

# PRAYING FOR YOUR MISSIONARIES USING SCRIPTURE

This 30 day guide was created to help you pray for missionaries while meditating on the truths of Scripture.

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**1** **COMPASSION**  
Scripture: **Matthew 9:36**  
"When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."  
Pray for compassion for those living and dying without Christ.

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**2** **CROSSING BARRIERS**  
Scripture: **Colossians 4:3-4**  
"At the same time, pray also for us that God may open a door to us for the message, to speak the mystery of the Messiah, for which I am in prison, so that I may reveal it as I am required to speak..."  
Pray for the crossing of barriers and the opening of doors for the Gospel to be proclaimed.

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**3** **BOLDNESS**  
Scripture: **Romans 1:16**  
"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is God's power for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek."  
Pray for boldness and courage to preach the Gospel.

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**4** **ENDURANCE**  
Scripture: **Romans 5:3-5**  
"And not only that, but we also rejoice in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. This hope will not disappoint us because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us."  
Pray for endurance through suffering and persecution.

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**5** **GLORY TO GOD**  
Scripture: **1 Corinthians 10:31-33**  
"Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for God's glory. Give no offense to the Jews or the Greeks or the church of God, just as I also try to please all people in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, so that they may be saved."  
Pray that the missionary would seek to bring glory to God – that this would be their motivation in all they do.

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**6** **EMPOWERED BY GOD**  
Scripture: **Acts 4:31**  
"When they had prayed, the place where they were assembled was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak God's message with boldness."  
Pray for empowering by the Holy Spirit.

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**7** **FOLLOWING JESUS**  
Scripture: **Luke 9:23**  
"Then He said to them all, 'If anyone wants to come with Me, he must deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me.'"  
Pray that the missionary would be yielded to Jesus – and willing to die to self.

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**8** **MATURITY OF THE CHURCH**  
Scripture: **Ephesians 4:11-13**  
"And he personally gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the training of the saints in the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into a mature man with a stature measured by Christ's fullness."  
Pray for local believers and church (if established) to be built up in maturity.

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**9** **ONENESS**  
Scripture: **John 17:11**  
"I am no longer in the world but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by Your name, that You have given Me, so that they are one as We are one."  
Pray for the colleagues or team that your missionary ministers alongside. In many contexts, missionaries will be working in multi-ethnic teams with people who come from very different cultural and denominational backgrounds. Pray that the team will be unified in their mission and work effectively together.

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**10** **FRIENDSHIPS**  
Scripture: **Ecclesiastes 4:9-10**  
"Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up."  
Pray that the missionary would have rich friendships.

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**11** **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**  
Scripture: **Matthew 5:14-16**  
"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."  
Pray for God's light to shine through the missionary and their good deeds. Pray that these good deeds would bring glory to God.

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**12** **SUBMISSION**  
Scripture: **1 Peter 2:13-15**  
"Submit to every human authority because of the Lord, whether to the Emperor as the supreme authority or to governors as those sent out by him to punish those who do evil and praise those who do good. For it is God's will that you silence the ignorance of foolish people by doing good."  
Pray that the missionary would live in godly submission to government and enjoy good favour. Pray for the leaders and decision-makers of the country, that they would fear God and rule with justice.

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**13** **FRUITFULNESS**  
Scripture: **John 15:5**  
"I am the true vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him produces much fruit, because you can do nothing without Me."  
Pray for fruitfulness in ministry.  
Your missionary's newsletter may be able to help inform you how to pray more specifically for their ministry.

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**14** **PARTNERSHIPS**  
Scripture: **Philippians 1:3-5**  
"I give thanks to my God for every remembrance of you, always praying with joy for all of you in my every prayer, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."  
Pray for partnerships with home churches and supporters. Give thanks for those who support the missionary, and pray that supporters will know how to care for their missionaries well.

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**15** **COMMUNICATION**  
Scripture: **1 Corinthians 9:20**  
"To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win Jews; to those under the law, like one under the law - though I myself am not under the law - to win those under the law."  
Pray for clear and effective cross-cultural communication and for insight into how to contextualise the Gospel in a way that resonates with those the missionary is ministering amongst.

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**16** **SPIRITUAL WARFARE**  
Scripture: **Ephesians 6:10-17**  
"Finally, be strengthened by the Lord and his vast strength. Put on the full armour of God so that you can stand against the tactics of the Devil. For our battle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world powers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavens. This is why you must take up the full armour of God, so that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having prepared everything, take a stand. Stand, therefore, with truth like a belt buckled around your waist, righteousness like armour on your chest, and your feet sandaled with the readiness to take the gospel of peace. In every situation take up the shield of faith, and with it you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."  
Pray for missionaries to put on the full armour of God. All Christians are involved in a spiritual struggle. When the Gospel is breaking into new territory, there can be a heightened sense of spiritual attack.

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**17** **PRAYER LIFE**  
Scripture: **Philippians 4:6-7**  
"Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving; let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."  
Pray for the missionary's prayer life. The missionary's prayer life is closely related to spiritual vitality and dependency on God.

