

CINDY MCGARVIE

LOST BOYS

Prayer Book



**LOST
BOYS
PRAYER BOOK**

CINDY MCGARVIE

**YOUTH
FOR AUSTRALIA
CHRIST
PUBLISHING**

Lost Boys Prayer Book

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INTRODUCTION

This prayer book is a response to those who've asked me – How do I pray for the Lost Boys?

I've chosen ten issues affecting our boys and men from my book *Lost Boys*¹, and written five prayers for each issue – fifty prayers in all. The final chapter contains prayers for the Church, which I believe Christ is calling to rise up at this time.

Even though the prayers are for the boys and men of our nation, both young and old, they can be personalised to pray for a specific lost boy in one's family, church or community.

The structure of the prayers are mostly modelled on Cranmer's prayers which consist of five parts, which Timothy Keller explains so well in his article "*How to pray better in public and in private, too.*" Here are the five parts:

1. *The address - a name of God.*
2. *The doctrine - a truth about God's nature that is the basis for the prayer.*
3. *The petition - what is being asked for.*

4. *The aspiration - what good result will come if the request is granted.*
5. *In Jesus' name - this remembers the mediatorial role of Jesus.²*

May you be transformed as you pray these prayers, and may the Lord answer our earnest requests and bring our Lost Boys home.

The battle has begun!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that loops back under the name.

Cindy McGarvie

1 Cindy McGarvie, "Lost Boys: Bring Them Home," Australia: Youth for Christ Publishing, 2020

2 Timothy Keller, "How to pray better in public and in private, too", Timothy Keller Blog, <https://timothykeller.com/blog/2010/10/1/how-to-pray-better-in-public-and-in-private-too>, October 1, 2010

LIFE

The Children of Israel were implored, “... *choose life, that you and your offspring may live ...*” (Deut 30:19), but many of our men and boys are not choosing life. We are experiencing a male suicide crisis in our nation which is without precedent. The following prayers specifically target life, which is the opposite of the destructive spirit of death and suicide we are seeing ravage our nation.

PRAYERS FOR LIFE

Creator God,

It was You who formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into him the breath of life (Gen 2:7), You are our source of life.

Breathe Your breath of life across our nation resuscitating the souls of every man and boy who needs it, fill their beings with Your life. So that they always choose life for themselves, their families, the unborn, and their communities.

We pray this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father God,

You are the source of all life, refreshing and abundant life.

May Your River of Life, Your Holy Spirit flow into the hearts of every man in our nation, from babes to the elderly. So that their parched souls will be revived and spring to life, and the spirit of death will be overcome and washed away completely.

We pray in the mighty and powerful name of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Almighty God,

Our Lord Jesus said that He came so that we would have life and have it in all its fullness (Jn 10:10).

Therefore, we rebuke the spirit of death sweeping throughout our nation, seeking to devour the lives of our men and boys. And we declare that this is a nation where our boys and men flourish and are filled brimming with life and vitality.

In the precious name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Bread of life himself we pray.

PRAYERS FOR LIFE

Loving Father,

Our Lord Jesus declared that He alone is the Way, the Truth and the LIFE (Jn 14:6) and how we long for that life!

Pour down upon this nation, on every boy and man, a revelation of Truth and Life. So that the boys and men of our nation are continually drawn to choosing Righteousness in every choice of their lives.

We ask You this in the uplifting and powerful name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Our Father Almighty God,

Jesus declared that He is the resurrection and the LIFE (Jn 11:25) and if we believe in him, we will never die.

We pray for every man and boy across this nation, particularly our loved ones, that they would turn from their own paths and put their trust in You, so that they may experience Your life.

We declare that blinded eyes be opened to see the light of the Gospel that displays the glory of Christ who is the image of God (2 Cor 4:4). So that every man and boy would walk in fulness of life and in the righteousness of Christ.

We pray in Jesus Christ's mighty name.

HOPE

With the rise in suicide, more and more of our strong young men are locked in a dark place of hopelessness and despondency where they are not able to find an escape.

"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God." (Psalm 43:5)

May cast down souls put their hope in God!

PRAYERS FOR HOPE

Our Heavenly Father,

Your plans are to prosper us and not harm us, to give us a hope and a future (Jer 29:11).

