

**PURSUIT CONFERENCE**

# **PRAYER**

# **GUIDE**

*As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God.  
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God.*

**Psalm 42:1-2**

*Then the Lord called Samuel. Samuel answered, "Here I am."*

**1 Samuel 3:4**

*Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing,  
and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the  
Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be  
glorified in the Son. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. If  
anyone has faith in me, he can ask anything in my Name, and I will do it.*

**John 14:12-14**

# INTRODUCTION

As we look forward to the coming events at WoodsEdge, our hearts are being drawn to our God. We want all he has for us. We want to find and fulfill his purpose in our lives and in the expression of his Body throughout our city. We want to discover the way he has wonderfully created us to walk in the joy of serving him with those special giftings of his Holy Spirit.

We also recognize three beautiful truths that will govern our response as we seek to find our roles in bringing glory, honor, and praise to his name in our communities, in our city, and to the ends of the world.

## WE MUST PRAY -

God invites us and is waiting for us to ask. He wants us to partner with him.

## WE MUST PRAY -

We can do nothing apart from him. In humility and selflessness, we must have the same heart that John the Baptist portrayed when he said, "He (Jesus) must increase, and I must decrease" (John 3:30).

## WE MUST PRAY -

As we surrender our wills to him, we learn to walk in prompt obedience - when he speaks, we must quickly obey. When he calls, our reply must be, "Speak, Lord - I am here."

Will you commit to pray each day these simple prayers and join us as we ask God to use us for his glory?

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

**Ephesians 2:8-10**

*In you, Lord my God, I put my trust. I trust in you; do not let me be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.*

**Psalms 25:1-2**

## WE PRAY -

Heavenly Father, our hearts and our ears are turned towards you. You are the one for which our hearts long. There is no other for whom we hunger and thirst.

You alone are our God and Redeemer, and we know it is you alone who saves. Loving Savior, thank you for graciously and mercifully saving us. We cannot earn or achieve our salvation by our efforts. Our salvation is the first of many gifts from you.

As we live in the joy of our salvation, we quickly realize we need your wisdom and understanding to discover our purpose—those things you have prepared for us to accomplish through the power of the Holy Spirit. Only as the Holy Spirit releases his gifts within us and empowers us can we accomplish all you have prepared for us to do.

Lord, we don’t deny that there is plenty in our broken world that seeks after our attention and cries for our time. But, today, we renew our devotion to you, and we ask you to capture our hearts. Seal us for your service with the joy of walking by the power of your Spirit.

Lord, allow the speakers, Jack, Sam, and Matt, to be fully surrendered to you as they prepare for this conference. May they hear from you exactly what you want to speak to us in this time. Guard over them and their loved ones from schemes and lies of the enemy as they walk in service to you.

Lord, we thank you for every pastor that comes. We know that some will be weary; Would you bring restoration. Some will need healing; would you grant all types of healing. Some marriages will be struggling; Please bring reconciliation. Some will be grieving loss; by your grace, may they experience the comfort only given by the Holy Spirit. You know the prayers of every one of them; would you grant answers to prayer and breakthrough so that the kingdom of God would flourish.

Lord, our God, we put our trust in you. We desire all you have for us.  
In your holy name we pray. Amen.

*Who among the gods is like you, Lord?  
Who is like you— majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?*  
**Exodus 15:11**

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,  
according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church  
and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*  
**Ephesians 3:20-21**

## WE PRAY -

Gracious Lord, we know there is none like you. You are incomparable, doing wonderful things and your glory is awesome. In the realms of holiness, there is no competition with you. There is nothing too difficult for you. Even if we were to try to imagine the impossible, you are still able to do immeasurably more.

How soon we forget the way you have delivered in the past. We are like the children of Israel who just witnessed the defeat of Egypt, and just a few days later are moaning over bitter water. Father, forgive us for doubting you, and for all the times we have failed to pray and simply ask because of our unbelief.

Would you capture our hearts? When we face a disappointment, or we are confronted by challenges that seem to have no way of escape or around, help us to fix our eyes on you and your goodness. Would you aid us with your all-sufficient grace, to look at your greatness and not at the enormity of our obstacles?

Jesus, you know exactly who needs to be at this conference. Would you bring them? Please break down any barrier that might prevent them from being there.

Would you, God, protect our campus, speakers, staff, and attendees from any scheme of the enemy, who we know seeks to destroy and distract from the good work you are doing. We especially ask for your protection from COVID-19 for all that are involved in the Pursuit Conference.

You are God of all. Would you take care of every planning detail down to the smallest, most minute thing. May WoodsEdge host this conference with excellence.

We put our trust in you. You give us your promise to never leave us or forsake us.

Thank you for your faithfulness. Amen.

*If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.*

**James 1:5**

*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

**Isaiah 55:9**

*... but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."*

**Jeremiah 9:24**

## WE PRAY -

Almighty God, we need your wisdom. Your Word teaches us your thoughts are not our thoughts. Our best laid plans will miss the mark of where you want us to be if we move towards our petty desires. So, we ask for your wisdom. Empty our minds and fill us with your thoughts. Replace our little desires and fill us with your spirit and your truth, so we can pray according to your will.

Holy Spirit, as Jack Deere, Matt Chandler, Sam Storms, and their teams come, may they be empowered by you. We ask you to give them your wisdom and anointing as they teach so that we may also grow in our understanding of your ways. We want more of you. May we, with open hearts and minds, receive all that you have for us. We do not want to presume to know anything apart from you.

