

Jenaministries.com - Part 8 Weekly Challenges to Get Closer to God

Challenge #8 Pray for Your Enemies

The challenge for this week is “Pray for Your Enemies”.

This is part of a yearly series “Weekly Challenges to Get Closer to God”. There are 26 challenges for 1 year. You concentrate on 1 thing for 1 week (every other week) and see what happens.

Praying for your enemies is a very powerful tool. Not praying ABOUT your enemies, but praying FOR your enemies. As you would for a loved one. In the Old Testament, they often prayed harsh things about their enemies. They sometimes asked God to kill them or make them suffer, seeking revenge. But Jesus taught us a new and better way.

When you pray for your enemies, God can touch your heart through the Holy Spirit. Maybe to help you forgive. Or maybe to help you understand why they are the way they are; or what they are going through. The Holy Spirit can also give you wisdom on how to handle the situation.

An enemy doesn't have to be someone you know. It can be a government official or a criminal who has done something that has affected your life. You can pray for the same people repeatedly. God will never get tired of hearing the same prayer. He wants us to be aggressive in our prayers.

So, pray for your enemies for one week as many times as you can. And see what happens. See how it brings you closer to God.

Here are some Bible verses to motivate you.

Matthew 6:14-15 *For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.*

Matthew 5:43-44 *“You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,*

Luke 6:27-28 *“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.*

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