We ask that You inject Your hope into the boys and men of this nation and fill them with joy and encouragement for the future. We rebuke and reject the spirit of despair and despondency that seeks destruction rather than life.

And we declare that our men and boys will always look to the future with eagerness, strength and vitality.

We ask this in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Sovereign Lord,

You can make dry bones live, the bones of those whose hope is gone and who feel cut off and despairing (Ezek 37:11).

Pour Your Spirit into the souls of our boys and men who are struggling with depression, so Your breath enters them, and they are revived.

We declare our nation to be one where boys and men flourish, and hope abounds.

We ask that You grant this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God,

You are the one who draws us up from the pit of destruction, the miry bog and You set our feet upon a rock (Ps 40:1-3).

But first we must cry out to You.

Grant that every man and boy who is in the miry bog of depression would be stirred in their hearts to call out to You.

PRAYERS FOR HOPE

Put a new song in their hearts, a song of praise. So that many will see and believe and put their trust in You.

We ask this in Jesus' glorious name.

Almighty King,

You are close to the broken hearted and You save those who are crushed in spirit (Ps 34:18). You are our shield, our glory and the lifter of our heads (Ps 3:3).

Pour out Your comfort and Your healing balm upon our men and boys, particularly the despairing and despondent. We declare healing and health for every man and boy in our nation. So that depression and hopelessness is cast aside and every man, young and old is walking in the joy and strength of the Lord.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Father God,

You are the one who reveals deep things and brings the darkness into the light (Job 12:22). Nothing is hidden from You.

Grant that every cause of depression is revealed and exposed, whether physical, psychological or spiritual – body, soul or spirit, self-inflicted or not so that those suffering may receive healing and wholeness.

We ask that You give revelation, and empower and embolden Your people, the church, to reach out with care and faith to bring healing to those afflicted. So that the scourge of depression and despondency is wiped from our nation, and men and boys walk in fullness of life.

We pray this in Jesus' mighty name.

PEACE

Anxiety is now afflicting boys more than ever. By the time boys are young men, many have sought destructive ways to cope with their anxiety, such as alcohol, drugs and other destructive habits. We will uplift our boys and young men and may the Lord of peace himself give them peace at all times in every way. (2 Thes 3:16)

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Our Father God,

Your Word instructs us not to be anxious, but instead to present our requests to You with thanksgiving and Your peace that transcends all understanding will guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus (Phil 4:6-7).

May Your Spirit move to stir our men's hearts to pray! Pour out Your peace upon every man and boy across this nation, wash away all dread, fear and anxiety.

May every man, young and old, know Your peace that transcends all understanding. So that the bonds of fear are loosened, and captives are set free.

We pray this in Jesus' mighty name.

Victorious God,

You are our refuge and fortress, the God that can be fully and completely trusted (Ps 91:1-2).

Deliver our men, young and old, from the bondage and affliction of anxiety and dread. We rebuke this tormenting spirit in Jesus name and declare that the sons of our nation shall continually abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

We pray in the name of Christ Jesus the Prince of Peace.

Dear Father,

You are our shelter and strong tower, and when our hearts are overwhelmed, You are our Rock where we find refuge (Ps 61:1-3).

For our nation's boys and men who are overwhelmed with fear and anxiety today, we ask that You replace that torment with peace.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

May peace reign in their hearts, homes and communities. May peace reign in their every relationship. So that boys and men everywhere will have a steadfast heart and a lightness of spirit.

We ask this in the name of our secure and trustworthy Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Almighty and powerful God who is Yahweh Shalom, Lord of Peace,

You have not given us a spirit of slavery leading to fear, you have given a spirit of adoption as sons (Rom 8:15).

Draw our men and boys to call upon You, to seek You, to pray to You. Replace unbelief with trust. Replace ingratitude with thankfulness. And let Your peace guard the hearts and minds of our men and boys.

So that they walk as sons before You in righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

We pray this in the name of our Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus our King.

Our Father God,

Your Word teaches us not to be afraid or dismayed, to look anxiously about us in fear, for You are with us, You will strengthen us and uphold us with Your righteous right hand (Isa 41:10).

We ask that You strengthen and uphold the men and boys of our nation right now, both those who trust in You and those who do not yet know You.

