



SUNI Week of Prayer Resources

This resource can be used to help you pray individually, in a small group or it can be adapted and used in a variety of contexts including a church prayer meeting or Sunday service. Feel free to use and adapt to suit your context.

Stop: Before reading scripture or bringing our thoughts and requests to God, take a moment to stop and simply acknowledge God's presence and who he is. You may want to repeat the words of Psalm 46:10 to help you.

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know that I
Be still and know that
Be still and know
Be still
Be

In this moment of stillness, allow yourself simply to be loved by God, is there anything he is saying to you personally in this moment?

Read: For SUNI as we step forward into a new season and a new strategy, our General Director Damian, was led to this passage in Luke 5:1-11 and the themes of *listening to the master*, *obeying the master* and *following the master* which come from the passage. This will shape the week of prayer for SUNI as we seek to 'launch out into the deep water' with Jesus.

Take time to read and reflect on the passage, if you have time, maybe read it in a few different translations.

Luke 5:1-11

1 One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret, the people were crowding around him and **listening to the word of God.** **2** He saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. **3** He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch."

5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. **But because you say so, I will let down the nets.**"

6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break.

7 So they signalled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

8 When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" **9** For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, **10** and so were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will fish for people." **11 So they pulled their boats up on shore, left everything and followed him.**

What do you notice? What stands out to you from these words?



Take time to pray for SUNI Staff, Council and Executive Council that we would be people who listen to the master, obey the master and follow the master in all that we do and that we wouldn't be afraid to launch out into the deep when He tells us to. Pray that we would be brave, take appropriate risks for His kingdom and keep moving forward towards the new things and the new 'catch' that he has for us. If you have an encouragement to share with a staff member, you can contact them at <https://www.sunico.uk/who-we-are/staff> by clicking on their picture.

The passage in Luke 5 also speaks of **collaboration** as Simon Peter calls to others in the boat to help bring in the miraculous catch of fish and it also speaks of the **awe and wonder** they felt of what Jesus has done. Pray for SUNI that we would continue to collaborate and work well with others and also that we would continually be in awe and wonder of what God has done and is doing through the ministry of SUNI and not lose sight of this.

Take time to pray for the vision, aims, values and strategy of SUNI. (See attached appendix at the end of this document for an overview of our aims, values, and new strategic priorities to help you pray.)

Here are 5 creative ways you can pray for the work of SUNI: (See attached appendices for creative prayer resources. Print as many copies as you need for your group.)

1. Opportunity Keys - We are faced with lots of small opportunities and challenges every day, and then sometimes we face larger ones too. These opportunities and challenges can stir up feelings of excitement and anticipation, but they can also stir up feelings of anxiety and fear. Pray for the new opportunities within SUNI: for the exploration of new camps and missions, for the new team leaders stepping up this year, for the expansion and growth of our schools ministry, for the introduction of the chaplaincy role, for the development of new volunteers and staff, for the new speaking engagements, new church relationships and many many more opportunities.

Write what you are praying for, for SUNI, on a key and pray for these new doors to be opened and that they may be fruitful. Ask that God would give the staff and volunteers courage, boldness and strength as they pursue these new opportunities in the midst of challenges and the worries they may be feeling. Keep the key somewhere where you will see it, in your bible or diary and keep on praying for these new opportunities.

2. Thankful Bunting - Take a moment to think back and reflect on what God has done through the work of SUNI. What is your SUNI story? What is the story of SUNI in your church or your area? Take a moment to be in awe and wonder of who God is, what he has done in SUNI. Write in on the celebration bunting and take time to praise God.

3. The Empty Chair - Our heart and vision is to see lives transformed: To see children, young people and their families come to faith in the Lord Jesus and to see volunteers, staff and partners continue to be transformed as God uses them to reach others. Pray for those you know who do not yet know Jesus, who have not yet found their seat at the Lord's table. Write their name on a place card and set it on an empty chair to remind you to keep praying for their salvation. Pray too for all those who will come into contact with SUNI through camps and missions, schools' ministry or events that they would hear the word of God, encounter the love of God and their lives would be changed through this work. Pray also for the future volunteers, camp and mission team leaders and even future staff of SUNI that God would already be shaping these people for the roles they will step into. Pray for our current staff, volunteers and team leaders that they too would continually be transformed by Jesus as they serve him.

