



CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE-AFRICA

# 21 DAYS OF 20 PRAYER 26

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

— Ephesians 3:10 —

# 21 Days of prayer 2026

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## Introduction: “Lord, Teach Us to Pray”

### Ephesians

The disciples had walked with Jesus. They had seen miracles, heard His teachings, and witnessed him healing. But what stirred them most was the intimacy Jesus shared with the Father. It was the closeness, divine communion with his Father, that led them to ask, “**Lord, teach us to pray.**”

In the same spirit, we now come to Jesus with that same longing. As the Church of the Nazarene across the Africa continent, we are entering a time of 21 days of prayer. We are not merely seeking techniques or formulas; we are seeking intimacy. We are saying: “**Lord, teach me to pray. Teach us to pray.**”

To guide this time, we have chosen the book of Ephesians. Though Paul addresses many themes, Ephesians is ultimately a book of deep spiritual invitation. It draws us into intimacy with Jesus, with the Father, and with the mystery of the Triune God. It roots us in our identity in Christ so that our prayers may flow from a place of spiritual authority and relational depth.

Our anchoring scripture is **Ephesians 3:10**:

*“His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms.”*

This verse captures the heartbeat of our prayer focus. We are praying that God’s manifold wisdom will be revealed through us, in us, and to the heavenly realms. We are praying not just for answers, but for alignment with God’s eternal purposes.

### So, we invite you to join us with the weekly focus:

**Week 1 - “Lord, teach me to pray”:** as an individual, reflecting on your identity in Christ.

**Week 2- “Lord, teach us to pray”:** as families, lifting one another in love and unity.

**Week 3- “Lord, teach us to pray”:** as the Church, interceding for our communities, our continent, and the global body of Christ.

We encourage you to not only read specified passages, but the entire book of Ephesians as you seek God’s face. May this be a time of deep encounter. May God move through and through as we pray. And may we, like the disciples, be transformed by the intimacy we discover.

Blessings as you begin this special journey.

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# Day 1: Blessed Assurance

## Ephesians 1:13-14

*Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.*

### Devotion:

When we first believe, God give us the Holy Spirit as a guarantee that we are adopted into the family of God. It is the Holy Spirit that enables us to approach God as our Father. Like any child who goes to their parent for an embrace, for affection, when in need, happy, sad, hurt or just being in the presence of your parent. That is what prayer is, approaching our father and being in His presence. Though sin had separated us, in Christ and through Christ we are reconciled into the Family of God when we believe, and we are given an inheritance. Being inheritors means we have spiritual resources and blessings at our exposal. We can have intimacy, communion and fellowship with our heavenly Father and we can use all the resources made available to us. The Holy Spirit reassures us of this truth and empowers us to live as God's children.

### Reflection:

Do you have this blessed assurance that you are co-heir with Christ, the assurance that gives you confidence to be in God's presence for anything and everything like any child would be in their parent's presence?

### Prayer:

Our heavenly Father, you have given us your Spirit, the Holy Spirit, to remind us of who we are in Christ. May I experience this assurance that you are my parent, and I can be in your presence at any time for any reason without doubt, fear or guilt. Amen.





## Day 2: Spiritual wisdom and confident hope

### Ephesians 1:15, 17-18

*<sup>15</sup> For this reason, ever since I heard your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.*

#### Devotion:

Prayer reflects what is in our hearts and minds. It reveals our longings, desires and aspirations. Sometimes when we pray in public, we filter our thoughts and choose our words so we can sound right or good with others. Sometimes the same attitude prevails in private when we pray. This attitude deprives us of authentic prayers and relationship with God. But we can rejoice that the Father loves us so to gift us with his spirit. The Spirit of wisdom and revelation is a gift from God and is a mark of spiritual growth. When we have this spirit, we serve God better and are authentic. And it will enlighten the eyes of our heart and enhance our faith in God, by which you will come to understand who God is, who we are in Christ and the hope to which he has called us, and you will come to enjoy the riches of his glory. Spiritual wisdom allows us to be our authentic selves before God. It exposes our hearts, hidden desires and false hopes that we may be basing our lives on. May our hearts be enlightened so we can mature in our faith and walk with Christ.

#### Reflection:

Is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation helping you to serve God better, and help you to know the hope to which you are called to?

#### Prayer:

Dear Lord, I thank you for my faith in you today, I ask that you open the eyes of my heart for me to know the hope to which you have called me. I asked that you give me the Spirit of wisdom and revelation to serve you better. Amen.



