

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Welcome to our February prayer points... is it February already?! The year has barely got going and already it feels like it's picking up speed. In a new month, God gives us even more grace to slow down and remind ourselves who we are in Him.

Before we get busy with plans and programmes, it helps to come back to basics. All through the Bible, God is shaping a people as a community learning to live His way, and not their own. The New Testament puts it simply and powerfully: we are the Body of Christ. We belong to Jesus, and because of that, we belong to one another. Everyone matters. Everyone has a part to play.

That shared life also means a shared direction. What we explore together on Sundays shouldn't stop at the church doors. I hope you have been equipped with material that helps the Sunday teaching flow into your home groups, and into your personal and monthly devotionals. We won't all think or act the same, but we are shaped by the same Scriptures, we're centred on the same gospel, and above all, we're guided by the same Spirit.

The reflections and prayers that follow are part of helping us keep that rhythm. My hope is that they'll help you stay connected to Christ, and bring even deeper clarity about who we are: the Church, Christ's body, growing together in faith, hope, and love.

Grace and peace,

George.

LETS PRAY.

Heavenly Father,

As we begin this new month, we pause
and place ourselves before you.

Thank you for carrying us this far, for
your faithfulness in all that is seen and
unseen.

As we step into the days ahead,
help us to stay rooted in Christ,
attentive to your Spirit,
and open to one another.
Shape us as your Church

one body, many parts
growing in faith, hope, and love.

Guide our worship, our learning,
our conversations, and our prayers,
so that all we do flows from your grace
and points to your love.

We offer this month to you,
trusting you to lead us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reflections for February

Week 1 – Called to be One Body

1 Corinthians 12:12–27

*“Just as a body, though one, has many parts,
but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”*

Reflect: What does it mean for you to truly belong to Christ and to this community?

Week 2 – Formed by Christ, the Head

Colossians 1:15-20

*“The Son is the image of the invisible God,
the firstborn over all creation”*

Reflect: In what ways are you currently looking to Christ for direction and life and where might you be relying more on your own understanding?

Week 3 – Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Romans 12:4–8

*“..so, in Christ we, though many, form one body,
and each member belongs to all the others..”*

Reflect: What gifts or opportunities has God placed in your hands, and how might the Spirit be inviting you to use them in service of others?

Week 4 – A True Sign-bearer

Romans 12:1–2

*“After he said this, he showed them his hands and side.
The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord..”*

Reflect: Where is God calling you to be a visible sign to the community?

