

## Partners in Prayer

He tends his flock like a shepherd; he gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young  
Isaiah 40:11 (NIV)



Here are some steps that you may want to use to help you move into a place of prayer and intercession.

1. **Come with a clean heart:** Psalm 66:18 if I regard iniquity in my heart, The Lord will not hear.
2. **Die to our own thoughts:** 2 Cor. 10:5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ
3. **Silence the Enemy:** Romans 16:20 And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.
4. **Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal the heart and Mind of God :** Jude 1:20 But you, dear friends, must continue to build your lives on the foundation of your holy faith. And continue to pray as you are directed by the Holy Spirit.
5. **Wait, to hear what God Says:** John 10:4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.
6. Then pray and intercede for what he has spoken to you about

## Day One

### The tenderness of the shepherd

*I myself will tend my sheep and make them lie down declares the Sovereign Lord. I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.....I will shepherd my flock with justice. Ezekiel 34: 15-16 (NIV)*

*He tends his flock like a shepherd; he gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. Isaiah 40:11 (NIV)*

**These passages speak of the wonderful tenderness of the Lord. As a good shepherd he knows each one of us individually. He knows if we are lost or strayed, injured or weak, in need of carrying or with responsibilities for children.**

**He cares for us individually as well – searching, bringing back, binding up, strengthening, shepherding with justice, tending, gathering, carrying close to his heart, gently leading**

**Ask the Lord to reveal to you all the ways he has guided and protected you over the last year, like the good shepherd described in these passages**

**Spend some time thanking him for his tenderness and mercy**

## Day Two

### Care and protection when the going gets tough

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me besides still waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his names sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me*

*You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies, you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. (Psalm 23 NIV)*

**Note that the Psalm describes God's care and protection in the middle of both the most pleasant and the toughest circumstances of life – “through the valley of the shadow of death” and “in the presence of my enemies” as well as “in green pastures” and “beside still waters”**

**Take some time to pray for those you know who are in difficult circumstances. Psalm 23 can be used as a proclamation and blessing over their lives;**

***[Name]**, the Lord is your shepherd, you shall not be in want. May He make you lie down in green pastures, and lead you besides still waters, restoring your soul. May He guide you in paths of righteousness for his names sake. Even though you walk through **[his/her difficult circumstances]**, you need fear no evil, for He is with you, His rod and your staff, they will comfort you*

*He prepares a table for you in the middle of **[his/her difficult circumstances]**, he anoints your head with oil; your cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life, and you will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

## Day Three

### The shepherd heart of the Lord

*What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost (Matthew 18 v 12-14)*

**God never forgets the strays, and the prodigals. Even though we may not know what plans he has to bring them back to Himself, He is still working in their lives, longing to bring them back into His fold.**

**Praise God that He is working in the life of someone you know who has slipped away from Him.**

**Ask Him to open your eyes to see what He is doing in their lives.**

**If you get an understanding of how He is working in their lives, work with Him by praying into those areas and blessing what He is doing.**

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