

# CATALYST

A PRAYER INVITATION



Ambassadors For Christ  
In Canada

加拿大  
基督使者協會

# CATALYST

## A PRAYER INVITATION

Corporate worship is a regular gracious reminder that it's not about you. You've been born into a life that is a celebration of another"

**PAUL TRIPP**

Prayer is a catalyst: it provokes a transformation within us as we consent and engage into God's presence and action. With the current circumstances of our world, our immediate response is to fear and the desire to be in control of our own lives. Instead, our first response should be turning to Him in prayer.

As a response to these global and divisive issues, AFC has created an initiative: "Catalyst: A Prayer Invitation" to provide a monthly prayer guide on relevant topics, and an opportunity to explore various forms of prayer such as centering, repetition, thanksgiving, corporate and more.

Every month, we will be introducing a new form of prayer along with a topic and theme based on relevant needs throughout the year. With these resources, it will help as a guideline for your journey of a more prayerful life and see the importance of prayer

**SEPTEMBER** : STUDENT LIFE

**OCTOBER** : GRATITUDE

**NOVEMBER** : REST

**DECEMBER** : IDENTITY & PURPOSE



SEPTEMBER

# STUDENT LIFE

CORPORATE PRAYER

## WEEK 1: UNITY IN PRAYER

### **Bringing differences and perspectives together**

In the book of Acts, the early church prayed together on all occasions: in the temple, in their homes, when they were sick, when they were filled with the Spirit, at mealtimes, and in times of persecution.

As they devoted themselves to praying together, God used them to accomplish great things (increasing in numbers, building the foundation of the church, preaching, evangelizing, healing)

**Ask yourself:** What community are you already part of? Who can you invite to join you in prayer this month?

JESUS PROMISES TO BE PRESENT IN GREAT POWER WHENEVER  
THE PEOPLE OF GOD IS TRULY GATHER IN HIS NAME (MATT 18:20)

This September, school may look very different for many, but one thing that doesn't change is the assurance that God is with us in every step of the way. What fears, worries, or anxieties do you need to lift up to God?

**ACTION:** Share this with your community and join together in prayer for incoming and/or returning students to trust God in all circumstances as they begin the school year.

When a community of believers gather to pray, they strengthen their unity with one another in God.

SEPTEMBER

# STUDENT LIFE

CORPORATE PRAYER

## WEEK 2: PRAYER IS FORMATIONAL

### Prayer forms who we are in God

As we pray:

1. God uses prayer to form who we are as a church and a community.
2. God humbles us and we live in His Truth by rejecting our own will (our desires, pride and achievements), but we choose to obey God
3. Our faith and understanding of God grows us He is molding and forming us to be more like Christ

### "Humility is the principal aid to prayer"

When you seek for community whose foundation is in God, we begin to become less self-centered and remember most importantly that prayer is not only about us. It should be less of us, and more of Him. We are being pursued by God by being attentive and responsive to the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**School can often feel like a lonely place when we don't know anyone or enter an unfamiliar place. It can be hard to find people and friends to connect with.**

**Ask yourself.** Have you been praying for your community that seeks to know more of Christ? But the bigger question is: have you been praying with your community to actively pursue the Truth and cultivates a life to be more like Christ Himself?

**ACTION:** Pray with your community and ask God to form you together to actively seek Christ's way.

Pray with your community and ask God to bring new students to join your fellowship and to form the community to be a welcoming environment that actively seeks to pursue and be molded more into Christ's way. Pray that students will be able to make intentional friendships and be connected to a strong Christian community.

SEPTEMBER

# STUDENT LIFE

CORPORATE PRAYER

## WEEK 3: CORPORATE PRAYER KEEPS US CHURCH-ORIENTED

### Staying Church-Oriented

As a church/community, we should be united and asking God to transform us inwardly through continuous reconciliation and the sensitivity of the Spirit to seek God's Will and his prompting. It is in community that we are aware of the world and we learn to see beyond ourselves.

"IF WE TRULY LOVE PEOPLE, WE WILL DESIRE FOR THEM FAR MORE THAN IT IS WITHIN OUR PRAYER TO GIVE THEM, AND THIS WILL LEAD US TO PRAYER" - **RICHARD J. FOSTER**

### Corporate Prayer is **NOT** about you

Prayer helps us recognize our limitations. We are reminded our faith is not only between God and us. None of us should shoulder the burden of prayer alone for everyone and everything. During the school year, It is easy to focus on ourselves: our schoolwork, studies, future, relationships.

**ACTION:** Pray that God will increase our love and the capacity to care for others. Watch as God changes our heart when we begin to care and to serve for the good of others.

Reflect about this. When I am with others in prayer, do I genuinely want to know more about them or is it only about me? Did I serve my brothers and sisters in Christ out of love for them?

Remember it's not about you - when we pray and serve others, it is out of the love for God and for His glory.

SEPTEMBER

# STUDENT LIFE

CORPORATE PRAYER

## WEEK 4: CORPORATE PRAYER IS MISSIONAL

WHEN WE GATHER TO PRAY WITH OTHERS BELIEVERS, WE CAN  
"ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER AND BUILD ONE ANOTHER UP"

**1 THESSALONIANS 5:11**

As God draws us inward to the transformation we need, we hear the call outward into the ministry we need: healing the sick, suffering with the broken, interceding for the world

**Prayer is a gift from God** created by the power of the Spirit and based on the forgiveness in Jesus Christ. In prayer together, God makes us drawn to the love of our God, leading us to also love and serve our neighbours.

**We do not live in isolation.** As we pray, the will of God and man align: We understand that our commitment and calling as one body, is to reach and love the world together.

As we pray, the Will of God and man align. By the power of the Holy Spirit, the people of God are gathered and envision a new future, future of righteousness and peace and joy in the Spirit. God gives us eyes to see what he loves and hates

**REMEMBER:** The Christian community in prayer is not a passive, drowsy group of listeners. It is a body at work, an army at war and a congregation at worship.

**ACTION:** Come in prayer to encourage each other, with the intention to lead others to Him for their good and for God's glory. Pray and ask what God's calling is for you and your community this upcoming school year and how He wants you to reach your neighbours at school.