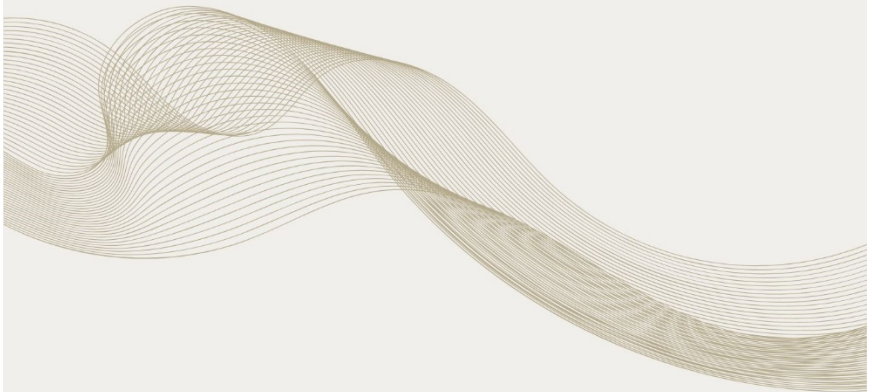


THE FEAR OF THE LORD PRAYER GUIDE

**“And the fear of the LORD fell...”
2 Chronicles 17:10**

**“...and fear fell on them all, and the
name of the Lord Jesus was magnified.”
Acts 19:17**



Randolph County

RANDOLPH COUNTY



Pray NC Pray

We will be praying for seven days asking for the Fear of the Lord to fall among the people in our homes, churches, communities, counties and regions. Use this guide to pray daily, but more importantly allow the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pray.

To understand what we are desiring it is important for us to know what the Fear of the Lord is:

- Biblical fear is defined as to revere; reverence; honor; to stand in awe; fearful dread; to cause astonishment; respect and admiration.
- To fear the Lord is to show respect to God by keeping HIS commandments and following HIM.
- The fear of Lord is an awareness that we are in the presence of a Holy God.

The fear of the Lord produces many things on our behalf that we otherwise may not experience. A few:

- Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.”
- Psalm 111:10 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom...”
- Psalm 34:7 “The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him.”
- Proverbs 14:27 “The fear of the Lord is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death.”
- Proverbs 14:26 “In the fear of the Lord, there is strong confidence, and his children shall have a place of refuge.”

- Exodus 20:20 “Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning.”

Day 1: *Matthew 6:33* “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

More Than First: Surrendering to His Authority

Many of us are taught to put God first in our lives—before our families, careers, and ambitions. But what if God desires more than just priority? What if He seeks authority?

It is possible to prioritize God without fully surrendering to Him. We may pray in the morning but ignore His guidance throughout the day. We may acknowledge Him in our struggles yet fail to trust Him in our victories. True reverence for God is not just about making Him first—it’s about making Him Lord over everything.

Job, in his suffering, questioned God, but when confronted with the Almighty’s sovereignty, he humbly declared, “Surely I spoke of things I did not understand” (Job 42:3). Likewise, the disciples after witnessing Jesus calm the storm, “feared exceedingly” and asked, “Who can this be, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?” (Mark 4:41). Their awe moved them beyond seeing Jesus as a teacher— they recognized His ultimate authority.

Jesus is not only our Savior but our Lord. To put Him first is to place Him over all things. Reverence for God calls us to live not just with acknowledgment but with surrender. (Pastor Matt Smith)

Prayer: Lord, I don't just want to give You priority—I want to surrender to Your authority. Help me to trust You, obey You, and live in awe of who You are. Amen.

Day 2: Genesis 31:53 “. . . And Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac.”

One of the more unique names for God in the Bible is “The Fear of Isaac.” It is only used twice—both in Genesis 31—and both times by Isaac’s son, Jacob, as he is attempting to leave his uncle Laban and return home.

Some—even in Jacob’s day—had no fear of God. The men of Sodom sinned until the outcry reached Heaven. Later, Pharaoh would state flatly that he did not know the LORD nor would he obey him.