So that they walk in courage as strong men of valour.

In Jesus' name we pray.

PURITY

Our boys and young men are being sexually enticed at a younger and younger age. The shame associated with sexual sin and pornography addiction is phenomenal. It is inconceivable that little boys are carrying such shame when entrapped by it. In addition to this, the hook-up culture, sexual confusion and gender dysphoria are rampant. May the Lord raise up men of God to stand against this unclean assignment of the enemy!

PRAYERS FOR PURITY

Almighty God,

You warn us that to follow after sexual enticement is a highway to the grave that leads down to the chambers of death (Prov 7:27) and we are seeing the death of healthy intimacy, marriages and families in our nation.

We stand against the porn industry and all of its platforms, and associated outlets and supports that connect the flow of it into homes seeking to entice our sons and fathers. In the authority of Christ Jesus, we rebuke these mediums and declare that our homes and communities across this nation will utterly reject this unclean and degrading influence. So that our men and boys walk in purity, freedom and their God-given potential.

We ask in Jesus' powerful name.

Lord God our Father,

We are instructed to flee from harmful desires and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and gentleness (1 Tim 6:11).

We pray that You remove all appetite for pornography and perversity from the hearts of our men and boys. We declare that the sons of our nation will stand against this flood of uncleanness and flee from all harmful desires, and that purity will reign. So that our men and boys walk in uprightness and are not burdened with shame.

May You grant us this in the name of our Lord and Saviour Christ Jesus.

Faithful and merciful God,

You say in Your Word that You will not tempt us beyond what

PRAYERS FOR PURITY

we are able, but will give us a way to escape, that we may be able to bear it (1 Cor 10:13).

We pray for those who are caught in the bondage of porn addiction and impurity. Strengthen them to resist, open their eyes to an escape, give them the resolve to defy the enticement, and set them free. So that they can enjoy the freedom and wholeness that You designed for us.

We ask this in the precious and powerful name of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Loving Father,

We know Your attitude toward those who cause our little ones to stumble, that it would be better for a millstone to be tied around his neck and he be cast into the sea (Matt 18:6).

We ask that every attempt by the enemy through broken and perverted people abusing children, be thwarted and stopped.

May every child abuser in our community and across our nation be exposed and receive due justice. So that our children may enjoy purity and grow up in the safety and protection they require.

We pray in Jesus' mighty name.

God Most Holy,

You desire that we ascend to Your holy place, drawing near to You with clean hands, humility and a pure heart (Ps 24:3).

Grant that You would turn the eyes of our sons and men from worthless things and give them life in Your ways (Ps 119:37). So that they draw near to You renouncing ungodliness and worldly passions, and seek to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives (Tit 2:12).

In the name of Christ Jesus, we pray.

IDENTITY

Masculinity is under attack. The God-ordained role of men as the leaders and protectors of their families, homes and even society has been a target for destruction from the enemy. Those who believe in the God-given power of masculinity are on the edges of mainstream. May our society honour manhood once again!

PRAYERS FOR IDENTITY

Great and merciful Father,

You have shown us the perfect man in the model of Your Son who was complete in virtue and honour. He paid the ultimate sacrifice to ransom mankind from Satan's grip – greater love has no man than this (Jn 15:13).

May the men of our nation rise up and conduct themselves in virtue, honour and courage.

We pray especially for Christian men, as part of the body of Christ, may they model Godly manhood and shine in this hour of great need. So that the moral fabric of this nation is strengthened.

We ask this through Jesus our Lord and Saviour.

God of all wisdom,

You have designed women to be wise, industrious, compassionate, clothed in strength and dignity, mothers watching over the affairs of their households, noble and respecting their husbands (Prov 31). Yet we see the feminist ideology led by women bent on destroying God-given masculinity and its virtues.

We rebuke the Jezebel spirit that seeks to disempower the men of our nation, and we forbid its destructive influence on our families. We declare respect and honour over the men of our nation. So that they are empowered to take their God-given place in society as protectors of families and communities.

We pray this in the authority of the powerful name of Jesus our Lord.

PRAYERS FOR IDENTITY

Father God,

You are the God of order and peace and not of confusion (1 Cor 14:33). You say in Your Word that the god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelieving so that they might not see the Truth.

