

## Greater Prayer Guide – Bridge Christian Church

*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 the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen*  
*Ephesians 3:20-21*

*He must become GREATER; I must become less.*  
*John 3:30*

In March of 2019, our church family began to seek God in a very intentional way through daily prayers and fasting using a prayer guide that led us to open up our scriptures to seek God's truth. We were seeking Him for a blueprint on how to effectively reach people for Christ. Our elders were praying for guidance on our location. We were outgrowing our existing space and many options were being explored including moving to a different location. As we prayed with unity and love, waiting on God's guidance, He was faithful. Within two weeks of our praying together - the four acres directly adjacent to our property became available for sale. In addition, God directed Pastor Todd to key verses in John and Acts as the blueprint for us to be witnesses for Christ. That blueprint is now our challenge - to love one another the way Christ loves us. Our Unity, Sharing and Love will be a light to our community and to the world. We are praying that our church family will again double in size over the next five years with people who do not yet walk closely with Christ. With that growth and the provision of the land - we are following God's guidance to build at this location.

God has been assembling at Bridge individuals who desire to spend time with Him in his word and in prayer; eager to learn how to share their faith and willing to love the way Christ has called us to love one another. We now have the opportunity to courageously give towards the Greater Generosity Campaign for this new facility. Use this prayer guide to open your Bible and pray. Everyone is invited on Tuesday

evenings at 6:30 pm in the auditorium to pray together. Daily emails with the prayer points from this guide will be provided to those who have signed up. Please consider fasting on Tuesdays during March. Prayerfully consider the type of fast that God is calling you to for this period of time. It could be a type of food or drink, a time-consuming activity like checking social media, an unhelpful habit, a particular activity, or just the general busyness of life.

### **The Blueprint**

**Unity: John 17:20-26**

**Sharing: Acts 2:42-47**

**Love: John 13:34-35**

God is Greater and He is faithful. Along with our guiding verse of John 3:30 - set a daily alarm for 3:30 pm and let's pause and pray wherever we are at that moment. Let's pray with anticipation of what the Lord will do in the next 31 days of prayer to draw us closer in Unity, Sharing and a Love that demonstrates we are true disciples of Christ. Let's dream with the Lord for the future and for changing lives for eternity.

## **Praise God!**

***As we begin our 31-day journey of prayer and fasting, let us praise God - to honor and thank Him for all He has done and is yet to do. He has provided the growth. He has provided the land on which we can build. He has provided the blueprint and is now asking us to love like Christ has loved us. And by our Unity, Sharing and Love He will bring those who need to know Christ.***

- ❑ **March 1- Praise God!** We praise you and thank you for who you are. We humbly come before you, seeking you as a church family, ready to be obedient to all you ask of us in unity, sharing and love. We praise you for your direction and purpose in our lives - to reach our world for Christ. Thank you for entrusting us with your vision. Lord, may you become greater as we become less. We are embarking on this new generosity campaign because we are convinced that you have Greater things in store for Bridge Christian Church and the people you are calling here. Praise you Lord!
- ❑ **March 2 - Divine Expectation** We praise you for the excitement and energy that exists in this church family - an energy to do your will. We thank you for the opportunity to be part of the Greater Generosity Campaign and can't wait to see how you will work through our giving. We praise you with excitement because we know you are able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. **Ephesians 3:20-21 "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 the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen"**
- ❑ **March 3 - Faithfulness** **Psalm 66:19 (ESV) "But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer."** Father, we praise You for Your direct answer to our prayers when land became available for our new building in Your perfect timing. The psalmist was completely sure that not only did God listen to his prayer but that He attended to the voice of his prayer, meaning that God answered it. How can we be like the psalmist and believe that "truly God has listened?" Again, we must know the will of God in order to pray for His will to be done and to find the will of God we must be in His Word. Father, now that you have answered our prayers for our location, help us to be generous in our giving to support the spiritual and physical blueprints you are laying out before us.
- ❑ **March 4 - Greater** Father, we pray Your Holy Spirit would hover over every detail of this building project and that every person planning and building will stop for a minute, offering the work to You, and asking You to use it to build Your Kingdom. **Nehemiah 2:4-5 The king said to me, "What is it you want? Then I prayed to the God of heaven and I answered the king, 'If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it. '"**
- ❑ **March 5 - Growing Pains** God, we praise you for our current church building and facilities. We are so grateful for the people you have been drawing to Bridge Christian Church. We thank you for the growth and ask that you help us to be patient and extend grace to one another in the little things (parking, meeting space, overflow). Help us to see that our growth demonstrates additional need and reason to give generously. **Colossians 3:12-14 "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."**

