

STUDENT PRAYER GUIDE

WEEK ONE

Next CHAPTER

In the next chapter of 3Circle, we are called to be a church that Gathers in Worship, Connects to Grow, and Scatters on Mission. This week, our whole church is praying with one focus: that God would gather His people to worship. You are not the church of tomorrow. You are part of the church today, and your prayers matter.

Let's be honest. Sunday can feel optional. There is sleep, sports, work, and a phone full of content that never runs out. But Scripture says something different about the gathering. It is where God meets His people through His Word, worship, and prayer. It is also where your friends can hear the gospel.

How to use this guide: Set aside a few minutes each day. Open a Bible app or a physical Bible.

1. Read the key verse and the bigger passage around it.
2. Think It Through by answering the questions honestly.
4. Pray using the prayer focus.
5. Live It with one practical step for the day.

My Commitments

- I will gather. I will make worshiping with my church family a priority every week this season.
- I will pause to pray. I will set a 4:35 p.m. alarm each day to remember John 4:35 and pray for the people around me.
- I will invite one. I will ask God to show me one friend to invite, and I will invite them.

Key Verse: “Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!”
Psalm 95:6

Read: Psalm 95

Dig In:

Psalm 95 is a call to gather, and it is written in the plural: “let us.” Worship is not just a personal playlist. It is something God’s people do together. The reason given is huge. He is “our Maker.” You didn’t create yourself, and you don’t hold yourself together. That truth is humbling, but it is also freeing. Your worth is not something you have to build or protect. It comes from the God who made you.

Think It Through:

- When I go to church, do I come to receive something or to worship Someone?
- Where am I most tempted to find my identity apart from God as my Maker?
- Psalm 95:8 says, “do not harden your hearts.” Is there any area where my heart is getting hard toward God?

Pray:

Pray for the hearts of our church family, including you. Ask God to make us people who come to worship Him, not to be entertained or out of habit. Pray for students and friends who have drifted from church, that God would draw them back.

Live It: Choose one thing to put down on Saturday night (your phone, a late night, a show) so you can come Sunday ready to worship.

Key Verse: “But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ~ John 4:23–24

Read: John 4:1–30

Dig In:

True worship is not about the right building, style, or vibe. It is worship stirred by the Holy Spirit and shaped by God’s revealed truth. Think of spirit and truth like the two wings of a plane. Truth without spirit becomes cold and mechanical. Spirit without truth becomes emotional hype that fades by Monday. God wants both. And notice this: “the Father is seeking such people.” You are not trying to get God’s attention. He came looking for you first, the same way Jesus went out of His way to find this woman.

Think It Through:

- Am I more likely to worship with truth but no heart, or with feelings but little truth?
- Jesus knew everything about this woman and still offered her living water (John 4:10, 18). How does that change the way I think about coming to God?
- What does it mean to me that the Father is seeking worshipers?

Pray:

Pray for our worship pastors, leaders, musicians, and production teams as they prepare this week. Ask God to keep their hearts humbly focused on Him. Pray that our corporate worship would point every person to Christ. Pray that God would raise up students to serve in this ministry.

Live It: Look up the lyrics of a song we sing at church. Find one line and the Scripture behind it.

Key Verse: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” ~ Acts 2:42

Read: Acts 2:36–47

Dig In:

The first church didn’t drift into gathering. They devoted themselves to it. That word means to keep showing up with focus, like an athlete who never skips practice. Luke names four things they held on to: the apostles’ teaching, the fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers. These were not programs. They were the ordinary ways God grew His people.

Look at verse 47. As the church stayed devoted, “the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” Notice who did the adding. Growth was the Lord’s work. The church’s job was to stay faithful. A devoted church becomes a place where people meet Jesus.

Think It Through:

- If my commitment to church were measured like my commitment to a sport, a job, or a game, what would the stats say?
- Which of these (Word, fellowship, generosity, prayer) do I neglect the most?
- Who in our student ministry could I help feel more connected?

Pray:

Pray for 3Circle as a whole. Ask God to make us devoted to His Word, to genuine community, to generosity, and to prayer. Pray for unity across all 3Circle campuses. Pray that the Lord would add to our number, and that new believers, especially students, would be welcomed and discipled.

Live It: Text a friend from church today and ask how you can pray for them.

Key Verse: “Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you.” ~ 2 Thessalonians 3:1

Read: 2 Thessalonians 3:1–5

Dig In:

Paul planted churches, wrote much of the New Testament, and preached to rulers. Yet he asked regular believers to pray for him. He knew that the power of preaching does not come from the preacher’s personality or skill. It comes from the Word of the Lord, carried by the Holy Spirit into people’s hearts. It’s easy to rate a sermon like a video: too long, not funny enough, great point at the end. Paul flips that. He asks us to pray before the sermon, not just review it after. Verse 3 adds a promise: “the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.” The same faithful Lord who sends out His Word also guards His people.

