

## Prayer Guide for the week August 16, 2020

“Jesus told His disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”  
Luke 18:1

We continue in the summer sermon series **Inside Story**. This week as we listen and learn from the gospel of Luke (18:1-8) we are challenged not to give up praying. God is not resistant to our prayers. It is because he is faithful that we should never give up in faithful prayer. God knows the inside story. 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** – Thank you Lord Jesus for the power of your beautiful name. Thank you that you taught us and invite us to pray in the power of your name. Thank you Jesus that you are the perfect example of persistence in prayer. You sought your Father's face in prayer throughout the day – morning, noon and night. Teach us to do the same. Please help each of us develop good habits of faithful, persistent prayer as we seek salvation, deeper faith and mercy for our family and others for whom we pray. Help us by your Spirit to remain in you and your words to remain in us so that your will is done in and through us by your grace and for your glory. Luke 11:1; Luke 18:1-8; John 15:7
- 2. Pray for your church family, friends and neighbours** – We praise you God, thank you for hearing our prayers as we cry out to you for our friends and neighbours. We lift them up to your throne of grace and pray your blessing upon those who need a miracle of hope and healing. You instruct us in your word to be faithful and persistent in our prayers. Help us we pray not to give up but to have faith, even as small as a mustard seed to move the mountains of fear, injustice and illness. We claim the promise that nothing is impossible for you God. Teach us as your people to be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer. Bring healing and hope in Jesus' powerful name we pray. Luke 18:1-8; Matthew 17:20; Romans 12:12
- 3. Pray for pastors and church leaders** – Heavenly Father we lift up and pray for our pastors and leaders, thank you for each one. Thank you for their persistent, faithful prayers for their congregation. We will never know how their prayers to you on our behalf have been answered by your love and grace. Help them to know how to equip the saints for every good work. May they be encouraged to remain faithful in prayer, seeking your will, guidance and protection each day. Lord we ask that your anointing, favor and blessing be upon our pastors and leaders. May your will be done through them as they lead us. Luke 18:1-8; Matthew 6:5-6
- 4. Pray for healthcare and front line workers** – Gracious God we continue to intercede on behalf of all those who are working on the front-lines against the pandemic. It concerns us Lord that the numbers of infection continue to rise. We trust and pray persistently, as the widow did, that you would grant us your favor. Raise up your prayer warriors to be persistent and faithful to cry out to you for mercy and strength for all the infected, afflicted and their care givers. May we not grow weary in doing good, but pray without ceasing to flatten the curve and bring about a miracle of hope and healing. Luke 18:1-8; 1 Thessalonians 5:17, Galatians 6:9-10
- 5. Pray for our city and government** – Thank you Lord for all those who work for peace and justice in our city. We pray against corruption, complacency and injustice. We pray that none would be like the judge who neither feared God nor cared about people. We pray for you to intervene where there are laws and policies of oppression, and iniquitous decrees being written. We pray for our leaders to be men and women who know God and are guided by Godly principles and who share your heart for bringing justice quickly. Leaders who care for the rights and needs of those they represent. Use us as your people to pray faithfully and persistently for our leaders as you instructed in your word. Forgive us for being critical or judgemental. Help us by your Spirit to be supportive and encouraging towards our leaders. Luke 18:1-8; Ephesians 6:18-20
- 6. Pray for EMCC and Mission Partners** – Help us all to pray and not give up, to be persistent to support the EMCC leadership in all they do. Thank you Father God for your faithfulness and for hearing our prayers for those ministering around the world and on-line during the pandemic. We pray again for your justice among all nations. We pray for you to intervene where there are laws and policies of oppression and iniquitous decree. Help us all to be generous in our time, support and prayers for the work of all EMCC churches, Global Workers and Mission Partners. Help them to put their hope in you and rely on you to deliver them as we help them with our prayers. Together, we are your church Lord, use us to be Jesus hands and feet to meet the needs of many during these difficult times. Luke 18:1-8; 2 Corinthians 1:8-11 (see [emccotogether.ca](http://emccotogether.ca) for updates from sister churches and mission partners)