

5 Specific Ways You Can Pray Powerfully for Your Pastor

Every Christ-follower engaged in a local church has a pastor. These followers of Christ should pray for their pastor.

Pastors may appear as though they are so strong they do not need prayer. But I can assure you, any pastor genuinely called to the ministry knows he needs prayer; earnest, passionate and effective prayer. “Pray for me” should be the No. 1 personal request from a pastor of the church he serves.

Stand on God’s Word When You Pray for Your Pastor

I think the strength of prayer stands on the authority of Holy Scripture. You need to stand on the infallibility and truthfulness of God’s Word when you pray for your pastor. I want to challenge you to pray while standing on the following passage: *Colossians 1:9-12*:

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, pleasing to all, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all might according to His glorious power, enduring everything with perseverance and patience joyfully, giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled us to be partakers in the inheritance of the saints in light (Col. 1:9-12).

Paul was praying this for the believers in Colossae, and these words can be prayed for your pastor.

5 Specific Ways to Pray for Your Pastor

Pray for your pastor to be:

1. Filled with the knowledge of God's will

Pastors face the same dilemma people faced in the first century, when these words were penned originally. The knowledge of the world pours into the minds of pastors, but pastors need to have the full knowledge of God's will. The will of God does not inflate a pastor's ego, but it enlightens us to do what God wills for us to do.

Father, give my pastor the full knowledge of Your will in all things at all times, personally and for our church.

2. Filled with all spiritual wisdom

Pastors will view life from one of two perspectives: The world or the Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit will always lead a pastor to the Word of God and the will of God. The Spirit of God will lead a pastor to view life and ministry from God's perspective, not his own. His perspective will determine his decision making.

Heavenly Father, fill my pastor with Your wisdom and perspective about all things in his life, in our church and in this world.

3. Filled with spiritual understanding

Pastors can operate and lead the church apart from information and facts, but not very effectively. Spiritual understanding is the experience of seeing the facts and hearing the needed information but being able to put these things together biblically, spiritually and practically. A pastor's leadership and decision-making will be determined by the level of his spiritual understanding about whatever is before him.

Lord Jesus, fill my pastor with spiritual understanding that will help him put facts and information together biblically, spiritually and practically.

4. Walk worthy of the Lord

God wants his people, especially God-called pastors, to live in a way that is worthy of Him. Pastors represent the Lord everywhere they go. Pastors cannot say one thing but live a different way. Walking worthy always leads to pleasing God and bearing fruit in every way in life.

Oh Lord, empower my pastor to walk in a way that would exemplify You to all persons, pleasing You in all ways and bearing fruit in every way before others.

5. Strengthened with God's power

Pastors should be full of spiritual vitality. Pastors need the spiritual strength to overcome the challenges of each day in ministry. Submission to God daily will lead to God's power. This power is so strong that a pastor is able to endure stress and suffering that ministry brings. It is so powerful that he will refuse to retaliate in any way toward difficult people and circumstances. It is even so strong that he will live life and do ministry with true joy that overflows with thanksgiving to God. Every pastor needs this kind of power.

Oh God, strengthen my pastor with Your power that fills him with spiritual life daily, including the difficult days of life and ministry, and leading him to persevere with joy and thanksgiving.

A Brief Word

The people of God have prayed for me through all these days I have served as a local church pastor. It is rare that I would not say to my church with all sincerity, "Please pray for me." I say it because it is the No. 1 thing people can do for me. It is the No. 1 thing you can do for your pastor. Pray for your pastor daily. {eoa}

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