- ☐ March 6 - Share Father, we praise you for the gift of salvation. We know your Spirit is working in and through the church so that no one would perish. We pray that your blueprint would be used effectively in our lives to share the message of Christ. **John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."**

## Unity - John 17:20-26

*As we focus on unity as a church family continue to pray through and study John 17:20-26. How can we better appreciate our gift of salvation and celebrate unity as new believers come to know Christ?*

- ☐ March 7 - Belief **John 17:20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message..."** We praise you God for the gospel message that unifies us as a church family. We believe because of Jesus and the truth found in your word. As Bridge Christian Church steps forward in faith to fulfill your vision to reach the lost, we pray for your divine wisdom and knowledge.
- ☐ March 8 - One **John 17:20-21 "...that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."** Praise God for His invitation to be one with Him. May we learn to remain in you Lord, even to the point that our giving would be additional evidence of our desire to be unified as a church family and obedient to your plans. May we be compelled to participate in your Vision.
- ☐ March 9 - God Glorified **John 17:22-23 "I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one - I in them and you in me - so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."** Churches have divided over building campaigns and decisions as small as the color of the carpet. Father, we pray that we would be brought to complete unity in your purpose that we would love one another as Christ has loved us. Mature us for your kingdom work. May you be glorified in our giving.
- ☐ March 10 - God is the Builder **John 17:24 "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world."** Father, we praise you for your glory - for who you are. Father, we desire that you are the builder of our new facility - the rock, the foundation, the cornerstone. Without you, we build in vain. Please guide us that our efforts are pleasing and honoring to you - especially in our unified purpose to humbly serve you.
- ☐ March 11 - We Can Know **John 17:25 "Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me."** Lord, God, we want to know you. We desire to be obedient to your plans for Bridge Christian Church. Please prompt us by your Spirit to be a part of what you are doing and to give generously of our time and resources.

- ❑ March 12 - Grace Father, we seek your forgiveness. Bridge Christian Church was born out of a split and by your grace, that disunity stops with us. No more. We ask you to bind us together that we would be a powerful witness as to what You can achieve in a healthy, obedient, giving, loving body of believers. **Amos 7:7-8 "This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord asked me, 'What do you see, Amos?' 'A plumb line' I replied. Then the Lord said, 'Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel: I will spare them no longer.'** When God said He was setting a plumb line among His people, He was declaring an end to their attempts to justify their crooked ways. Lord, we pray that you would set the standard, that your moral law would serve as the line against which we determine right and wrong. Help us, Lord, to tear down any crooked walls in our lives, any strongholds, and align with your plumb line. You are our builder; our precious cornerstone for a sure foundation.
  
- ❑ March 13 - Build **Nehemiah 3:1-2 "Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel. The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them."** Father, thank you for the team in charge of Bridge's building project. We pray, strength, wisdom and protection over Malcolm Puckett and the team at Christian Financial Resources; Paykon Sarmadi and the group at Balzer & Associates, (Architectural, Engineer and Surveying); the Contractor and everyone who will be participating in the construction of the building. In Jesus' name.
  
- ❑ March 14 - No Division **1 Corinthians 1:10 "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought."** In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray we would agree with one another in what we say and there would be no divisions among us, but that we be perfectly united in mind and thought. Give us clarity of thought as individuals and unity in our families as we prepare our hearts to honor the Lord with our wealth.