4. Speech Bubbles - "Speak Lord for your servant is listening". We want to take time to listen to what the Lord is saying to us in this moment, in this season, in this time and culture. We want to be people who stop, listen and respond to what the Lord says. What is the Lord saying to you personally? And as we finish our time praying for SUNI are there scriptures that come to mind? Is there a song, a word or phrase that God has put on your heart?

Write it down on the speech bubbles below or share it with us prayer@sunico.uk

Our prayer is that **Christ is magnified** in our land, in our own hearts and in the work of SUNI. You may want to finish by listening to this song of praise from [Cody Carnes "Christ be magnified."](#) (Click the link or type into YouTube to listen)

(Appendix 1)
SUNI aims, values, and strategy



Our Aims

Working with the churches, Scripture Union aims:

- to make God's Good News known to children, young people and families and
- to encourage people of all ages to meet God daily through the Bible and prayer so that they may
- come to personal faith in our Lord Jesus Christ
- grow in Christian maturity and
- become both committed church members and servants of a world in need

Our Vision

To see children and young people transformed by God's Good News.

Our Values

Collaboration: Serving alongside others, working together for the purposes of God.

Dignity: Showing kindness, respect and compassion, valuing every person we encounter.

Excellence: We want all that we deliver to be done with outstanding excellence.

Integrity: transparent, honest and above reproach in all we do as we work with children and young people and steward resources.

