

ACTS 1:14

THEY ALL JOINED TOGETHER CONSTANTLY IN PRAYER...

PENTECOST

PRAYER INITIATIVE

DEVOTIONAL
PRAYERS



24-7 PRAYER NEW ZEALAND

24-7prayer.nz



24-7 PRAYER NEW ZEALAND

Two thousand years ago a group of people gathered in a room and prayed constantly for ten days. At the end of that prayer meeting the Holy Spirit was poured out, and the church was born!

With all the challenges the church faces today, this is a time to humble ourselves, to seek God in prayer and to ask Him to pour out His Spirit afresh on the church.

As you pray, either in the prayer room or in your quiet time, we would encourage you to pray in two ways:

Firstly, enjoy being with your loving God. Be still and know that He is God.

And secondly, pray prayers of petition. We are asking God to revive His church and to rewire our culture so the lost will be reached. We are asking God to move in our nation in a fresh way.

Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga!

May your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

How to Use this Prayer Booklet

Each day follows a three-part structure:

1. Start each day with the 'Opening Prayer'
2. Pray the prayer for that day and listen to the suggested song track
3. Finish with the 'Closing Prayer' at the end of the booklet

This should take you approximately 10 minutes, but feel free to spend longer!

We encourage you to find a quiet place where you won't be interrupted and to put your phone away. Choose a body posture that helps you remain open to receiving from God. The more intentional you are about this short prayer time, the more life you'll find.

A playlist of the suggested songs can be found here.



Let us pray...

Opening Prayer

As I enter prayer now, I pause to be still; to breathe slowly, to re-centre my scattered senses upon the presence of God.

Come, Holy Spirit. Haere mai te wairua tapu.

As I draw near to You, I ask that by Your Spirit You open my heart to engage deeply with You. Draw near to me (Jeremiah 29:13; James 4:8).

I pause now to be still and to acknowledge that You are God (Psalm 46).

Come Lord.

Sit in silence for 1 minute

Breathe slowly and deeply

Day 1 (Thursday) - Ask; Seek; Knock

Jesus, You said: 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and You will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened' (Matthew 7:7).

In this season, this prayer is an expression of my heart, that is asking, seeking and knocking for Your Holy Spirit to fill me with fresh power to accomplish all that you desire in and through my life.

Thank you for the hunger You have stirred in me. I echo the prayer of St Augustine, 'You have put salt on my lips that I would thirst for You'. Lord, where I am thirsty for Your presence and power, fill my cup and let me drink. And where I am not thirsty at all, rub salt on my lips that I may desire You deeply and seek You first. I want to want You more. I wait with expectation as I know You love to answer this prayer.

Jesus, You said: 'How much more will Your Father in Heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!' (Adapted from Luke 11). So I ask: give me the full measure of the Holy Spirit, His guidance, comfort, fruit, gifts, power and presence.

Pause to be still and wait expectantly for the Holy Spirit to fill you

Listen: 'Holy Spirit Come' - Grace Vineyard Music, Bazi Baker

Day 2 (Friday) - Confession

Lord God, I acknowledge that I so easily live independently from You. I have often been luke-warm. I have lacked holiness.

I have allowed worldly desire to dull my longing for You.

I have spent my energy digging wells in dry soil, driven by empty promises whispered by the world. I have relied on my own strength.

I ask for forgiveness, I humble myself, I seek Your face, and I turn from my sinful ways.

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me (Psalm 51:10-12).

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart. You, God, will not despise this offering (Psalm 51:17).

Take a moment in silence to receive the mercy and grace of God

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit (Psalm 32:1-2).

How good is life for those who get a fresh start, whose slate is wiped clean. How good is life for you when God holds nothing against you and you're holding nothing back from Him.

Thank You for Your forgiveness Lord! I receive it.
Come and fill me with Your Spirit afresh!

Listen: 'Nailed to the Cross' - Rend Collective

Day 3 (Saturday) - Power and Strength

I call upon your power, Holy Spirit.

Not to increase my comfort. Not to make a name for myself - but to push back the darkness in and around me. You are enthroned as the Holy One; You are the one we praise (Psalm 22:3).

