

# Fresh Bread

## Daily Readings from God's Word

This week we will consider relationships in light of our Christian calling.

**Let's begin with a prayer:** *Holy Spirit, open my mind and soul to the truths in the Word. I want to be taught of You. I want to learn your thoughts and Your ways. Amen.*

### **SUNDAY:**

*"Let us not give up meeting together..." Hebrews 10: 25 NIV*

**Today's prayer focus:** If we were not free to meet for fellowship and Bible Study, wouldn't we yearn for such gatherings? Oftentimes, because something is readily available, we put off those occasions that are really important for Christian growth and positive relationships. And is it time for *you* to join a Small Group...

**Let's pray now:** *Father, in Jesus' name, I have not appreciated the freedom to worship with others, and the blessing my church is to my life. Forgive me. Bless my church and those who work to accomplish its various ministries. Grant that the gatherings bring growth, unity and vision to those who attend. Amen*

### **MONDAY:**

*"Wives... Husbands... Children... Fathers..." Colossians 3:18-21*

**Today's prayer focus:** God is the inventor of the family. His will is that family members live in harmony and support one another. In this they reflect His unity to a disjointed world.

**Let's pray now:** *Jesus, thank you for conceiving of the family. By Your Spirit give us the will to follow Your principles for strong families. By Your grace help us to forgive and serve one another. Give us the strength to remain faithful to our family commitment. Grant that our family be an inspiration to the world. Amen*

### **TUESDAY:**

*"...the powers that be are ordained of God." Romans 13:1b*

**Today's prayer focus:** God is the author of order and government. In addition to respect and obedience for civil laws, we are to pray for those in authority.

**Let's pray now:** *Jesus, thank you for this wonderful country that you have given us, and for those who serve us in public office. We pray for wisdom to prevail in legislation and enforcement. We pray for our President. Grant wisdom by Your Holy Spirit that he may govern well. Show him the way to bring the wars in the Middle East to a successful conclusion. Amen*

### **WEDNESDAY:**

*"And who is my neighbor?" Luke 10:25-37*

**Today's prayer focus:** God is the God of your neighbor, and your neighborhood. If you want to live in an environment where He is glorified, pray for those who live on your street!!! Pour the oil and wine on the wounded souls living beside you...

**Let's pray now:** *Jesus, thank you for my home and for the neighborhood You have placed me in. Please give me a heart for those who live beside me. Deliver those who are living in sin and give them a thirst and hunger for You. Give me grace to shine Your light faithfully before them. Change their hearts and lives. Let them hear Your voice calling to them. Amen*

**THURSDAY:**

*"Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."* Ephesians 4:3

**Today's prayer focus:** Unity is not simply window dressing! We are called to unity... Jesus prayed that we might be "one." This unity is *proof* to the World that Jesus came from the Father. (John 17:21) What have YOU done to help or hinder the Unity of the Spirit?

**Let's pray now:** *Dear Jesus, forgive me for the seeds of discord and strife I have sown in the field where You have called me to labor. Change my heart by Your Spirit. I am willing to be a minister of peace and unity. Amen.*

**FRIDAY:**

*"...as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men."* Romans 12: 18

**Today's prayer focus:** We are not able to control how others will act, but we are accountable for how we act. To the extent we are responsible, we are required to be ambassadors of peace. As members of the Body of Christ, as neighbors, co-workers, family members, whatever our position, we must not create or give way to strife, confusion, anger or chaos. Discord is not an option.

**Let's pray now:** *Father, forgive me for allowing myself to think that I could hold a grudge, get angry, create discord or strife. Forgive me for not being a peace lover. Forgive me for the pride that keeps me from seeking reconciliation. Jesus, teach me to love peace and to be humble like You. Amen*

**SATURDAY:**

*"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."*

John 4: 35

**Today's prayer focus:** Sunday School and children's programs workers fulfill this call and are prepared to work for the harvest of young hearts. Pray for each volunteer as they reap children's souls for the Kingdom. And consider whether you are being called to support this work by teaching or helping in whatever way is needed.

**Let's pray now:** *Dear Lord Jesus please hear this prayer on behalf of Children's Ministries. By Your Spirit work in the heart of each child so that they are willing and ready to receive the Word of Life. Strengthen each volunteer and give wisdom, patience and energy. Help me to recognize whether You are calling me to serve. Amen.*