We stand against the lies of the enemy and all attempts to confuse our sons about their sexual orientation and gender identity. In the authority of Christ we declare a free pathway of God's truth to reach their hearts and minds and to sink deep into their souls. So that they are free to grow and mature in strength, confidence and wholeness.

We ask in the name of our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ.

Creator God,

We are fearfully and wonderfully made in Your image and likeness – with a physical body to interact with the material world around us, with a soul including a mind, will, and our emotions, and a spirit to commune with You. We are living beings, in pscho-physical unity, our frames were not hidden from You when You formed us in our mother's womb (Ps 139).

We expose the falsehood that a soul or spirit can be born into the wrong body, that a woman can be born into a man's body or vice versa.

We stand against this lie that originates from the father of all lies, and in the authority of Christ we rebuke it and declare that it find no place to take root in any man, woman or child in our families, in the church and in our communities. So that future generations live to the glory of God.

We pray this in the name of Truth himself our Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS FOR IDENTITY

God Almighty,

All wisdom comes from You and so does common sense and understanding (Prov 2:6).

We ask that You expose as foolishness the worldly wisdom that purports that men and women are the same. We pray that You would open the eyes of Your people, the church, to be aware and to stand against this lie that seeks to devalue God's divine order and design of men and women.

We ask that You inject courage into Your people to reject this empty philosophy and not shrink away in timidity. So that our future generations will flourish and glorify You as men and women of God.

We pray this in the blessed name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

PURPOSE & MEANING

Viktor Frankl, a Jewish holocaust survivor and a psychiatrist, wrote in his book *Man's Search for Meaning*, "*Those who have a 'why' to live, can bear with almost any 'how'.*" We have a generation of boys and men who don't have any 'why' and are not able to bear any 'how'. May they find their 'why' in the Lord Jesus Christ!

PRAYERS FOR PURPOSE & MEANING

Great and wonderful God,

We are the work of Your hands for the display of Your splendour (Isa 61:20) You planted us in this land to flourish.

We pray that men and boys in this nation would discover the truth that they've been created by You, in Your image, and for Your purpose to glorify You. We declare this truth to reign in the hearts and minds of every man and boy. So that the men of our nation glorify their Creator as they were designed.

We ask in the name that is above all names, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Everlasting God,

We are precious in Your eyes, and honoured and You love us (Isa 43:4) so much so that You didn't even spare Your only Son to become a ransom for us (Eph 2:4).

We expose and break the destructive lie of this age that there is no meaning to life – that we evolved randomly with no inherent worth. In the authority of Christ, we declare that this false philosophy has no place in our homes, our families and community.

Instead we will be always encouraged in the truth of being wonderfully made in Your image.

In Jesus' precious name we pray.

Almighty God,

You appointed man to die once and after that comes judgement (Heb 9:27) either to everlasting life or eternal damnation.

We ask You to turn the hearts of our men and boys back to

PRAYERS FOR PURPOSE & MEANING

You and destroy the lie that we only live once therefore we can pursue every pleasure the flesh desires.

In Your mercy Father, rescue our boys, young and old from this deception. So that they are careful to walk in Your ways and they and their families are blessed by You.

We ask this in the name of our Redeemer, King Jesus.

Father God,

You teach in Your word that wherever a tree falls either toward the south or toward the north, there it lies (Ecc 11:3).

We acknowledge that many of the lives of our men have fallen in the wrong direction which has led to brokenness for themselves, their families and communities.

We humbly ask on behalf of our boys that the direction they set in life is guided by You. So that no matter which way the enemy force is pushing, their trees will line up pointing due North.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the One who directs our paths.

Everlasting Father,

We are Your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which You prepared beforehand that we should walk in them (Eph 2:10).

Empower and guide Christian men and boys to live to their purpose, to reject evil and foolishness and to pursue righteousness.

Thus doing, Christ's body, the church, may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

We pray in the strong name of Jesus our Lord.

WISDOM

There is a noted lack of wisdom in the generations of today. In an era of information overload and research at our fingertips, our boys may have much more knowledge than previous generations, however a man needs wisdom to control and implement that knowledge. We know that wisdom comes from God. Our boys and men need wisdom both in the church and in society, so that they grow to become a force for good and not for destruction.