I echo Paul's prayer: out of Your glorious riches, strengthen me with power through Your Spirit in my inner being (Ephesians 3:16). For Your Spirit does not make me timid, but gives me power, love and self-discipline (2 Timothy. 1:7). And though I am weak in my own strength, Your grace is sufficient for me, for Your power is made perfect in my weakness. Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses so that Christ's power may rest on me (2 Corinthians 12:9).

Holy Spirit, fill me with the incomparably great power that You give to us who believe. The power that is the same as the mighty strength exerted when Christ was raised from the dead and seated at the Father's right hand in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 1:19). I ask for more of this power here and now: the power to live a new life filled with contagious faith, hope, love and peace for your glory.

Jesus, you said that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on us; and we will be Your witnesses in our own circles and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Equip me to humbly carry more of Your power in order to be your witness to the lost.

May I boldly proclaim this day: I can do all this through him who gives me strength (Philippians 4:13).

Lord let it be.

Listen: 'Glory and Power - Live' - Grace Vineyard Music

Day 4 (Sunday) - Sabbath Rest

Loving Father,

Thank you for the gift of Sabbath. This is a day that is 'blessed and holy' (Genesis 2:2). Thank you that You are restoring to the Church the gift of Sabbath rest. So today, help me to stop working in body and mind. Thank you that You are in control, and in my stopping I am acknowledging who You are, and who I am not. You are God. I am not. I am free to stop working because I am a child of God living under Your Lordship.

Thank you that You invite me to come to You and find rest (Matthew 11:28). God of rest, come and fill me with Your peace and presence. I speak to my heart and mind: be still in Jesus' name.

Lord, slow me down so that I may delight in all that You have given me. Let today be a day I live from a posture of gratitude in Your abundant provision, not a posture of discontent. Let today be a day spent delighting in Your decadent and extravagant goodness. Help me savour every meal, every drink, every conversation, and open my eyes to Your glory revealed in creation (Psalm 19:1).

Pause. Bring to mind the things for which you are grateful on this day

May God's image in me be restored, and my imagination in God be restored. May the gravity of material things be lightened, and the relativity of time slow down. May I know the grace to embrace my own finite smallness in the arms of God's infinite greatness. May God's word feed me and His Spirit lead me into the week and into the life to come (from Lectio 365).

Thank you for the rich blessing that rests on this day (Isaiah 58:13-14).

Come, Holy Spirit. Haere mai te wairua tapu.

Listen: 'You Can Rest' - Hillary Scott

Day 5 (Monday) - Breathe on Us

Creator God, who formed humanity from dust. Breathe on me again - Your breath is spirit and life. You bring life to dry bones and breathe vitality into desert places. You promise to bring the breath of life to me that I might live and know you (adapted from Ezekiel 37:5-6).

Revive me and renew me by the power of Your Spirit.

Wake me up and usher me to a place where beauty and love can reach me. Say to my soul, 'Rise up, my love, and come away' (Song of Solomon 2:10). Give me grace and courage to rise up and follow You out from this lifeless valley where I have wandered.

Holy Spirit, Jesus speaks of You as helper, comforter, counsellor, advocate, guide, teacher and Spirit of Truth.

Come Holy Spirit to my mind, I receive Your comfort.

Come Holy Spirit to my heart, I receive Your peace.

Come Holy Spirit to my soul, I receive the Father's love for me.

Come Holy Spirit - breathe on me again.

For Your church, Your precious bride, for Your people to come alive, come breathe on me.

For the lost to sing aloud, for shouts of freedom to resound, come breathe on me. I am hungry for you. Bring me to life and lead me by your love.

Holy Spirit, You sustain my life and my hope. I slow my breathing and inhale deeply. May the expansion of my lungs be an invitation to You to fill me again. I delight that You come alongside me as my advocate, revealing Christ, and transforming and empowering me through Your abiding presence.

Holy Spirit, breathe on me.

Listen: 'Breathe on Us' -Grace Vineyard Music, Cindy Ruakere

Day 6 (Tuesday) - Longing

As the deer pants for streams of water in a barren land, so my soul pants for You, my God.

My soul thirsts for Your Spirit, for the living Spirit. These things I remember as I pour out my soul. How You, Holy Spirit, have moved in might and power in days past, shaking the nations and drawing many to Yourself. I long to see you move in power again Holy Spirit!
(adapted from Psalm 42).

