

PRAYING for the LOST

Missing. Separated from home. Alone. Most of us can relate on some level to that fearful, lonely, almost hopeless feeling of being lost. ♦ God compassionately understands what it means to be separated from Him. The lost weigh heavily on His mind and heart, and He passionately pursues them. But when they come home, He is filled with unbelievable joy. ♦ Through prayer, you can join with God in His pursuit of the lost. These scriptural prayers can help you intercede for those who are finding their way to Jesus.

RECOGNIZE GOD'S DESIRE

Lord, You have such compassion on all You have made. Thank You for loving this fallen world so much that You gave Your only Son to redeem it. Help those who are lost to realize that You don't want anyone to perish, but instead desire for everyone to come to repentance. (Ps. 145:9; Jn. 3:16; 2 Pet. 3:9)

Son of Man, You came to seek and to save what was lost. You loved us so much that while we were still sinners, You died for us. Thank You, Jesus, that with Your blood You purchased the lost for God from every tribe, language, people, and nation. (Lk. 19:10; Ro. 5:8; Rev. 5:9)

Thank You, Spirit of Truth, for convicting people of their guilt regarding sin, righteousness, and judgment. Praise God that You lead us to repentance and that through You we can say, "Jesus is Lord." (Jn. 15:26, 16:8; 1 Cor. 12:3)

ALIGN MY HEART WITH HIS

Lord, help me be more sensitive to those who are lost and outside the family of God. Give me Your heart of compassion for them because they are harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. (Mt. 9:36)

Faithful Shepherd, You persistently follow the lost until You find them. Grant me strength and perseverance in always praying for unbelievers and not giving up, even when I don't see signs of progress. Help me to trust Your behind-the-scenes work and intercede faithfully and expectantly. (Lk. 15:4, 18:1)

By Sandy Mayle

INTERCEDE FOR THE LOST

Merciful Savior, You have given me _____ as a special prayer assignment. Thank You for loving this person so deeply and for allowing me to be a fellow worker with You. Father, draw _____ to Yourself; pour out Your unfailing love and grace. May _____ repent and receive Your mercy and great compassion. (1 Cor. 3:9; Jn. 6:44; Ps. 51:1)

Living Word, send Your messengers to preach the gospel where You are not known, so that those who haven't heard the truth will understand. Remove the blinders that the enemy has placed over their eyes, and help them see the light and beauty of the gospel. May they accept the gospel message not as the word of men but as the word of God. (Is. 52:15; 2 Cor. 4:4; 1 Thess. 2:13)

Father, help prodigals who have heard but rejected the gospel to acknowledge their need and come to their senses. Help them recognize and experience Your compassion for every lost sinner and to humbly make the journey back home to Your waiting arms. (Lk. 15:13-14,17,20)

Eternal Truth, expose the lies told by false religions. Reveal to their followers that salvation is found in Jesus Christ, the only name under heaven by which we are saved. Carry the weak and vulnerable (innocent children, emotionally fragile or undiscerning adults) to spiritual safety. Show mercy to those who have acted in ignorance and unbelief, and deliver them from the evil one. (Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 1:13; Mt. 6:13)

Lord, cause those who deny Your existence to recognize that You have set eternity in their hearts. Open their eyes to Your eternal power and divine nature that is clearly seen in all of creation. Spur their quest for truth; let their search for answers lead to You. (Eccl. 3:11; Ro. 1:20)

PRAY FOR OTHER BELIEVERS

Lord of the Harvest, send many more workers into Your harvest field so Your Word can spread rapidly and be honored. Deliver Your messengers from wicked and evil men, protect them from the evil one, and open great doors for effective work. Give them the words to clearly and fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel. (Lk. 10:2; 2 Thess. 3:1,2-3; 1 Cor. 16:9; Eph. 6:19-20)

Father, You have called Your people to store up their treasures in heaven. Thank You for enlarging the harvest of their righteousness so that they can be generous on every occasion. May they excel in the grace of giving to Your harvest work so more people will come to You through Jesus. (Mt. 6:20; 2 Cor. 9:10-11, 8:7)

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