## **Sharing - Acts 2:42-47**

***Enthusiastically sharing life and our resources to demonstrate to the world that we are followers of Christ.***

- ❑ March 15 - Courageous Examination **Acts 2:42 "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."** When you look at Bridge Christian Church and when you examine your own life - would you describe us as devoted to Biblical teaching? Are you sharing life in fellowship with other Christian believers? Do you faithfully spend time alone and with others seeking God in prayer? Father, encourage our hearts by your love as we enjoy devoted time with you and in fellowship with our church family.
  
- ❑ March 16 - Awestruck **Acts 2:43 "Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles."** Do we remain awestruck at the wonder of God? Lord, please forgive us for the miracles we overlook or diminish - so often giving credit to coincidence or other earthly intervention. May our giving be just one more example of a miraculous wonder of where you are working and where we are surrendered to your plans. We look forward to celebrating a miraculous offering that glorifies you.

- ❑ March 17 - Sharing Possessions **Acts 2:44-45** **“All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.”** Are we ready to share our resources with the church and with one another? Have we looked in our garages and closets to explore what we could sell to raise additional funds for what God has called us to build? Are there purchases we could personally delay to commit funds to our church family now? Lord, please open our eyes to our resources and help us happily contribute them to honor you.
  
- ❑ March 18 - Communion Meal **Acts 2:46** **“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.”** Communion (or the Love Feast as Jude called it) is a beautiful way for our church family to come together around this sacred meal. We get to experience joy in the shared gift of salvation that bonds us together as the body of Christ. Father, allow us to experience a filling of your Spirit as we partake of communion each week as a church family.
  
- ❑ March 19 - New Believers Daily **Acts 2:46-47** **“...praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”** Father, please prepare us to welcome, love and encourage the people you will bring. Give us an urgency to reach our community for Christ. We pray that even those that may not fully understand your vision will have a heart to get involved and contribute. We pray that you will make it known that it is your will for Bridge Christian Church to expand and grow. We ask you Lord, as members of this spiritual family, to provide the specific financial investment you are asking us/me to make in order to provide a church home for the new family members being brought to Christ.
  
- ❑ March 20 -Responsibility **Luke 12:48** **“...From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked.”** Father, we pray that you would open our eyes to how generously you provide for us - jobs, homes, food, and clothing. Show us how to give deeper than just out of our abundance - to sacrificially give in faith. Help us trust that you will provide for us. May our gifts be multiplied all to your glory. We are rich with your love and we thank you for the gift of our church family. Place in us a strong desire to share your love with others. You have given us so much - help us to generously give the greatest gift ever - an invitation to know you!
  
- ❑ March 21 - The Church The Greek word “Ekklesia” (which we translate “church”) means “called out.” This word “ekklesia” was not used to emphasize separateness, but togetherness. We tend to think it is a good thing to separate ourselves from everyone with whom we disagree. Ironically, the word “Pharisee” means “one who is separated.” The emphasis needs to be put back on togetherness, rather than separateness. Father, we pray that in our community may we truly represent the Ekklesia. We pray for your overflowing blessing to be upon this church family. Equip us with everything we need to become the church you have called us to be in this community. In Jesus’ name.

- ❑ March 22 - Vision **Matthew 28:19-20** “**Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you...**” Continue to stir us with the vision you have for Bridge and give us a strong desire to financially support that vision. As we grow in size, help us to be steadfast in honoring commitments we have made and challenge us to give even more in the future. Bridge Christian Church has a primary focus of making disciples and reaching our world for Christ. Pray that we would have the courage to demonstrate our commitment to this God-given purpose through our giving.
- ❑ March 23 - Truth **1 Corinthians 15:2** “**Hold fast to the word preached by the apostles.**” Father, help us to be unified in doctrine. Thank you for our pastors that teach doctrine from your word only. Anything beyond that is only our opinion and speculation. We pray against any plans of our enemy to put division and quarreling among us. Your word tells us to “**give what we have decided in our hearts to give - not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**” **2 Corinthians 9:7**
- ❑ March 24 - Peace **Ephesians 4:3** “**Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.**” Think about that for a second. When believers cannot get along with one another, it prevents the world from believing in Christ. If you want the world to hear and believe the Good News, then one of the things we **MUST** do is be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Dear Father God, we pray that You will help every member of Bridge Christian Church to live in harmony with each other. May we be united in love and guided by the Spirit of God. Keep us from worldly ways, but rather may our lives be a witness of Your love, not only in what we say but in all that we do, In the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord.

