

Brothers and Sisters,

I'm absolutely delighted to share our prayer focus for November with you. But let me thank you first for all of your prayers for me, as I settle in to my new role as your Minister and Pastor. It is very much appreciated, and I am settling in well. Thank you for your warm welcome, kindness beyond compare, and love that shows Jesus in each of you.

As we enter a new month, I want to invite each of us to a renewed focus on prayer - to draw near to God and reflect on what it means to be *the fragrance of Christ* and to live as those *sealed by the Holy Spirit*.

In a world often filled with noise and confusion, may our lives carry the unmistakable aroma of Jesus: His love, His grace, and His truth. Let's pray that everything we do, say, and even think, would spread the sweet fragrance of His presence to those around us.

And as we pray, let's remember the precious promise that we are *sealed with the Holy Spirit* - marked as God's own, secure in His love, and empowered for His purposes. This seal is both a comfort and a calling: to live as people who belong to Christ and reflect His glory.

Throughout this month, I have given you some scripture verses to meditate on, and it is my own prayer that they might encourage you to take time each day, to ask the Lord to deepen your awareness of His presence and to help you carry His fragrance wherever you go. With every love, George.

But let's start with a prayer that you can use every day of this month:

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for the gift of Your Spirit,
who marks me as Your own, and fills
me with Your life.

Teach me to walk each day
in greater awareness of Your presence
to listen for Your voice,
to notice Your hand at work,
and to rest in Your love.

May my thoughts, words, and actions
carry the fragrance of Christ into every
place I go.

When I am weary, remind me
that Your Spirit strengthens and
renews me;

when I am uncertain,
remind me that Your Spirit leads
and seals me for eternity.

Make my life a living
testimony of Your grace,
so that others may sense the beauty of
Jesus through me.

Amen.

Bible Readings for November

Week 1 - The Fragrance of Christ

2 Corinthians 2:14-17

"Thanks be to God, who always leads us as captives in Christ's triumphal procession and uses us to spread the aroma of the knowledge of Him everywhere."

Reflect: How can my life today "spread the fragrance" of Christ's presence?

Week 2 - Sealed with the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:11-14

"When you believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance..."

Reflect: What does it mean to live confidently as someone marked and sealed by God?

Week 3 - Living by the Spirit

Galatians 5:16-25

"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit."

Reflect: Where is the Spirit inviting me to grow in love, joy, peace, or gentleness this week?

Week 4 - A Life Pleasing to God

Romans 12:1-2

"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. This is your true and proper worship."

Reflect: How can my daily choices become an offering that pleases God and carries His presence into the world?

