

## 7 Days of Prayer For Your Pastor

By

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Written for an audience of One\*

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### MONDAY - WISDOM

Wisdom: **the ability to think and act using knowledge, experience, understanding, common sense, and insight** EN02. This is a key area where you can pray for your pastor. While it's true that some pastors seem to think they know it all already, that's not so. Pray that he is wise enough to be *humble*. After all, Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as only a slave would do back in those days. The Son of God bending over His disciples' dusty, dirty feet is a lesson in humility for all Christians.

Your pastor should be wise enough to realize he's just a man, a sinner saved by grace (I hope!). Pray he is wise enough to realize another pastor or an evangelist with a special message is from God. Jealousy of the pulpit is sometimes indicates a tyrant is standing just behind it. In Harper Lee's classic "**To Kill A Mockingbird**" one of the characters addressed tyrannical Christians:

**"Miss Maudie stopped, 'You are, too young to understand it,' she said, but sometimes the Bible in the hand of one man is worse than a whiskey bottle in the hand of another."**

Of course you'd expect your pastor to be wise in his knowledge of the Bible. Pray he uses that wisdom to *teach* his flock instead of using it as a **weapon** against them. I've

known my share of these types. In fact Jesus spoke of these sorts of pastors (and others) when He told us about the “mite” in your brother’s eye. More than once we’ve read about pastors involved in scandals. Some of who were always preaching the opposite to their congregations. A lack of wisdom can be disastrous for pastor and flock alike.

Pray for him to be wise enough to stay silent when God is doing a work in the congregation during services. Some pastors think they need to be always saying something from the pulpit. Even in the midst of spiritual decisions. The old saying **silence is golden** sure rings true when God is working in your midst. When God’s Holiness is present the last thing anyone should do is interrupt it.

Pray for your pastor to be wise enough to take care of himself. I’m speaking about prayer for his physical, mental, and spiritual well-being. Being a pastor is one of those jobs which many of us could not, or would not, do. Think of the mental load they endure during the week. We pile demands on them they just cannot fulfill. “**Please pray for me’s**” or “**God doesn’t love me**” or the pastor killer: “**I don’t think you do a good job as our pastor.**” After all that pressure we expect these men to walk around handing out blessings. “**God bless you!**”, “**I’m praying for you!**” It’s as if they are a deep well of bubbling happiness. Next time you approach your pastor with a “**please pray for me**” why not turn that around? Say something like “**how can I pray for you, pastor?**” instead? Don’t make statements like “*God doesn’t love me.*” Say something *encouraging* to your pastor. Say something to him like “*God loves you, and so do I!*”

When you feel a “**pastor killer**” coming on. You know... when you’re in your ‘**righteous indignation**’ mode. And you feel the need to give your pastor an earful. Think of what you learned as a child when it came to crossing the street: STOP – LOOK - LISTEN. **Stop** and think if what you’re about to confront your pastor about is scriptural. **Look** for opportunities to pray for your pastor *before you confront him*. You may find that your **righteous indignation** is actually **unrighteous pride**. Last of all; **listen** to the counsel of a trusted friend or family member *before you confront him*. After examining them you may discover the confrontation with your pastor is *not* at what God wants.

Pray for your pastor to be wise enough to be in the Word of God **daily**. This is as much for his own spiritual walk as it is for his service to his flock. All the sermons in the world won’t help a congregation if messages aren’t grounded in the Spirit.

**“Called pastors know instinctively that success is not measured by programs. It’s not measured by how many outreach ministries a church holds. Pastors I know who have left the ministry make comments such as “I thought there was going to be something more. I thought there would be something else, something eternal. But all I saw was the day-to-day.” That’s the reason pastors change churches, on average, every eighteen monthsEN01.”**

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About the author:

Floyd Larck lives in Bushnell Florida with his wife Debbie, their lovebird named Peaches and a cockatiel named P.J. and several chickens. Floyd is an amateur radio operator and has been writing for six years as of the writing of this book you have just read.

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