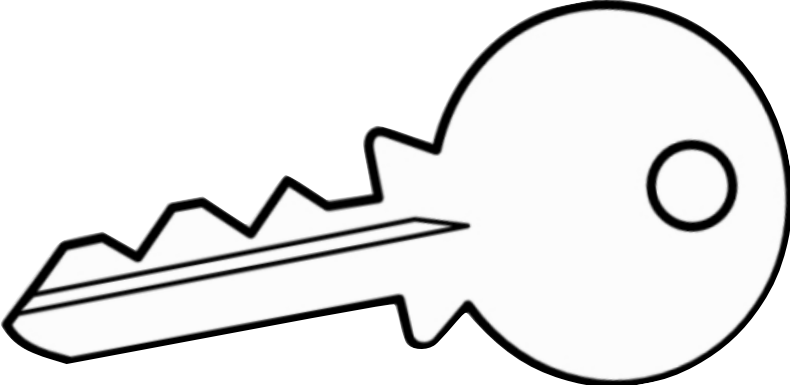
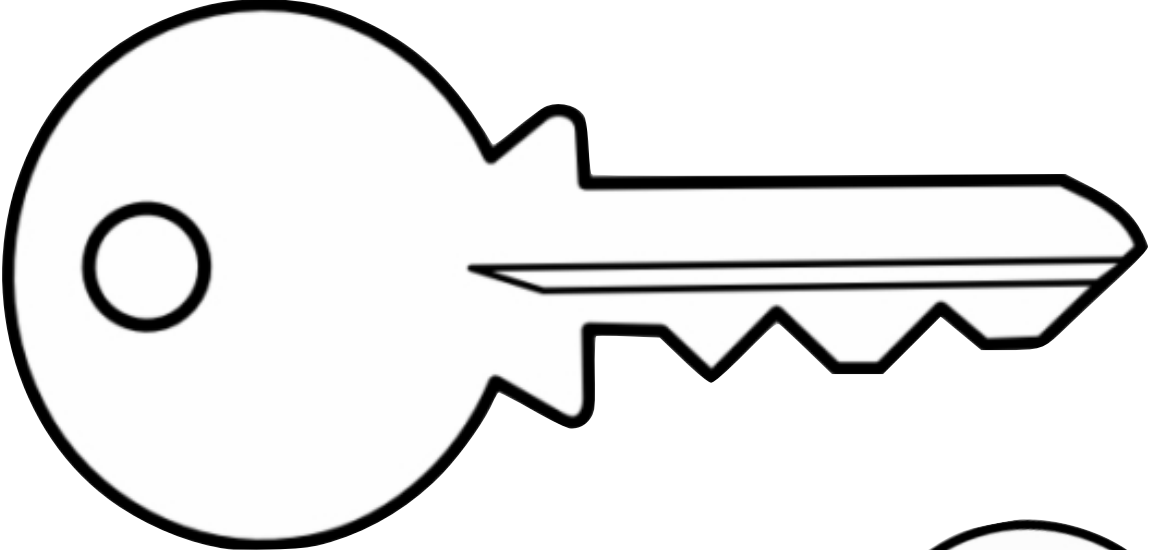
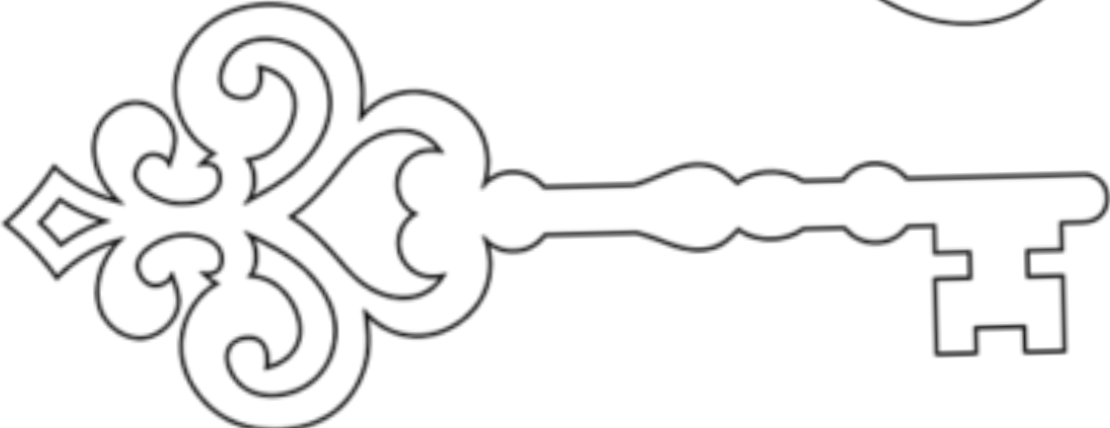
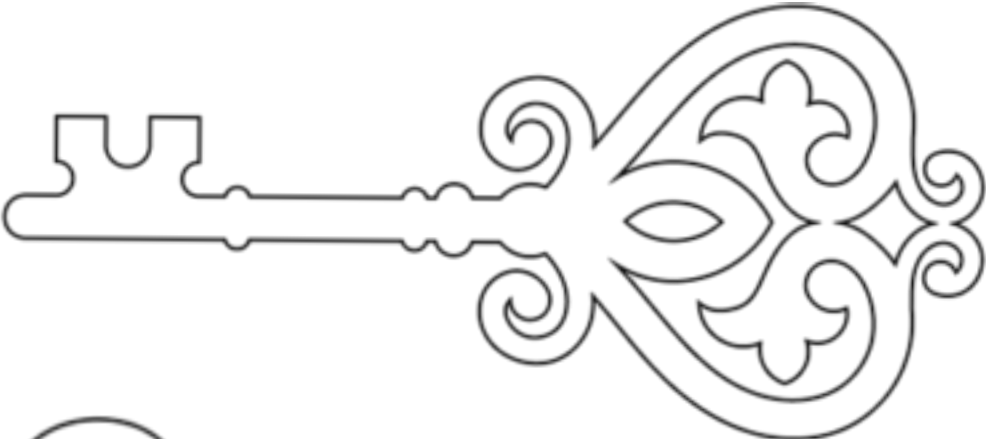
Our Strategic Priorities

Biblical Depth: At our heart is the Bible. We are committed more than ever to greater biblical depth in every area of our ministry. We will prioritise a deeper understanding of God's Word and it's impact on the world in which we live.

