

31 Ways to Pray for the Greater Montgomery Area

A car driver's guide to seeing the needs of the Capital City

Montgomery Baptist Association
Churches Fulfilling Their Biblical Mandate

County? Pray for families in Montgomery to consider adoption or fostering a child. Pray for those families to be reunited and have a healthy home environment. Pray for the children who are in foster care to find healing, peace and understanding.

THIRTY

There are several very affluent neighborhoods in the greater Montgomery area. Drive through one of these. As you drive, pray first that you would not covet that which belongs to another. Pray that God would show you how to be a good steward of the material resources He has given you to manage. Some of the residents who live in these neighborhoods are committed believers who serve Christ faithfully and give generously to support their churches and other missions or benevolent causes. Thank God for these. Pray that He would move others to use their abundant resources to help people have a better life. Pray that all Christ followers across Montgomery would see the need and responsibility they have to use their blessings to be a blessing to others.

THIRTY-ONE

Drive past any place that employs a large number of people. Christians in their work have a tremendous opportunity to be a Kingdom resource, sharing the Good News, demonstrating the love of Christ, exerting a positive influence in the workplace. Thank God for Christians who live out their faith in the work environment. Pray that the Holy Spirit would show believers the opportunities they have to connect others to Christ in the workplace.

A CAR DRIVER'S GUIDE TO SEEING THE NEEDS



FIVE

Drive by or visit one of our fine hospitals. We are blessed to have excellent medical services available in Montgomery. Pray for the medical staff of each of our hospitals. Pray for our chaplains as they minister. Pray for nurses, aides, and all care givers. Pray for the patients and their families, that God's love and grace might be made evident to them. Pray for Christians who are caring for their own family members, that they might find ways to share the love of God with others while they are there.

Thank God for how He heals our bodies and makes us whole.

SIX

Drive by a public school in your area. Think about the children who attend here. Think about those students who struggle to keep up academically. Say a prayer for them. Pray for the teachers and the administrators. Pray for God to call out church members to tutor and coach these children with their school work. Think about some of the family issues these students may face. Pray for the school experience to be a positive force in the students' lives.

SEVEN

Drive by your local fire station. Thank God that you have individuals who risk their lives to keep you safe. Pray for God's protection for these first responders. Pray that the medical responders would not feel over-stressed. Ask God to show you ways your church could encourage these fire department personnel.

EIGHT

Take notice the next time you see a police car. Thank God for ordaining civil order. Pray for the members of the police force and for the emergency communication center personnel. Pray for the River Region Chaplain Service that provides chaplains for the public safety personnel. Many police personnel are un-churched. Pray that some of our churches would find a way to connect with the needs of our officers and their families.

NINE

Have you ever visited a neonatal unit? Pray for the parents of these babies needing special care. Pray for the babies, for their physical development and growth. Pray for Footprints Ministry and for Samaritan Inn that minister to these families. Pray for the doctors and nurses who care for these precious infants.

TEN

Drive by one of the four-year colleges in Montgomery. Pray for the students, professors and staff. Pray for our collegiate ministry in Montgomery. Pray that Christian students would be equipped and empowered to share their faith on the campus and throughout the city.

ELEVEN

Drive by an apartment complex. Did you realize that a larger percentage of residents of multi-family housing are lost than in the general population? Pray for those who live in multi-family housing. Pray for ways to connect with them to present the gospel. Pray for Montgomery churches to become burdened for reaching residents of multi-family housing. Many multi-housing families will not come to our churches. Pray for creative ways to reach out to those individuals.

of the housing projects that you could drive through are Smiley Court, Trenholm Court, Patterson Court, Tulane Court and Cleveland Court. There are many people who are hurting because of bad decisions, unfortunate life circumstances or personal addictions. Pray that the Lord of Healing, Jehovah Rapha, will come to them and heal families of which at times involves generational problems.

TWENTY- SEVEN

Drive over to the two major mall areas, Eastchase and Eastdale. Why do people congregate to these shopping centers? A lot of times, it is not about money but about being lonely and wanting to be with other people. Others seek to fill the emptiness in their lives by buying “things.” We know that things cannot fill a spiritual void in our lives. Pray that those who frequent malls will find the Savior who fills the emptiness with purpose and meaning.

TWENTY-EIGHT

Drive by one of the stadiums or ball fields where teams compete. What is it about competition that causes people to become so driven to win? Certainly athletic competition calls forth our best. Are we giving our very best to the cause of Christ? Do some people find their life purpose in winning instead of in relationship to Christ? Pray that individuals who compete and those who cheer for them in athletic events will place these activities in a proper perspective. Pray that Christ followers will give HIM their best in all areas of life.

TWENTY-NINE

Drive down Mobile Highway by the Department of Human Services building. Do you know what goes on inside this building? Workers here help families who are experiencing all kinds of challenges. Pray for the many underpaid dedicated social workers who work tirelessly to help others. Did you know that there are almost 450 children in the foster care system in Montgomery

TWENTY-THREE

Do you know where City Hall is? Do you know when the City Council meets? Montgomery has a new Mayor. Pray for our Mayor and City Council. Pray for our county commission.

