

# GATEWAY ALL PRAY

As we enter a new season here at Gateway, we sense the importance of coming together as a body to be united in spirit and purpose. Tonight we'll move throughout the campus and listen and ask God to move and work in us and through us. Thank you for participating in this labor of prayer.

## SINGLE MOMS

*Isaiah 1:17* Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.

The single moms who live in our neighborhoods have a tremendous responsibility to support their family. Unfortunately, they are often under-resourced and under-supported, which adds a layer of complexity to their job of raising their kids.

- Pray that God would reveal to you the single moms, widows, and temporary widows (due to spouses in the military) in your neighborhood.
- Pray that God would richly bless single moms for the unending work they thoughtfully do.
- Pray that they would be covered in peace and find rest as they take care of their families.
- Pray for our Single Moms groups here at Gateway.

## ADDICTIONS

*Galatians 5:1* It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

*Ephesians 3:12* In [Christ] and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

The damaging effects of addiction plague our culture. Even though someone may want to quit or break their addiction, they usually can't do this by themselves, and often this leaves them feeling trapped or enslaved. Typical addictions include alcohol, smoking, sex, gambling, drugs, etc, but things like careers, food, recreational activities, and other seemingly good things can also become dangerously addictive. Addictions hurt both the person addicted as well as those around him/her.

- Pray for those in our church and community who have addictions to realize that they need help.
- Pray that those who want help will find someone to help them.
- Pray that God will send people to help those who are addicted.
- Pray that God will break addictions for those who want freedom.
- Pray for our many Support and Recovery programs that happen at Gateway.

## REFUGEES

*Matthew 25:34-40* 34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Refugees are people who have been forced to leave their homes and countries because they were being persecuted for their race, religion or political beliefs. They often have lived in refugee camps for years, are new to our country and are given a meager amount of money to live on as they acclimate to foreign surroundings. Also, they have to learn a new language and find employment quickly to survive.

- Pray for provision for the refugees that are living in our country, especially in Austin.
- Pray that our church will meet real needs for these individuals.
- Pray that the refugees learn English quickly and that they find good paying jobs so they can support their families once their stipends end after six months.
- Pray that their children adjust well to our public schools.

## POVERTY

*Luke 6:20-21* 20 Looking at his disciples, [Jesus] said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 21 Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh."

*1 Peter 4:8* Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

Poverty is typically a tangible financial or material need, but often, it is often rooted in relational isolation, spiritual depravity, and social abandonment. One in ten people in Austin live in poverty.

- Pray that those in poverty will have adequate food, water and shelter.
- Pray that God would send people into their lives to love them as Christ loves them.
- Pray for families in poverty to see God as their provider.
- Ask God to show you how you can help with those in poverty.

## AT-RISK YOUTH

*Isaiah 40:29-31* 29 He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30 Even youth grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

At-risk youth are those who experience one or more risk factors, such as addiction to drugs or alcohol, poverty, teen pregnancy, school drop out, incarceration or in trouble with the law, homelessness (or couch surfing), or a learning or physical disability. Thousands of at-risk youth live in our community and even attend Gateway.

- Pray that God would free them from any bondage they face.
- Pray that they would meet Godly people who could share life with them and influence them positively.
- Pray that they would come to know Jesus.
- Pray that Gateway's youth ministries would be a safe haven for them.

## FAMILY

*Colossians 3:12-14* 12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Gateway loves families. Many families are hurting and have serious needs and we as a church want to pray for and take care of families in our church and community.

- Pray for specific needs in your own family.
- Pray for specific needs in families you know, including families in crisis (e.g., those going through divorce, loss of job or loss of a family member).
- Pray for parents to trust God to help them lead their family in ways that honors God.
- Pray for kids to trust God to help them honor their parents.
- Pray that families would take steps to become strong, healthy and loving.

## GLOBAL

*Matthew 28:19* "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit."

*Acts 1:8* "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

God has given us as Christ followers and as the church a task to meet physical and spiritual needs not only in our city but throughout the world.

Pray for Gateway's global partner, Red del Camino, which is a network of over 200 churches in the Dominican Republic and throughout Central and South America that is committed to meeting physical and spiritual needs in their communities.

