

SHAWWAL PRAYER GUIDE



Week 5

SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer of confession and reconciliation

(Day 1 Shawwal) May 25, 2020

After the month of Ramadan, Islam has a tradition of extending six (6) more days of fasting called Shawwal fast. This fast is not mandatory, but it is believed that those who fast the entire period of thirty-six (36) days is ten (10) times better. Hence, it is regarded that those who fast the extra six days amount to 36 days which translates to a one year fast, that is 36 times 10 times makes a total of 360, because Islam follows a lunar calendar that has 360 days in total.

Therefore, GCAMR intends to continue the united in prayer for the next extra six days of Shawwal prayer. The main objective for these prayer days is to consecrate ourselves and render specific prayers for the ministry. The prayers of each day may require you to establish a particular data in your territory to help you establish your prayer request. Even though we will be following up with a daily prayer card, you should find time to establish the details for each day in advance.

We hope that these six days may bring a greater sense of consecration in the AMR Ministry. This is one of those ministries that if one is not committed to the Lord and sure of His Holy Spirit's presence and work in and through you, chances are that you may be disappointed in many ways. But those who trust and hope in the Lord, are more than conquerors.

In view of this we need to take time and think about our relationship with the Lord and others. As Jeremiah writes in Lamentations 3:40-41, "Let us search out and examine our ways, and turn back to the Lord; let us lift our hearts and hands to God in heaven."

We need to ask ourselves some of the following questions:

1. How is my relationship with God and my fellow believers?
2. How is my relationship with my family members, both immediate and extended?

HEBREWS 10:19-25

¹⁹Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

3. Do I find myself gossiping with others in my conversations?
4. Do I have any spirit of revenge towards someone?
5. Do I have a spirit of discontent on whatever assignment I have been given to perform by my church?
6. Do I feel I am better than others? Do I feel that my giftedness is not recognized and acknowledged?
7. Do I feel as if I do not need others? Am I a lone ranger, feeling like I need no one, not even the church leadership at any level?
8. Do I feel as if I am in competition with others in AMR ministry? Do I feel like others need to know that I know more than them?
9. Do I feel someone does not deserve to be my leader? Do I question the competence and calling of others?
10. Do I have a judgemental attitude towards others?

This list represents some characteristics of someone who needs to seek God's mercies. Because of our human nature, we are not perfect, and we are subject to such tendencies. God cannot use us for His Glory if we cherish such tendencies. Today, take time to reflect on your own life and approach the mercy seat of the Lord with a true spirit of repentance. Pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Pray for unentered territories in your region

(Shawwal Day 2) May 26, 2020

It is our belief that you have always been praying for your territories and sometimes even by name. Today we have another opportunity to unite in praying for our specific territories, particularly in Muslim majority areas. Let us focus on particular towns, estates, villages, sub villages. Make a list of those areas and pray specifically by mentioning name by name before God today. If you are aware of particular needs, you may identify them and mention them to enrich your prayers. Let us claim God's promises by asking Him to:

1. Open doors of opportunities for mission
2. Pray for the hearts of the Muslim populations in those regions, including the leadership that God may soften their negative attitude towards the Bible truth and Bible believers

ACTS 1:8

⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Pray for the people groups found in your territory

(Shawwal Day 3) May 27, 2020

By now you should have created a comprehensive list of all territories with Muslim populations around you. If you have not, take this opportunity to do so. Take time to reflect on the type of people groups in those places (“A people group is the largest group within which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance.”¹)

If you have internet facility, we recommend that you visit Project Joshua <https://joshuaproject.net>. Search your particular country of residence. The site will help you to identify all people groups in that country, further you can click on the location on the map provided to have an idea of the people groups found in your territory whether they are divided by language, race, region/location, caste, etc. Try to be as specific as you can to help you develop a list of all people groups around you. After establishing your list, present each people group by name before the Lord.

1. Claim the people groups for God before God
2. Pray that God may manifest Himself to those people in different ways
3. Pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those people and that the Holy Spirit may soften their heart to receive the Gospel
4. Pray for the specific needs you are aware of amongst those people

JEREMIAH 36:7A

⁷It may be
that they
will present
their
supplication
before the
Lord, and
everyone
will turn
from his
evil way.

¹ https://joshuaproject.net/resources/articles/what_is_a_people_group

Pray for your Muslim contacts

(Shawwal Day 4) May 28, 2020

It is our faith that most of you keep a list in your diary of all your Muslim contacts. You may have different levels of your interaction with each of these contacts, some may be close to you, some may be people you interact with only on occasion. Today we are praying for all our contacts.

You Muslim contacts may be your relatives, friends, work associates, and neighbours. By virtue of your contact with them, you may have come across information about them, for example, family matters, financial matters, social matters, health concerns, academic pursuits, professional concerns, etc. Treat this knowledge as your treasury of prayer requests. Pray for what you know to be their concerns. Bring them before the Lord with consistency and concern that our God and Saviour may address those needs and minister to your contacts. Further,

1. Claim your contacts for the Lord
2. Pray that God may continue to present opportunities where you can reach them with the message of hope
3. Pray for their particular needs
4. Pray for the manifestation of God in their lives through dreams and visions

ROMANS 10:1-3

¹Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. ²For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God

Pray for AMR practitioners in your territory

(Shawwal Day 5) May 29, 2020

We praise God for the thousands of dedicated members of our church who have responded to the call to work amongst Muslim communities. We must admit that this is not an easy undertaking given the circumstances in which we work. Reaching out in these communities always requires our total submission to the Lord of the harvest because of the many challenges we face.

As you work in that territory as a leader for the ministry or institution, a practitioner (frontline minister), God sees your commitment. Therefore, we need to pray for all practitioners on the Muslim mission frontiers. Make a list of all practitioners you know working in your territory. Pray that

1. God may empower them with a double portion of the Holy Ghost
2. God will provide them enough grace to face all mission challenges in their ministry
3. God may grant them and their family protection from the evil one and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
4. God may increase their faith as they engage in mission
5. God may prepare the ground for the success of His glory
6. God may endow them with the spiritual gifts of miracles and wonders so that He may manifest Himself in their ministry
7. God may provide their needs for their sustainability
8. God may enrich their ministry in different ways
9. God may give them wisdom as they disciple new converts

JEREMIAH 29:10B-13A

¹⁰I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

¹¹For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. ¹⁴I will be found by you, says the Lord...

Prayer for the Union or Field Leadership in your Territory

(Shawwal Day 6) May 30, 2020

Yesterday we spent time praying for AMR frontline workers (practitioners). Today we shall be praying for our leaders, both officers and ministry leaders. Having served as a leader in this ministry for many years, I have come to appreciate those who pray for our leaders because of the many challenges that present themselves in leadership. These may include, lack of focus, church politics, undermining one another, disregard of leadership by those you lead, malice, inadequate understanding of our roles among others. Therefore, make a list of all the leaders in your particular territory and pray that:

1. God may keep them united as they lead God's people. Pray Christ's prayer in John 17:20-21, "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."
2. They may experience the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
3. God's love may be manifested in their leadership
4. They may not be distracted in their leadership, rather they may be focused on matters of mission.
5. They may see the urgency of mission work and have a balanced approach in allocating resources for mission
6. God may give them wisdom on how they will bring quick recovery to church activities as we are coming out from the COVID-19 lockdown situations.

ISAIAH 41:10

¹⁰Fear not, for I
am with you;
Be not dismayed,
for I *am* your
God.
I will strengthen
you,
Yes, I will help
you,
I will uphold you
with My
righteous right
hand.'