## Love - John 13:34-35

***Sacrificially modeling Jesus’ love to one another. The early church loved one another in such a way that it served as a witness for Christ. Pray that the Holy Spirit will teach us to love one another deeply.***

- ❑ March 25 - Command **John 13:34** “**A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.**” Not a suggestion, but a command to love one another. Father, keep us obedient to your commands - especially this command to love one another. Stretch us, Lord, in our love for one another and for you - and in our giving. Help us to be obedient to this opportunity for sacrificial giving to honor you and demonstrate our love.
- ❑ March 26 - Witness **John 13:35** “**By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.**” Father, may our lives serve as a powerful witness that we are followers of Christ. The disciples gave everything - their very lives - to demonstrate their love for Jesus and to serve as authentic witnesses. If they had not believed, they would not have sacrificed it all for the growth of the church. Pray that we would examine what you have done for us, the sacrifice you made for us and the example of the disciples. Challenge us in our hearts to give with extravagant generosity the way that you have given so lavishly to us in the free gift of salvation.

- ❑ March 27 - Judgment **Romans 2:1-4** “ You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things. Now we know that God’s judgment against those who do such things is based on truth. So when you, a mere human being, pass judgment on them and yet do the same things, do you think you will escape God’s judgment? Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?” Father, I admit I am quick to shower your kindness, tolerance, and patience to people whose brokenness, struggles, and issues are similar to mine. But, I can be condescending and judgmental toward people whose weaknesses inconvenience, annoy, or offend me. Forgive me for this attitude that blatantly contradicts the gospel. Help me to see others as Jesus sees them. Help me to love this church family with our collective brokenness and to always extend grace to others, the way you have so graciously extended it to me. Praise you Lord for the amazing diversity of people you are bringing to Bridge. In the name of Jesus.
- ❑ March 28 - Spiritually Instructed to Love **1 Thessalonians 4:9-10** “Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. And in fact, you do love all of God’s family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more.” Father, thank you for teaching us how to love one another. Help us take our love to the next level. May Bridge Christian Church be known in our community by how we love one another. God, help us to intentionally build in order to freely share the resources of our new space to the benefit and blessing of our community.
- ❑ March 29 - Humility **1 Timothy 6:17-19** “Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.” Father, help us to courageously give the amount you want each of us to contribute in this generosity campaign. May our giving further unite us in sharing and love - that we would take hold of the life you have intended for us as part of the family of Christ. In Jesus’ name, Amen.
- ❑ March 30 - Devoted **Romans 12:10-13** “Be devoted to one another in love; honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.” Heavenly Father, grant Bridge Christian Church the grace to be devoted to others in love, and that we would honor others above our own lives. Empower us so we will never be lacking in zeal, but keep our spiritual fervor, doing all things as doing them for you. Enable us to be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer. Bless Bridge with abundant resources to share with God’s people who are in need. Motivate us all to practice hospitality as well as demonstrate kindness to strangers. We pray this through the mighty name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

- ☐ March 31 - Built Together **Ephesians 2:21-22** “In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” Father, we commit ourselves to your purposes, that we as individuals become a holy dwelling place for your Spirit. We pray that the new facility will rise to become a holy temple that honors you. And by our witness of Unity, Sharing and Love that others would come and see. We praise you, Lord, for this season of sacrificial giving - help us to be courageous and to excel in this grace of giving.

*As we conclude our 31 days of prayer and fasting, praising God for what He will accomplish through our giving for the Greater Generosity Campaign, let us be ever mindful of the blueprint to honor Christ with our witness as we remain united, sharing generously and committed to one another in love.*

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**Unity \* Sharing \* Love**

**GREATER**

**March 2020**