#2 of 9 — Study & Declare God's Word

Matthew 16:16-18:11 (NIV, NLT)

Simon Peter answered Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. For the Son of Man will come with his angels in the glory of his Father and will judge all people according to their deeds. And I tell you the truth, some standing here right now will not die before they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom."

A man came and knelt before Jesus and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son. He has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. So I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn't heal him." Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, "Why couldn't we cast out that demon?" "You don't have enough faith," Jesus told them. "I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.

Jesus called a little child to him and put the child among them. Then he said, "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me. But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to have a large millstone tied around your neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea."

The prayers in this folder are excerpts from the book, **Praying Through the New Testament.** These prayers sound like Scripture because they are formed from Scripture.

In your own life, as you go from task to task throughout your day, you might often breathe a short prayer to God. Your prayers may jump from person to person as they come to mind, and from need to need. You might burst into a song of praise.

The Scripture-based prayers in this folder are similar to this. The prayer subject often changes, and the person for whom you pray may change often too.

These Scripture-based prayers are not the only way to pray, but they are a wonderful way to pray—an effective way to pray Scripture into the lives of others.

You will find this way of praying especially helpful when you pray for family members and others for whom you pray on a regular basis. You will also find yourself praying this way for people you don't even know.

Jesus said,
"My Temple will be called
A House of Prayer."
Matthew 21:13

Read Ponder Pray

Study God's Word
Speak out God's Word
Pray God's Word
Let's Sing God's Word

praying scripture prayers

provide the practical help and inspiration we all need to pray more consistently and effectively.

Visit scriptureprayers.ca for easy-to-use Downloads to assist you in praying Scripture prayers for yourself, your loved ones, and for those you don't even know.

Scripture-based prayers can put into words the deep desires we carry in our hearts for others.

Pray them with thanksgiving in your heart, and watch to see what God does —not only in you, but also in others.

Use this Bible Reading and Prayer HandOut in a variety of ways.
Here Are Some Guidelines:

1. Read the Bible passage on the back of the folder. Ponder and study it. Underline the main theme of each paragraph. This will lead to praying God's Word.
2. On the inside of the folder, pray the *REQUESTS, PRAYERS & THANKSGIVING* prayers for yourself. Also pray spontaneous prayers along these themes.
3. Now pray the *INTERCESSION* prayers for others in the same way.
4. Choose praise songs to SING God's Word.
   (NOTE: If you are following this study-prayer time on your own, pray the prayers aloud. It is good to hear your voice speaking to God).

Based on Matthew 16:16-18:11

HEAVENLY FATHER, thank You for revealing Jesus to me—that He is the Messiah, Your Son—the Son of the Living God.

Jesus, because I believe in You, You have given me the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to share the *Good News* with others. Remind me that whatever I bind on earth has already been bound in heaven; and whatever I set free on earth, has already been set free in heaven. Help me to see things not merely from a human point of view, but from Yours.

LORD JESUS, I will follow You. Work in my heart to put aside selfish ambition, and to obey You. Teach me to take up my cross each day and to follow You. Make me realize if I keep my life for myself, that I will lose it. But if I give it up for You, I will find True Life. What will it profit me if I gain even the whole world but lose my own soul? Remind me that nothing is worth more than my soul.

Jesus, I believe that someday You will come in the glory of Your Father and with His angels, and You will judge all people according to their deeds. Strengthen my faith in You. You can do all things. I ask You to perform miracles in my life and through me.

Jesus, You said if I have faith as small as a mustard seed, that I can say to the mountains in my life, "Move from here to there," and they will move. Because nothing is impossible for You. I have this mountain in my life: (request). I ask You to move it by the power of Your Name.

Lord Jesus, I have turned from my sins, and I have put my trust in You. Because I trust in You, I know I will enter Your Kingdom of Heaven. Thank You for working in my heart, and for leading me to believe in You.

Jesus, help me to see people as You see them. Make me realize that when I welcome those who trust in You, I am really welcoming You. Don't let me cause anyone who trusts in You to fall into sin.

Based on Matthew 16:16-18:11

FATHER IN HEAVEN, thank You for revealing to (DISCIPLE) that Your Son, Jesus, is the Messiah—the Son of the Living God. And because he/she believes in You, You have given him/her the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to share the *Good News* with others. Remind (DISCIPLE) that whatever he/she binds on earth has already been bound in heaven; and whatever he/she sets free on earth has already been set free in heaven. Open his/her eyes to see things not merely from a human point of view, but from Yours.

LORD JESUS, I pray that (OBEDIENCE) will put aside all selfish ambition and follow You. Strengthen him/her to obey You—to shoulder his/her cross, and to follow You.

Jesus, help (SALVATION) to realize that if he/she keeps his/her life for himself/herself, he/she will lose True Life. But if he/she gives it up for You, that he/she will find Life. Make (SALVATION) aware that even if he/she could gain the whole world, of what value would it be if he/she lost his/her own soul? Reveal to (SALVATION) that nothing is worth more than his/her soul.

Jesus, I ask You to make (SALVATION) aware that someday You will come in the glory of Your Father, and with His angels, and You will judge all people according to their deeds. Lead (SALVATION) to put his/her trust in You to save him/her.

LORD JESUS, I pray that (DISCIPLE) will not be stubborn and faithless—but believe You can do all things. Fill (DISCIPLE) with faith that You want to perform miracles in his/her life and through him/her. Remind him/her that if he/she has faith, even as small as a mustard seed, he/she can say to the mountains in his/her life, "Move from here to there," and they will move. Because nothing is impossible for You. Lead (DISCIPLE) to name the mountains in his/her life, and to trust You.

Lord Jesus, (DISCIPLE) has turned from his/her sins. Like a little child, he/she has placed his/her trust in You to save him/her. Lead him/her to rejoice that he/she will be with You in heaven forever. Fill him/her with thanks to You.

Jesus, enable (LOVE) to see people as You see them. Keep him/her mindful that when he/she welcomes those who believe in You, he/she is really welcoming You. Don't let him/her cause anyone who trusts in You to sin.