

Prayer Guide for the week August 9, 2020

“Life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Luke 12:15

We continue in the summer sermon series **Inside Story**. This week as we listen and learn from the gospel of Luke (12:13-21) we are reminded that life is much more than the amount of possessions we own. What we have in Jesus Christ is much more valuable, it is a treasure that lasts. For all who are willing to hear, the parables of Jesus give us the inside story into God's Kingdom and His heart for us. Behind each regular story is God's redemptive story which invites us into radical life with Him. “These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.” John 20:31

Suggested Prayer Points for this week:

- 1. Pray for your family –** Generous Lord, teach us what it means to be ‘rich toward God’. Help us to be on our guard against all kinds of greed and selfishness, forgive us for our foolishness and materialism. Thank you for the many riches and blessings that our family enjoys in this life. Thank you for the many things that make our lives comfortable, healthy and safe. You have been so generous to us in so many ways Lord, help us to be generous to others. Help us not to store up treasures on earth but leave a rich heritage of Spiritual blessings for our family. Help us as Christ Followers to work for what will last through all eternity. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; Proverbs 22:9
- 2. Pray for your church family, friends and neighbours –** God you are the giver of all good things, we praise you for the blessing of brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you that together we can share and give what you have so richly blessed us with. As your church, lead us to be generous to those in need. Help us to see how we can use what you have given to us to show love to those in our community who are in need of care and compassion. Give each of us a joyful, generous heart for we know you love a cheerful giver. Reveal your goodness and love as we reach out to bless others. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; 2 Corinthians 9:6
- 3. Pray for pastors, staff and church leaders –** Heavenly Father we thank you for the blessing of our pastors, staff and church leaders. Thank you for their knowledge and wisdom in teaching of your word. Thank you Lord for the many ways they are generous with their time, energy, care and counsel. Bless them for their unselfishness, may they always be on their guard to protect and balance their time, energy and commitment to their flock. We ask your blessing and protection on their families, homes, vehicles and all their possessions, may no weapon against them prevail or prosper, we ask in the powerful name of Jesus. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; Isaiah 54: 17
- 4. Pray for healthcare and front line workers –** Gracious, compassionate God we praise you for the many caregivers and front line workers who continue to serve and work during the pandemic. We ask and pray for your mercy and grace for each one. Please Lord protect them from all sickness, complacency and others foolishness and pride. Lord we do ask and pray that each one would always watch out and be on their guard; protect them from the virus as they continue to give of themselves and serve on the front-lines. Lord may we as Christ followers be generous in our words and actions to express our appreciation to those who serve us. May they know we are Christians by our generosity and love, and may they be drawn to you Lord by your Spirit. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; Proverbs 11:25
- 5. Pray for our city and government –** Thank you Lord for the opportunity to bless the staff, volunteers and clients at **Union Gospel Mission** at the Drive-in Day this past weekend. Thank you Lord for all those who work, serve and volunteer at UGM in the many ministries that they offer. Lord we pray your grace, mercy and peace on the many UGM clients in the Addiction, Recovery, Education, Men's, Women's, and Children's Programs. We ask and pray for favor and success in all the work that is done in Jesus name at UGM. Multiply the resources that have been donated and remind us not to store up treasures on earth but to continue being generous in our giving to those in need in our city and beyond. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; 1 Timothy 6:17-19
- 6. Pray for EMCC and Mission Partners -** We praise you Lord for the many ways that you have blessed the EMCC Staff and many Mission Partners here and around the world. Thank you for their generous use of time, gifts and resources. Continue to use them for your purpose and glory. This week we pray specifically for Bob and Karen who are anxious to return to East Asia and continue the work of support for disciples who make disciples. We pray for guidance, direction and wisdom for the plans you have for them to return to the work you have called them to. Bless them for their faithfulness and dedication to stay connected via technology during this time of pandemic. Luke 12:13-21; Matthew 6:20; Jeremiah 29:11