

Prayer Workshop

Praying for People

*'I urge you, first of all, to **pray for all people**. As you make your requests, **plead for God's mercy upon them, and give thanks...** This is good and pleases God our Saviour, for **he wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth**.' 1Timothy 2:1-5 (NLT)*

Do you ever wonder just *how* to pray about certain situations? When things are complicated and we are not in possession of all the facts it is not always easy. Philippians 4:6 tells us '*Do not be anxious about anything but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God*'. We know we can always come to God about everything, pray in a way that pleases Him with the result that circumstances are turned around. Paul instructed Timothy to home in on the people involved, thanking God for them and asking for them to experience blessings of His mercy and grace.

I was quite surprised to discover how many of these blessings we can pray down into people's lives begin with a 'P'! You may find it helpful to refer to some of them in your prayers for others. I have added some scriptures too.

Protection – please look after them!

Proverbs 18:10 *'The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.'*

Provision – please meet their needs, practical, emotional and spiritual

Luke 11:3 *'Give us this day our daily bread.'*

Peace - please give them rest and help them put their trust in You

John 14:27 *'Peace I leave with you... not as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.'*

Perception - please show them Your wisdom.

Colossians 1:9 *'...ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives... to please him in every way.'*

Perseverance – please help them to be strong and keep going.

James 5:8 *'Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.'*

Penitence – please show them if they need to recognise they are wrong

Romans 2:4 *'God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance.'*

Pardon – please encourage them to come and ask for Your forgiveness

1 John 1:9 *'If we confess our sins he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness'*

And adding to all of these...

Praise – thank You Lord for all You've done and for all You're going to do.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 *'Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'*

There are many more 'P's to pray for people – for instance Power, Patience, Persistence, Purity, Purpose, Prosperity.... And there are 25 other letters of the alphabet you could look at too!