

# 40 Days of Prayer



Ministry is paramount to CHM's mission—and prayer is foundational in serving one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. That's why we're eager to accept a prayer challenge and invite you to join along.

Each of the passages of scripture are a prayer in the Bible. As you read through these daily prayers, use the statement, challenge, prompt, or reflection question to meditate on God's word through prayer.

You may use this challenge as a devotional, journaling prompt, or a jumping point to start your conversation with God daily—whatever you find most effective.

*Let's pray together.*

## God's 13 Attributes of Mercy

*"And the LORD passed over before [Moses'] face and said, 'LORD, LORD, God, compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, abundant in kindness and truth, preserver of kindness for thousands of generations, bearer of guilt, rebellion, and error, and who cleanses...'" - EXO. 34:6-7*

The 13 attributes enumerated in the passage above are the perfect description of God's divine governance. They are the reason we can have faith and trust in His sovereignty. And we can praise Him and His Son, Jesus, who demonstrated these attributes in full.

On the days listing these attributes, take time to thank God for the ways in which He has demonstrated—or is demonstrating—them in your life and in the lives of those around you.

### Insight into the 13 Attributes of Mercy

DAY	PASSAGE	PROMPT OR CHALLENGE
1	Exo. 15	What victories can you praise God for today?
2	Exo. 33:12-23	I need to draw near to God because...
3	#1: LORD • יהוה (Adonai)	
4	Num. 6:24-27	As God looks at you, He's pleased. Meditate on this.
5	Deut. 32, 33	It's not futile to love and obey God.
6	#2: LORD • יהוה (Adonai)	
7	2 Sam. 22	The Lord is our fortress, deliverer, rock, and refuge.
8	1 Kings 3	In which areas do you need more wisdom?
9	#3: God • לֵי (El)	
10	1 Kings 8:12-61	How can God use you to bless others?
11	1 Chr. 29:10-19	Do you believe that all blessings come from God?
12	#4: Compassionate • רַחוּם (rachum)	

A double portion of mercy begins this passage. Some say it represents God's mercies before and after we sin. Some say that it demonstrates the abundance of His mercy. Whatever the reason for the repeat of God's name here, we know His mercy is always greater than...

...His strict justice. El (short for Elohim) represents God's attribute of strict justice. We often forget that He is The Judge, but He is a righteous judge. And as followers of Jesus, we know that God's mercy is greater than our sin.

The all-powerful God, who needs nothing from anyone, chooses to sympathize with our frailty, giving us only what we can handle.

DAY	PASSAGE	PROMPT	
13	Ezra 7:27, 28	Think of one thing you're grateful for today.	
14	Ezra 9:5-10:4	Are you willing to love someone enough to pray for their sin?	
15	#5: <b>Gracious</b> • וְנוּחַ ( <i>chanun</i> )		We deserve death of all kinds, but God gives life of every kind, and He gives it in abundance.
16	Neh. 8:1-13	Finish this statement: I need to fervently pray about...	
17	Neh. 9	What do you appreciate God's creation today?	Though God can and does get angry, He doesn't flare up with anger when we sin. His steady patience makes Him a very good father.
18	#6: <b>Slow to Anger</b> • סִיפָא כְּרָא ( <i>erech apayim</i> )		
19	Job 10	God is just, even when we don't see the bigger picture.	
20	Psa. 4	Holiness sets us apart from the world. How?	As a good father, God is kind to us, even when we do not merit it. He gives us the benefit of the doubt, tipping the scales of justice toward kindness.
21	#7: <b>Abundant in Kindness</b> • רַב חֶסֶד בַּר ( <i>rav chesed</i> )		
22	Psa. 5	Set a goal to start your day with prayer.	
23	Psa. 22	How does the suffering of Christ make you feel? Pray over these feelings.	
24	#8: and <b>Truth</b> • תְּמוּאָה ( <i>emet</i> )		In Hebrew, "truth" is spelled using the first (א), middle (מ), and last (ת) letters of the alphabet, representing the framework for all knowledge.
25	Psa. 25	David was a man after God's own heart. Why?	
26	Psa. 36	How have you seen the Lord's lovingkindness in your life? Praise Him for it.	
27	#9: <b>Preserver of Kindness for thousands of generations</b> נֹצֵר חֶסֶד לְאֲלֹפִים ( <i>notzeir chesed la'alafim</i> )		Psalm 136 echoes this attribute of God when it says "His steadfast love ( <i>chesed</i> ) endures forever".
28	Psa. 51	God honors open confession of sin. What do you need to confess?	
29	Isa. 25	Finish this statement: Lord, I praise you because...	
30	#10: <b>Bearer of Guilt</b> • נוֹשֵׂא אֲוֹן ( <i>nosei avon</i> )		When scripture says Jesus "bore our sins in His body" (1 Pet. 2:24) it's referring directly back to this passage in Exodus.
31	Isa. 26	Peace and joy can only come through believing.	
32	Isa. 41	Do you believe that God is greater than all our needs and fears?	
33	#11: and <b>Rebellion</b> • פֶּשַׁע ( <i>pasha</i> )		A distinction is being made here between sins that are rebellious acts ( <i>pasha</i> ) and honest mistakes ( <i>chata'ah</i> ). In other words, not all sins are the same. Thankfully, God bears the guilt of all sins through the redeeming work of Jesus. And though God bears—and then ultimately forgives—our sins (as long as we repent), we and our children must live with their consequences in this life.
34	Lam. 1:20-22	Do the sins of those around us move our hearts to tears?	
35	Dan. 9	What's the difference between a "we" and "they" prayer?	
36	#12: and <b>Error</b> • חַטָּאָה ( <i>chata'ah</i> )		
37	Dan. 10	Like Daniel, prayer provides us with strength. Do you need strength today?	
38	Hab. 3	Revival is a work of God, not the achievement of man. Do you agree? Why?	
39	#13: and who <b>Cleanses</b> • נִקְיָה ( <i>nakeh</i> )		At the end of all things, God will make us clean. All the residue of our sins will be wiped away, and we will be as Adam and Eve were before their sin. What a day that will be!
40	Matt. 6:8-13	This is the perfect model for prayer. Ask God to reveal more about this today.	