Isaac labored under no such misapprehensions. To him, the LORD *was* God. The one who ordered Father Abraham to sacrifice him on the mountain. The one who at the last second spared his life and provided a sacrifice. Almighty God.

The LORD was not a carved deity who could be carried around in a knapsack or placed on a mantle and scolded when it didn’t rain.

The God he knew—the Fear of Isaac—was a cosmic King not to be trifled with. He was a God who demanded one’s soul, one’s life, one’s all.

Many in the church culture of our day have become too familiar with God. Perhaps we have unwittingly joined them in their error.

(Pastor Brent Tysinger)

Pray: That we will know the LORD God *as He really is* at a deeper level than ever before. Pray we will see the LORD God high and lifted up; worthy of our respect, honor, sacrifice, and fear.

Day 3: Luke 18:9 *“And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others.”*

Luke 18 records two parables on prayer. Verse nine gives us the reason for the latter parable, found in verses 10-14. Jesus was speaking to some who trusted in their own self-righteousness and viewed others with contempt.

The comparison is then made between the self-righteous Pharisee and a publican or tax collector. The Pharisee thanks God that he is not like other people as he boasts of his own goodness and accomplishments.

In juxtaposition to this Pharisee, we have a tax collector. There was no one more villainous in all the Roman Empire. Those in that office were known for their wickedness. But this one was self-aware. He was distant in his proximity, bowed his head in humility, and pounded his chest in sincerity.

The Pharisee calls for merit, the publican for mercy. The Pharisee prides himself in naming the sins he has not committed. In stark contrast, the humble tax collector simply cries out for God to be merciful to him. Many translations simply use the phrase, “be merciful to me a sinner”, but the Greek includes the definite article meaning he is literally calling himself “the sinner”, as if there are no others in his category.

We need the fear of the Lord to fall over our area, and that must include our own hearts.

(Pastor Jonathan Burris)

Pray: For humility to look inward and see what is in our own hearts, knowing that our Lord is faithful and just to forgive and cleanse. That we would hallow, honor God by praying “*forgive us our trespasses...*”

Day 4: Jonah 3:9 *“Who can tell? Perhaps even yet God will change his mind and hold back his fierce anger from destroying us.”*

In Jonah 3, the reluctant prophet has gone with a word from God to the wicked people of Ninevah, the Assyrian capital, and one of the largest cities of that day. God’s message to the Ninevites was of their impending destruction in 40 days. As the fear of God’s wrath fell upon the city, the king and the people of Ninevah chose to fast, humble themselves in sackcloth and ashes, and turn from their wickedness. Note the Lord’s response, *“¹⁰ When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their evil ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened.”* Almighty God, impress on me the urgency to share boldly, yet with a broken heart, of the wrath you will pour out on those who are choosing the wickedness of this world over the righteousness you offer through Christ.

Almighty God,

- may we, the people of Randolph County acknowledge the reality of your wrath falling on us
 - and may we acknowledge our only hope is to humble ourselves before you and repent
 - may we experience, as the people of Ninevah, your forgiveness and presence
- (Jeff Joyce, RBA Mission Strategist)

Pray: Almighty God, as the fear of your wrath fell on the Ninevites, may it also fall on my neighbors, family, and friends and may they yield under this fear and repent and come to Christ and find the peace that only you can provide.

Lord, hear the cries of your people

Day 5: Exodus 19:12 *“But you shall set boundaries for the people all around, saying, ‘Beware that you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall certainly be put to death.’”*

Just before this warning, God tells Moses to consecrate the people because in three days HE is going to come down on Mt. Sinai in the presence of all the people. In HIS holiness HE shows HIS love and concern for the people by telling Moses to warn them of the boundaries. God warns them not just once, but three times, not to cross the boundaries that have been set or touch the mountain, for they will surely die. The very presence of God would consume them.

