

I. Safety Psalm 4:8 “In peace I will both lie down and sleep, for Thou alone, O LORD, dost make me to dwell in safety.”

- A. Personal – in these last days we ask for special prayer for safety and protection. Satan will often attack at the end of a mission trip to try to put a bad taste in your mouth, to make you think twice about a return trip. Even though he must know by now that this will not work with us, never-the-less he never fails, as the coward he is, to put out a few cheap shots as we prepare to leave. Please oppose him to his face and claim the protection of God for us.
- B. Children and grandchildren back home – Our thoughts and of course especially Eleanor’s thoughts turn towards home the close the time comes to leave. This separation has been especially hard on her as she left behind a brand new grandbaby, a daughter newly engaged, a second daughter newly moved into her apartment and a son and daughter-in-law newly moved into their home (the latter two in Houston!!). So grandma has been feeling the separation and has been especially burdened for the welfare of her extended family. Please do join me in lifting them up for protection. Satan, unable to strike closes to home, often then turns his attention to those near and dear to you. Lets hit him first, before he is able to hit us. On behalf of us and our family, give him a lick and send him scurrying back to his hole. Please claim: James 4:7 “Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

II. Blessing of God’s Word

- A. As you pray for us please continue to lift up our preaching and teaching of the Word of God, that this and this alone would be the standard and power of our ministry.
- B. Please claim: Isaiah 55:11, “So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

III. Response of Repentance and Obedience

- A. First, that through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God men and women would be brought into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. Please Claim John 12:31-32 - "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."
- B. Next that those who are Christians would submit to His Lordship and in so doing that they would be subject to the Word of God. Please Claim I Peter 1:22-25, “Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart, for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God. For, "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls off, But the word of the Lord abides forever." And this is the word which was preached to you.”

IV. Last but not least this month in general and this Sunday in particular is a time set aside for pastor appreciation. Be sure and set aside prayer time for your pastor. Also, take time out to thank him – send him an email, write a note, put a positive comment of prayer or appreciation in the offering plate, take some positive action to let him know that he is not alone, that he is loved and appreciated. As for your church. Please Claim Hebrews 13:17, “Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.” That the ministry of your pastor would be one of joy because of the overwhelming support and cooperation of their church.