## Day 3: The Power that raised Jesus

### Ephesians 1:19-23

*And his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead.*

#### Devotion:

Paul tells us that the same power that raised Christ from the dead now lives in us. Not a lesser version nor a diluted form of the power, but the same power. The Greek word for “power” here is *dynamis* - the root of our word “dynamite.” It’s explosive, unstoppable, and divine. It shattered the grip of death, exalted Jesus above every authority, and seated him at the right hand of God. And now, that power is at work in us.

As we pray or live or when we serve and minister, we should not only operate on human strength as those who don’t believe. We can be plugged into resurrection power. We are not just surviving spiritual battles, but we share in Christ’s victory. This power enables us to speak life into broken places, renew us and transform our communities.

#### Reflection:

Reflect on an area of where you feel powerless. Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal how resurrection power wants to move in that area.

#### Prayer:

Lord, awaken me to the power that raised Jesus from the dead. Help me live, love, and serve from a place of resurrection authority. May my life reflect the victory of the empty tomb and the reign of Christ over all things. Amen.





## Day 4: Identity in Christ

### Ephesians 2:4-6

*But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.*

#### Devotion:

Knowing who you are is necessary for a healthy prayer life. If you do not know who you are, fears and doubt will prevent you from coming to God. When you know yourself, even with all your faults and your failures, you can come to God and acknowledge that you need his grace every day. Yes, we are sinners. Yes, we make mistakes. Yes, we do wrong. And yes, Christ died for us. Yes, he was raised for us. And yes, God makes us alive with Christ.

To understand ourselves with our unique mindsets, perspectives and cultures is best done through the light of the Gospel. Then we can pray without shame or pride. Then we can pray knowing and accepting our place in God's Kingdom.

#### Reflection:

- What identity has been shaping your prayers?
- Does your identity in Christ shape your prayers?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we praise you that you did not leave us dead in our transgressions. Help us to rightly see ourselves, not as worthless and not as perfect, but as you see us. Help us to be who you created us to be in our daily lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.



## Day 5: Walk worthy

### Ephesians 4:1-3

*As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.*

#### Devotion:

Despite his own affliction and anguish as a prisoner, Paul encourages the believers to maintain holy living by clearly demonstrating humility, gentleness, and patience. Furthermore, holiness is to be expressed in love for God and love for one another. As Christians, we are expected to live lives worthy of our calling. When we are not living a life of love/holiness it is hard for us to pray 'forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sinned against us'

#### Reflection:

How can you demonstrate humility, gentleness, and patience in our daily interactions?

#### Prayer:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit, help me live a life worthy of our calling. Each day we ask that You order our steps. We humbly request Your Holy Spirit to always walk with us in our day-to-day life. We desire to always live lives that please You. In Jesus' name, Amen.





## Day 6: Putting off and Putting On

**Ephesians 4:22-24**

*You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.*

### Devotion:

The sinful life stands in opposition to God and cannot please Him. The only way to draw closer to God is through genuine repentance. This is a complete turning away from our old sinful nature by humbly seeking God's forgiveness. This transformation is fundamentally about renewing the mind. Today, the message of repentance is notably absent from many of our pulpits. Instead, material and physical transformation has found prominent space in our churches. However, Paul reminds us that spiritual transformation must be our priority. We cannot achieve authentic African Christian revival unless believers' minds are renewed and transformed into Christ's image.

Therefore, we must continue praying not only for fellow believers but for the entire African church and beyond. The Word of God teaches us to renounce our deceitful desires and pursue God's righteousness, which represents the new image we have in Christ Jesus. Being renewed in Christ's image is the true reflection of God's restored righteousness and holiness within us.

### Reflection:

When you honestly examine your own life, what specific areas of your heart and mind still need to be surrendered to God's or put off for transformation?

### Prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, today we humbly seek Your forgiveness. We come before Your altar with reverent hearts, presenting ourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to You. We choose to put off our old, corrupt, and deceitful desires that are always hostile to Your will. Help us to die to our sinful nature as we put on the new, transformed image of Christ. Holy Spirit, we invite You to renew our minds and restore God's righteousness and holiness in our lives. Transform us from the inside out, that we may reflect Your glory and walk in Your ways. Make us instruments of revival in our communities and throughout Africa, beginning with our own surrendered hearts. In Jesus' precious name we pray. Amen.



