

How to pray for (young) converts

We may pray for someone to be saved. The Lord then hears our prayer and that person comes to know the Lord. Once they give their lives to God, they are mostly forgotten and no one continues to pray for them. It is very important that intercession should be done purposefully for each young convert. In this way they will be strengthened and will grow.

The following are a few guidelines:

- Pray that they will grow to spiritual maturity. In **Eph.4:13 and 15** it says: *...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, in Christ.*
- Pray for a greater dying to self and that the new believer would conform to the death of Christ and experience the power of His resurrection. **Php.3:10-11** says: *I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in his death and so somehow to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*
- For growth in love, knowledge, experience, sensitivity. **Php.1:9-11** says: *And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that come through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God.*
- Pray that they may be filled with the Holy Spirit. *If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! (Lk.11:13).*
- Ask for the power of the Holy Spirit to witness. **Ac.1:8** says: *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.*
- That the new believer will discover the gifts that the Holy Spirit gave him to use. **1Cor.12:11** says: *All these are the work of one and the same Spirit and He gives them to each one, just as He determines.*
- Pray for humility and that the person will be willing to be taught and educated.
- Pray for the person to have scheduled and disciplined quiet times and that he will read his Bible and pray regularly.
- Pray for him for understanding when he reads the Bible and that he will grow in his prayer life.
- Pray that the person will truly be a disciple and follower of Christ Jesus.
- Pray that the person will become actively involved in a local church and do his/her part in the kingdom of God.
- Pray for the person to be able to witness with spontaneity about his salvation and new life in Christ.
- Pray with him for the ability to overcome sins with which he has a problem, e.g. bad temper, jealousy, wilfulness, smoking, etc.
- Pray for the person's relationship with his family; if it is a child, for the relationship with his parents; if it is a married person, for the relationship with his/her spouse and children.
- Pray for the person like a sculptor works on a piece of marble. The sculptor chisels away piece by piece with his hammer and chisel until the image that he wants is before him. We must do the same in prayer; pray until Christ takes shape in the person.