

People of the Promised Land – Part 1



God's Word



God's Heart



Today's World



How to Use This Prayer Guide

In all that we do, Bible Study Fellowship recognizes our utter need for and dependence upon God. As we look forward to *People of the Promised Land, Part I*, we invite you to join us in depending upon God through prayers based around the theme: *God's Word, God's Heart, Today's World*.

This prayer guide is for you to pray through personally, with a group of BSF friends or with your family. Our desire for this guide is not to prescribe, but rather inspire a community of prayer and provide a springboard for authentic connection with God.

Thank you for your active support of BSF through prayer. We eagerly await this upcoming year and seeing the Lord accomplish great things in the lives of His people.

Unite in Prayer with BSFers Worldwide

Visit facebook.com/BibleStudyFellowship on Wednesday, September 5, 2018, at 1 p.m. (CDT) for a 30-minute Facebook Live prayer meeting. (If you cannot join in prayer at this time, the Facebook Live recording will be available to watch at your convenience.)

Spotify Music Playlist

Our playlist of songs for worship and remembrance is curated to further inspire in-depth heart connection with God. Spotify users may listen [here](#).

Prepare your **heart** with:

Worship

“LORD, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below – you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way.”
– 1 Kings 8:23

Worship God for the **attributes and characteristics** you adore. For example:

God, your name reveals your immutable character. We worship you and you alone, the great I AM, for who you are.

Thanksgiving

“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise ...” – Psalm 100:4

Enter the throne room of grace with a **grateful heart and praise upon your lips** to our great God and King. Lift up your own specific prayers of thanksgiving and praise to God for all He has done for you.

Confession

*“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.”* – Psalm 51:1-2

Spend time in private prayer, **confessing your sin to God**. You may want to pray through Psalm 51 or read it out loud for the group before they silently pray.

“Every word of God is **flawless**;
he is a **shield** to those who
take **refuge** in him.”

Proverbs 30:5

God's Word

Pray God will prepare ears to hear His voice at BSF and hearts to receive the teaching in the People of the Promised Land, Part I study. Also pray for the newcomers God draws to study alongside you. These prayers rooted in Proverbs can get you started:



Father, train me to listen when you speak and open my spirit to expand my discernment, that I may pass wisdom on to the next generation. I cry out today for insight and seek it as the most cherished treasure, that I might discover true awe and knowledge of you. (Proverbs 2:2-5)

Help me trust in you completely and wholeheartedly and not rely on my own opinions, that you might lead me in every decision I make and path I take. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

Remind me to never take it lightly when you speak to me or be upset by your corrections, for your discipline comes from your Father-heart of passionate love. (Proverbs 3:11-12)

Draw me to wait at the doorway of wisdom every morning, to hear what you have to say to me with joyful expectation, for you are a fountain of life. This is the secret to a life of blessing, delight and favor from you. (Proverbs 8:34-35)

Consume me with awe-inspiring worship of you, Jehovah-God, that I might receive greater revelation of your holiness and understand how to walk wisely and in purity. (Proverbs 9:10)

Give me the true enrichment that comes as a blessing from your hand, with the rest and contentment of knowing that all I have comes from you. (Proverbs 10:22)

“The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises
and faithful in all he does.
The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up
all who are bowed down.
The eyes of all look to you, and you give them
their food at the proper time.
You open your hand and satisfy the desires
of every living thing.”

Psalm 145:13-16

God's Heart

We praise and seek to mirror God's heart for all people. Pray:



The Holy Spirit will empower every BSF class member toward in-depth heart connection with God and others.

Class members will experience **transformative healing and soul-satisfaction** as they draw close to God through daily time spent with Him.

BSF classes will warmly welcome and form **deep heart connections** with people of all backgrounds, ethnicities, experiences and cultures.

Biblical truths will move from head to heart to feet as class members exhibit God's heart for the people around them.

Lives will be transformed as class members **encounter the heart of God** through the Word of God.

BSF classes will cultivate a **class culture of greater engagement, empathy, transparency, authenticity and care** for all who walk through their doors.

God's **reconciling power** will mend broken and divisive relationships.

Class members living in desperate isolation will find **Christian community** through their local church and BSF class.

“**Be strong and very courageous.** Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; **meditate on it day and night,** so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”

Joshua 1:7-8

Today's World

Pray God will use this study to influence and impact today's world – locally, nationally and internationally – and He will equip you to boldly engage the world for God's glory. Pray:



We would **seek wisdom** as we humbly engage the culture around us with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We would **repent of our tendency to withdraw** and isolate from the surrounding culture.

God's creativity and wisdom would fill us as we **relationally connect** with those around us so they would come to know and love Jesus above all else.

We would **faithfully pursue reconciliation** in all areas and relationships of life.

Our **words would be seasoned with salt**, exuding gentleness and respect as we proclaim our hope in Christ.

We would **repent of our indifference** toward or rejection of those who are different from us.

God would be glorified through the **positive cultural contributions** of all people, who are made in His image.

Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.

One generation commends your works to
another; they tell of your mighty acts.

Psalm 145:3-4

Today's Generation

In order to more fully engage today's world, God has moved our organization to BRIDGE in-depth Bible study from one generation to another. Our hope is He will use BSF to lead out in effective, life-changing Bible engagement that will benefit the whole Christian community and surrounding culture. We desire that our descendants, even the unborn in our families, will benefit from our prayers and efforts. We yearn to faithfully live out our faith so people's hearts throughout the world will be redeemed through Christ Jesus.

Please pray BSF will:

Build on the momentum of history, culture and community while adding new studies and initiatives.

Reach more people under 40, men and markets, such as Chinese- and Spanish-speakers.

Innovate our technology in every way possible.

Develop the Satellite Discussion Group model for global impact.

Ground everything in doctrinal integrity and fidelity.

Enhance the brand – facilities, staff and funding for the next generation.

We trust God to answer our prayers.

“I cried out to him with my mouth;
his praise was on my tongue.
If I had cherished sin in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened;
but God has surely listened
and has heard my prayer.
Praise be to God,
who has not rejected my prayer
or withheld his love from me!”

Psalm 66:17-20