

# Vision 2020

## 1 Hour Prayer Guide

*"One thing I ask from the LORD, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the LORD and to seek him in his temple." Psalm 27:4*

Welcome to the most life-changing hour of your week! God has been looking forward to spending this time with you and is going to bless you with His presence. These next 60 minutes He will work in your own heart and mind and miraculously direct the vision and future life of Tallowood! Grab your Bible, a pen, and something to write on and find a nice quiet place or put your walking shoes on for a prayer-walk. Expect God to meet with you, listen to you, speak to you, and answer your prayers in powerful ways!

### ADORATION

Just as Jesus taught the disciples how to pray with the Lord's Prayer, it is always a good idea to begin a time in prayer by adoring God. Honor Him with your heart and with your words as you talk to Him. Remind yourself of His greatness and holiness. To get your mind going, read these following passages and pause to reflect on the truths about the person, power, and perfection of God. You might also open your Bible to another one of the psalms and underline or jot down the descriptions of God and His character. Think about the past week and remember a few ways that God came through for you. Spend the next couple minutes telling God why you love Him on the post-it note. Don't be conservative – write down as many things as come to your mind!

#### Psalm 118:28-29

*You are my God, and I will praise you!  
You are my God, and I will exalt you!  
Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good!  
His faithful love endures forever.*

#### Psalm 77:11-15

*I will remember the deeds of the Lord;  
yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.  
I will consider all your works  
and meditate on all your mighty deeds.  
Your ways, God, are holy.  
What god is as great as our God?  
You are the God who performs miracles;  
you display your power among the peoples.  
With your mighty arm you redeemed your people,  
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.*



*God, I love you because  
You are...*

Continue to adore God with music:

- Select and listen to a song on a worship CD
- Look up the lyrics or download a song from a recent worship service
- Sing your favorite hymn or chorus that you know by heart
- Turn on KSBJ and sing along
- Read Psalm 100 aloud
- Write your own haiku or other short poem

You can whisper if you're in a public place or belt it out if you're alone. Who knows, you might even dance a jig! The format doesn't matter as much as your heart attitude. Psalm 22:3 tells us God shows up when we praise Him! As you begin to adore Him, you'll sense His presence with you more deeply.

## CONFESSION

### **Micah 7:18-19**

*Where is another God like you, who pardons the guilt of the remnant, overlooking the sins of his special people? You will not stay angry with your people forever, because you delight in showing unfailing love. Once again you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean!*

### **Psalm 62:5**

*Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him.*

Ask God to give you the willingness to honestly confess and repent of any wrongdoing. Are there areas of sin in your life? Don't dredge up old sins that you've already confessed, but write the recent sins on a piece of paper or say them aloud as a way of admitting that they are real and need to be addressed. Read 1 John 1:9 and ask the Lord to cleanse you and then accept his forgiveness by faith and thank Him for it. You might even put that piece of paper through a shredder or tear it up and throw it away to represent that you are made clean.

Pray that Tallowood would be a community of grace and forgiveness. Pray that you would personally create an atmosphere of encouragement and grace. Ask God to give you a spirit of humility and commit to forgive others just as God has forgiven you. Is there someone that has offended you that you need to forgive? Take time to settle this with the Lord and then move forward.

Next, take a minute to simply sit quietly before God. Psalm 46:10 tells us, *"Be still and know that I am God."* The meaning of the command "be still" in the Hebrew language implies "drop your hands." In the middle of this hour of prayer, stop, take a few deep breaths, be still, and drop your hands to express to God that you have no power apart from Him. Try simply listening to Him for a minute or two and write down any thoughts, words or scriptures that come to mind. The beauty of spending an entire hour in prayer is that there is no need to rush. Take the time you need and write down your thoughts. Imagine Jesus is sitting with you right now. What do you think He might say to you? Has He revealed anything to you today? What does God want YOU to do to accomplish His vision for Tallowood? *"Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening"* (1 Samuel 3:10).

