Prayer Calendar November 2021

Bible Reading Plan for Titus, Philemon and Romans

November's prayer calendar accompanies the Bible Reading Plan beginning with two very small letters from Paul and the grand letter to the Church in Rome. In Romans Paul writes a treatise on the love of God; a redeeming love for every one of us who is under the power of sin and controlled by human nature. Romans is a theological book and also a realistic, practical discussion of how growing into fullness of life in Christ is a matter of mind, heart and spirit.

Monday, November 1

Titus 1:4 | To ______, my loyal child in the faith we share: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.

~ Holy God, I place my name in the greeting of this letter and claim the letter for myself and my family. Thank you, God for the gift of Paul's letters that live on and on in the hearts, minds, and spirits of your disciples. Help us to be and to remain faithful followers, leaders and guides in your kin-dom.

Tuesday, November 2

Titus 2:11 | For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all...

~ Holy God, you revealed to Paul powerful words. Salvation, redemption, reconciliation, and renewal are for all people, now and everywhere. Thank you, Holy God, for your grace that is enough to bring us into one body, under one God, through love, forgiveness, and grace equal to every need.

Wednesday, November 3

Titus 3:6-7 | This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. ~ Lord, keep us mindful and thankful for the leading, guidance, and presence of your Holy Spirit who justifies us before the throne of God. May we act and live like your beloved children who know who they are.

Thursday, November 4

Philemon vs. 4-5 | When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus.

~ Holy God, what will others say of our faith and practice as a disciple? In what ways will we be a witness to love, forgiveness, hope and grace in the world. Help us and show us how to witness our faith before others, so they may be encouraged and draw closer to you.

Friday, November 5

Romans 1:8 | First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world.

~ Loving God, it is hard to imagine that our faith as a church would be proclaimed throughout the world. Is this possible? Keep us focused and faithful to this ideal; that as your beloved

people we can grow in our faith and practice and be a witness to the world around us and that we would be so hospitable to all that others would want to be a part of this community.

Saturday, November 6

Rest | Enjoy the day as you are able. Take a nap, prepare a simple meal, walk or sit by a window and watch the birds. Call a friend or write a thank you note. Sit in the sunshine or the light of your room and let it pour over you.

Sunday, November 7

Reflect | Reflect on your readings from last week. What verses or themes from the readings stood out to you? How might the scriptures read from last week be applied in your own life? In what ways did the Holy Spirit convict you?

Monday, November 8

Romans 2:1 | Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgement on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things.

~ Lord God, to walk in love seems like an easy thing to do, but sometimes it is hard. It is hard to set aside our own judgements, prejudices and opinions because we think we are right. How can we love if we think others are so wrong and misguided? Help us recognize that your true love transcends everything else and we are to love one another in our walk with you.

Tuesday, November 9

Romans 3:23-24 | ...since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus....

~ Lord of Life, yes, we all have sinned and do sin, even when we don't want to. We are grateful for the saving grace of Christ Jesus that illuminates our sins and draws us back to the goodness and wholeness of Christ. We are forgiven by God who loves us. And your Holy Spirit guides, directs, shapes and forms us through grace to become who you desire us to be...faithful disciples of Christ.

Wednesday, November 10

Romans 4:20-21 | No distrust made him (Abraham) waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

~ Holy One, sometimes we forget you are trustworthy for we ourselves cannot always be trusted to be faithful disciples. Your promises are true. Like Abraham we grow strong in our faith through adversity knowing you are with us.

Thursday, November 11

Romans 5:3-5 | And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

~ Holy God, we don't like to suffer for any reason. Yet suffering produces fruit in our spiritual growth. Isn't there another way? Your son suffered the cross, but we don't want to suffer any

kind of pain and will do anything to avoid it. Help us in our suffering to know it can produce good fruit if we allow your presence during the suffering.

Friday, November 12

Romans 6:8 | But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ~ Father, the hardest thing we can ever do is to die to self. We want our way, and we want what we want when we want it. We do not want to let that self-centeredness go – to die – so that we can be born again in a new life.

Saturday, November 13

Rest | Today just be. Take deep breaths and go about your activities breathing in what is good and beautiful about the day.

Sunday, November 14

Reflect | Look back on the chapters you read last week. What is God saying to you through these texts?

Monday, November 15

Romans 7:15 | I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

~ Loving God, I know what is right and good, yet I either look the other way or just step into doing what is wrong and hurtful. It is good to know I am not alone, yet why do I struggle so with the small things? I can easily face down most big, awful temptations, but the little ones get me every time. Help.