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**18** **STUDYING GOD'S WORD**  
Scripture: **Acts 17:11**  
"The people here were more open-minded than those in Thessalonica, since they welcomed the message with eagerness and examined the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so."  
Pray for discipline in studying God's word. Pray that the missionary will grow in intimacy with Jesus as they listen to Him speak through His word.

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**19** **PROTECTION**  
Scripture: **2 Thessalonians 3:1-3**  
"Finally, brothers, pray for us that the Lord's message may spread rapidly and be honoured, just as it was with you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful; He will strengthen and guard you from the evil one."  
Pray for protection from danger and personal harm.

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**20** **PHYSICAL HEALTH/NEEDS**  
Scripture: **Matthew 6:31-33**  
"So don't worry saying 'what will we eat?', or 'what will we drink', or 'what will we wear?' For the idolaters eagerly seek all these things, and your Heavenly Father knows that we need them. But seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be provided for you."  
Pray for physical health or needs.

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**21** **REST**  
Scripture: **Matthew 11:28-30**  
"Come to Me, all of you who are weary and heavy-burdened, and I will give you rest. All of you, take up My burden and learn from Me, because I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for yourselves. My yoke is easy and My burden is light."  
Pray for rest and protection from burn out (research indicates that many missionaries live with dangerously high levels of stress).

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**22** **COMFORT**  
Scripture: **2 Corinthians 1:3-5**  
"Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. He comforts us in all our affliction, so that we might be able to comfort those who are in any sort of affliction, through the comfort that we ourselves receive from God. For as the sufferings of Christ overflow to us, so through Christ our comfort also overflows."  
Pray for comfort during periods of homesickness and for family in the "home" country. For many missionaries being separated from loved ones is painful. Pray for comfort.

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**day 23** **FAMILIES AND SINGLES**

Scripture: **Ephesians 5:22-28**  
"Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord, for the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church. He is the Saviour of the body. Now as the church submits to Christ, so wives are to submit to their husbands in everything. Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself for her to make her holy, cleansing her with the washing of water by the word. He did this to present the church to Himself in splendour, without spot or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and blameless. In the same way, husbands are to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself."

**Ephesians 6:1-4**  
"Children, obey your parents as you would the Lord, because this is right. Honour your father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise, so that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life in the land. Fathers, don't stir up anger in your children, but bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord."

**1 Corinthians 7:32**  
"I want you to be without concerns. An unmarried man is concerned about the things of the Lord - how he may please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the things of the world - how he may please his wife."

Pray for specific needs for families and singles: If the missionary is married, pray for their marriage and family life. If they have children, pray for the relationships between parents and children. Pray for wisdom in parenting.

If the missionary is single, you might want to pray that they feel well supported. Thank God for the unique opportunities they have to be 'concerned about the things of the Lord.'

**day 24** **FORGIVENESS**

Scripture: **Colossians 3:12-13**  
"Therefore, God's chosen ones, holy and loved, put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, accepting one another and forgiving one another if anyone has a complaint against another. Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive."

Pray for the ability to forgive others and ask for forgiveness.

**day 27** **REPENTANCE**

Scripture: **Psalms 51:6-10**  
"Surely You desire integrity in the inner self, and You teach me wisdom deep within. Purify me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice. Turn Your face away from my sins and blot out all my guilt. God, create a clean heart for me and renew a steadfast spirit within me."

Pray for repentance and that the missionary might fight for personal holiness.

**day 30** **MORE WORKERS**

Scripture: **Matthew 9:38**  
"Then Jesus went to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He felt compassion for them, because they were weary and worn out, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest is abundant but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'"

Pray for more workers for the harvest.

**day 25** **CONTENTMENT**

Scripture: **Philippians 4:12-13**  
"I know both how to have a little, and I know how to have a lot. In any and all circumstances, I have learned the secret of being content - whether well-fed or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Pray for contentment in all circumstances.

**day 28** **DISCERNMENT**

Scripture: **Romans 12:2**  
"Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, perfect and pleasing will of God."

Pray for discernment of God's will.

**day 26** **HUMILITY**

Scripture: **Philippians 2:5-8**  
"Make your own attitude that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage. Instead He emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave, taking on the likeness of men. And when He had come as a man in His external form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death - even to death on a cross..."

Pray for humility and a servant heart.

**day 29** **FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

Scripture: **Galatians 5:22-25**  
"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, we must also follow the Spirit."

Pray for fruit of the Spirit.

**RESOURCES**

If you would like to find more SIM Australia resources to equip you in prayer, go to [sim.org.au/prayer](http://sim.org.au/prayer).

SIM:  
**Dependent on God** - "By Prayer" and in faith we depend on God for the provision of all our needs.  
**People of Prayer** - Prayer is foundational in our life and ministry. "By Prayer" we praise God, seek his direction, request resources, and call upon the Holy Spirit to empower our ministries.

**SIM** Serving In Mission [sim.org.au](http://sim.org.au)