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# THANKSGIVING

## Psalm 103:1-5 (The Message)

O my soul, bless God. From head to toe,  
I'll bless his holy name!  
O my soul, bless God, don't forget a single  
blessing!  
He forgives your sins—every one.  
He heals your diseases—every one.  
He redeems you from hell—saves your  
life!  
He crowns you with love and mercy—a  
paradise crown.  
He wraps you in goodness—beauty  
eternal.  
He renews your youth—you're always  
young in his presence.

family	
provision	
challenges	
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Take a few minutes to thank God by listing several of the ways God has blessed you and blessed our church in the areas above. Thank Him for how He has already blessed you in this hour you are spending with Him. Thank Him for what He has shown you. Also, take a minute to thank Him for the things He is going to do in the future in the life of Tallowood Baptist Church!

# SUPPLICATION

Supplication simply means asking God for stuff. God loves it when we ask Him for things and ask Him to do things on our behalf and for His glory. Praying for stuff shows God (and us!) that we need Him – that He is God and we aren't – that He can do the impossible – that we as a church are completely dependent upon His power to do anything of eternal value. Let's ask God to lead our church to accomplish everything that He has planned!

### Philippians 4:6-7

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

### Ephesians 3:20-21

*Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, unto him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations for ever and ever. Amen.*



Spend the remainder of the hour specifically interceding for Vision 2020 as the Lord leads you. Pray for clarity and discernment for Glenn Powell and the entire Vision 2020 leadership team as they prepare to share the results of their research, praying, dialoging, and strategizing as they have sought God for His vision for Tallowood. Pray for our pastors and our entire church staff to trust the power of God rather than human wisdom. Pray for the lay leaders involved in multiple ministries at Tallowood. Pray every member of our church body would truly desire what is pleasing to the Lord and have the courage to obey. Pray for future individuals, families, and cultures that God will bring to Tallowood in the future. Thank God for how He has used our church in the past and ask Him to give you excitement for the future! Ask Him to fill you with His Spirit to boldly walk out His vision in the days and years ahead!

Pray for each of the subcommittee chairman by name and use your own words or pray the following prayers for each focus area of Vision 2020.

**Disciple-Making (chaired by Dana Dudley)**

“Father, please continue to guide the Disciple-Making team to clearly know how You are leading in the area of discipleship. Teach me to seek You with a humble and repentant heart (2 Chronicles 7:14). Guide my path and the path of my church and make the way plain before us (Isaiah 42:16). As you reveal Your will for us and for me personally, give us strength to persevere in doing what You call us to do (James 1:21-25). We need You, God! Empower us with your Holy Spirit to become who we are called to be! Like Paul encouraged Timothy, make us disciples who reproduce ourselves, even to the third and fourth generation (2 Timothy 2:1-2). I give You thanks for Your continual guidance and provision for your people, through Christ (2 Corinthians 2:14).”

**Engaging the International Community (chaired by Chen Chiang)**

“Creator and Savior, create in me a clean heart and renew a right spirit within me. I ask You to move in my life and in the lives of all of your people of Tallowood. God, please fill me with a loving and welcoming spirit so that those who visit our church will feel the love of God. Just as the simple children’s song Jesus Loves Me, I ask that all people would feel loved and accepted at Tallowood whether they are “red or yellow, black or white.” Send your Holy Spirit to convict and empower me to past complacency and out of my comfort zone to reach those who don’t look like I do, who don’t dress like I do, and who don’t speak like I do. Help me to slow down. I get so busy and preoccupied sometimes that I fail to really see and care about the people around me. I’m sorry. Thank you for how you will teach me practical ways to show love and befriend people just as Jesus would.”

**Facilities (chaired by Betty Winters)**

“Lord, thank You for how You have abundantly provided for Tallowood. We ask that our current and future facilities would be used for Your purposes and for Your glory! We choose not to trust in mere buildings to save people, but just as Moses met with You at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and spoke with You face to face as a man speaks to his friend, we ask that the same would be true at Tallowood. May our buildings provide a safe haven for men, women, and children to worship You and to hear and understand Your Word. May people find healing, wholeness, salvation, transformation, and purpose within these walls. Abundant God, provide what is needed in the days ahead to reach the people You will bring. Give the Facilities Team and our church staff the wisdom to hear from You and the integrity to steward our facilities in the most effective way to bring people in, equip them for works of service and send them out on mission!”