Think It Through:

- Do I spend more time evaluating sermons or praying for the one preaching them?
- How would I listen differently on Sunday if I had prayed for the sermon all week?
- What is one sermon or truth from church that has stuck with me?

Pray:

Pray for Pastor Chris Bell as he leads and preaches. Ask God to give him clarity, boldness, and faithfulness to the Word. Pray for protection over his marriage and family. Pray that the Word preached this Sunday would speed ahead and be honored in our church. Pray for our student pastor and all our pastors and elders.

Live It: Take notes during Sunday’s sermon. Write down one thing to move on this week.

Key Verse: “Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.” ~ 1 Peter 5:2–3

Read: 1 Peter 5:1–7

Dig In:

Peter gave each pastor a local charge: “Shepherd the flock of God that is among you.” That is the calling of a campus pastor. He knows names, sits in hospital rooms, and walks with families through hard seasons. Peter says to do it willingly, eagerly, and by example, not by bossing people around. Then Peter turns to younger believers in verse 5: “you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another.” Shepherding is a two-way street. Pastors lead with humility, and the flock follows with humility. Both serve under the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ (1 Peter 5:4).

Think It Through:

- Do I see my pastors as people to criticize, ignore, or follow?
- What would it look like for me to “clothe myself with humility” toward church leaders this week?
- Hebrews 13:17 says leaders should be able to serve “with joy and not with groaning.” Do I make their work a joy or a burden?

Pray:

Pray for each of our campus pastors by name: Jonathon Duke (Daphne Campus), Micha Gaston (Midtown Campus), Aaron Miller (Robertsdale Campus), Jourdain Thrash (Fairhope Campus), and Nick Williams (Thomasville Campus). Ask God to give them joy in shepherding and wisdom in caring for people. Pray for blessing and protection over their families. Pray that each campus would be a source of gospel hope, and that God would gather many students to worship at every campus.

Live It: Introduce yourself to your campus pastor this Sunday, or send him a short note or text of encouragement.

Key Verse: “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:24–25

Read: Hebrews 10:19–25

Dig In:

Start at verse 19. Because of Jesus’ blood, we have confidence to enter God’s presence. The very next thing the writer talks about is gathering. Because we can draw near to God through Jesus, we draw near together. Skipping church had become “the habit of some.” Habits form slowly, like a streak in reverse: one missed Sunday, then two, then it feels normal. But the gathering is not only about what you get. You come to “stir up one another.” Someone in student worship needs to hear you sing. Someone sitting alone needs you to say hi. When you are absent, the body is missing a part.

Think It Through:

- Is missing church slowly becoming a habit for me? What usually gets in the way?
- Who is one person I could intentionally encourage this Sunday?

Pray:

Pray for your own commitment to gather. Ask God to give you joy as you prepare to come to church. Pray for students who have to work weekends, students whose families don’t attend church, and anyone who feels alone. Pray for the friend God has put on your heart, and ask the Holy Spirit for courage to invite them today.

Live It: Invite your friend today. A simple text works: “Hey, want to come to church with me Sunday? I can pick you up.”

Key Verse: “Jesus said to them, ‘My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, “There are yet four months, then comes the harvest”? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest.’” ~ John 4:34–35

Read: John 4:31–42

Dig In:

The disciples were focused on lunch. Jesus was focused on His Father’s will. Doing the work His Father sent Him to do satisfied Him more than food. Then Jesus told them to look up. They thought the harvest was months away, but the whole town was already walking toward Jesus (John 4:30). Many believed because of the woman’s testimony, and then even more believed after hearing Jesus for themselves (John 4:39–42). Think about who God used. A woman with a messy past simply said, “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did” (John 4:29). She didn’t have a theology degree. She had met Jesus. The harvest belongs to the Lord, and He still uses ordinary people to invite others. Your school, team, and group chat are part of a field God is ripening by His grace.

Think It Through:

- What am I most “hungry” for right now: approval, comfort, success, or God’s will?
- Who are three people in my world who need to meet Jesus? Write their names down.

Pray:

Thank the Lord of the harvest for gathering His people to worship. Pray that this Sunday our church would be filled with people hungry for God’s Word. Ask God to open your eyes to the fields white for harvest at your school, on your team, and in your neighborhood. Pray that He would send out laborers from our student ministry. Pray that this week would lead to a lasting habit of faithful gathering.

Live It: Pray for the three names you wrote down every day this week at your 4:35 p.m. alarm.