

**Guidelines for 2013 Quiet Times  
Scriptural Suggestion  
Ps. 19:7-14**

Begin with: "Lord, teach me to pray."



Day 1—read the above passage and pray Ps. 119:18

Day 2—read the same passage again and underline what seems important to you

Day 3 - 5—answer the following questions from your passage:

*What did God say to you? What is God telling you to do?*

*Write a one or two sentence prayer from what you read.*

*What spiritual things do I need God to help me change?*

**Be Still Journal**—prayer resource to help believers hear directly from God...knowing God better is the result of a never-ending love relationship.

*Rev. Michael Campbell  
Faith EC Church, Bair*

**INVITATION:** Under the guidance of the Prayer Mobilization Team, this invitation is being extended to all believers and churches across our denomination who would be interested in praying for a denominational prayer initiative in your personal prayer life and your churches. As part of this prayer networking initiative, Bishop Hill has asked the PMT to communicate his requests to pray for the 2013 National Conference from April 28 to May 27. As you feel led of the Lord, to pray daily for the National Conference, please inform Brenda Long of your participation by giving her your name, address, email address and home church either by emailing Brenda at: [blong@eccenter.com](mailto:blong@eccenter.com) or by calling the EC Church Center (1-800-866-7581) by February 15, 2013.



**NOTE: Beginning this year, there will be only one issue (Jan-Mar) of the HeartCry with prayer guidelines and resources sent each year.**



**PRAYER MOBILIZATION TEAM**  
of the Evangelical Congregational Church

# HEARTCRY

January-March, 2013

Intimacy with God

## *The Bride To Be*

I have a lot of daughters, and we love to watch a sweet romance story together. In recent years, there have been lots of real-life romance stories in our home, better than any chick-flick. We just had another wedding. Our daughter's fiancée adored her. He would drive over two hours just to take her to dinner for a few hours. In my day, we mailed letters. But today, with cell phones, lovers can be in constant contact—text messages, phone calls—because they long for each other, they want to know one another deeply. He had an overwhelming desire to take care of and provide for her. He wanted to be the one she goes to when she is upset, worried, sick, or in need of any kind. Our daughter delighted in her fiancée. Her eyes lit up brightly at the sound of his voice. She clearly longed to be with him, too. She trusted him to guide their lives. Now they finally have the desire of their hearts, to walk together as one. If our daughter would have continually told her fiancée that she was too busy to visit with him or even talk for a little while, we would have wondered about her love for him. Their relationship would suffer if she would not invest herself into it. It would



not be normal to ignore the one she plans to love for the rest of her life. Her fiancée would be terribly hurt.

There is another wedding coming. The fiancée adores his bride-to-be, longing to be with her. He wants to provide for her, be the one she goes to when she has burdens or needs of any kind. He wants to know her deeply, to be in constant communication, to be the delight of her heart. He would give anything for her, even his own life. The wedding is coming soon. The fiancée is Jesus. The bride is us, His precious love, the church. Jesus wants to walk with us in love forever. As the bride-to-be, are you too busy to visit with your fiancée or even talk for a little while? Your relationship will suffer if you will not invest yourself into it. It is not normal to ignore the one you truly love.

I tend to be a Martha, so busy serving, which is good. But do I spend Mary time with my Lord? The question that has come to my heart is why am I ignoring my fiancée, Jesus? I have hurt Him, the love of my life.

*Beverly Kramer  
Union Salem EC Church*



## IS CHRIST YOUR BEST FRIEND?

*The most important thing we can do to improve our prayer lives is to get to know Christ better (Love to Pray: p. 109).*

Developing an Intimate Friendship with God by:

- **Renewing** our minds in God's Word—We need to know God's Word as it transforms our lives and directs us into God's perfect will (Rom. 12:2).
- **Meditating** on God's Word—When we pray we are talking with God, when we meditate on God's Word we are listening to God (Ps. 1:2-3).
- **Speaking** the Word back to God in prayer (Ex. 1John 3:21).
- **Singing** the Word back to the Lord (Ps. 63:5).

*Taken from the book Intercessors Arise*



Our passion for Christ: Seen in our commitment to the **centrality of prayer**

Prayer: the **"first work"** of our denomination's ministries

Our commitment to prayer and the Bible: marked by **holiness of heart and life** (Col. 4:1).  
*Core value #1 of the Evangelical Congregational Church*



**Be Holy Because I, the Lord  
Your God, Am Holy**  
(Lev. 19:2)

I want my life to have a greater love for God by living a life that brings honor and glory to His holy name. In 2011 I connected with the One Cry Initiative that proclaimed a nationwide call for spiritual awakening. This placed a great desire in me to call people back to basic principles that will bring new passion for Christ Jesus. I am convinced that without a commitment to prayer with the study and application of God's Word, we become disciples without a purpose. My prayer is Lord, let it begin with me and my challenge is that the Lord would give me the ability to promote passion, purpose and promise in the lives of those who proclaim Jesus as Savior and Lord.

*Pastor Robert Shuey  
Cottage Grove E.C. Church  
Akron, OH*