



PRAYER GUIDE: THE LOST

INTERCESSION

As you reflect on God’s heart for the lost, pray for those you know personally—family members, co-workers, neighbors, teachers, etc. who don’t yet have a relationship with Jesus.

Below are a few starting points that you can personalize to help guide your time if you would like:

- Pray that today they would hear God’s voice and not harden their hearts, but would respond to His invitation into a relationship with Him –Hebrews 3:15
- Pray their eyes would be opened and they would turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins –Acts 26:18
- Pray for the prodigals who have wandered away, that they would return home to their Father –Luke 15:11-32

The parable of the soils (*in Matthew 13:3-9; Mark 4:2-9; and Luke 8:4-8*) can be a helpful guide in praying for the heart conditions of those who don’t yet know Jesus:

- Hard Ground—pray the truth of God’s love and his kindness would soften their heart and they would see their need for a Savior
- Shallow/Rocky Ground— pray they would not be deceived by the hollow and empty philosophies of this world or any of the schemes of the enemy to lead them away from the truth (Col 2:8). Pray that as they hear God’s word the roots of their faith would grow deep in His love and trials would not uproot their faith (Eph 3:17-19)
- Thorny Ground— pray that the things of this world would lose power and allure to them and they would see the worthiness of Jesus as a Good Shepherd and choose to lay down their lives to follow Him
- Good Soil—pray the Holy Spirit would prepare their hearts to hear and receive the truth of the Gospel and they would respond with joy and bear much fruit

Pray and ask God how He is at work in the lives of those you are praying for and how He may be asking you to participate with Him in leading them into a relationship with Him.

GOD’S HEART FOR THE LOST

The Lord is not slow in keeping His promises, as some understand slowness.

Instead He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

–2 Peter 3:9

For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

–Luke 19:10

This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

– 1 Timothy 2:3-4

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life

–John 3:16

What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go and search for the one that is straying?

–Matthew 18:12

And if it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that have not gone astray.

–Matthew 18:13