Tuesday, November 16

Romans 8:26 | Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

~ Holy Spirit, I am grateful for the Holy Spirit's intercession for sometimes all I can do is cry in anguish or sob in silence. Thank you, that silence is your language and I do not have to use words.

Wednesday, November 17

Romans 9:1 | I am speaking the truth in Christ – I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit.

~ Great Spirit, your work within us is amazing and miraculous. You stir our hearts, minds, and souls in such a way we can come face to face with the truth of our lives. I am grateful for your renewing and sustaining work within each of us, especially your church. Your power and your presence changes lives and brings us into harmony with God through Jesus the Christ.

Thursday, November 18

Romans 10:13 | For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." ~ Lord, when we humble ourselves and finally understand we cannot save ourselves; when we let go of control and the need to work everything to perfection; when we submit our will to yours and call your name and your forgiveness, we will find peace.

Friday, November 19

Romans 11:16 | If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy.

~ Holy God, we are the branches grafted into the living tree of life. We take on the nature of this tree of life just as we take on the character and nature of Christ Jesus. We are grafted into your heart through Jesus. Thank you for this gift of grace and relationship.

Saturday, November 20

Rest | Take time to do something for yourself; something that gives you life and feeds your soul.

Sunday, November 21

Reflect | Reflect over your past week. Where did you see God at work in you and in others? What scripture verses touched you and caused you to think about your life as you are living it now?

Monday, November 22

Romans 12:12-13 | Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

~ Great God, these are marks of a disciple of Jesus Christ – rejoice, be patient, persevere, contribute, extend hospitality. Keep me mindful and faithful to these marks of Christian discipleship. Help me understand that hope, suffering, prayer, ongoing needs, and the stranger are also a part of my spiritual formation as a disciple and are not to be despised.

Tuesday, November 23

Romans 13:8 | Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

~ Loving Father, you created us in your image, the image of love. You call us to love one another as you have loved us. You tell us repeatedly to remember the commandment to love one another. Help us do that – help us set aside our own self and just love others.

Wednesday, November 24

Romans 14:17 | For the kingdom of God is not food and drink but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

~ Loving God, we get confused sometimes thinking your kingdom is an actual place and time. Paul assures us your realm is right relationships with you and with others, to live in peace and be at peace, to be filled with joy and be joy through the Holy Spirit. Help us look for your kingdom and begin living in this way right now.

Thursday, November 25, Thanksgiving Day

Romans 15:13 | May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

~ Lord, your servant Paul sends us forth with the blessing of hope. Hope fills us with joy and peace in our belief so we may have more hope by the power of your Holy Spirit. Today I live in hope – today my hope is: ______.

Friday, November 26

Romans 16:20b | The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

~ Lord Jesus, this blessing sends us on our way, into our day, our evening, our lives. Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with us...grace...that gift of blessing, joy, well-being and hope of Jesus the Christ be with us. Thank you for this gift.

Saturday, November 27

Rest | Today be still and let go of anxiety, breathing deeply and giving thanks for each breath.

Sunday, November 28 – First Sunday of Advent

Reflect | Reflect on this season of Advent. What hopes do you have for this season of love, hope, joy, and peace bring for you? In what ways will you be open to God's love and grace toward yourself and others? How will you wait for the Holy One to be born within you?

Monday, November 29

Luke 1:13 | But the angle said to him, "Do not afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. ~ Holy God, we live uncertain lives and for many, we live in fear of things that are unfamiliar or unexpected. Help us remember your assurance that we do not have to be afraid for you want the best for us and love us. Help us remember you are with us.

Tuesday, November 30

Luke 2:10 | But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people...."

~ Loving God, once again you tell us all not to be afraid. Fear is a place we go to easily and quickly when we feel out of control or overwhelmed. Still that fear in us so we can hear your words of assurance, "Do not be afraid."

All scripture is taken from the NRSV

This prayer calendar is designed to aid you in your daily life of prayer.

Read the scripture for the day over and over, out loud if possible. As you read, listen with an "ear of the heart" to a word or phrase that strikes you.

Reflect on that word or phrase asking yourself the question: "What is God saying to me through this word or phrase at this time?" Spend time in silence with this scripture mulling it over in your mind and heart.

Allow God to speak to you in the silence. Offer a prayer out of your reflection.

Thank God for whatever you received in the silence of your prayer and take that with you through your day.

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