- Pray for another Gateway partner, Mission of Hope, to continue to make a difference in helping with the devastation that occurred in Haiti because of the earthquake last year. Pray for the people of Haiti.
- Pray for our medical team, men's group, and other Gateway teams as they meet needs in Mexico. Pray for our church partners in Mexico that God meets needs in their church and community.
- Pray for the hospital and orphanage in India.
- Pray that Gateway's global efforts will honor God and his plan for restoring our broken world.
- Pray for those around the world who don't know Jesus and that God will send people to share his love with them.

## ARTS

*Psalms 98:4-6* 4 Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music; 5 make music to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing, 6 with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn—shout for joy before the LORD, the King.

God is the Great Creator, and he has placed his creative ability in us. Austin is known as a city of creative people who create beautiful art.

- Pray that artists you know would come to know their creator that loves them and that through a friendship with God, they'd experience creativity like never before.
- Pray for artists that have been drawn to Gateway, that they would experience the love of Christ.
- Pray that Gateway artists would represent the love of God in the Austin's arts community and that Gateway would be a strong creative influence in our city.

## EDUCATION

*Deuteronomy 6:4-9* 4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. 5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. 9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

From elementary schools to colleges, schools shape and mold students and help prepare them for the rest of their lives, but there are some deficits in our education system today.

- Pray for our elementary, middle, high schools and universities, that they would offer excellent education and prepare students for life.
- Pray for funding and other forms of increased support for our public schools.
- Pray for our teachers, principals, school boards and professors to make decisions about education that honor God.
- Pray for godly influences within our schools (clubs, teachers, organizations and students) that help students follow Christ.

## COLLEGE

*Acts 17:26b-27* 26b [God] determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. 27 God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

Students come from all over the country and world to study in Austin. This is an incredible opportunity for our church to share God's love with thousands of young students right in Gateway's backyard.

- Pray that college students studying in Austin have an opportunity to learn about God's love for them.
- Pray for the thousands of students coming from other countries where they know nothing or very little about Jesus. Pray that someone will share Christ with them.
- Pray for Gateway's small groups on our college campuses to grow and that more students would connect with God as a result.

## GOVERNMENT

*Romans 13:1-2* 1 Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. 2 Consequently, he who rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves.

While our nation is far from perfect, the United States is a great country that allows for us to gather publicly in faith communities without government aggression or persecution.

- Pray for the numerous and difficult decisions that our President and his administration make on a daily basis.
- Pray that God would move in the hearts our senators and representatives who diligently serve this country.
- Pray for the safety of our soldiers and public servants who risk their lives to protect our freedom.
- Pray for our court systems that they would make decisions fairly and compassionately with justice.
- Pray for the numerous men and women who serve our country that they would come to know Jesus personally.

## **AUSTIN GEOGRAPHIES**

*Luke 19:41* As [Jesus] approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it.

The Scriptures tell us that Jesus is weeping because the city does not recognize that Jesus is here and that he brings with him the peace of God. What breaks your heart? What are you passionate about-- a cause or people group? Just as Jesus entered His city, we, too, have been sent by Jesus to enter our neighborhoods and our city to continue His work of establishing the Kingdom of God on earth.

### **Pray for each geography:**

**Northwest Geography**

**Central Geography**

**Cedar Park/Leader Geography**

**Round Rock Geography**

**South Austin Geography**

- Pray for specific needs that you know of that exist in each geography-- families at risk, unemployment, aging parents, houses affected by the recent flooding, gaps in the education system, etc.
- Pray that we at Gateway will meet physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people who live in each geography.
- Pray for emotional and relational needs that may exist, such as isolation and loneliness.
- Pray for intentional conversations with neighbors-- that there will be clear opportunities for spiritual conversations as well as for open hearts to hearing about Jesus.
- Pray for marriages, for friendships, for trusted friends, for families.
- Pray for the churches in each geography.

## **INTERNET**

*Acts 1:8* "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Our world is connected in ways that make distances irrelevant. From websites to blogs to Facebook to Twitter-- information is updated instantly, always accessible and extremely portable. Never before has humanity been this connected; and ironically, never before has humanity suffered such relational isolation. Jesus came to re-establish connectedness to disconnected people, and our Internet campus is joining with God in this mission.

- Pray that the Internet campus will help connect the Good News message of Jesus to relationally disconnected people
- Pray for the technology that is used to bring this online experience to the world.
- Pray for the new Christ-followers that are being raised up out of the culture in Belgium, Australia, Brazil and other countries.
- Pray for our Internet Campus Pastor, Vince, and his volunteers that help make the Internet campus a relationally inviting and inspiring place to belong.