## Day 7: Imitators of God

### Ephesians 5:1

*You are God's beloved children, and so you should be like him. Let your lives be dominated by love, just as Christ loved us and gave his life for us as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice pleasing to God.*

#### Devotion:

The Word calls us to be like God, and the central likeness we must develop is the love He feels for His creation, to the point of giving His only Son to die for us on the cross, even though He knows we are unworthy, because we all make mistakes and fall short of the glory of God.

To imitate God is not to strive for perfection but to walk in love. Jesus modelled this love by giving Himself up for us, a fragrant offering. When we lead, serve, and speak from that same love, our lives become a living aroma of grace in our families, churches, and communities. Imitating God means to love when it's inconvenient, forgiving when it's undeserved and leading with humility and not ego. This is the kind of love that transforms, empowers, and builds.

#### Reflection:

How is your love for your brother or sister who is part of the same creation that God loves?

#### Prayer:

Holy Father, creator of the universe, we come to you and ask that you fill us with love for our brothers and sisters in the world. May we love as Christ loves us, so we can become more like him. Amen.



## Day 8: God's showered blessings

### Ephesians 1:3-8

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight.*

#### Devotion:

Paul invites us to a life of praise and worship to our God the maker of heaven and earth. He is clearly demonstrating that before the world began, before the first star blazed to life, God was already thinking of a human being. The Creator of the universe set His affection upon us and chose us to be His own. It is therefore evident that wasn't a desperate, last-minute decision when sin entered the world. It was His deliberate, joyful choice born from perfect love. It was "in accordance with his pleasure and will" God didn't adopt us reluctantly or out of obligation. He delighted to make us His children.

Through the redemptive work of Christ, we have received forgiveness through his grace. It is therefore to note as believers that this reality should transform how we see ourselves and others. We are not accidents wandering through life, hoping to find meaning. We are chosen ones, predestined for glory, redeemed by blood, and showered with divine favour. This is our true identity, not our failures, not our circumstances, but our position as beloved children of God.

#### Reflection:

How does knowing you are chosen "before the creation of the world" change your perspective on your current struggles or feelings of inadequacy?

#### Prayer:

Our heavenly father, thank you for your blessings upon our lives. We pray for the Holy Spirit to continue reminding us of who we are in Christ Jesus.





## Day 9: A Home of Grace

### Ephesians 2:19–22

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of his household... In him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*

#### Devotion:

We are no longer outsiders, but we are part of God’s household. Not just guests in God’s house, but family. God’s grace doesn’t just welcome us; it rebuilds us. Our families and homes can be a home of grace, a place where God makes His dwelling. A “home of grace” is not defined by architecture or tradition, it is defined by belonging. It’s a place where every person is loved and treasured, a place where we pray for and serve each other with love. This does not take away conflict or disagreements, it means that we experience the fruits of the spirit with each other. The more we pray for each other, the more patient, gracious and forgiving with each other. Every moment of spiritual formation in our families is bricklaying for God’s household. By praying for each other and with each other we stand in a gap for each other and carry each other’s burdens including members of our families who do not know Christ yet. This also presents us with an opportunity for us to pray for members of families who do not know Christ so they too can become a part of God’s household.

#### Reflection:

You may be the only Christian in your family, or maybe there are many of you who proclaim Jesus as Lord. What are some of the ways in which we can extend God’s grace to members of our family?

#### Prayer:

Lord, we are part of Your household. Help us make our family a place where Your grace is felt and Your Spirit is welcome. May the way we live and interact with each other reflect your heart, and may we serve each other with love and be kinder and more gracious with each other. May we be a testament with our neighbours that God lives here and that those who do not know you will come to know you because we are your household. Amen





## Day 10: Spousal prayer and relationship

### Ephesians 5:21

*Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

#### Devotion:

Marriage is a covenant that should reflect Christ's love for the Church. In Ephesians 5:21–33, Paul paints a picture of mutual submission, sacrificial love, and spiritual unity. This passage calls both husband and wife to reflect Christ; the husband by loving with selfless devotion, and the wife by responding with respect and trust. The two become one, mirroring the intimacy between Christ and His bride.

When prayer becomes a heartbeat, marriage flourishes. The kind of love Paul speaks about is not sustained by feelings alone; it is nurtured through prayer. Praying for your spouse is one of the most powerful ways to love them. It is here where God transforms hearts.

#### Reflection:

- Do our words and actions toward each other reflect Christ's love and grace?
- Are we praying not just for our spouse, but with our spouse?