I've heard the stories of all You've done in the days gone by. I catch glimpses of You at work in and around me and these things stir a deep longing within me for more of You. You know me Lord. You know the desires of my heart and the hopes that swirl in my imagination. Only You can satisfy the deep longing of my heart that sometimes defies the words I use to express them. Accept these wordless sighs as well as my well-articulated prayers.

As I look around my neighbourhood and city and consider the hurt and pain in this world, I see the effects of brokenness and sin all around me. I ache to see Your Kingdom come. Only You can fully satisfy the hunger and thirst that people carry. You are the bread of life that satisfies the soul. You are the living water. So I lift this groan to You. Come Spirit of God and rewire our culture. Bring Your healing and Your life to restore and renew all those You love.

I look to You in faith and expectation, Holy Spirit. I long for You. Come and have Your way.

Listen: 'Need You More' Will Reagan

Day 7 (Wednesday) - Church Unity

Holy Spirit, on this day we seek unity in Your Church.

Jesus, You love the Church as Your bride and gave Yourself up for her (Ephesians 5:25).

You also told us, Jesus, that You will do whatever we ask in Your name as we align our lives and prayers with Your will, nature, and authority. This is to Your Father's glory, that we bear much fruit, showing ourselves to be Your disciples. You said to ask and we will receive, and our joy will be complete.

So we ask: may we be one as You are one and may we have the full measure of Your joy within us. Protect us and unite us by the power of Your Spirit. Jesus, we add our prayers to Yours. Knit our hearts together as we keep You at the centre of all we are and all we do. Increase our love for one another that we might be known as people of love. Empower us by Your Spirit to be with You, become like You, and reflect You to those who look on.

May we be brought to complete unity in Your Spirit to let the world know that You, Father, sent Jesus; that You love us even as You love Your Son (adapted from John 17). Help us to set aside our judgments and our agendas and give us eyes to see the beauty within the diversity of all the people You call into Your family.

Jesus, make us like-minded, having the same love, being one in Your Spirit and of one mind.

Give us Your mindset and fill us with Your love that we will do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility, empower us to value others above ourselves, not looking to our own interests but each of us to the interests of the others. You showed us the way. Shape us to be like you (Philippians 2:2-5).

Listen: This I Believe (The Creed) - Hillsong Worship

Day 8 (Thursday) - Filling and Sending

My Lord, I come before You with a posture of humility. I want to follow You, but I feel hindered by my weakness. I want to be a witness of the power and goodness of Your gospel, but I feel held back by fear and uncertainty. In this moment, I remind my soul that I do not walk alone: all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me and You are with me always, to the very end of the age (adapted from Matthew 28:18,20).

Jesus, thank you that You are my advocate, praying for me now, and that Your prayers will not stop until Your promises have made their way into the deepest parts of me (Hebrews 7:25). I surrender, today, to Your ongoing work of salvation within my life and Your world.

I confess that there are spaces within my heart where disordered desires and apathy still hold sway. Bring order and beauty to the chaos within me. Breathe life into the parts of me that feel dormant and lifeless. Holy Spirit, come like a wind to blow out the cobwebs in my heart and my life. Fill me with a love for You, a love for Your Church, and a love for the lost.

Jesus, you said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you' (John 21:21). Holy Spirit, fill me with the peace offered by the Prince of Peace. Holy Spirit, fill me and propel me to the place where people need to see, hear and experience the good news of Jesus. Send me. Give me fresh faith in what is possible with You, and use me to bring life to lifeless places (Adapted from Lectio 365).

Listen: 'Let Every Heart' - Bryan and Katie Torwalt

Day 9 (Friday) - Surrender

In view of Your great love Lord Jesus, I want to live as a living sacrifice for You, surrendered to You and Your plans for me. I want to pick up my cross and follow You each and every moment of every day. I want to lean on You and not on my own understanding, and to acknowledge You in all my ways (adapted from Proverbs 3:5-6).

That said, if I'm honest, I'm often divided. I've longed for Your presence, but as one desire among many. At times, I've longed for other things more than I've longed for You. Even as I seek to surrender to You, I withhold parts of myself from Your Spirit. Lord, I'm sorry. Uproot from my heart all those things I have valued above You. Reveal all that I have mistakenly cherished and which have become a part of me, so that You may enter and make Your home within me without a rival.

