

**21 Days of Possible**  
*A Citizen Heights' Prayer Guide*  
January 10 – January 31

**WEEK THREE. VISION FOR MY CHURCH**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

**Day 15: Prepare Us**

**SCRIPTURE:**

“And He has appointed some with grace to be apostles, and some with grace to be prophets, and some with grace to be evangelists, and some with grace to be pastors, and some with grace to be teachers. And their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers to do their own works of ministry, and as they do this they will enlarge and build up the body of Christ. These grace ministries will function until we all attain oneness in the faith, until we all experience the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God, and finally we become one perfect man with the full dimensions of spiritual maturity and fully developed in the abundance of Christ.” – EPHESIANS 4:11-13 TPT

**OBSERVATION:**

You've made it past the midpoint of 21 Days of Possible! How's it going so far? Are you feeling refreshed? Are you feeling inspired? Have you been able to lower the volume of the non-essentials in your life while raising the volume of God's word? We hope so! Heather and I, alongside the rest of our pastoral staff, are praying with you and for you. We're so encouraged to hear the stories of what God is doing in WE, THE CHURCH!

This week we're diving into our last theme: "Vision for my Church!" God has gifted us each with a measure of grace, truth, and spiritual gifts to build his church. The best part is that He's preparing you for the purpose to which you've been called to in your generation. This means that you simply cannot, and should not, sit back to passively receive ministry. You must exercise your faith muscles by using the very gifts given to you to build up the church even as God is working within you. Even as he is building you up from the inside out.

**APPLICATION:**

If you haven't done so already, take the time today to pray and ask God to direct you to the team you should join to exercise your gifts. Whether you're new to Citizen Heights or you've been part of the family for years, we need the measure of grace, truth, and gifts that God has put in you.

Already on a team? Awesome! Keep serving and look for opportunities to bring others along with you. We grow in the context of community, and that includes actively serving on a team.

**PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

Jesus, today I pray for our church Citizen Heights! I pray that you would equip me, my team, my Citizen Group Leaders, our Pastoral Team, and our Pastors Michael & Heather! Equip each of us to do your work in our communities, cities, and in our world. I pray that you'd give my pastors fresh vision, and that I would

be able to serve alongside them and my team according to the vision you've given them. I pray that every person in my church will find their place to serve within the body of Christ, and that every person's preparation be as excellent as each of our gifts. In Jesus' name I pray, amen!

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

1 Corinthians 12:27-28; Romans 12:6-8

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

**Day 16: Exemplify God's Love**

**SCRIPTURE:**

"Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other." – JOHN 13:34-35  
MSG

**OBSERVATION:**

As Christ's followers we're called to love one another. Period.

A few months back we had a great 2 week series called "7 ON 7," where seven of our leaders spoke about seven different topics affecting our spiritual lives. If you missed it, I highly encourage you to visit Church On Demand on our Citizen Heights website, or wherever you stream your podcasts. During the series, our very own Matthew Braxton delivered a powerful message on the topic of love. He reminded us that authentic, Godly love, or *agape* love, must be the distinguishing mark of Christ's followers. This agape love is a self-giving and sacrificial love that seeks and promotes the good of others.

Our relationships must be characterized by this kind of love and devotion. Otherwise, people outside the faith and outside of the church won't get an accurate picture of Christ's love. I can't stress enough just how important it is to exemplify God's love in our spheres of influence. This isn't a suggestion, it's God's **command** to each of us.

**APPLICATION:**

Take a moment to pray for a friend, by name, that you haven't seen in months. If appropriate, send them a text and touch base with them. Then, sign up to serve with Heights Foundation and see how you can partner locally to exemplify God's love to our community, and our world: It's love in action. Today, meditate on the song *Shape Of Your Heart* by Hillsong United. You can find it on our "21 Days of Possible (21)" Spotify playlist.

**PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

God, I pray that each of us at Citizen Heights embraces your vision for 2021, and that each of us would be known for how we love! Reveal to me your *agape* love, and show me how to demonstrate it to the world around me. I declare that Citizen Heights will continue to exemplify Jesus' new commandment to "love one another!" I declare that every person I meet will come to know, feel, and

recognize your love through me. In Jesus' name, amen.

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

1 John 2:7-11; Leviticus 19:18; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:20; Romans 12:10

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

**Day 17: Take the City**

**SCRIPTURE:**

“Then Jesus came close to them and said, “All the authority of the universe has been given to me. Now go in my authority and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And teach them to faithfully follow all that I have commanded you. And never forget that I am with you every day, even to the completion of this age.” – MATTHEW 28:18-20 TPT

**OBSERVATION:**

We're diving into the last message Jesus gave before his ascension back to the Father. If you've been in the Christian faith for some time, you might recognize this portion of scripture as the Great Commission.

