

42 Day Prayer Journey



ROSS ROAD
COMMUNITY CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to a 42-day prayer journey at Ross Road Community Church. Prayer is an essential part of our life as people and as a church. We believe that there is power in our prayer (James 5:16) and we have a God who invites us to approach His throne of grace with confidence (Hebrews 4:16).

This prayer plan culminates on the day of our Annual General Meeting (Feb 24). Important conversations around the future of our church and our facility will be had before, during, and after that meeting. We want to make sure those conversations are prayerful and that our relationships are strong throughout these conversations. More important than what we do is who we are. We want to be as healthy as we can be, which means we must rely on God in prayer.

WELCOMING

CHRIST-CENTERED

COMMUNITY



HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER GUIDE

Each week focuses on one theme from our vision statement. Sunday to Friday requests will connect with the week's theme. Saturday's prayer item is reserved for praying the action step from our Prayer Action Plan. The Prayer Action Plan emerged from a process of self-reflection and discovery at RRCC in 2017 in which we identified sinful patterns in our history and determined to live, by God's Spirit, in a way worthy of the calling we have received. These themes are critically important in times of decision-making such as this.

You might consider adding an element of fasting to this prayer plan. Fasting means abstaining from a food, drink, activity, etc. for a period of time to remind ourselves of our need for God. You could skip a meal a week and use the time to pray, you could abstain from social media or television for a day each week, you could avoid coffee or another beverage for a time, you could choose a period of time to refrain from non-essential spending, etc. We're encouraging many to join in fasting from food on the final day of our plan, from after dinner on February 23 until February 24 at dinner, in preparation for the AGM. We will break our fast with a soup and bun dinner before the meeting.

Care Groups can use this prayer plan each week. Families might use it during their family devotional times. Individuals could put it on their phones or in their Bibles to be prayed through on lunchbreak, before bed, or during your normal quiet time with God.

Each day the request of the day will be distributed on our social media channels, giving it greater visibility and serving as a reminder for us all to pray.

WEEK ONE: JANUARY 13-19

This week we pray through our value of welcoming. We aim to be welcoming by creating an inviting culture, offering practical help, and extending genuine friendship.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

Pray that Ross Road Community Church will be a genuinely welcoming community in all aspects of what we do—in every ministry, in every Care Group, and in every time we gather corporately.

MONDAY, JANUARY 14

Pray that we will successfully create an inviting culture at RRCC. Pray for those who come to your mind whom you might invite to experience God, praying for an opportunity to invite them to RRCC.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15

Pray that we will truly offer practical help to people. Pray that our Starfish Pack ministry, Satellite Food Bank ministry, and all our ministries would be practically helpful. Pray that our preaching and teaching will practically help people in their day-to-day lives.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Pray that we will extend genuine friendship to one another. Pray that no one will feel lonely at RRCC and ask God for opportunities to extend friendship to someone you don't

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know yet. Pray that our Connect ministry will be effective in connecting people with one another.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

Thank God today for how He has welcomed you into His family, extending love and forgiveness to you.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Ask God to make RRCC a church in which the unchurched and non-Christians feel comfortable exploring matters of faith. Pray that we would see conversions regularly at Ross Road.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Earnestly ask God to make us increasingly welcoming of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our church, instead of quenching the Holy Spirit's work. Believing we are the temple of the Holy Spirit, as individuals and as the church, we declare our desire to be obedient to Him in all areas of our lives and our church.

WEEK TWO: JANUARY 20-26

This week we pray through our value of being Christ-Centered. We aim to be Christ-Centered by prayerfully depending on God, obediently submitting to His Spirit, and sacrificially following Jesus' example.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

Pray that Ross Road will make Christ central in all we do both inside and outside the church. Pray that this will be true of every generation within our church body.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

Pray that we will prayerfully depend on God in all we do at Ross Road. Identify one area within our church where you think we could do this more and direct your prayers to that area.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

Pray that at Ross Road we would obediently submit to His Spirit. Pray that we would not block out the Spirit, but rather seek Him regularly. Pray that we would trust wherever He leads us.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23

Pray that Ross Road will be an example of what it looks like to sacrificially follow Jesus' example. Pray that we will honour God in everything we do as a church and in our own lives.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

Ask God to reveal to you today one area of your life in which you need to be more Christ-centered.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Pray that at RRCC we could set an example of a Christ-Centered life to those inside the church and outside of it.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Since we are complete in Christ, we renounce any slander against our identity in Him, reminding ourselves that we who are in Christ are a new creation.. Pray that we may speak life-giving words to one another.

WEEK THREE: JANUARY 27- FEBRUARY 2

This week we pray through our value of being a welcoming, Christ-centered community of believers who love generously, forgive graciously, and who are committed to equipping the next generation and all to serve God together.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Pray that Ross Road will be a city on a hill and a light of the world (Mt 5:14). May we be a community known for our generous, Christ-like love in which our families, friends, and neighbours experience Jesus because we model His love to one and all.

MONDAY, JANUARY 28

Thank God today for how graciously we have been forgiven and ask Him to empower each of us with His Spirit to show forgiveness to others. Pray that we would all be a people quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, bearing with one another in love, and forgiving one another as God has forgiven us.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

Pray that we would all lead like Jesus by investing in one another, challenging one another, and intentionally helping one another be equipped for His mission. Pray how we could encourage active discipleship in ourselves and in our church by engaging in transformational mentoring relationships.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

Pray that we would be a village to our children and youth as we build into them, nurture their potential, and encourage them to grow in their faith and love of Jesus. Pray that we, as a church, will come alongside and share Jesus' love with every

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young person, praying that not one of them will fall away from their faith.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

Pray that all our men, women, and young adults would develop deep and intentional friendships which spur one another toward Christ-likeness. Pray that all ages—children to seniors—would stand shoulder-to-shoulder in unity and joyfully serve God together to His glory.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Thank God today for our Ross Road family. Pray that each of us will use our gifts to build up this Body of Christ, that we will experience joy meeting together, and be a community wholly dependent on God for what He might do through us. May we grow stronger together.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Pray that we will be a people of grace and gratitude who delight in building one another up in love, who resolve conflict peacefully and respectfully, and who humbly value others above ourselves. May we be a community which affirms and encourages one another as we develop our collective potential and as we partner with Jesus in His mission.

