writes to the believers in Philippi, he calls out a specific relational conflict in the church. Two women aren't getting along. They love Jesus and Paul, but struggle to love each other ([Philippians 4](#)). What is true for them is true for the whole community—they find it hard to put others first, as Christ modeled. His prayer is that they would have insight and knowledge to discern what is best. He knows that loving difficult people well doesn't come naturally. He also recognizes that conflict within the church community is a clear threat to unity. Paul prays that God would give them discernment to know how to love each other well.

Like them, we know how confusing and challenging relationships can be. Sometimes we don't know how to love in ways that actually help. Should we listen or speak? Offer practical help or urge someone to take a step? Whether it's a struggling marriage, a wandering child, or someone who gets on our nerves, we don't always

know what loving well looks like. Every challenging relationship is an invitation to pray. We can ask God for the wisdom and discernment to know what each situation needs—because only he can show us how to love the way he loves.

**PRAYER DAY #30:** Think of one difficult relationship in your life and pray for insightful love. Use Paul’s prayer as a guide. “Father, help me discern what is best in this situation that I may be pure and blameless before you.” Thank God that he is present with you in your relationships.

## Day 3 [Ephesians 5:1–2](#) | Gospel Love

**And walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.** Ephesians 5:2

Paul writes to another group of believers in the major city of Ephesus. He knows they face daily pressures from the surrounding culture. These struggles aren't unique to Philippi—believers in Ephesus face the same tensions within their own community. They, too, have conflict and face real threats to their unity. Paul prays for the believers there to know the deep love of Christ ([Ephesians 3:18–19](#)). Love given always flows from love received. Only when they grasp Christ’s love for them can they live it out with each other.

The same is true for us today. We can’t live out God’s love for others unless we know how much he first loves us. When we know his deep love for us—love that sent his Son to the cross to die for us—that love can overflow. Loving difficult people doesn’t start with more effort—it starts with remembering how much we have been loved. Christ loved us at our most broken, and that love is what makes it possible to love others at theirs. Christ didn’t wait for us to get it together before he loved us. He died for us while we were still his enemies ([Romans 5:10](#)), so we could be forgiven and restored to God.

**PRAYER DAY #31:** If you have never placed your faith in Jesus, today is a good day to do that. Simply tell him you believe and ask him to be the Lord of your life. If you already follow Jesus, pause and thank him for the love he demonstrated on the cross, the love that makes all other love possible.

## Day 4 [Philippians 1:11](#) | Reflective Love

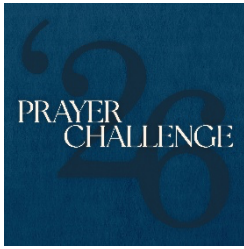
**Filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.**

Philippians 1:11

Paul’s prayer is that the Philippian believers would overflow with the righteousness that comes through Christ, ultimately bringing honor and praise to God. This is not a halfhearted request; it is the heartfelt prayer of a man who knows firsthand what it means to be sustained by Christ in hard circumstances. Paul draws from the words of Jesus, who called his followers to remain in him, bear fruit, and experience the abundant life God created them for ([John 15:5–13](#)). As believers remain connected to Christ, he grows in them fruit that gives God glory, as they reflect his extraordinary love to the world.

We don’t grow the fruit of righteousness by our own strength. God grows us in it through dependence on him. It is only as we deepen our connection to him that this fruit takes root. Prayer is one of the key ways we stay connected to him. When we pray, we are positioning ourselves to receive what only God can produce in us. Because God is the one doing the transforming work in us, he alone gets the praise. And in the process, we become more like Jesus in our daily lives. Our fruit glorifies God ([John 15:8](#)).

**PRAYER DAY #32:** Pray that we, as a church community, would reflect God’s love through Christ to the world around us. Use Paul’s words to form your prayer. “Father, help us be filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”



## Day 5 [1 Samuel 3:1–10](#) | Samuel Hears God’s Voice

*This year in Beyond the Weekend, journey through different biblical models of prayer—one each month. June’s focus is being still before God.*

**The LORD came and stood there, calling as at the other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” Then Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”** 1 Samuel 3:10

Israel has drifted far from God. The word of the Lord is rare, and visions have nearly ceased ([1 Samuel 3:1](#)). Eli the priest is old, and his sons serve as corrupt priests—abusing their position and dishonoring God ([1 Samuel 2:12–17](#)). God has warned Eli that judgment is coming on his family because of their sin ([1 Samuel 2:27–36](#)). Spiritual darkness has settled over Israel. Yet God is about to raise up a young prophet who will call his people back to him. It begins with a boy willing to listen.

We, too, can miss God’s voice when life is loud or our hearts are distracted. Like young Samuel, we may not always recognize when God is speaking. But Samuel’s response gives us a posture for prayer: Speak, for your servant is listening. Being still before God means coming to him with an open heart—ready to hear what he wants to say. God speaks to us today primarily through his Word, the Bible. When we slow down, read Scripture, and ask God to speak, we position ourselves to hear him. Listening is a learned practice. The more we do it, the better we recognize his voice.

**PRAYER DAY #33:** This week, we’ve been praying Paul’s prayer for overflowing, insightful, and reflective love. One way we gain insight in prayer is by slowing down to be still before God. Before you open your Bible today, pray Samuel’s prayer: “Speak, for your servant is listening.” Then read it slowly, asking God to show you something specific about himself or your life.

## Day 6

**PRAYER DAY #34:** Pray through the Lord’s Prayer in [Matthew 6:9–13](#). This week, we explored Paul’s prayer for abounding, discerning love. As you pray the Lord’s Prayer, focus on the words “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” Pray and ask for his love to flow through you, and for his will to be done. Then join Ada Bible Worship as they sing “[Build My Life](#).” As you listen to the lyrics, ask God to build your life upon his love.

## Day 7

**PRAYER DAY #35:** Pray through the Lord’s Prayer again in [Matthew 6:9–13](#). Today, focus on the phrase, “forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” Pray that our Ada Bible church community would be one of overflowing love for each other, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven us.