PRAYERS FOR WISDOM

Holy and merciful God,

You teach us that the one who gets wisdom loves life and the one who cherishes understanding will prosper (Prov 19:8).

Pour out Your wisdom on this generation, on our men both young and old. Give them the desire to get wisdom, so that they love life, cherish understanding and prosper.

We ask You this in the powerful name of Christ Jesus our Lord.

Omniscient God,

You are great, abundant in strength and Your understanding is infinite (Ps 147:5).

May the young men of our nation who are searching for understanding find Your wisdom. May their minds be opened to the truth, and may they have opportunity for free discourse to discover more about this incredible world You have placed us in. So that they enjoy the full riches of discovering You.

We ask You this in Jesus' precious name.

Almighty God,

You instruct us to flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace, along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart (2 Tim 2:22).

We lift up the men and boys of our nation, give them an openness to instruction. May our youth pursue righteousness, and may they call upon the Lord from a pure heart.

In doing so may they live wisely and in humility.

Grant this in Jesus' powerful name.

PRAYERS FOR WISDOM

Creator God,

Your Word says that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, You instruct us in the way of wisdom and lead us along straight paths (Prov 4:11).

We pray that our young men would not depend on the pride and wisdom of their own eyes, which is folly, but they would walk with the wise and seek wisdom. So that they find life and favour in Your eyes.

We pray in the name of Jesus our Saviour.

Everlasting Father,

We know that entrance of Your word brings light and gives understanding to the simple (Psalm 119:130).

Open the eyes of Your people, the Church, to Your wisdom so that they understand the times. Pour out wisdom upon the men and boys of this generation who belong to You. So that they have supernatural understanding and know just what You require them to do.

We ask in Jesus' mighty name.

FREEDOM

The rise of addictions in young men is alarming. Young men who have experienced trauma or family brokenness or, in their lostness, searching for an escape and something to bring pleasure, are opening themselves up more and more to practices and experiences that bring intense, immediate gratification. But sadly this entraps them into addiction and sets them down a lonely path of self-destruction in which they are not able to find a way out. Thank God for Jesus Christ our Rescuer who breaks down gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron to set us free!

PRAYERS FOR WISDOM

Most High God,

You are the one who loosens the bonds of wickedness, unties the bands of the yoke, and sets the oppressed free (Isa 58:6).
How we love You!

Loosen and untie the bonds of addiction on our boys and men, awaken their hearts and shine Your light into the dungeons of bondage. We declare freedom for captives. So that they shake off the chains of addiction and arise and follow You.

We ask in the name of our great Saviour and Rescuer, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Everlasting Father,

You are the one who makes a home for the lonely and You lead out prisoners into prosperity (Ps 68:6).

Lead out to freedom the prisoners of addiction, bondages and destructive behaviour, the men and boys who are isolated and lonely because the enemy has enslaved them.

We declare instead of poverty, prosperity and hope. So that they find the home You have made for them that is built upon the Rock.

We pray this in the powerful name of Jesus our Lord.

Merciful God,

You instruct us to be of sober spirit, to be on the alert because Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1 Pet 5:8).

We ask for the boys and men that are being enticed right now, particularly those who bear Your name, that You sound

PRAYERS FOR FREEDOM

an alarm in their hearts that is like a trumpet blast to their ears. So that they heed the warning and flee from temptation.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God Almighty our Creator,

Whoever finds You finds life and receives favour, but those who miss You injure themselves (Prov 8:35-36).

We pray for the lost in our nation, that they would not fail to find You. Convict the boys and men of our nation of sin, righteousness and justice. So that they call out to You and not miss finding You.

Grant our request in the name and authority of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Awesome and mighty God,

You sent Jesus who has made us his captives and continues to lead us along in triumphal procession using us to spread the knowledge of Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume.

May You use us today as we spread the knowledge of Christ wherever we go.

We declare that every man and boy in the domain of our lives will smell the sweet aroma of Your presence and be drawn to You. So that they too join in Christ's triumphal procession of victory.

We ask this in Jesus' victorious name.

FATHERHOOD

Fatherhood is in trouble in our nation. Boys without fathers are much more likely to be depressed, to drink, to do drugs, to be suicidal, to be violent and to go to prison. In ancient biblical times, an orphan was considered someone without a father. In that measure, a significant number of our nation's children are being raised as orphans. Only our True Father can heal our land of this devastating scourge.

