♦SERMON NOTES **♦**

Sunday, March 15, 2015

"PRAYING FOR YOUR CHURCH"

(Romans 1:8-17)

Prayer touches all of life. We pray for our families. We pray for our personal needs. We pray for friends and others in our circles of influence. Today we consider the needs of our church family. What should we pray for our church?

1. Pray for a	(v. 8).
2. Pray for a	(v. 9).
3. Pray for a hunger for	(v. 10).
4. Pray for a	(v. 11).
5. Pray for an	(v. 12).
6. Pray for a	(v. 13).
7. Pray for a	(v. 14).
8. Pray for a	(v. 15).

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(Romans 1:8-17)

1. Pray for a spiritual reputation (v. 8).

"We're being as careful in our reputation with the public as in our reputation with God" (2 Corinthians 8:21, The Message).

2. Pray for a whole-hearted commitment (v. 9).

"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" (Philippians 3:13-14, NIV).

3. Pray for a hunger for God's will (v. 10).

"And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them" (Acts 16:6-7, ESV).

4. Pray for a supernatural power (v. 11).

"But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29, ESV).

"We have proved ourselves by our purity, our understanding, our patience, our kindness, our sincere love, and the power of the Holy Spirit. We have faithfully preached the truth. God's power has been working in us. We have righteousness as our weapon, both to attack and to defend ourselves (2 Corinthians 6:6-7, NLT).

5. Pray for an encouraged fellowship (v. 12).

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus" (Romans 15:5, ESV).

6. Pray for a persevering spirit (v. 13).

"Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12, ESV).

"Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Romans 5:3-5, ESV).

7. Pray for a <u>surrendered attitude</u> (v. 14).

"If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23, ESV).

"Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat--I am..." (Luke 9:23, The Message).

8. Pray for a passionate vision (v. 15).

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Romans 1:16, ESV).