

5 WAYS - TO - Pray FOR YOUR PASTOR



1. Pray for discernment, strength, and wisdom to lead.

ASK THAT GOD WOULD GENEROUSLY PILE ON THE WISDOM your pastor needs for every situation (JAMES 1:5-6)—along with “powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil” (HEBREWS 5:14).

Pray that your pastor would be “one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth” (2 TIMOTHY 2:15), boldly speaking God’s truth (EPHESIANS 6:18-20).



2. Pray for thorough, soul-level rest, holistic health, and personal healing.

THE PACE, GRAVITY, DEMANDS, NEEDS, AND PAIN of ministry can sap vision, passion—even love for God and sincere love for others (ROMANS 12:9). They can tempt a pastor toward the Pharisees’ well-kept exterior... while dying within (MATTHEW 23:27-28).

Ministry realities can also leave a pastor in pain and exhaustion. Pray your pastor would highly value rest, tending carefully to their soul. Ask that your pastor would discern the good works God has prepared in advance for them to do (EPHESIANS 2:10)—no more, no less.



3. Pray for humility and a heart to serve.

THE CONSTANT PRESSURE OF THE LIMELIGHT can subtly sway any of us to selfish ambition and vain conceit (PHILIPPIANS 2:3). Following Jesus' example of washing His own disciples' feet (JOHN 13:13-17), pray your pastor's heart would take the form of a servant (PHILIPPIANS 2:7)—the kind of humility where God loves to dwell (ISAIAH 57:15).



4. Pray for true community, marriage, family, and close friendships.

LEADERSHIP CAN BE REMARKABLY LONELY. Pastors may not be in a position to share what's truly troubling them from the depths of the congregation—or may struggle to receive the care they're so eager to give.

Like Jesus' circle of close disciples (Peter, James, and John), ask God that your pastor's close relationships would be both nourishing and well-nourished. Ask that, like Jesus, they would receive care (MATTHEW 26:6-10) and seek true fellowship (1 JOHN 1:3-4).



5. Pray your pastor works in tandem with the Holy Spirit and for abiding intimacy with God.

AS A LEADER, your pastor's inner life is amplified in all its strength and weakness. Pray your pastor would lead and love from the inside out. Ask God to fill them with an ardent desire for God and godliness. To intimately know God and be known by Him. To listen, adore, and journey with God.

Pray He alone would be the sun your pastor orbits around. Ask that He'd protect your pastor from drawing their identity from what they do; what others think; or the control, security, comfort, wealth, etc. your pastor is able to gain.

Instead, may He deeply root your pastor's identity in God's love (EPHESIANS 3:14-19).