

LIFT UP



**MONTH OF PRAYER
JANUARY 2017**

elim.org.uk/liftup

IMAGINE – SHAPING ELIM’S FUTURE

Imagine (verb): to form a mental image, to think or believe.

Elim’s General Superintendent, Chris Cartwright, has had the theme of Imagine impressed upon him relative to the future vision and direction of our Elim Movement.



Can we as individual believers, and in our churches, take some time out throughout January to come before God in prayer, and begin to imagine what He may want to accomplish in and through us in this coming year.

As we allow the Holy Spirit to engage with us, let’s be motivated to pray that this year of 2017 will be a landmark year, not only for the Elim Movement, but also for the spiritual life of our nation.

This prayer guide provides four weekly themes for you to use in your church meetings and groups. They can be used in corporate, as well as individual prayer times. During this month of prayer, our core scripture is taken from **Ephesians 3:16-20**

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge – that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

As you read through these verses reflect on your life and some of the prayers you want to bring before God concerning yourself. Ask God to deepen your faith and exceed your expectations. Thank God for His power at work in your life.

During this time, commit to...

- Seeking God for a New Season.
- Listening to the Spirit.
- Stepping out in faith.

LIFT UP is the national prayer enabling ministry of Elim that seeks to equip, intercede and resource the local Elim church. Find out more at elim.org.uk/liftup

IMAGINE MONTH OF PRAYER

WEEK 1: 1-8 January 2017

In this first week of this New Year we take some time to pause, to wait on God, to examine our hearts and imagine what God can do in and through each of us as **individuals**.



Read: Ephesians 3:16-20

Pray for:

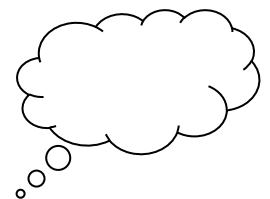
- A greater empowering of the Holy Spirit and a release into God's clear will and purpose in my life and service for Him in 2017.
- To be used in bringing people to faith in Christ and a greater boldness in sharing the gospel.
- For a greater evidence of the love of Christ in my daily life
- For the salvation of loved ones, friends, prodigals.

Commit to...

- Seeking God for a New Season
- Listening to the Spirit
- Stepping out in faith.

Creative prayer:

- Use Psalm 139 as a catalyst for prayer. As you read the verses (or have them displayed) thank God for His presence and purpose in your life. Invite the Holy Spirit to examine and search your heart. Pray for His guidance for the year ahead.
- Get a journal and write down some bold prayers and dreams for 2017. Bring them before God and commit to praying regularly and consistently. As they are answered write big bold prayers of thanksgiving and share your stories of answered prayers with others around you.
- Draw or print off a giant dream bubble. Get together with some friends and share one thing that you are believing God for this year. Each write a significant Bible verse to encourage you as you pray. Take a copy/photograph of the dream bubble and pray for each other's requests throughout 2017.



IMAGINE MONTH OF PRAYER

WEEK 2: 8-15 January 2017



As we head into week two of 2017 we turn our attention and our prayers to **our local church**. Thanking God for the church we are part of we use these verse below to pray over us.

Read: Ephesians 3:16-20

Pray for:

- A Holy Spirit directed impact upon our community.
- Growth, not only numerical, but spiritual.
- Unity and harmony amongst leaders and congregation.
- The release of a powerful tide of prayer and intercession.
- A working together with other churches in the community in building the Kingdom of God.
- A fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit upon the Pastor/s and Leadership.
- Any specific vision, ministries and projects.
- Provision and resource.
- You could find the name and information of another Elim church and also pray for them.

Commit together to...

- Seeking God for a New Season.
- Listening to the Spirit.
- Stepping out in faith.

Creative prayer:

- Prayer walk around your church building and local area. Ask the Spirit to give you insight on site as you pray. Pray for favour and opportunities to make a difference in your community.
- Get the names of each ministry and leader printed off/written down. Maybe even get pictures from each ministry and/or of each Team Leader. Pray Ephesians 3:16-20 over them. Ask God to increase faith and expectation, to give boldness and wisdom.
- As a symbol of unity within the church get each person in the congregation to draw around their hand on a large piece of paper. Each person write their name and prayer in the hand. Keep it displayed as a picture of the body of Christ working and praying together for His Kingdom. As prayers get answered give thanksgiving back to God.

