

ALEX GERGLEY | STAFF WRITER

SIX WAYS TO PRAY FOR YOUR MISSIONARIES

Prayer works.

It's a recurring theme throughout the Bible, and it's fairly simple.

If we go to God with humility, with a repentant and worshipful heart, He will listen—and He will act.

But when we think about praying for our missionaries, we often get bogged down with the 'hows' and the 'whats'

of prayer. Their lives are complex, distant, challenging, and just plain different than our own—how could I possibly know what to say to God or where to begin?

This graphic with tips and biblical principles may help in those moments when we feel stuck or when we feel like we can't even get started.

SIX WAYS

KEEP IT SIMPLE

"When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!" (Matthew 6:7-8 NLT)

The reason for prayer is not to impress others with your use of words, but to glorify Him.

PRAY FOR SOMETHING HUGE

"Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere." (Ephesians 6:18 NLT)

Some starting points: your missionary's vision, protection, funds, well-being, health, spiritual life, family, community, and country.

PRAY FOR SOMETHING SMALL

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done." (Philippians 4:6 NLT)

Lift up specific events, missionary travel, their relationships, day-to-day functions, the meals they eat, and their constant peace and joy.

PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS

"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." (James 5:16 NLT)

Ask God for your own forgiveness and intercede on behalf of your missionary.

PRAY IN COMMUNITY

"For where two or three gather together as my followers I am there among them." (Matthew 18:20 NLT)

Share your missionary's needs with others—tell a friend what you're focusing on in prayer for your missionary, post on social media, or share in a small group.

PRAY USING A MODEL

"And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words." (Romans 8:26 NLT)

Read the Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) or one of the Psalms and substitute the names or pronouns with your missionary's name.

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