Rise, O Lord, take Your place in my life. Rise above my possessions, preferences, plans, ambitions, friendships, comforts and reputation. Rise above my family, my health, and even my life itself. Purify my heart and cleanse my hands because I am ascending this mountain to dwell in the beauty of Your presence (adapted from Pete Greig, A.W. Tozer and Psalm 24:4).

So, Holy Spirit, I yield myself to You. I surrender my preconceived ideas of who You are and how You should work. I yield my expectations of who You should work through. I ask You to give me whatever gift You want to give me, and I yield myself to whatever plan You have for using it. Wherever I am, whatever You'd have me spend myself on, and whomever you bring across my path, I give You permission to work in and through me. Form me into your image. Take me where You want. Show me what You will. I am Yours, Lord. Have Your way in me.

Listen: *'I Surrender (Live) -Hillsong Worship, Matt Crocker*

Day 10 (Saturday) - Waiting

Lord,

On this Saturday before Pentecost, I find myself poised—waiting—just as you instructed your first followers to wait for the gift your Father promised, which they had heard you speak about. (Adapted from Acts 1:4) I don't always know what I'm waiting for or how long I'm to sit quietly and patiently, trusting you to do what only you can do. But I will wait—just as you ask me to.

It's a moment when I'm confronted once again that I really am not in control the way I like to think I am. Waiting doesn't come easy to me in this world of quick fixes and relentless hurry. I'm much more formed by these habits than I'd like to be, and yet your people have always been those who are invited to linger—to tarry—to sit quietly—and to wait. These are the footsteps I'm choosing to follow today.

So help me Lord. Help me to fix my eyes on you. Help me to be attentive in my waiting. Expand my resources of patient expectation. This isn't a passive sitting back I'm practising, but an active 'leaning in' as "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope."
(Psalm 130:5)

As I wait, I choose to be faithful in prayer (Colossians 4:2). Deepen my understanding and give me a greater knowledge of what You are doing in my life. Once again, I choose to hold unswervingly to the hope that I profess (Hebrews 10:23).

I wait for You, with hopeful expectation...

Come Holy Spirit.

Listen: *'Waiting here for You' - Hillsong Worship*

Day 11 (Sunday) - Pentecost Prayer

Today, as Your church gathers around the world to celebrate the day of Pentecost, I ask that You would once more pour out Your Holy Spirit on the church. Clothe us with power as You clothed your disciples on that day - power to advance Your kingdom and to boldly declare the good news.

Jesus, send me what Your Father promised. I long to receive power as the Holy Spirit comes on me that I may be Your witness in my neighbourhood and my town, and as I collaborate with Your people that as they love and serve all who live in this region, and to the ends of the earth (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8).

Baptise me afresh with Your Holy Spirit (John 3:5; Acts 1:5). Pour out Your Spirit on all peoples; come like a mighty wind and rest on us (Acts 2:3 & 17). Equip me and equip Your Church with power and authority to walk in faith, to love well, to speak truth in wisdom, to prophesy, to declare Your glory in tongues, to speak words of knowledge, to discern, to heal, to deliver and to restore (1 Corinthians 12:8-10). Give me authority, by Your Spirit, to drive out evil and to heal disease and sickness and see your kingdom come among us (Matthew 10:1).

Holy Spirit, raise me up as a disciple. Equip and empower me to be formed into the image of Jesus and to follow You as You lead me to the last, the lost and the least. These things I pray so the world may know You, that Your people may be built up, and the darkness driven out by Your light.

He Atua atawhai koe.

Wairua Tapu nau mai rā

Let it be here

Let it be now

Spirit of God we need Your power

Listen: 'Here & Now (Nau Mai Ra)' -Souvenirs Worship

Closing Prayer

Eternal Spirit of the living God, in You I live and move and have my being. All that I am, all that I have been, and all that I shall be is known to You, down to the deep secrets and troubles of my heart.

Living flame burn in me; cleansing wind blow through me; fountain of life refresh me - that I may love and praise in word, deed and truth.

Thank you for the privilege of being with You. Thank you that Your eyes see the commitment of my heart (1 Chronicles 16:9). Thank you that You reward those who earnestly seek You (Heb. 11:6). Give me an undivided heart (Psalm 86:11).

Father, help me to live this day to the full, being true to You, in every way.

Jesus, help me to give myself away to others, being kind to everyone I meet.

Spirit, help me to love the lost, proclaiming Christ in all I do and say.

Amen

 **24-7 PRAYER NEW ZEALAND**