

LEFC Year of Prayer Structure:

1. **Weekly Prayer Focus** – Each Sunday we will focus on a different Psalm or Bible verse for our prayer focus during the week. A prayer guide with possible prayer prompters will be attached to the Weekly LEFC Update emailed each Thursday.
2. **Wednesday Noon Fasting & Prayer** – we encourage those in the LEFC body who are able to do so to seek the Lord in prayer and fasting every Wednesday from noon to 12:30. The Weekly Prayer Focus guide with possible prayer prompters will be re-sent on Tuesday.
3. **Weekly LEFC Family Prayer Focus** - we would like to have the entire body of Christ at LEFC pray for one or two families each week. For those people/families participating, we will highlight them in the Thursday email and on the Sunday announcements and ask that you include them in your prayer time.
4. **In Person Bi-Weekly Wednesday Night Prayer** - Held at LEFC on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 6:30 – 7:30 and using the Weekly Prayer Focus for that week.
5. **Optional Monthly Prayer Focus** – Each month we will focus on a different topic. Prayer prompts/guides will be available if you would like to use them. We encourage you to include the monthly prayer focus in your daily and weekly time of prayer.

These principles are adapted from numerous works by Daniel Henderson. For further reading, check out these other helpful resources.

- *Transforming Prayer: How Everything Changes When You Seek God's Face* by Daniel Henderson
- *Old Paths, New Power* by Daniel Henderson

LEFC Year of Prayer

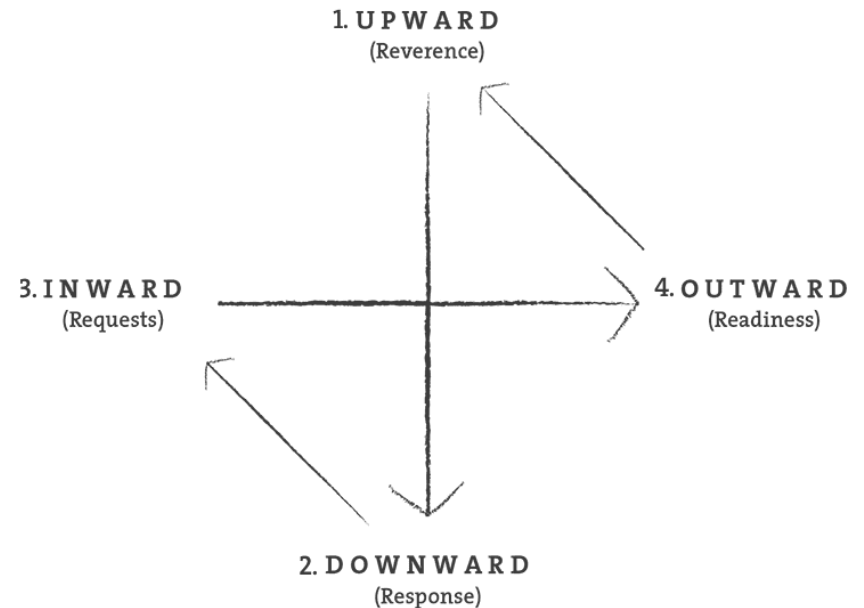
Worship-Based Prayer Pattern

The concept of *Worship-Based Prayer* can be a very powerful and practical approach to implementing prayer into our lives

- 1) It is Scriptural. It is based on the “Lords Prayer”, or the model prayer, in Matthew 6.
- 2) It draws people’s focus toward God, as opposed to their own needs or requests.
- 3) It provides a model to experience life giving prayer that can be applied to nearly any passage of Scripture.

THE 4/4 PATTERN OF PRAYER

Worship-based prayer is built on a “4/4” Pattern, like a musical conductor would use, which is taken directly from the Biblical text we often refer to as “The Lord’s Prayer” in Matthew 6.



1. UPWARD: REVERENCE

In the prayer pattern Jesus gave His disciples, He instructs us to ***begin with a focus of worship. (“Our Father in Heaven, hallowed be Your name . . .”).*** This upward focus is the “Reverence” stroke and is the principle of “worship-based” rather than need-based prayer. It begins with the **character of God** as we focus our entire being on the wonders of who God is. Ultimately, prayer is our response to the character of God, which leads to **praise and thanksgiving**.

As we get to know the God Who is, we will naturally respond to Him. This response is called prayer. ***“...Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed by Your name.”*** ~Matthew 6:9

Helpful Prayer Focuses:

- Praising God for His attributes/character
- Offering thanks for what He has done
- Not asking for anything, just worshipping

2. DOWNWARD: RESPONSE

Jesus taught a second element of biblical prayer when He said, ***“Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven . . .”*** This speaks of our response to God’s character in prayer as we consider His will, from His Word and for the sake of His purposes on earth. This also involves yielding to the control of the Holy Spirit as we respond to His invitations to a fruitful and obedient life. **Introspection and surrender** mark this time of response. It is a season of **pledged obedience to the will and Word of God**, desiring the accomplishment of His will in our lives.

Helpful Prayer Focuses:

- Worshipful response to who God is
- Acknowledge and surrender to God’s will
- Listening, allowing God’s Spirit to speak; then obeying

3. INWARD: REQUESTS

Now that we have rightly worshipped our God and Savior — and we have wholly surrendered to His will for our lives — we can boldly bring our requests before Him, knowing that we are asking “in His name” and **for His glory**.

“Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.” – Matthew 6:11-12

Of course, Jesus had just said our Father knows our needs before we ask (Matthew 6:8). This is not a time of informing God of our needs as much as it is a conscious **trust in God** as the perfect definer and provider of our needs. It involves prayer about personal requests and the concerns of others, including corporate concerns, such as congregational challenges or broader issues in the body of Christ. In all this, we recognize that, “...God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” ~Philippians 4:19

Helpful Prayer Focuses:

- Offering requests in accordance with God’s will
- Passionate petitions of personal needs

4. OUTWARD: READINESS

This outward stroke reminds us of the spiritual battle before us, and more importantly, reassures us of the spiritual resource within us, the Holy Spirit.

When we pray, ***“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil”*** (Matthew 6:13), we recognize our own inability to overcome the temptations and attacks of daily life. We entrust our welfare to our Divine Enabler, through the power of His presence and promises. **We pledge ourselves to walk in obedience and victory as the fruit of our praying.**

Helpful Prayer Focuses:

- Trusting God’s Promises for the battle
- Knowing He will answer
- Focusing on His glory above all else