#### Couple's Prayer:

Lord, teach us to pray for each other with compassion and consistency. Help us see one another through your eyes. May our prayers be a source of healing, strength, and joy. Unite us in purpose, protect our love, and deepen our faith. Let our marriage reflect Your glory. Amen.



## Day 11: Parent-child prayer (relationship)

### Ephesians 6:1-4

*Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.*

#### Devotion:

The Greek word used here is often translated as “fathers”, but it generally means “parents.” Praying for and with our children is a shared responsibility for both parents. Praying for our children is relatively simple, but praying with them can be challenging. It’s easy to shout at your children and then go to your prayer space to pray for them. However, it is much harder to upset your children and then kneel with them in prayer. Paul advises parents not to irritate or frustrate their children from the outset, making it easier to teach and train them in faith. Praying for and with our children should never become outdated. Even as our children grow into adults, praying alongside them remains a vital way to guide and instruct them in the Lord.

#### Reflection:

- Do you find it easier to pray for or pray with your children/parents?
- How can you use the principles you have learned in the 21 days of prayer to improve your prayers for and with your children/parents?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we give you praise for being our perfect parent. Help us to apply your parenting style in our own lives and to pray for and with our children and/or our parents. In Jesus’ name. Amen.



## Day 12: Peacemakers

### Ephesians 4:25-27

*In your anger do not sin. Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.*

#### Devotion:

Today's world fights day and night for its own interests and personal gain.

The fear of tomorrow's challenges pushes people to cling to power and to secure autonomy for themselves and their families, even for generations to come. This often results in deception, lies, theft, betrayal, violence, and the manipulation of others in order to appear stronger and indispensable.

But if this is man's motivation, what is God's will in such a system?

The Bible teaches us that, despite our fears and worries, we must cultivate virtues that proclaim and confirm the fruit of our transformation: truth in all things, at all times. Truth must become the foundation of our daily lives.

Where truth reigns, lies must flee.

Where truth reigns, anger and its works fade away.

Where truth reigns, God's love and justice prevail.

The Apostle Paul presents truth and self-control as the essential conditions for our transformation in Christ our Lord.

Therefore, let each of us earnestly pursue truth and self-control, so that the testimony of our lives on this earth may bring praise and glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We are created in the image of Christ, and our testimony reflects the power of His sacrifice.

#### Prayer:

Lord, thank You for Your love and grace in my life.

I come before You as a weak plant, asking You to lift me up.

I acknowledge the flaws and weaknesses within me that constantly draw me away from You.

I long to please You—help me and guide me.

Break in me every nature that is contrary to Your purpose for my life.

I depend on You: lead me and shape me into the person You want me to be.

I love You, Lord, and I desire to honor You.

I place my trust in You—guide my steps, Lord.

Thank You for hearing me and for making my life a testimony to the praise and glory of Your name. Amen.





## Day 13: Workplace relationships

### Ephesians 6:7

*Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord and not men.*

#### Devotion:

These biblical passages help us to understand the duty of Christian workers and the duty of bosses in Christian family. It gives clear insight that a Christian must consider his work as the lord's blessing and work to please the lord rather than pleasing his boss. In this regard, a Christian worker should work to please God by fearing to do wrong and do their best to be productive by viewing their job as their part of worship to God. The duty of the boss should love their workers and consider them as their fellow Christian brothers made in God's image. A Christian boss must avoid frustrating their workers and treat them very well by the grace of God. Also, Christian bosses must reward their workers with love.

#### Reflection:

- How Christian can Christians treat their workers as recommended in Ephesians 6:5-9?
- How can a Christian worker demonstrate their faith in God at their working places ?

#### Prayer:

Lord of all work and rest, thank You for the gift of work and community in our workplace. Bless my colleagues with strength, creativity, and unity. May we support one another with kindness, communicate with grace, and labor with purpose. Let our work reflect Your excellence and our relationships reflect Your love. Amen.





## Day 14: Spiritual warfare in the family

### Ephesians 4:18

*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.*

#### Devotion:

There is nothing the enemy of God would enjoy more than destroying marriages and families. Godly, healthy families are signs that point others to the unity of the Triune God. Since the beginning of families, with the story of Cain and Abel, we have seen the enemy try (and succeed in Genesis 4) to destroy families. But this is not a reason to fear. Knowing our families are targets should motivate us to “pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.” Prayers and, particularly, prayers using God’s Word, are our offensive weapons against the enemy. Through our prayers, God defeats the plans of the enemy.

#### Reflection:

What is a Scripture you can pray over your family today?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for creating us to live in the community of families to point others to you. Protect all the members of my family today from the evil one. In Jesus’ name, Amen.



