BLESSING THE BODY



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by **Kim Butts**

- 2 Thessalonians has become one of my favorite books of the Bible. It is filled with blessings to pray for and over others! What I love about these verses is how simple it is to adapt each prayer for believers wherever they may be and whatever circumstance in which they find themselves. It is easy to change pronouns or put in the names of the person/persons you wish to pray for as you bring them to the throne of God with His kingdom purposes for them in your heart and upon your lips:
- 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12: "...we pray for you always that our God may count you worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power in order that

the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ." **Example:** "Bill, I pray that our God may count you worthy of your calling…etc."

- 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14: "But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." **Example:** Tina, I always give thanks to God for you, as a sister beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you...etc."
- 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17: "Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word." **Example:** "Joe, may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us...etc."
- 2 Thessalonians 3:5: "And may the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God and into the steadfastness of Christ" **Example:** "Sarah, may the Lord direct your heart into the love of God...etc."
- 2 Thessalonians 3:16: "Now may the Lord of peace Himself continually grant you peace in every circumstance. The Lord be with you all!" **Example:** "Don, may the Lord of peace Himself…etc."

I can't think of one of these prayers I would not want someone to pray over my life. Blessing people in prayer is a powerful way to reassure, inspire or support other believers. These prayers can also become part of your personal prayer time, praying over individuals, couples, families, your church, the churches in your community, government officials…well, you likely get the idea! Example: "Father, I lift my pastor, Tom,

up to You! May You count him worthy of your calling, and fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith with power in order that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in and through his life…etc."

Perhaps you could look over these Scriptures and ask God to assign each one to someone you know: family members, pastors, missionaries, people you work with, friends, etc. If you can't personally seek them out to pray over them, call or email these prayers of blessing to them. Who knows how much encouragement each one of us could give to the body of Christ today if we all take this challenge! If just ten of us do this, fifty people will receive power, peace and/or purpose from God's Spirit. I'll go first!

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Biography

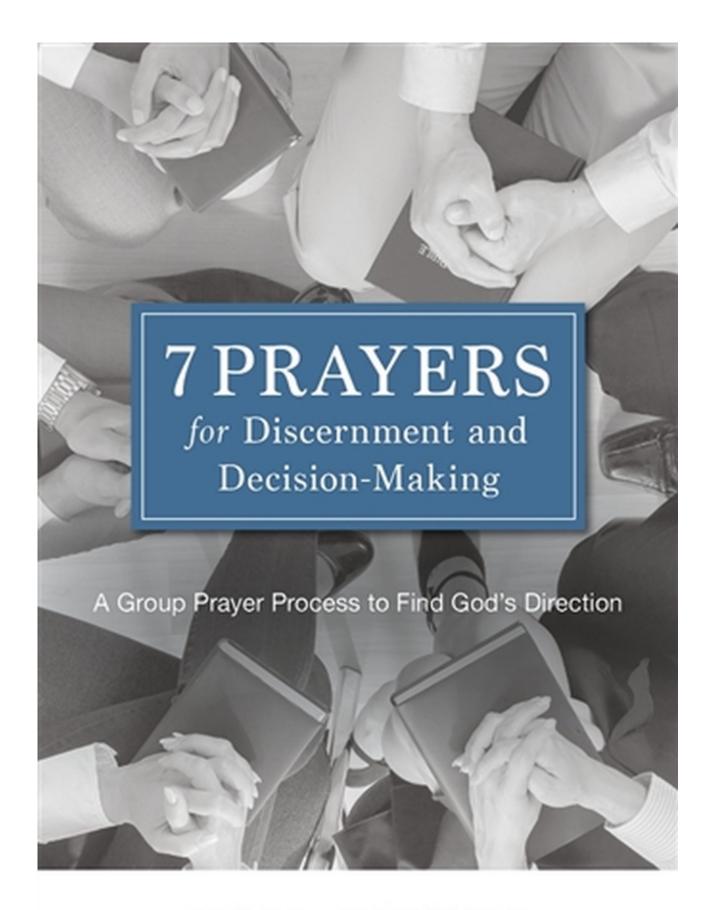
Kim serves as the Executive Director of Harvest Prayer Ministries which she co-founded in 1993 with her late husband, Dave (1953-2022). Her ministry involves teaching/training and consulting as well as writing and developing resources. She is content coordinator for HPM's teaching platform, PrayerU.com

and also compiles and edits HPM's free daily devotional, Connection! as well as Prayer Tip Tuesday.

Kim has written multiple books and has published articles in a variety of magazines and publications. She is a member of America's National Prayer Committee and serves as President of Gospel Revivals, Inc. (Herald of His Coming).

Kim has a BA in Psychology and a Masters degree in Spiritual Formation and Leadership.

Some of Kim's Books



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