

CONNECT PRAYERS

"Connect" means that we love each other deeply. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are experiencing God's matchless love, and we know that God wants us to do our best to love each other in the same way that Jesus loves us. In fact, our purpose is to love one another with such sincere, Christlike love that everyone will be able to see that we really are God's people.

Pray that...

- ... God will enlighten us to comprehend His love.
 - -- <u>Ephesians 3:17-19</u> "I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."
 - -- <u>1 John 4:10</u> "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."
- ... we will respond to God's love by loving each other.
 - -- 1 John 4:11 "Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."
 - -- Ephesians 5:1-2 "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God."
- ... we will welcome visitors with compassion, humility, and gladness
 - -- <u>James 2:8-9</u> "If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbor as yourself,' you are doing right. But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers."
- ... our community will know that we belong to Christ because of our love for one another
 - -- <u>John 13:34-35</u> "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Pray for...

- ... deep, heartfelt love for one another at BSBC.
 - -- <u>1 Peter 1:22</u> "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart."
- ... love that is not merely discussed, but lived out among us in acts of Christlike love.
 - -- 1 John 3:18 "Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."
- ... true unity among us.
 - -- <u>Ephesians 3:16-17</u> "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."
- ... unity among us so powerful that it serves as a witness to the Gospel.
 - -- <u>John 17:20-21</u> "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

- ... we will pursue God's call to love one another by faithful participation in small groups.
 - -- <u>Hebrews 10:25</u> "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."
- ... we will treat each other with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.
 - -- <u>Galatians 5:22-23</u> "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."
 - -- <u>Colossians 3:12</u> "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."
- ... an attitude of forgiveness toward one another.
 - -- <u>Colossians 3:13</u> "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."
- ... we will increasingly walk in obedient faith that blesses others and gives glory to God.
 - -- <u>Philippians 1:10-11</u> "...so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God."
- ... God will cause us to rejoice in His Word and will for us.
 - -- <u>Psalm 119:14-16</u> "I rejoice in following your statutes as one rejoices in great riches. I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word."
 - -- <u>Psalm 119:92-93</u> "If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life."
- ... our hearts will be satisfied with God and not the world.
 - -- <u>Psalm 90:14</u> "Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days."
 - -- <u>Psalm 86:11</u> "Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."
- ... God will empower us to do good deeds that cause other people to praise God.
 - -- <u>Matthew 5:16</u> "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."