



## How To Pray For Larry and Jean Taylor

**D**o you sometimes seem to "get stuck" when praying for missionaries? Are you frustrated because your prayers seem general or shallow? If so, here are some specific things you can pray for when you are interceding for missionaries:

### **Love for God**

Overworked missionaries can become service-oriented rather than love-oriented. Pray that your missionaries' love for the

Lord will deepen, and that love for Him will always be their prime motivation for service.

### **Love for Others**

Yes, missionaries are human, and just like you, sometimes they have trouble showing love and respect to those "difficult to love" people - either their missionary coworkers or nationals. Pray that the Lord will make your missionaries love " ... increase and abound in love one toward another; and toward all men, ... " (1 Thess. 3:12)

### **A Deeper Relationship with God**

Missionaries' schedules can become so packed that they might skip or skimp on their time with the Lord. Pray that your missionaries would follow Jesus' example. It's hard to imagine any missionary having a busier life than He did, yet He consistently sought out time alone to commune with His Father.

### **Spirit-Controlled Lives**

Just like the rest of us, sometimes missionaries have a tendency to do the Lord's work in the energy and ingenuity of the flesh. Pray that all of our missionaries' actions will be under the control and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **The Fruit of the Spirit**

As you pray that your missionaries will be under the control of the Holy Spirit, the very beauty of Jesus will be manifest in their lives.

### **Wisdom and Knowledge**

Strong-willed missionaries often come into conflict when two or more of them have opposing viewpoints. Pray that missionaries will have the wisdom of God, which James describes as " ... first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy". (James 3:17)

### **Courage**

Imagine your missionaries making the same prayer request Paul did in Ephesians 6:19: "And

for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, “

### **Receptive Hearts**

Pray for divine providence, that the Lord will lead your missionaries to people whose hearts will be open to hearing and receiving the gospel message.

### **Disciples**

Pray that your missionaries will experience the joy of leading others to salvation, and of "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." (Matt. 28:20)

### **Strong Faith**

The apostles once made a direct request of Jesus: "... Increase our faith. " (Luke 17:5) Pray that your missionaries will have great faith that will lead them to ask great things of our Lord.

### **Steadfastness**

Pray that your missionaries will follow Paul's advice to the Corinthians. "... be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." (1 Cor. 15:58)

### **A Strong Family**

Cross-cultural living can magnify even small family conflicts. Pray that members of missionary families will be drawn together, not torn apart, by living in a new culture.

### **Protection**

Missionaries are prime targets of the enemy. Join Jesus in praying to the Father: "I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil." (John 17:5)

### **Material Needs**

Missionaries often face harsh living conditions, and may have to struggle to meet basic physical needs. Pray that the Lord will supply all their financial and material needs "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4: 19)

### **Health and Strength**

In today's increasingly violent world, missionaries face not only sickness, but may also be victims of crime, or even get caught in the midst of civil wars. Pray that the Lord will grant the measure of health and strength that will bring His greatest glory and the greatest good for missionaries.

**T**he next time you sit down to pray for your missionaries, use this list as a guide to help you pray specifically, and consistently. They need you, and the Lord desires to use you to help fulfill His Great Commission. Your prayers count! [~] [~]