

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”

John 15:5, NIV

  
grow  
deeper  
in Christ

## Praying in Community for the World...

### **Abiding in Jesus on behalf of our global community**

What a wonderful opportunity we have as followers of Jesus to pray together with our community. Praying together could bring more joy than we expect. The reason is that our Lord Jesus Christ encourages us to intercede to the Father on behalf of others. When we pray, that God’s will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven we are acting on God’s promise that the World will be affected by our prayers. We intercede with the assurance of being heard. This world includes our global community and also our immediate community, our nation, our state, our city, our neighborhood, and our own family. Jesus teaches that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him. Prayer and interceding is our way to abide in Jesus. How can we abide during these days of troubles and the advancement of darkness in this world? By praying and putting action to our

beliefs. In other words, envisioning this global community: nation, state, city, neighborhood, and family as it is in heaven. But how? Let’s begin with our own hearts.

### **Believers pray together**

- Together, ask the Lord for a clean heart. What does the Lord want to remove from your inner being? Ask for forgiveness. What is blocking you from showing God’s love to your community? Remember, you want to see your world as it is in heaven, and that will start in your own world.
- Together, pray for open eyes. Eyes that can see injustice, poverty, racism, corruption, wasted food, prostitution, human trafficking, consumerism, materialism, etc., and eyes that keep us from seeing the hurt. The Scripture says that the prince of this world blinds our understanding so that we do not believe.

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- Together, pray that you and others may not give into human philosophies and religious beliefs that are blocking the knowledge of Jesus.
- Together, pray for our neighborhood, city, state, and nation, asking for forgiveness for the past and present actions against God's sovereignty.
- Together, pray about your own lack of involvement and that of your church in the things God desires for your community.
- Together, pray for a powerful move of God's Spirit that will put the chaos of this world in the right order according to heaven. Pray that the Holy Spirit will convince the world of wrong doing. Pray that we will embrace a true sense of repentance.
- Together, pray a blessing for your enemies in your community, your city, your world. Bless your enemies, Jesus says, in order to be like your heavenly Father.
- Together, pray for opportunities to express God's love in your world.
- Together, pray for the authorities, their advisors, their families, etc. Pray that their agenda and beliefs would be guided by the Holy Spirit.

#### **Practical steps**

In what ways is God asking you to be an answer to these prayers? Is there one step God is inviting your church to take for the sake of seeing his kingdom come on earth?



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