## Day 15: God's Intent for the Church

### Ephesians 3:10

*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms."*

#### Devotion:

The church does not only exist for fellowship or gathering of saints. This passage tells us that God's intention about the church is for himself (God) to be known. God's strategy for revealing His wisdom isn't through impressive speeches or signs and wonders, but it's through us, the church. Not the building, but the living body of believers. When we allow God to build us, shape us, sanctify us that we become one body of Christ regardless of our ethnicity, tribe or culture we display his wisdom not only on earth but also the heavenly realms. The church does not exist for its own glory or name, but it exists to make known God through Jesus Christ.

As we pray "your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" we are asking God to reveal himself. When he is revealed, he is glorified. The word for "manifold" suggests a rich, colourful variety, like embroidery woven from diverse threads. This is how God is building his church, bringing people from different ethnicity, tribes, cultures and backgrounds to be one entity, the church, the body of Christ where God himself dwells.

#### Reflection:

Consider ways in which your church, ministry or leadership can reflect God's manifold wisdom.

#### Prayer:

Lord, we are your church. We desire to see you glorified in and through us. We are not always what we ought to be as a church, sometimes we are more caught up in ourselves and lifting ourselves up. Help us recognize that the church mission and purpose is to let you- Almighty God to be known. And if there is anything that we do or have become contrary to the purpose you have for us, may the Holy Spirit convict us. Be glorified in and through your church. Amen.





## Day 16: Oneness with Christ

### Ephesians 2:11-17

*Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)— remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the.....He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.*

#### Devotion:

Life without Christ is indeed a life stripped of its ultimate purpose and eternal hope. Christ Jesus stands as “the hope of glory. This hope transcends earthly circumstances because it is anchored in the eternal character and finished work of our Savior. Where the world offers temporary solutions and fleeting pleasures, Christ reconciliation offers permanent transformation and everlasting joy. The fellowship between humanity and Christ is an intimate union that transforms the very essence of our being. Through His redemptive work accomplished on the cross of Calvary, Christ has torn down the barrier of sin that separated us from God and each other, opening the way for restored relationship and genuine communion.

The church in Africa stands uniquely positioned to demonstrate this reconciling power of Christ, having witnessed both the devastating effects of division and the transformative power of the gospel. Through an authentic Christian community that transcends tribal, economic, and political boundaries, the church can serve as a beacon of hope for the continent and the world.

#### Reflection:

How can the Church effectively promote and demonstrate peace amid witnessed wars, despair, and seemingly hopeless situations?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father,  
We thank You for the incredible gift of reconciliation through Your Son, Jesus Christ. Through His precious blood shed on the cross of Calvary, you have brought us into profound unity with Yourself and with one another as members of His body. We praise You that our oneness with Christ is not dependent on our works, achievements, or material possessions, but solely on Your grace and the finished work of Jesus in Jesus name Amen.



## Day 17: The unlimited resource

### Ephesians 3:16-17a

*I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.*

#### Devotion:

Mental illness is increasing worldwide. It appears to particularly affect younger people, with some experts referring to Gen Z as the Anxious Generation. This should be a major concern for us in the Africa Region Church of the Nazarene, as the median age of the continent is 19 years, right within the Gen Z age range. But we take heart because we know that “out of [God’s] glorious riches he may strengthen [us] with power through his Spirit in [our] inner being” (emphasis added). God, who looks at the heart, cares about our inner being and mental health, not only our spiritual health. Let us dedicate ourselves to praying for the mental wellbeing of all God’s people, especially the youth. The power of the Holy Spirit is the unlimited resource to strengthen the church.

#### Reflection:

Which young person(s) can you commit to pray for today, especially for their mental health?

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for caring for the whole person and that your glorious riches are not limited to physical or spiritual only. Thank you, Holy Spirit, for being powerful to strengthen the whole person. Help us to be faithful in lifting those affected by mental illness. In Jesus’ name. Amen.





## Day 18: Equipped to serve

### Ephesians 4:11-13

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.*

#### Devotion:

Across the vast continent of Africa and beyond, Christ himself has strategically placed His gifts within His church. Just as Paul wrote to the Ephesians, Jesus has given the church apostles who pioneer new works, prophets who speak God's heart, evangelists who reach the unreached, pastors who shepherd with tender care, and teachers who open the Scriptures with clarity.

