

How To Pray For Your Pastor

Pray-

- To make a fervent request or entreaty.
- To ask imploringly.
- To make a devout or earnest request

For-

- In place of...
- As the representative of....
- In defense of...

Risk Factors:

- 90% felt that they were inadequately trained to cope with ministry demands
- 70% say they have a lower self-esteem now than when they started out

-1991 Survey of Pastors, Fuller Institute of Church Growth

Why should we pray for our pastor?

A. Because it is commanded in God's Word.

"...pray for each other..." (James 5:16)

"And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should." (Colossians 4:3-4)

"Brothers, pray for us." (1 Thessalonians 5:25)

“Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men, for not everyone has faith.” (2 Thessalonians 3:1-2)

“Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorably in every way. I particularly urge you to pray so that I may be restored to you soon.” (Hebrews 13:18-19)

B. Because it is the right thing to do.

Risk Factors:

- 33% said that being in ministry was an outright hazard to their family
- 75% reported a significant stress-related crisis at least once in their ministry

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“Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.” (1 John 4:7)

C. Because pastors are a gift from God.

“It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers...” (Ephesians 4:11)

“It was he who gave... pastors...” (Ephesians 4:11)

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Risk Factors:

- 50% felt unable to meet the needs of the job
- 70% do not have someone they consider a close friend

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1. Pray for His Personal Needs.

- Health
- Positive Relationships
- Humility
- Wisdom to know God's agenda
- The Fruit of the Holy Spirit

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2. Pray for His Family Needs.

- Priority of his family (that he'll keep his family first)
- Provision for his family (financial needs)
- His spouse
- His Children
- His Grandchildren

3. Pray for His Spiritual Needs.

- Purity
- Wisdom
- Anointing
- Integrity
- Accountability
- Time alone with God
- Protection from spiritual warfare

Risk Factors:

- 40% report a serious conflict with a parishioner at least once a month
- 37% confessed having been involved in inappropriate sexual behavior with someone in the church

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“Finally, brothers, pray for us...” ((2 Thessalonians 3:1-2)