WEEK FOUR: FEBRUARY 3-9

Having prayed very specifically over the last three weeks that we will truly be a welcoming, Christ-centered community, this week we pray that who we are and what we do, as such a community, brings glory to God. Whether the prayer guide directs you to pray for yourself or for us as a church community, make a point of including both as you pray.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Spend some time contemplating God's matchless, eternal splendour. He is "worthy...to receive glory and honour and power, for [He] created all things, and by [His] will they were created and have their being" (Revelation 4:11). Picture what it will be like to share His glory in eternity.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Confess to the Lord anything and everything in your life that is obscuring the glory of God. This includes anything that might prompt the people around you, whether believers or unbelievers, to think less of God because of the way you, who claim Him as Lord, think, speak, and act.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Thank God for the glimpses of His glory that He gives you day to day. These might include a newborn baby, a gorgeous sunset, a star-studded night sky, His unconditional love for you, His gift to you of eternal life, the gracious forgiveness of one person to another and....

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

If it's true, tell God that His glory is more important to you than your own. Thank Him for the recognition you get for

THAT GLORIFIES GOD

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who you are and what you do but ask Him to help you to give Him the credit when others affirm you. Ask God also to help us as a church put His glory above all.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Ask God to help you as an individual, the members of your family, and us as a church to live out the truth that our chief end as people is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever. Ask God to help you to consciously enjoy His company today.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Ask God to help each of us at Ross Road, including you, to tune our hearts deliberately at the outset of every day to be passionate about bringing Him glory as we interact with others, whether we know them or not and whether they know Him yet or not.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Ask God to empower us as a church to reject dissensions and divisions in favour of a oneness with each other and the triune God that convinces the world about Jesus (John 17:20-23). Ask God to help us guard our unity by listening with humility to one another in order to understand.

WEEK FIVE: FEBRUARY 10-16

This week the focus of our prayers is our desire to impact individuals and families with the gospel of Christ.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10

How we treat one another, good or bad, impacts the individuals and families we come in contact with. Pray that in all our interactions we will have a positive effect on our world.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Just as the Father sent Jesus into the world, we are sent as well (John 20:21). Pray for the opportunity to share your faith with the individuals and families in your sphere of influence: those in your classrooms, on your sports team, in your place of employment, and in your neighborhood.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Pray for those who make life difficult for you; they need Jesus, too! After all, every individual is precious to the Good Shepherd who goes looking for lost sheep. Pray that your eyes will be opened to their hurts, disappointments, and need of the Saviour.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Pray and ask God to show you a specific way you can be a blessing this week to an individual or a family you know.

IMPACTING INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

On this Valentine's Day, pray that the individuals you hold dear – friends and family – would come to know the Creator of love. Pray that they allow their desire for intimacy to be met by the One whose love has no flaws or limits.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Pray for those in difficult circumstances to be encouraged in their faith or that they will be receptive to faith conversations: those struggling with significant illness, unemployment, caring for aging parents, or those with hard decisions to make.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Pray that we at RRCC embody a godly humility, born out of love, which rejects pride and fear. Pray that we will continue to grow in the traits of compassion, kindness, gentleness, and patience as we become more and more like Christ.

WEEK SIX: FEBRUARY 17-23

This week we pray through the final piece of our vision statement – near and far. We see ourselves responsible for fulfilling the Great Commission call to make disciples. This responsibility requires us to be intentional about reaching those close to us as well as people around the world.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17

Ask God to give us all an unquenchable desire to see people come to faith in Jesus. Pray that we would have the same restlessness as Jeremiah when he said, “But if I say, ‘I will not mention his name or speak anymore in his name,’ his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot” (Jeremiah 20:9).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Pray by name for those in our lives who are not Christ-followers. Pray that God’s Spirit would move in their hearts so that they would seek God. Ask for opportunities to share the hope that you have in Jesus (1 Peter 3:15-16) with cultural sensitivity.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Pray for those who live near to RRCC. Ask that God would give us favour in these neighbourhoods and that we would find creative ways to build relationships with people who do not yet know Jesus.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

Pray for our missionaries who work locally. Pray for Rob & Judy Griffioen, Saji & Bindu Oommen, Becca Penner, Dale

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Regier, Beth Scholes, Jason Shellborn, and Al Stobbe. Pray for their encouragement and empowerment.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Pray for our missionaries who work across the globe. Pray for Chris & Rosalie Barton, Rick & Deanna Bergen, Otto & Marjorie Ekk, Janice Esau, Cynthia Friesen, Saji & Bindu Oommen, Dwayne & Helen Rainwater, R & M and H & E. Pray for cultural sensitivity, endurance, and favour with local people.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Pray that we would have a heart for the world. Pray for short-term teams to be raised up from our church to share the love of God around the world, and for our Global Outreach team as they lead us in world evangelism.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23: PRAYER ACTION PLAN

Ask God to strengthen our relationships with one another so that we love each other deeply. Pray that we will be able to give up the right to take offence when others hurt us, instead forgiving freely and entrusting ourselves to God.

OUR VISION

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