

## Prayer Guide for the week July 26, 2020

“This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God” Luke 8:11

We continue in the summer sermon series **Inside Story**. This week we will listen and learn from the gospel of Luke (8:4-15). In the parable of the sower, we are challenged to have a deeper understanding that God’s word is a powerful seed. We can cultivate, sow, and water with confidence because God can make it grow. 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** – We thank you Lord for your word. Thank you for the freedom to read, study, learn and apply your word in our lives, may we never take that freedom and blessing for granted. Give each member of our family ears to hear and fertile hearts to receive and understand your word more fully. Work in us by your Spirit to hide your word in our hearts and grow in confidence to use your word to produce an abundant harvest in us and through us for Your Kingdom. Help us all to love your word and stand on the many promises in your word. Continue to teach us what it means to take up the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God and pray in power through your word to defeat the enemy. Luke 8:4-15; Psalms 119:11, Ephesians 6:17
- 2. Pray for your church family, friends and neighbours** – We praise you Lord for your word. We pray that our friends and neighbours would have ears to hear and fertile hearts for the seeds of your word to take hold and grow deep roots in their lives. Lord we pray against hardheartedness and against the enemy who will try to snatch the word away. Open the eyes of their hearts to see the wonderful things in your word. We pray the seeds that have been sown will be watered by your Spirit. We pray for our friends and neighbours to hear, see and understand the truths of the gospel and come to salvation in Jesus’ Name. Matthew 13:1-23; Psalms 119:18
- 3. Pray for pastors, staff and church leaders** – Thank you Lord for your word and all those who teach and preach your word. Anoint, bless and protect each one; be gracious according to the promises in your word. Lord we pray that the seeds of faith that are sown by our pastors and leaders will fall on fertile soil. We pray the seeds will germinate, grow deep roots and produce an abundant crop of faithful, obedient Christ followers. We pray that the word of God would continue to spread and flourish according to your will. Mark 4:1-20; Psalms 119:58; Acts 12:24
- 4. Pray for healthcare and front line workers** – Lord we thank you for the many seeds of faith that have been planted during this difficult season of COVID-19. We thank you for Chaplains, Christian staff and others who have been able to share the gospel message and the love of Christ to the lonely, sick and dying during the pandemic. We do ask and pray for the seeds of faith that have been planted to be watered by our prayers. We pray for life change and salvation for many who have ears to hear and hearts to respond. We pray for blessings of faith, obedience and healing according to your word and your will. Luke 8:4-15; Psalms 119:41, 50
- 5. Pray for our city and government** – Heavenly Father, we thank you that our great country was founded on Christian principles based on your word. Forgive us as individuals and as a nation for the many ways we have forsaken, forgotten and disobeyed your word. Lord we pray that your word and Biblical principles would again be a lamp for our feet and light to our path. Thank you for those who serve in our city. We pray for those in leadership - the Mayor and his council, School Trustees and all Public Servants, may they once again be guided by you and the precepts and laws you laid out in your word. Matthew 13:1-23; Psalms 119:53, 105-106
- 6. Pray for EMCC and Mission Partners** – We praise you Lord, Your word is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations. Thank you Father, for those who walk in your ways and seek you with all their hearts to be seed sowers of your word around the world. Thank you for their faithfulness and obedience in sharing the truth of your word. Thank you for the many translations of the Bible that have been prepared and distributed around the world. We pray for many to have ears to hear and hearts to receive the message of salvation. We pray for great understanding, wisdom and insight for all who read and study your word, may it never return void. Mark 4:1-20; Psalms 119:26-27, 89-90