

Weekly Prayer Letter

Week of 24 January 2021

Confidence In Prayer

“And this is the confidence that we have toward Him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of Him.” – 1 John 5:14-15 (ESV)

The whole thrust of John's letter is to help us know that we are in fellowship with God through His Son Jesus Christ; and that, through Him, we truly have eternal life (1 John 5:13). Eternal life is having fellowship with God; a gift to be possessed and enjoyed in the present (John 17:3; 1 John 1:3-4).

Knowing our eternal destiny of fellowship with God gives us confidence or boldness in approaching God in prayer. John urges in 1 John 3:21-23 that successful prayer must be joined to a life that glorifies God, conforms to His desires, and pleases Him. John adds here in 1 John 5:14 that prayer must also be in accordance to God's will.

Jesus modelled this best. His will was always one with the Father (John 4:34), He always did the Father's works (John 6:38-40), and He always spoke what the Father wished Him to say (John 3:34; 8:55; 14:10; 17:8).

John believes that through this oneness a deep intimacy will result, making prayer a true unity of wills. In John 15:7 Jesus says, “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.” Abiding in Christ is the key that unlocks the power of prayer.

Abiding in Christ and walking in fellowship with Him enable us to know what is on His heart for us and for Him to know what is on our minds and hearts. We shouldn't doubt whether He will hear us or not. He loves us and will always listen to our requests. God may not answer our prayers in the way we want, but He will answer them according to His will. God's ways are good and perfect. We might think we know what is best for us, but God knows best.

Therefore, let us approach God with confidence when we pray. Let us dare to make full use of our limitless privilege in prayer!

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Prayer Pointers

1. Pray that the Lord will encounter all the worshippers attending the 8.00am, 10.15am (Mandarin) and 11.15am services of Faith so that they will be encouraged to live without anxiety during this pandemic and be refreshed to know that the living God is always with them.
2. Pray that all the safety measures created by our Faith Operations Team for a 250-pax gathering in a worship service, will be implemented correctly and smoothly; that all worshippers will follow them strictly; and that there will be no cases of the Covid-19 in Faith.
3. Praise God that the Covid-19 situation in Singapore has stabilised and we are able to enter Phase 3 and resume more activities both in our churches and economy. Pray that the citizens and residents in Singapore remain vigilant and avoid any uncontrolled resurgence of cases in our community.
4. Praise God for giving medical scientists the ability to develop a vaccine against Covid-19. Pray for a fair and just distribution of the vaccines, that it will be made available to the poorer nations too. Pray that the vaccine will be safe and effective and there will be no long-term negative side effects to using the vaccine.
5. Pray for God's mercy on the nations facing re-emergence of the Covid-19:
 - Pray for Malaysia - going to "third wave" of Covid-19, a national state of emergency was declared till 1 Aug, MCO imposed for two weeks from 13 Jan in several states to curb Covid-19. Pray that the Lord will grant wisdom to the task force in charge of the Covid-19 crisis to manage the situation appropriately to mitigate the spread of the virus.
 - Pray that the "third wave" would not surface and current re-emergences in China, Japan, South Korea and South Africa will be contained.
 - Pray for Britain and the other European countries that God will stop the spread of Covid-19 and bring the contagion under control quickly.

We Are Here For You!

- Perhaps you are going through a challenging time, and you need someone to pray with you, our pastoral team is here and ready to journey with you.
- Even though we may not be able to be with you in person, we can still reach you via telephone and other means.
- You may submit any Prayer Requests online via our church website at <https://www.faithmc.sg/care-help/prayer-requests/>.