

Prayers of Preparation for the Lord's Supper

Wednesday	<p>Remembering God's Character</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •His holiness, purity, righteousness, justice, glory, love, mercy, grace, faithfulness, omniscience, omnipresence, eternity, self-existence. •For God to do what is fair, no man would ever receive grace, mercy, or salvation. Reflect on the unspeakable kindness of God (general grace to all & specific grace to the elect) •Affirm that God sees everything: your heart, your thoughts, your desires, your motives/intentions
Thursday	<p>Repenting of Your Sins — Specifically</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sins of commission - coveting, grumbling, lust, idolatry, anger, evil words, wicked thoughts, watching impurities online/TV. •Sins of omission - lack of Scripture reading, littleness of prayer, little desire to meet with/commune with God, lack of Bible-memorization, lack of evangelism, lack of heart/passion for the lost souls •Sins in the home - lack of love for your spouse, lack of diligent desire to serve, lack of family worship, pride, selfishness, frustration, impatience, anger, unforgiveness, bitterness •Sins in your heart - evil thoughts, prideful motives, selfish ambition, fear of man •Repent and beg for God's grace. Remember that it was <i>your</i> sin that put <i>your</i> Savior on the cross bearing <i>your</i> curse.
Friday	<p>Reflecting on the person, glory & work of the Lord Jesus Christ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The need for Christ to save — b/c of our evil, wicked sin & our helpless to save ourselves) •The ability of Christ to save — virgin birth, sinless life, perfect lawkeeping, obedience to the Father in everything, perfect holiness, perfect mind, perfect love for God & others) •The actuality of Christ's atonement — His once-for-all death, the perfect blood shed, the wrath of God poured out in full upon Christ's head; the propitiatory sacrifice/wrath-appeasing work of Christ, the full bearing of the judgment that His elect deserve. •The resurrection of Christ showing His victory, His power, His triumph, His deity, His life! •The ascension to heaven & intercession in heaven as He pleads for His own people before the Father's throne constantly
Saturday	<p>Desiring to excel at godliness & increase in zealous, persistent sanctification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Desire to mortify, kill, slay <u>all</u> known sin. Ask God to show you your sin. •Take the time to quiet yourself, excavate your heart, find your sins, get to the very root/core of them, and take deliberate, careful, methodical measures to slay the very conception/root of that sin (do this for specific sins: lust, anger, pride, selfishness, quick temper, lying, impatience) •Plead with Christ to make you more holy; conform you more to His image
Sunday	<p>Longing to feed on Christ, the need to partake of Him, the encouragement in communing with Him</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Express your coldness of heart and your need for revival, revitalization, rejuvenation, zeal. •Anticipate the moment of corporate encouragement when you extend your hand to take the bread & the juice as a symbol of extending your hands in desperate need for Christ & His cross-work. •Beg for God to give you joy, life, encouragement, sustenance, strength through communion for the upcoming week of serving Christ. Pray for corporate worship! Pray for your heart to be prepared <i>ahead of time</i>. Pray to focus & to be undistracted during the worship service & entirely focused on Christ alone! Confess your proneness to distractions.
Monday	<p>Anticipate the wily, sly and ferocious attacks of Satan who hates you & wants to destroy you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Reflect that on Monday morning, you need God's grace for the upcoming week (be specific about the ways in which you need God's help, the activities, plans, events, situations, weaknesses, temptations, etc.) •Realize that you have a lionlike enemy (Satan himself) who utterly hates you <i>because</i> he hates Christ. And because you are Christ's, he hates you. He can't destroy you but he'll try to defile you. Satan will try... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To discourage you - therefore you must pray to constantly find joy in Christ (daily!) •To defile you - therefore you must pray that you'll be pure & holy in thought, word, deed •To deter you - therefore you must focus intently, daily on Christ. Set your heart on Him •To destroy your reputation - therefore you must pray to be holy, to be a godly witness for Christ at work, with family, before neighbors, with strangers so that you would live as a Light before all men; zealous for Christ, willingly receiving mocking, persecution for Christ's sake •To dissatisfy you - therefore you must resolutely find more joy in Christ than in other pleasures and sins that are tempting/luring. Satan will tell you that there are 'other things' that are more pleasurable than Christ and His gospel. Don't believe the lie!