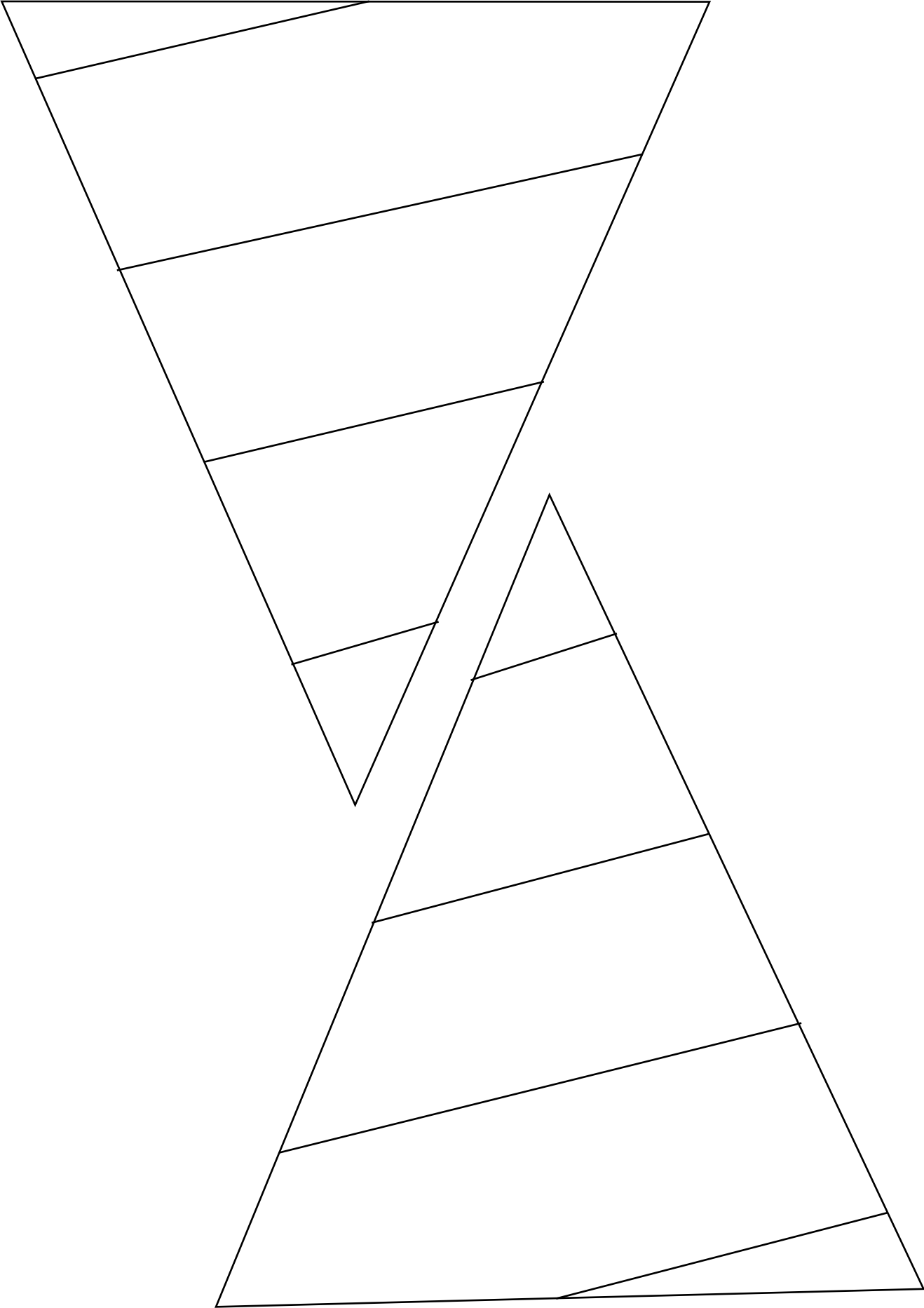
People Development: One of our greatest assets is the many many people who serve in a variety of ways alongside us. Our commitment is to support and develop these people in terms of knowledge, skills and experience. Each person has a part to play, and we want to make sure that everyone can participate in the best possible way.

Transformative Delivery: In all we say, do and produce, we want the impact to be transformative. We want to see a marked positive difference and a lasting change in those who hear, read or experience anything from SUNI. We choose to submit our ideas to the Lord, asking Him to use what little we have for His plans and purposes.

Appendix 2



Appendix 3





Appendix 5

