

Pastoral Prayer
Luke 16:1-13
The Shrewd Manager

Lord, today we humbly gather in your name, to worship in song, prayer, and the study of your word. We pray for your spirit to be moving among us as we continue to prepare our hearts. Loving father, give us ears to hear and understand. You are the source of truth, your word is truth.

God all that we have is yours. Everything that we can know and see created at your word. You have provided every good thing in our lives. Help us to know this truth in our hearts and live our lives generously because of it. We can cling on to earthly things for comfort and security but these offer a false hope. Thief's can steal or moth can eat up. Lord help us to rely on you alone for our daily bread. Help us to trust in you so that we can be trustworthy with a little and by your word, some day trusted with much [v10].

Holy God, you are a God of relationship. You seek and save the lost and adopt us into your family. We pray that you will teach us to love each other as you do. We pray that we will learn to use our earthly resources to build relationships that honor you. Help us focus on one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as can happen, but encouraging each other. (Hebrews 10:24-25) Showing kindness and compassion with loving patients to all your children.

Jesus our king, you are worthy of our worship. At the name of Jesus every knee will bow and every tongue will confess you as Lord. And yet we often find ourselves trying to serve two masters [v13]. The world and the flesh pull us away from focusing on you. God you know our hearts and see that we value things that are detestable in your site. [v15] Gracious God, teach our heart to love what you love and hate what you hate so that we can better follow you. Let this time we spend together in worship be a time that we remind ourselves that you are our true master. The Good Shepard. The King of Kings.

Lord, you are a God who loves children and you have blessed us with the opportunity to pour into their lives. Bless the volunteers here today and those who serve through out the week that their hearts would be so full of your truth that they would overflow into the lives of the children in their care. God, bless our children with persevering hearts, that they may know your grace and peace all their days. Help us comfort our children and give them courage to obey you and may they remember that you will never abandon them. (Numbers 6:24-26)

Lord, as we move into this time of teaching we ask for your truth to be know. We pray for your hand to be on Kevin as he shepherds over us. Let there be conviction where it's needed, encouragement for the hurt, and healing for the sick.

All these things lord, not for our glory but so that your glory may be known by all those who hear your name. In Blackfoot and to the ends of the earth. In your mighty name, Jesus, we pray. Amen