

How To Pray for Waterbrooke

Ephesians 4:1-16

“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called...” Ephesians 4:1

Our Calling:

“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him, you are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

Our Confidence:

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21

How to pray for Waterbrooke:

I. Pray Personally : Pray for Christ-like Humility. Ephesians 4:1-3

“with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:2-3

Humility – the willingness to take the role of a servant for the good of others.

Meekness – the strength and determination to return good for evil.

Patience - the willingness to hang in there with God’s people through hardship and weakness. To go at God’s pace and not your own.

Forbearance – the ability to tolerate differences in character, maturity, and pace of development in love.

Diligence – Being diligent to prioritize and to pursue the unity of the body.

Unity happens when you prioritize praying over your own heart and attitude not someone else's.

II. **Pray Theologically: Pray for Deep Confessional Clarity About the Trinity. Ephesians 4:4-6**

Pray that each of us would recognize that what we have in common is paramount – The Triune God is our singular object of faith, hope, and love.

“There is one body, and one Spirit – just as you are called to one hope that belongs to your call – one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”

Ephesians 4:4-6

“The unity of the church is as indestructible as the unity of God Himself. It is no more possible to split the church than it is possible to split the Godhead.”

John Stott

The Body has one Spirit.

The Church has one Lord.

The Family has one Father.

“There is one hope belonging to our Christian calling, one faith and one baptism because there is only one Lord. For the Lord Jesus Christ is the one object of faith, hope and baptism of all Christian people. It is Jesus Christ in whom we have believed, Jesus Christ in whom we have been baptized, and Jesus Christ whose coming we wait with expectant hope.”

John Stott

We must pursue unity because we must not work in counter-purpose to the heart

III. **Pray Congregationally: Pray for a Culture of Collective Encouragement and Edification. Ephesians 4:7-16**

“But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.”

Ephesians 4:7

Maturity will never happen outside of community with God's people.

“The chariots of God are twice ten thousand, thousands upon thousands; the Lord is among them; Sinai is now in the sanctuary. You ascended on high, leading a host of captives in your

train and receiving gifts among men, even among the rebellious that the Lord may dwell there. Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.”

Psalm 68:17-19

- **Faithful Proclamation:** Pray for the faithful teaching and preaching of God’s Word. (Eph. 4:11)
- **Personal Restoration:** Pray for the progressive and collective equipping/restoration of all God’s people for the work of the ministry towards one another. (Eph. 4:13)

“Thus the fellowship where the Word of God is expounded and applied in the power of the Spirit becomes a hospital for the sick and a gymnasium to build up spiritual strength and stamina. Here the ministry of the Word of God does its own healing, cleansing, transforming work on our sinful and broken lives.”

Sinclair Ferguson

- **Collective Maturation:** Pray for increasing maturity (Christlikeness) and stability. (4:13-14)
- **Mutual Edification:** Pray for a continual mutually edifying community. (Eph. 4:15-16)