**Kingdom Resources/Stewardship (chaired by Ann Bradshaw)**

“Father, we believe that Tallowood Baptist Church is a divinely ordained body of believers that You have uniquely gifted and brought together to advance Your Kingdom at this location and at this time. I ask You to lead me personally and our church family to discover God's will for spiritual growth, stewardship and service in

and through the life of our church. Open my heart to discover the joy of stewardship and lead me to give generously to Your Kingdom work. Open my eyes to see Your plan for using our church family and our physical resources at 555 Tallowood Drive to attract people who need to know Your love and grace.”

#### **Media/Technology (chaired by Michael Lu)**

“Wise, omnipotent God! While many trust in chariots and some in horses and some in technology, we trust in You! However, we know and believe that You want to use every avenue and every tool possible to reach people for Christ and to accomplish Your vision. Tune me in to know how I should handle media and technology in my own life. Give me keen vision to use these mediums for your purposes as a blessing to other people. God, don’t let our church settle for mediocrity without taking full advantage of the influence and power of technology. Just as You used the ancient Roman roads to spread the gospel, we ask You to do the same with the avenue of media and technology in the coming years. Keep us careful and mindful with these powerful tools, but also make us intentional and visionary to accomplish Your vision. Use all of the resources and knowledge at our disposal so that *‘God’s message would be preached in ever-widening circles, and that the number of believers would greatly increase’* (Acts 6:7).”

#### **Mission (chaired by Wayne Klotz)**

“Lord of the Harvest, we ask You to send forth workers into Your harvest field. Thank You for the incredible eternal impact that You have made through mission efforts connected with Tallowood in our community, state, country, and across the world. We ask that You will provide the insight, the skills, the framework, the passion, the people, the resources and the empowerment to fulfill Your strategic part for Tallowood to play in missions. We pray that God’s people of Tallowood would not just worship and serve here at our buildings, but that they would be compelled to take the gospel with them and make disciples everywhere they go. God, I need Your help with this. I need You to continue to transform me to become a person always on mission for You. Give me a love for others. Give me an eternal perspective. And give me courage. Thank You for the ways You will open doors for us to step forward into new opportunities. Make us bold in carrying Your name to the ends of the earth. Give this Vision 2020 Mission team the clarity and insight they need to lay out a strategic path for us as a church as we look to the future.”

#### **Reaching the Next Generation (chaired by Aaron Aldape)**

“Father, we pray for our Tallowood faith community to hear Your vision for reaching the next generation. Give me personally a heart and mind open to Christ’s leading. I ask You to give wisdom and discernment for each of our staff members specifically working with the next generation: Kasey Berry, Carol Kleckner, Jerome Smith, Jeremy Houf, Keith Riley, John Music, Joel Winters. As You alone can do, we need You to stir the hearts of our church members with a passion to reach the next generation. Choose and call out the right people to get involved in this pursuit. Help me and our church body to live as Christ calls us to live and to be ready to connect with people and lead them to Christ. Give us wisdom as we seek ways to connect with this generation through worship. Grant us effectiveness in meeting them where they are both physically and spiritually. Guide us in building relationships. Show us ways to empower this generation to contribute to building Your Kingdom.”

*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, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21*

(Thanks to God, the Vision 2020 Committee and the following resources: 24-7prayer.com, UMC Indiana Convergence, Dr. R.J. Krejcir Into Thy Word Ministries, Spiritual Formation – Becoming Like Jesus, 1 Calvary Baptist Church Prayer Wheel, Jan Lyall’s Prayer Reflections, Impact Prayer Ministry, Dr. Ralph F. Wilson’s “How to Spend an Hour in Prayer,” and *Face to Face Volume 2* by Kenneth Boa.)