



# Prayer Guide

## A PRAYER GUIDE

***“Seeking God’s heart for the mission  
He has called HVPC to in this community.”***

**Philemon 3:10-14:** “...that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (ESV).

*Prayer focus:*

- In what ways am I clinging to the past/known, resisting God’s call to move ahead?
- How might God be calling me with HVPC to move ahead (in our community, family, workplace)?
- Am I pressing towards the goal, forgetting what is behind (prior glory days, programs, membership numbers, etc.) and straining toward what is ahead?

**Psalms 62:8:** “Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us” (ESV).

*Prayer focus:*

- Where do I need to repent of my tendency to control, “do life” on my own, versus trusting God and leaning on Him as my refuge?
- What do I need to “pour out” to Him today?

**Psalms 5:3:** “In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly” (NIV).

*Prayer focus:*

- Do I really “lay my requests” before God? You have to let go in order to lay something down!
- Do I “wait in expectation”? God is faithful to His promises, He is trustworthy.

**Acts 4:15-20:** [Peter before the Sanhedrin] “But when they had commanded them to leave the council, they conferred with one another, saying, ‘What shall we do with these men? For that a notable sign has been performed through them is evident to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But in order that it may spread no further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to anyone in this name.’ So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, ‘Whether it is right

in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard” (ESV).

*Prayer focus:*

- Where have I seen or heard God in my life?
- Ask God to give you “a story.”

**Acts 9:15:** [Blind Saul arrives at Ananias’ door much to the fear and trepidation of Ananias...] But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.” (ESV)

*Prayer focus:*

- Pray for obedience like Ananias had, to “GO” when God says “GO!” Paul was instrumental in growing the church and wrote most of the New Testament. But until Ananias obeyed and went, Saul was stumbling and blind.
- Ask, “God, where do you want me to go?”

**2 Thessalonians 3:1-3:** “Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.” (ESV)

*Prayer focus:*

- Ask that the message of the Gospel may spread rapidly.
- Ask that we (the messengers) may be safe and protected from the evil one.
- Resist Satan who is content to have us sit quietly on Sundays and go through the motions inside our building. Go!

**Ephesians 6:19-20:** “...and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak” (ESV).

*Prayer focus:*

- Pray to be given the words to fearlessly make the Gospel known. This is what God wants for us and from us.
- Pray to be His instrument, used according to His plan and fueled by His passion.

**Philippians 4:6:** “...do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God” (ESV).

*Prayer focus:*

- Do not be anxious.
- With thanksgiving make requests known.
- God’s peace will guard you.