This commission is a call to a deeper aspect of discipleship which goes beyond evangelism, or sharing your faith, but implies the continual spiritual growth and progress of Christians. You see, as you share your faith you'll be challenged to look at your own beliefs from a different perspective. Those perspectives shouldn't feel threatening, but they should be a catalyst for a deeper understanding of who God is in your life.

The fact is, effective evangelism can't be separated from true discipleship. This means Christ doesn't want you to just share the message to see how big the church can grow. Instead, he wants us to train and mentor others in such a way that they, too, will faithfully follow Christ and lead others to his message of hope.

**APPLICATION:**

Take a moment to meditate, reflect, and further study Acts 1:4-8. Then, go back and read Day 2 of this Prayer Guide again to learn more about the Holy Spirit. You and I need the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit to effectively live out the Great Commission. We live it out one day at a time and one person at a time full of faith, truth, grace, and integrity while praying for the authority of the Spirit, his direction, and his wisdom.

**PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

God, I thank you for your word, and I thank you for your church. I pray that you would use me and my church, Citizen Heights, to have impact in our city, communities, and across the globe. I pray that you would give me the words, and the encouragement we need to share our faith. Touch every ministry of our church, and our missions organizations. I pray for an abundance of economic and relational resources to further your kingdom, and follow your ways. I believe the testimonies are being written even now. Thank you for granting me the opportunity to grow your church. Amen.

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

Daniel 7:13-14; Philippians 2:9-10; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

**Day 18: Bless Our Pastors**

**SCRIPTURE:**

“When there is no clear prophetic vision, people quickly wander astray. But when you follow the revelation of the word, heaven’s bliss fills your soul.” –  
PROVERBS 29:18 TPT

**OBSERVATION:**

You might remember today’s verse from Day 9 of this Prayer Guide. I shared about the power of a prophetic vision, and word. As I reflect on our new Dulles campus, and the beautiful building that’s being transformed as I write these words into a home for our Northern Virginia family, I can’t help but remember when I first learned about the opportunity to purchase 25350 Poland Road. I left the idea open in God’s hands, and with an expectation that if it was His will He would come through. Today I, and our Citizen Heights community, can proudly say that we are the owners of a new home in Dulles. It wouldn’t have been possible without the blessings of our community.

Today, as I invite you to consider the topic of “Bless our Pastors,” I ask you to pray for me, my family, and all our pastoral staff and leaders because each and every one of us need the blessing of a prophetic word to achieve the purposes of God in our generation.

**APPLICATION:**

Take a moment to pray for your pastors, and leaders. Pray that God would continue to reveal to them a fresh prophetic vision for this season, and this time in our history. Consider writing out your personal prayer requests for your leaders and continue to pray for them throughout this year.

**PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

Jesus, today I lift up my pastors, their family, and the entire pastoral team at Citizen Heights. I pray that as they receive revelation and illumination from the word and the Holy Spirit that you would lead them ever closer to completing Your purposes in and through them in our generation. I pray for clarity, and understanding as the vision is communicated, and that I as part of the church would see myself in that vision. I pray for an environment of unity, not uniformity, as our church receives and activates the vision you have for us. In your name we pray, amen!

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

Psalms 1:1-2; Psalms 119:1-2; Romans 12:1-2

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28  
**Day 19: Growing In Christ**

**SCRIPTURE:**

“For His “body” has been formed in His image and is closely joined together and constantly connected as one. And every member has been given divine gifts to contribute to the growth of all; and as these gifts operate effectively throughout the whole body, we are built up and made perfect in love.” – EPHESIANS 4:16  
TPT

**OBSERVATION:**

Each of us have a special calling, and a gift. One of my favorite classes in the Growth Track is Team Class. This is the final stage of the Growth Track and it’s where new members of our community get to learn more about their giftings, and God’s place for them in His church.

Our Saviour created his body intentionally, and one part can’t exist without the other. Your gifts are unique to you, from your enneagram to your StrengthFinders, each part of your personality, skills, and talents are unique and are to be used to glorify God while inspiring hope and removing limitations

Your gifts contribute to our collective mission, to spread the hope of the gospel which we profess in word and deed. I love how this verse says “As these gifts operate effectively throughout the whole body, we are built up and made perfect in love.” Does that mean it will be easy to work with one another, or see eye to eye every time? Of course not! We will have disagreements, or at times a difference of opinion on methodology, but our foundational and doctrinal truth will NOT shift or waver. All this to say that it’s in the context of community, the church, that each of us will grow.

**APPLICATION:**

If you’re not part of a team, you NEED to be a part of a team. As a church, serving is what we do. We don’t do it to build a name for ourselves, be noticed, or recognized. We serve because God first loved and served us--it’s part of our spiritual DNA.

If you’re already on a team, Heather and I want to say THANK YOU! We love you, and we’re believing God’s best for you.

Take a moment today to ask God to show you how you can grow in Christ this year.

**PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

God, this year I pray that you would help me to use my gifts intentionally and build me up in perfect love. Give me creative and innovative ways to contribute to my team, and help grow my team. I believe that 2021 will be a year of breakthrough for me, my team, and my church. I pray that as I help build the church, that I may also help build up those on my team. In Jesus’ name I pray, amen.

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4,8-10; Acts 15:32; 2 Corinthians 9:5-13

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

**Day 20: Testimonies Abound**

**SCRIPTURE:**

“But if you live in life-union with me and if my words live powerfully within you— then you can ask whatever you desire and it will be done. When your lives bear abundant fruit, you demonstrate that you are my mature disciples who glorify my Father!...16 You didn’t choose me, but I’ve chosen and commissioned you to go into the world to bear fruit. And your fruit will last, because whatever you ask of my Father, for my sake, he will give it to you! So this is my parting command: Love one another deeply!” – JOHN 15:7-8, 16-17

**OBSERVATION:**

Heather and I loved having the opportunity to interview some of our team members during the last Sunday of 2020. Listening to the powerful testimonies of what God did in their lives was precisely how we needed to end 2020. Those testimonies were birthed out of prayers and life-union with Christ.

One of the most powerful statements in the verse you just read is: “You can ask whatever you desire and it will be done.” For this to come to fruition, we must live in “life-union” with Christ. Simply put, it’s really hard to have a spiritually effective prayer life apart from knowing and living according to the teachings of Jesus. As we grow in our relationship with Jesus through the reading of his Word, and its application in our lives, our prayers will come into alignment with God’s desire and purpose for each of us, becoming way more effective.

Jesus goes on to remind us that: “but I’ve chosen and commissioned you...” Back in Jesus’ day disciples typically chose the rabbi, or teacher, they wanted to follow. But Jesus chose his inner crew of disciples, and for a purpose—to “bear fruit”. We each have that purpose and it’s through that purpose we’ll see the fruit-bearing testimonies given to us by our Heavenly Father.

**APPLICATION:**

Take a moment to journal and write out the testimonies where you have witnessed God show up in your life. Back in the Old Testament the people of Israel would raise up a stone or a monument that they called an “ebenezer,” to remind them of God’s promises, provision, and deliverance. Let this list become your ebenezer, a living document to count your blessings, remind you that He will do it again, and be a part of your story. If you haven’t done so, drop us a line of what God did this past year in your life—testimonies abound!

Today we’re listening to *Do it Again* by Elevation Worship on our Spotify playlist.

### **PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

Jesus, I declare that this year will be a year of fruitfulness! Regardless of what the news may say, or my present situations may look like, this is the year where you will cultivate a new thing in my life. I pray and believe that I will bear great fruit and the testimonies in my life will **abound**.

### **ADDITIONAL READING:**

John 8:31; John 13:18; Psalms 66:18; Matthew 7:7-8; Galatians 5:22-23

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

### **Day 21: Salt and Light**

#### **SCRIPTURE:**

“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” – JEREMIAH 29:11 NKJV

#### **OBSERVATION:**

It's the last day of 21 Days of Possible! How are you feeling? What has God taught you throughout this time? I can't wait to hear the testimonies! Isn't it awesome that our God knows us deeply, and intimately? He knows us better than we'll ever know ourselves, and still He loves us, still He calls us His own. He has thoughts of peace towards you, He has a future and hope for you.

Each of us are on assignment to be salt and light to a broken world because we serve a God who is a hope dealer. He is in the business of creating a future and giving humanity hope even in what may seem to be hopeless situations. When we say “Yes,” to Jesus we keep our lives seasoned with his hope, when we say “Yes,” to Jesus the oil in our lamp stays replenished and gives light to a future and a world that is desperately in need of it.

#### **APPLICATION:**

As we end our 21 Days of Possible, take a moment to reflect on today's reading, and talk about it with your Citizen Group. See if there are some practical ways you can share the light of Christ with those in your life and how, together as a group, you can all be a force for good within our church, and local community.

Throughout these 21 Days of Possible, what has God been speaking to you? Are there habits that you want to keep in place? Maybe spend a little less time on Social Media, or commit to a healthy diet? Whatever it is, remember that our fast isn't just about giving something up. It's about raising the volume of God's voice in our lives. If you enjoyed this 21 Day prayer guide consider sharing it with a friend.

Don't forget! If you haven't already done so, it's not too late to write out your personal prayer requests for the year.

### **PRAYER & DECLARATION:**

Thank you Jesus for these 21 Days of Possible! Thank you for speaking to my heart, and into my situations, relationships, and for giving me fresh vision. I believe you are equipping us with perfect vision, clarity, and unity. I declare your

perfect peace over my heart and mind in 2021 and I pray for our upcoming Vision Day 2021 at Citizen Heights. In Jesus' name, amen.

**ADDITIONAL READING:**

Matthew 5:13-14; Mark 9:50; Luke 14:34,35