IMAGINE MONTH OF PRAYER

WEEK 3: 15-22 January 2017



In week three we have the privilege of praying for our **Elim Movement**. As we head into its 102nd year we look back and honour the past, we thank God and celebrate the present, and we look ahead with faith-filled anticipation to embrace the future God has for us.

Read: Ephesians 3:16-20

As we reflect on these verses we thank God for the rich history of 'immeasurably more' across and through our Elim Movement. But we believe that God has greater things in store as we seek to make a Kingdom impact in the UK and across the world.

Pray for:

- Wisdom and protection for Chris Cartwright, his wife Annie and their family.
- Guidance and boldness for the National Leadership Team.
- All National Departmental Leaders to be imbued with clear direction and focus (see elim.org.uk for information).
- Limitless (youth ministry) and their vision to pioneer 100 new youth ministries through Elim churches that don't yet have youth work.
- Pastors, Evangelists, and Local Leaders to be given fresh vision and strategy for 2017.
- Protection against the enemy's strategy to dishearten, distract and derail those in leadership.
- Generations of faith-filled and faithful followers of Jesus.
- An increase in effective Church planting and mission.
- Prayer to play an increasing role in all aspects of Elim life and witness.
- Hundreds of young people coming to faith in Christ, and then in turn, winning others in their peer group.
- A release of effective discipleship programmes.
- A release of people with a passion for global mission taking the gospel to the nations of the world (Matthew 24: 14).

Creative prayer:

- Use the elim.org.uk website for up to date information. Print out any images or stories from the various national departments. Thank God for the impact He has already had through each ministry and ask God for immeasurably more in 2017.
- Print the picture of each person on the National Leadership Team and use that as a focus for prayer. If you pray in groups each group could take a different person.
- Get a map of the UK and pinpoint the places that Elim Churches exist. Pray for other Elim Churches (directory online elim.church) and pray for the places around the UK where there is a need for an Elim church to be planted.
- Get a world map/globe. Mark the places we currently have Elim Missions working. Pray for the missionaries and their mission field. Pray God would raise up new people to follow that call to Go.

IMAGINE MONTH OF PRAYER

WEEK 4: 22-29 January 2017



As we head towards the end of January our New Years' resolutions may already have come and gone, but we are called to be persistent and persevere in prayer. This week we pray for **our nation**. 2016 was a year that saw tremendous change and as 2017 unfolds we will see the growing impact of those decisions.

Read: Ephesians 3:16-20

Our nation: 2017: a year of revival: Imagine the following train of events happening in the nation in the coming year. Prayer will be the key to releasing this...

- Cathedrals and churches reporting hundreds of visitors and people gathering to pray.
- Large numbers of Muslims attending church services and finding Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.
- a powerful move of god in schools and universities resulting in healings and transformed lives.
- 20-30's returning to church wanting to take responsibility and lead fresh initiatives.

Let us have the faith to believe that 2017 is going to be a year in which we see God moving in our Churches and in the nation at large. There will be great challenges ahead, but 'Imagine' what God can do with a people who are passionate in serving Him, and have the faith to overcome all obstacles.

Pray for:

- Those in authority and governance – wisdom, integrity, guidance.
- A fresh move of the Holy Spirit across our nation.
- An awakening amongst Millennials and 20's-30's.
- A stirring again to pray in unity.
- Change and transformation in our education system.
- Economic stability and peace across the UK.
- Renewal and revival.

For our nation we commit together to...

- Seeking God for a New Season.
- Listening to the Spirit.
- Stepping out in faith.

Creative prayer:

- Get a map of the UK and use it as a catalyst for prayer. Pray for your town/city/village. Pray for the places of power and influence.
- Find the names of other churches nearby and pray for a renewal and refreshing in them. Pray blessing and salvation.
- Using local government websites find the name(s) of local Councillors and politicians and pray for them by name. You might want to print their picture and biographies to give you focus.