It is important to note that these gifts are not given for personal glory or to create spiritual hierarchies. They exist to "equip his people for works of service." Every believer in whether in a mega church or a house church meeting under a baobab tree is called to ministry. The five-fold gifts exist to train, encourage, and release the entire body into service.

The goal is profound: unity in faith, maturity in Christ, and growth into His fullness. As believers, we are intentionally equipped to serve. This is Christ's vision for His African church and beyond not competing denominations or isolated congregations because of our gifts but rather to be a unified body, mature and whole, reflecting His glory across the continent.

#### Reflection:

How is God calling you to use your gifts to strengthen and build up your local church community?

#### Prayer:

Our God and Father, we thank You for the provision of gifts upon Your church. You have called and entrusted us with such great gifts for the sole purpose of equipping Your people in the church. Help us to use our gifts wisely not for personal gain, but rather for Your glory. We pray that Your Spirit will help us grow in unity of faith and maturity in Christ. In Jesus' name, Amen.



## Day 19: Growing together in love

### Ephesians 4:10-18

*From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*

#### Devotion:

Christ ascension brought different gifts in the church: some evangelist, pastors and teacher, which is given to equip us for the work of God and the building of the body Christ, to achieve unity and maturity in faith, in order not to be tossed about by false doctrine, but rather to speak the truth in love and live a differently world. But these gifts aren't for personal elevation, they're for building up the body of Christ.

We grow best when we grow together. Spiritual maturity isn't a solo journey. It's a shared calling to become "mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ" (v.13). That means learning to speak truth in love, resisting the winds of false teaching, and anchoring ourselves in Christ, our Head. This is a vision of unity, not uniformity. Each part matters. Each gift contributes. Each voice strengthens. Whether you're mentoring youth, praying, or preaching, your work is part of a divine tapestry woven in love.

#### Reflection:

- How can I build others up in love?
- What part am I playing in the body's maturity?

#### Prayer:

Father, thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit and the various gifts given to the church, we ask that you help us to use our gifts to serve others.

Guide us to speak the truth in love and to live differently from the world's patterns. Amen





## Day 20: God's masterpiece

### Ephesians 2:8-10

*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.*

#### Devotion:

This biblical passage helps us to better understand the following:

- Salvation is the lord's gift which does not depend on human effort and work. Human salvation is the result of God's love demonstrated through the life of Jesus Christ who accepted to die for us (5:8).
- We need faith to enjoy the Lord's salvation and love which the Lord showed to us through the atonement of the blood of Jesus Christ shed on the cross.
- Christians are God's masterpiece made with the purpose to glorify God in their daily lives. As the lord's masterpiece we have been made to worship God, to please him by leaving a holy life that the lord intended us to do.

#### Reflection:

- How can we get the Lord's salvation?
- What is the meaning(ways) of God's salvation for human life?

#### Prayer:

God our creator, thank You for shaping us with purpose and love. We are your masterpiece; crafted by grace, called to good works, and made to reflect your majesty. Help us walk justly and serve the world boldly, honoring you with every step we take. Amen.





## Day 21: Spiritual warfare in the Church

### Ephesians 6:10-12

*Finally, be strong in Lord and in His mighty power put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's scheme.*

This verse reminds believers that the Christian life involves spiritual battles that cannot be fought in our own strength. Victory comes through God's power accessed through faith, prayer and obedience. Finally, Paul is concluding his letter with an important reminder. After all his teachings about unity and love and living as children of light he shifts to the spiritual reality of warfare. Be strong in the Lord: Our strength does not come from ourselves but from our relationship with God it's a call to rely on Him completely and His Mighty Power: The power is the same power that raised Jesus from the dead.

#### Prayer:

Heavenly Father we come before You today as Your children and as Your church Lord we know that the enemy seeks to steal, kill, destroy, but You have come that we may have life and life abundantly. In the Mighty name of Jesus we take authority over every spirit of division, confusion, gossip, strife that seeks to enter the church. We bind every plan of the enemy that would try to bring disunity, distraction or discouragement among Your children.

Lord, cover every Pastor, Leader and member under Your precious blood the blood of Jesus, protect our hearts, minds from lies, fear and deception. Surround Your church with Your angels as a hedge of protection. We declare that no weapon formed against the church will prosper and every tongue that rises against it in judgement shall be condemned. Holy Spirit fill this place with Your presence, bring revival, renewal in Jesus Mighty Name. We declare Victory over every attack and lie and every stronghold in Jesus Name. Amen.

# Thank you



Church of the Nazarene - Africa