

The Five-Finger Prayer — Biblical Foundation

Five Areas. Five Scriptures. One Shepherd. Covered in Prayer.

1. HEADSHIP — John 15:5 (ESV)

“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

What we’re praying: The pastor’s relationship with Christ.

Teaching language:

“Before we pray for the pastor’s preaching, vision, leadership or success, we pray for the pastor’s relationship with Jesus.

Because before the pastor is a shepherd...

the pastor is a sheep.

And Jesus said, ‘Apart from me you can do nothing.’

So when you pray **Headship**, pray:

‘Lord, keep my pastor close to You.’”

That is clean and Christ-centered.

2. LEADERSHIP — James 1:5 (ESV)

“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”

What we’re praying: Wisdom, discernment, courage and integrity to lead God’s people.

Teaching language:

“Your pastor makes decisions you know about...

and decisions you may never hear about.

So when you pray **Leadership**, don’t merely pray, ‘Lord, make my pastor a good leader.’

Pray:

‘God, give my pastor Your wisdom.’

Wisdom to know what to do.

Discernment to know when to do it.

Courage to do what is right.

And integrity to do it God’s way.”

3. STEWARDSHIP — 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV)

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.”

What we’re praying: Faithfulness with everything God has entrusted to the pastor.

Our definition of Stewardship includes:

time, gifts, influence, opportunities, resources, body, ministry and people.

Teaching language:

“Stewardship isn’t just about money.

It’s about everything God has placed in the pastor’s hands.

So we pray:

‘Lord, help my pastor faithfully steward what You have entrusted to them.

Show them what to carry...

what to delegate...

what to release...

and what to entrust to somebody else.”

That’s important because **the carrier cannot carry everything.**

4. RELATIONSHIP — Ecclesiastes 4:9–10 (ESV)

“Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow.”

What we’re praying: Marriage, family, friendships and healthy relationships.

Nobody should walk alone.

Teaching language:

“Pray that your pastor has healthy relationships.

Pray for the pastor’s marriage.

Pray for the children.

Pray for the family.

Pray for genuine friendships.

And pray that God gives your pastor people who love the **person...**

not merely the **position**.

People who can pray with them.

Laugh with them.

Cry with them.

Tell them the truth.

And help lift them when life gets heavy.

Because...

No Leader Wins the Battle Alone.”

5. HARDSHIP — 2 Corinthians 4:8–9 (ESV)

“We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed.”

What we’re praying: Burdens, battles, wounds, grief, criticism, weariness, health and unseen struggles.

Teaching language:

“There are hardships you will know your pastor is facing.

And there are hardships you may never know anything about.

Don’t pry.

Pray.

You don’t need the details.

God already knows them.

So pray:

‘God, when my pastor is afflicted, don’t let them be crushed.

When they’re perplexed, don’t let them despair.

When they feel alone, remind them they have not been forsaken.

And when life knocks them down...

give them grace to get back up.’”

“You don’t have to know everything about your pastor to pray for everything your pastor needs.”

Finger	Prayer Focus	Primary Scripture
HEADSHIP	Relationship with Christ	John 15:5
LEADERSHIP	Wisdom & discernment	James 1:5
STEWARDSHIP	Faithfulness with what God entrusts	1 Peter 4:10
RELATIONSHIP	Marriage, family & healthy relationships	Ecclesiastes 4:9–10
HARDSHIP	Strength through burdens & battles	2 Corinthians 4:8–9

And Pastor G, this gives us an even stronger **repeatable teaching rhythm**:

HEADSHIP — John 15:5

Lord, keep my pastor close to You.

LEADERSHIP — James 1:5

Lord, give my pastor Your wisdom.

STEWARDSHIP — 1 Peter 4:10

Lord, help my pastor faithfully manage what You have entrusted.

RELATIONSHIP — Ecclesiastes 4:9–10

Lord, surround my pastor with healthy, strengthening relationships.

HARDSHIP — 2 Corinthians 4:8–9

Lord, sustain my pastor through every burden and battle.

Then hold the hand up:

Five fingers.^{[[SEP]]}Five areas.^{[[SEP]]}Five Scriptures.^{[[SEP]]}One shepherd.^{[[SEP]]}Covered in prayer.