PRAYERS FOR FATHERHOOD

Everlasting Father,

In Your great love for us, You have called us Your children, and so we are (1 Jn 3:1). You are father of the fatherless (Ps 68:5).

We pray for the fatherless boys and men who have no idea about the love of a Father toward a son, that they would find their one true Father and experience the deep love designed for a son. So that they know the security and assurance of true sonship.

We pray this in the name of our great Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

Most High God,

You are the Father of all mercies, the God of all comfort who comforts us in our affliction (2 Cor 1:3).

We confess we are afflicted with a scourge of fatherlessness in our nation. Many of our boys are orphaned because their fathers have deserted them.

In the authority of Christ, we declare that this tide of affliction be turned. So that every child in our nation will know the love and care of their own father.

We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord.

Creator God,

Fatherhood is a wonderful gift, and every good and perfect gift is from above, and comes from You, the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

May the gift of fatherhood be honoured in this nation once more, so that fatherhood is revived and respected. May our boys live with the security that they will always have their

PRAYERS FOR FATHERHOOD

heavenly Father near. So that they do not live with the insecurity of variableness and constant turning of shadows.

We pray this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gracious and loving Father,

You created man in Your image and ordained him to lead his family in love and gentleness, to reflect Your nature to them.

Cause the hearts of our nation's fathers to be turned to their children, and the hearts of children to their fathers (Mal 4:6)
So that our great land may be healed.

May You grant us this in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Almighty God,

Your Word says that children are a heritage from You, our offspring a reward, and those of many children are blessed (Ps 127:3-5). In Your eyes, children are precious.

We pray for the boys who have been abandoned by their fathers, the ones we know and the ones we don't know. Pour out Your love and comfort upon them, draw them to You, cover them with Your feathers and may they find refuge under Your wings (Ps 91:4). So that they know the protection and refuge of a faithful Father.

We ask this in the name of our deliverer the Lord Jesus Christ.

THE CHURCH

We as believers in Christ are His body and He is the head. All of us as members of the body of Christ have specific roles and functions, therefore we should be active and not passive, fighting and not on the sidelines. We should be unified instead of separated and doing our own thing. How can we be victorious if we are not working together, if we have our eyes only on our small patch to preserve and protect? Jesus implored, “*Wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest!*” (Jn 4:35b) (NLT). May the church heed His voice.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

Mighty God,

You are calling us to awaken from sleep; for salvation is near (Eph 5:14).

Wake up Your people, clothe them in Your strength, inspire them to be alert and sober, anoint them for battle. So that they are equipped and ready for the days to come.

We pray in the name of our Conquering King the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dear Father,

You instruct Your children to keep the unity of Spirit through the bond of peace (Eph 4:3).

We pray for the Church, Christ's body on earth, that we would all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature. So that we can attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

We ask this in the name of our Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ.

Everlasting God,

We were all baptised by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink (1 Cor 12:13).

Open the eyes of Your church to see that we are indeed one body, give us a spirit of unity and belonging. So that Your church shines brightly in this hour to direct the lost ones home.

Grant this request through the Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH

Great and awesome God,

Just as Your Son loves the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word (Eph 5:26).

May Your people love the Church too. Pour out on Your people a revelation of the preciousness of Christ's body on earth. Let the word of Christ dwell in Your people richly. So that they teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness to God (Col 3:16).

In doing so they will glorify Your name in this nation and abroad. We ask this in the name of Christ Jesus our Redeemer.

Gracious Father,

Your son Jesus said that he would build his church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it (Matt 16:18).

Heaven and earth may pass away, but Your words will never pass away (Matt 24:35).

Let Your words sink deeply into the hearts of Your people, heal our unbelief, cause us to humble ourselves before You and seek Your face, and turn from our wicked ways. So that You come and heal our land (2 Chron 7:14).

May You grant this in the name of our glorious Prince of Peace, our Lord Jesus Christ.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



CINDY MCGARVIE is National Director of Youth for Christ Australia. She met her husband, Rod, in the Australian Army, and together they went on to serve as missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators for twelve years, raising five children on the mission field. Cindy and her husband live in Brisbane, Australia.

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