The Hebrew writer, in Hebrews 12, tell us that we, as Christians, have not come to this Mt. Sinai where Moses is the mediator between God and man. Instead, we have come to Mt. Zion where Jesus is our mediator. However, let us not be mistaken; the God of Mt. Sinai is the same God of Mt. Zion. He is the same Holy God that we should approach with reverent fear.

(Pastor Jason Baker)

Pray: That as a county we consecrate ourselves and
revere the boundaries and terms that God has placed.
Let us make sure that we come into HIS presence with
holy fear and awe because our God is a consuming fire.

Day 6: Exodus 20:20 *“Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.” (ESV)*

A seasoned sailor relies on their compass. It's not just a piece of equipment; it's their guide through treacherous waters, their assurance of direction amidst the vast ocean. Without it, they're lost, adrift at the mercy of the waves. Similarly, in the journey of life, we need a compass to guide us, a true north to keep us on course. For the believer, that compass must be the fear of the Lord.

Exodus 20:20 paints a powerful picture of the fear of the Lord. The Israelites trembled at the foot of Mount Sinai, witnessing God's awesome power. Moses, amidst this terror, offers a surprising command: *“Do not be afraid.”* It seems paradoxical, yet it reveals a profound truth. The fear Moses speaks of isn't cowering terror, but reverential awe. It's a fear that draws us closer to God, not further away.

This fear, born of recognizing God's holiness and majesty, becomes a safeguard for us against sin. It's not about dread of punishment, but a deep respect for God's character and a desire to honor Him in all of our ways. When we truly fear the Lord, we recognize the weight of our choices. We understand that sin isn't just breaking rules, it's fracturing our relationship with our Maker.

This reverent fear becomes a constant companion, a moral compass guiding our actions. It whispers in our ear when temptation arises, reminding us of the One we serve. It anchors us in truth when the world's values clash with God's. It's a fear that empowers us to choose righteousness, not out of compulsion, but out of a heart devoted to God.

This fear isn't weakness; it's strength. It's not bondage; it's freedom. It's the key to a life lived in integrity, a life that honors God and blesses others. When you cultivate this fear, this reverential awe, it will transform your life and keep you from sin, while at the same time drawing you closer to the heart of God.

(Pastor Neal Jackson)

Pray: That people's reverence for God would be an example for our county as we stay away from sin. Pray that we would not be a people that wants to live as close to sin as possible, but our honor of God causes us to turn from sin. Pray that the Fear of the Lord would be a compass through this life.

Day 7: The Heart That Moves God Hand

Hebrews 5:7-9 *"In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence (godly fear- NKJV). Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him..."* (ESV)

Jesus—the Son of God, the Messiah, the One with all power—prayed with loud cries and tears. Not just once, but *habitually*. And what's amazing? God *heard* Him, not just because He was the Son, but because of His *reverence*—His fear of the Lord.

The Greek word for "*heard*" in Hebrews 5:7 is εἰσακούω (eisakouō), which means "*comply with admonition*". It doesn't just mean that God listened—it means that He *complied with the request* or *responded favorably* because Jesus met the conditions of reverent submission. This changes everything!

Hebrews 5:7 tells us that Jesus, *with loud cries and tears*, pleaded with the Father, and God responded *because of His reverence*. That means Jesus' prayers weren't just heard as sound waves in heaven—God actually moved in response!

Jesus' prayers were *rooted* in the fear of the Lord—absolute surrender to God's will. And because of that surrender, God *complied with his request*. That's powerful because it means that godly fear doesn't just make prayers *heard*; it makes them *effective!* (*James 5:16*)

If Jesus—the one who walked on water and silenced storms and healed the sick—was moved by the fear of the Lord, how much more should we be?

What if our unanswered prayers have less to do with God's willingness and more to do with our lack of reverence?

What if the posture of the people of God is the key to the fear of the Lord falling and the hand of God working in our communities?

(*Pastor Brad Thomas*)

Pray: That the people of Randolph County would humble themselves with cries of reverence to the perfect will of God. Pray that we will not just say "*thy will be done*" but that our heart would surrender to HIS will.