

Further Prayer for the Body of Christ

(for use with longer prayer times or in groups)

The Body of Christ is an awesome organism! Each member is capable of functioning autonomously, yet a vital component of the other. Where else can you find an "eye" that has a brain, arms, legs, a will, and soul? As a part of the Body of Christ, we have the privilege of getting to know one another and encourage one another in our walks with the Lord. Scripture encourages us to pray for one another. "...The effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much." You might ask, but what should I pray for? How might I encourage fellow believers in the Body of Christ through my prayers?

- 1) Love in Action! - Pray that we will love one another. Our Lord himself says in John 13:34, 35 "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (John 15:12, 13; 1 John 3:23; 2 John 5) What are some tangible ways of showing love to one another?
 - a) We are to honor one another (Romans 12:10)
 - b) We are to forbear with one another (Ephesians 4:2)
 - c) We are to forgive one another (Matthew 18:21, 22)
 - d) Encourage one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)
- 2) Our Walk Speaks! - Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" Pray that we each will live a daily life humbly following our Savior, so that our dealings with others will be merciful, and just.
- 3) Double Mindedness! - Pray that we will not have a double standard in the lives we live. Oh, that we would be people who keep our promises! (James 5:12, Matthew 5:37; James 1:6-8; James 4:8; 1 Timothy 3:8; Psalm 57:7; 1 Chronicles 12:33; Psalm 12:1-4)
- 4) Conforming to the World! - Pray that we will not allow our thoughts and behavior to be molded to what is typical of those associated with this world! Pray that when others watch our behavior, and when we express our thoughts, they each will not be typical of those who have given their lives over to this world. (Romans 12:1-3; Psalm 19:14; Joshua 1:8, 9; Psalm 119:9-11, 1 John 2:14, 15)
- 5) Resist the Devil! - The devil, our adversary, roams about seeking those he may disqualify! (1 Peter 5:8, 9; James 4:7; Matthew 4:1-10) Pray that we will recognize, resist, and run away from circumstances that would disqualify our testimony and witness for the Savior. (Genesis 39:7-12, 1 John 2:16)
- 6) Exercise Spiritual Gifts! - "One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.... For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:6,12 (Ephesians 4; 1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12)
- 7) That Blessed Hope! - Titus 2:12-13 "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ...." "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." (1 Thessalonians 4:18) See also 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17.
- 8) Embrace Diversity! - And so we go full circle to find ourselves at the beginning. Pray that we will love one another in all our diversity! Revelation 5:9 "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation...." (John 3:16) Pray that we will strive to accept each other in all our ethnic diversity, personality quirks, and seemingly odd behavior; forgiving one another. (Matthew 18:21-22; Philemon 10-19)

This outline can also be used to pray further BLU prayers for the Persecuted Church!