God, for all aspects of this conference, we want to walk in step with your Holy Spirit. May we be tuned in to what direction the Spirit is taking us, and may we hold loosely to our plans, knowing the Spirit will guide us.

Father, we ask that you give our prayer partners wisdom as they pray with people. Give them a spirit of discernment to know how to pray for those they interact with.

We thank you, God, for the chance to hold this conference in Houston. Would you do a work in the city of Houston, through the Pursuit Conference, that sparks revival in this city?

We call out to you for guidance so we can align ourselves with you and see your will done. Our eyes are fixed on you. We are asking for your direction and wisdom.

Teach us your ways and show us your glory. Amen.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

**Acts 1:8**

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.*

**Ephesians 6:18-20**

*Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus." After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.*

**Acts 4:29-31**

## WE PRAY -

Papa, your Word tells us that each of us who are in Christ have been given gifts for the express purpose of making you known. That is why you sent us the Holy Spirit - to be empowered by him to be your witness to those around us.

Would you remind us how much you love us? May your love overflow through us to those around us who have never been loved like that and have yet to see an example of that kind of love. May they see you through us. You tell us we have been given power to be your witnesses. We surrender ourselves to be that kind of follower. Would you give us the power and courage to boldly speak your Word?

Holy Spirit, we invite you to give us a refresher course of all that you have done. Draw us closer to you, and rekindle our love for you until it naturally and powerfully overflows upon those we encounter each day.

Lord, if there is any sort of disturbance during the conference, we ask that you give wisdom and discernment to those who respond. May they bring your peace into the situation.

We ask you, God, that as these pastors and ministry leaders take what they learn back to their churches, that they would be bold to earnestly pursue the gifts in their own congregations. We ask for them to be courageous and steadfast in the face of any opposition and remove any fear that might dwell within them and/or their congregation.

It is in the name of our Lord and Savior we ask. Amen.

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

**Galatians 5:22-23**

*Now eagerly desire the greater gifts. And yet I will show you the most excellent way.*

**1 Corinthians 12:31**

*If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.*

**1 Corinthians 13:1-3**

## WE PRAY -

Oh, Father of mercies and giver of all good gifts, we eagerly cry out to you. We are humbled that you desire to empower us, by your Spirit, to reflect the image of your son, Jesus. You called us to demonstrate what life in Christ is like.

What matters is not so much what we do, but the spirit of our heart that motivates these actions. Your Word tells us that if we don't have love, we are just making a lot of noise. Lord, help our hearts reflect your heart. May our actions be motivated by the Fruit of the Spirit - demonstrating love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Loving Papa, we so desire all that you have for us. We eagerly desire your gifts, but may we be careful to guard our hearts. Do not allow the enemy to turn our hearts inward with pride and arrogance.

We believe that the Spirit is alive and active today. We want to see the Body of Christ experiencing all that you have for us. We ask that you allow every pastor that comes in with skepticism, regarding the gifts of the Spirit, to leave with a firm foundation about what your Word says about the gifts.

God, we thank you for our worship team and how they are going to lead us throughout the conference. Would you give them a fresh anointing as they lead? Please give them strength and stamina throughout the conference.

All the glory is yours. We depend upon you, Holy Spirit, to guide us and use us for your glory. Amen.

*We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

**Romans 12:4-8**

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service ...*

**Ephesians 4:11-13**

*Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.*

**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**

*Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy ... On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation.*

**1 Corinthians 14:1&3**

## WE PRAY -

Father God, the author and finisher of our faith. Once again, we cry out to you for a fresh infilling of your Holy Spirit upon your Church. We know there is only one Church in the city. And in your wisdom and power, you are joining people of every nation, tribe, and language to come together as the Body of Christ. May we be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

Our hearts are desperate for all you have for us. We long to partner with you in your kingdom work. Help us discover your will for our lives. We are asking you to reveal to us what our gifts may be and guide us in this discovery to step out in faith and obedience.

We know that we are growing in our understanding of these things, and as we move forward in obedience, we will make some mistakes. Would you help us to not give up, but to continue moving forward, desiring to build up and encourage, to serve and console those you have placed around us. And in so doing, may they see Jesus in us and bring glory to you.

Everything is within your power, so we boldly ask that you provide the volunteer support necessary to run this event. We humbly ask these things in your precious name. Amen.



*This is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy."*

**Acts 2:16-18**

*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

**Ephesians 6:12**

## WE PRAY -

Dear heavenly Father, we surrender all to you, we humbly bring everything during this time with Jack Deere, Matt Chandler, Sam Storms, and their teams before your throne of grace.

We are very aware of the forces of darkness that want to stop the advancement of the kingdom of God. We are also aware that this conflict is not against flesh and blood, but it is a battle against rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. But, in faith, we come against them knowing the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

We pray, our Father, that what will be received during this time will bring inspiration, recommitment, strengthening of faith, and clear paths to becoming an intimate friend of God. May all who attend be impacted by your mighty hand to walk in the fullness of their giftings and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We ask for protection, safety, and provision for all those who travel to and from the sessions.

Lord, we just want to do whatever you ask of us. If you are calling us to any sort of fast in the days leading up to or during the conference, help us respond out of love and obedience.

Our unified desire is to see you exalted. That you would be seated upon the praises of your people and receive all the glory.

It is in the mighty, loving name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior, we pray. Amen.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY  
THROUGH THIS GUIDE UNTIL  
THE END OF THE PURSUIT  
CONFERENCE ON OCTOBER 6.**