

Moving Forward with our Focus on God

Though we had heard releasing guidelines were coming, as I listened to the President's briefing Friday, that news was so welcomed by all! We will have to move one step at a time and we have a long way to go, but we are able to see good changes coming.

Let us focus on the Lord even more in these days - be strong in prayer for the needs God lays on our hearts, put in place and keep in place family devotional times and our personal times with the Lord. Guard those precious things God has shown us during these days and keep them in your and your family's hearts. May we keep reaching out to our extended families, neighbors, and community as we continue to "be the church". In our daily prayers, may we remember the needs of all those who are sacrificing so much to keep our country running.

Click [HERE](#) to start our prayer time by listening to "Adoration" by Mike Adkins.

Praise You, Jehovah-Rohi, for You are our Shepherd. Because of You we have gained much from this time, personally, and as families. As we have focused on You, You have shown us what is important for us to retain, nurture and grow! We have a new perspective and have rearranged our priorities because of our time with You! Thank you for giving us the flexibility needed during these days. Jehovah Nissi, You are the banner over us! As we move forward help us to stay under Your banner of love. May we follow as You lead.

"The Lord is my Shepherd . . ." (Ps 23)

"Let Him lead me to the banquet hall, and let His banner over me be love." (Song 2:4)

"It is the Lord your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him." (Deut 13:4)

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows Me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

Father, God of Comfort, comfort as only You can, the families of those who have lost loved ones to this virus and/or the affected underlying diseases. Hold close to You those and the families of those, who are still battling this virus and those underlying diseases. Heal them Jehovah Rapha!

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Compassion and the God of all Comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God." (2Cor 1:3)

"Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go; give the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress. (Ps 71:3)

"'But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD," (Jer 30:17)

We come to You humbly, Lord, in prayer for all local, state and national leaders who are setting our guidelines. Father, we pray they will turn to You for guidance and discernment. As God Almighty, we pray You will keep them alert but rested, clear-minded, open-minded and seeking

what is best for our nation as we enter this new phase of easing guidelines. Grant that they and their families stay safe and well.

“let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance”. (Proverbs 1:5)

“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves”, (Phil 2:3)

“So give Your servant a discerning heart to govern Your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of Yours?” (1Kings 3:9)

Abba Father, we lift up prayers for our first responders (nurses, doctors, police, firemen and more) asking You to continue putting a strong “hedge of protection” around each of them every day as they reach out sacrificing for so many others. We ask You, Jehovah Jireh, to provide all the needed medical supplies to keep them safe. Give them endurance, Father, and hold them up with Your “everlasting arms” to handle their shifts expertly, giving them rest when needed. We ask most of all You be their refuge through these times with little, and for some workers, no time with their families.

“Have You not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands,” (Job 1:10)

“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus.” (Phil 4:19)

“The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms.” (Deut 33:27)

Father, You know there are so many essential workers, who, daily, are serving by working in businesses that are important to all of us and our families – from store clerks/stockers, delivery workers, restaurant and fast food workers, truck drivers, bankers, pharmacists, and the list goes on. Be the “shield around each of them” and sustain them daily as they work long hours. Give them and all workers discernment, when they are ill, to stay home.

“But You, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high. I call out to the Lord, and He answers me from his holy mountain. I lie down and sleep; I wake again, because the Lord sustains me”.

(Ps 3:3-5)

“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go”. (Jos 1:9)

Lord, first we thank you for the valiant efforts of our business leaders and work force to keep their businesses open! You know the struggles and hardships our business community has been facing – mom & pop business owners, large companies, workers, whether on the front lines or behind the scenes. Lord they are the backbone of our nation’s economy and we ask Your mercy to uphold them and their companies as we move forward with these new changes. May they come to You each morning for Your help and may You support them as they face each day! For those who have already had to reduce employees or close their doors, comfort this loss for the owners and their employees. Provide, Lord, for those millions now out of work.

"In the morning, LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly."
(Ps 5:3)

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Phil 3:13-14)

"The Lord is the one who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." (Deut 31:8)

Holy Father, cover with Your feathers all who are vulnerable to this disease and keep them safe from infection. Give them understanding of how important it is to stay in their home, though stage 1 may soon be implemented, removing some restrictions for specific groups of people. Lord, provide others to help provide for them during these days.

"He will cover you with His feathers, and under His wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart." (Jer 30:17)

"And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil 4:7)

Lord, thank you that "for such a time as this" You have placed, in advance, experts/scientists in key positions to find treatments, vaccines and a cure for this virus. Jehovah Rapha our Healer, give them the wisdom, insight and understanding of Solomon to bring help to our world.

"God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore." (1 Kings 4:29)

"Praise the Lord, my soul and forget not all His benefits – Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,"
(Ps 103:2-3)

"El Elyon, Most High God, thank You for showing our Body of Christ new light in how to be Your hands and feet as we have reached further inside the church to help our members and outside the church to reach our community and the world – as our members have prayed with people, cut grass, bought groceries, run errands, surprised children with Easter treats, sown medical supplies, learned new ways to keep in touch, supplied children's snack packs, worked at food banks, sent food to Africa and so much more. Give us endurance and insight to reach further through Your leading!

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Gal 6:2)

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matt 5:16)

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

Pray on your full divine armor of God (Eph 6:10-18) **every morning** and then pray thru Ps 91 for your family's protection.

Reach out **every day** (by phone, text, letter, or when social distancing) and ask someone:

- How can I pray for you? Then pray for and with them right then!
- While walking (with social distancing) pray "onsite with insite" for the people and things around you. Every prayer counts!
- Share this prayer guide with others by email or giving them our website info:
<https://www.burnthickory.com/prayer/>