

## **Lesson 5: Prayers to Open Bible Study**

### **Opening Prayer 1**

Heavenly Father, as we gather together to study your Word, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit to be with us. Clear our minds from the distractions and concerns of the day and open our hearts to receive the truth of your Word. Guide our study and discussions that we may grow closer to you and honor you in all we do and say. Strengthen our faith according to the promises in your Word and bind our hearts to one another in fellowship and love. May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer. Amen.

### **Opening Prayer 2**

Lord Jesus, as we gather around your Word we pray that you would teach us as children learning from their dear Father. Remind us of the blessed waters of baptism which washed us clean and filled us with your Spirit. Give us faith to be child-like in accepting your truth with unquestioning hearts; but grow us into mature believers who love your Word and search its depths for your wisdom and love. Guide and direct our study that we may keep your truth pure and grow in the knowledge and grace of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Open with verses from Psalm 1 and the accompanying prayer**

*Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers.*

Heavenly Father, you have promised your blessing as we study the Scriptures. Be with us as we gather to listen, learn and grow in our faith. Guide us to delight in your Word and move us to meditate on it day and night. Feed our faith with a constant stream of your living water that we may be found strong and fruitful in the seasons of our life. Shield us from the influence of the wicked and those who mock you. Direct our path away from sin and destruction, and find us righteous in your eyes because of Christ our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### **Open with verses from Isaiah and the accompanying prayer**

*As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. (Isaiah 55:10-12)*

Lord Jesus, as the rain and snow come from heaven to water the earth, you have given us your Word that we may grow in faith. Thank you for that precious gift; bless us as we gather to study it with thirsty hearts. As plants bud and flourish with your tender care, we know that our faith will grow and produce fruits because of your great mercy and love. We praise you because we know that your Word works among us with power and effectiveness. Help us to ever treasure and cherish it, knowing that it will not return to you empty but accomplish your purpose. Fill our hearts with joy through your Word and lead us in the peace of your forgiveness, which comes through Jesus our Savior. It is in His holy and precious name that we pray, Amen.