Ask God to give them wisdom, insight and discernment, knowing the decisions they make would benefit all of the Montgomery area.

TWENTY-FOUR

Drive by a nursing home or assisted living residence. Pray for those inside. Pray that God's love would be evident to them. Pray for individuals who come each week to lead in worship or Bible study for these residents. If you know anyone who does this, ask if they need any help. Many of these residents feel rejected or lonely. Pray that they would know their value to God. Pray for those who care for them every day. Pray that they would be compassionate and loving. Pray for the families of these residents, many of whom had to make difficult decisions in putting their loved ones here.

TWENTY-FIVE

There are several jails and prisons in the greater Montgomery area. Thousands of individuals are incarcerated for crimes they have committed. We have individuals who minister to those in prison. Many who come to Christ will need assistance when they are released. Very few of those who come to Christ and have an effective follow-up ministry ever return to prison. Pray to the Lord of the Harvest to send forth workers into this harvest. Jesus said, "I was in prison and you visited me." God's grace is available to these persons too. Pray for those who are called to prison and recovery ministry. Pray that their labors would be fruitful.

TWENTY-SIX

Have you actually driven through a public housing complex? There are major complexes here in Montgomery where many people live. Try driving through some of the public housing complexes. Some

TWELVE

Drive by three churches. What do these churches represent? Pray that their vision would be turned outward rather than inward. Pray that the believers who attend these churches would seek to reflect Christ in their daily lives. Pray that these churches would seek to reach the people in their immediate community with the gospel of Christ. Do you know any persons in one of these churches? Call them and tell them you are praying for them and for God's vision for their church.

THIRTEEN

Look for someone who is from a different race or ethnic group from you. Are there special needs of this group that come to mind? Since the gospel is for all people, pray that people of this group would develop a tremendous openness to the gospel. Do you know of anyone who is working to evangelize this group? If you do, pray for them. If not, pray that God would lead someone to take the lead in evangelizing this group. Ask God if there might be ways for you to be a part of this effort.

FOURTEEN

Drive by the VA Medical Center on Perry Hill Road. Thank God for the veterans who have helped to protect our freedoms. Pray specifically for those who are housed in this facility at this time. Give thanks that we have chaplains who minister to their spiritual needs. Pray that the gospel would be shared with those who need to hear. Look for ways to support a ministry to our veterans.

FIFTEEN

What impression have you gained about Montgomery in this prayer journey? Are they good or bad? Pray that God would help you have a Christ-like attitude toward Montgomery and the people who reside here.

SIXTEEN

Drive by a public park. Observe the people there enjoying recreation or engaging in exercise. Recognize that these are people for whom Christ died. Pray for a way to connect with these people to share the good news about Jesus.

SEVENTEEN

Drive by or visit a Starbucks on a Sunday morning. See how many people are congregated there. People here connect with one another. Pray for a way to connect them to Christ.

EIGHTEEN

Drive up Dexter Avenue to the old Capitol. Drive behind the building by the Statehouse. Our Legislature meets here. Pray for our legislators to make wise decisions that improve the lives of all our citizens. Pray for our governor and his cabinet. Pray for all who serve in our courts, that they would make wise and just decisions. Many or most of these public officials claim some relationship to a Christian church or denomination. Pray that they would live out a biblical expression of faith in Christ through their actions.

NINETEEN

Find a place where young people like to congregate. What do you imagine they are looking for? Many want to find acceptance and worth. Pray that they would find their true worth in recognizing Christ died for them. Pray for those who work with teens in our churches. Thank God for their service. Pray that many teens would come to Christ. Pray that teens who are Christ followers would speak to their friends and acquaintances about faith in Him.

TWENTY

Drive where you can see people driving to work in Montgomery during one of the rush hours. Many of these people live outside of Montgomery and commute to their jobs. Pray that they would make a positive contribution to life in Montgomery. Pray that God would touch their hearts to pray for the welfare of the city where they work.

TWENTY-ONE

Drive by or visit one of the Wal-Marts in Montgomery. Have you ever noticed the variety of people you see in Wal-Mart? If you listen, you may hear three or four different languages. Pray for our churches that have language ministries. Pray for the MBA Church and Community Ministries' CE school that meets at First Baptist every Thursday. Have you ever visited in a country where you did not know the native language? Remember (or imagine, if you haven't been to one) what it feels like to be so isolated. Pray for these sojourners in our midst, that we would demonstrate the love of Jesus to them.

TWENTY-TWO

Drive by the gate to Maxwell or Gunter. Many people come to Montgomery for just one year to study at Air War College. Others will have a three year assignment here. Many of these military families need to connect with local people for meaningful relationships. Pray that our churches would be sensitive to the special needs of the military families. Pray that we would not limit the ministry because of their short term residence here. Pray that believing families would find a way to connect and minister in Jesus name while here in Montgomery.