

FAST FORWARD AMERICA

40-Day Prayer Guide

A NATIONAL CALL FOR 40 DAYS OF FASTING, PRAYER AND REPENTANCE
FROM SEPTEMBER 30 TO NOVEMBER 8
LEADING UP TO AMERICA'S 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION



Join Today at
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“AMERICA IS IN NEED OF AN UNPRECEDENTED SPIRITUAL AWAKENING.”

Someone has wisely said, “If America doesn’t see revival, nothing else matters. If America does see revival, nothing else matters!” Well said! America, especially in this election year of 2016, desperately needs a heaven-sent revival that results in a nation-transforming spiritual awakening.

There is little doubt that the biblical foundations of our American culture are quickly eroding amid the rising tide of secularism. America, quite simply, needs Jesus. America needs a divine visitation from heaven not unlike the great spiritual awakenings in our nation’s past. This great need is evident across all sectors of our society. We see it in our government and the courts as decisions are made that erode our most basic freedoms. Individuals of conscience and even faith-based businesses are being required to obey man’s laws in direct violation of God’s laws. What once was mere apathy toward Christianity (and those who are true Christ-followers) has become outright animosity. America is broken, and only a Christ-centered revival and accompanying awakening can transform our culture.

Every Home for Christ (www.ehc.org) and other partnering denominations and ministries, in cooperation with the Mission America Coalition (www.missionamerica.org) and the National Day of Prayer Task Force (www.nationaldayofprayer.org), believe that prayer and fasting is central to releasing revival and awakening in America. In fact, history testifies that revival is always preceded by widespread movements of prayer, fasting and repentance. With this in mind, a broad coalition of concerned ministries, denominations, and networks are asking Christians to join together during this presidential election season in a 40-day fast from Friday, September 30, to Election Day on Tuesday, November 8. We also suggest you prayer walk your neighborhood during these 40 days, asking God to change the spiritual climate of your community. You may choose to fast a meal a day or a half day for a week or longer. See the helpful suggestions in “Fasting to Victory” on page 8.

Then, use the helpful day-by-day focuses with supporting passages of Scriptures to help you pray for specific issues of our day. To participate in this 40-day fast, to spread this call to others, or to access additional resources, visit www.prayasone.org or www.fastforwardamerica.com.

And please pray specifically for the *Encounter Life* initiative, launching as you begin these 40 days of prayer and fasting. This EHC campaign will mobilize thousands of American churches to reach every home in the United States with the Gospel by the year 2030. Pray that church leaders and members will catch the vision to share the Good News with their own communities and beyond. Learn more at www.everyhomeusa.com.

Contents

The Fast Forward 40-Day Prayer Guide is a resource designed to serve those who long for revival in America and who desire to see our nation transformed by God's glory. Over a 40-day period, this guide will lead you to be an intercessor; through a process of praying for every "sphere" of our society. (Refer to page 6 for more information on the "Seven Mountains of Influence.") In using this guide, you will be praying for each sphere over five or six consecutive days. For example, from Day 1 through Day 6, you will pray over the sphere "The Church (Religion)." From Day 7 through Day 13, you will pray for the "Family and Marriages" sphere, etc. Within each of these broad focuses, you will be given daily prayer focuses listed at the top of each page. The red tab at the bottom of each page will remind you of what sphere you are praying for that day. See page 54 for a helpful guide on how to spend a meaningful hour in prayer daily. (Register your days of fasting at www.fastforwardamerica.com.)

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The Seven Mountains of Influence

What Are the Seven Mountains of Influence Referenced in This Guide?

In the mid-1970s, God drew two visionary leaders together for a luncheon meeting in Colorado. Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, and Loren Cunningham, founder of Youth With A Mission, were those men. As they came together, each felt the Lord was revealing an important strategy necessary for impacting nations and cultures in such a manner as to initiate true transformation of a society. Little did they know they both had received the same insights. Indeed, a few weeks later, in Switzerland, theologian Francis Schaeffer was to receive the identical revelation.

The message was simple but profound: To impact all of a culture, people, or nation with the totality of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, every major sphere of influence had to be impacted. More specifically, this involved seven clearly defined spheres or, as some have come to define them, The Seven Mountains of Influence.

You will thus notice that each daily focus in this guide falls within one of these seven major areas (or mountains) of influence in our global societies and explores one of the numerous sub-categories that come under each sphere. As this guide walks you through them in your time of prayer, write down your personal insights each day.

The seven spheres include:

1. The Church *(Religion)*

Pray for the Holy Spirit's anointing on all churches no matter their denomination. Pray for ministries involved in evangelism and discipleship including foreign missionary activity. Pray for all faiths and religions, that they will see the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that Christians will be bold in their witness.

2. Family and Marriages *(Youth, Children, Marriages, etc.)*

Pray for families in general, and particularly the healing of broken relationships in marriages and families, especially among believers and those in Christian ministry. Pray for the sanctity of marriage. Pray against cultural influences that diminish the value of marriage and family.

3. Education *(All Schools, Universities, Colleges, and Educators)*

This focus involves all institutions of education, whether for the very young, when children are so easily influenced, or those studying at higher levels. Pray for teachers and educators. Pray for those you know by name. Add them to your daily prayer lists for each day. Pray also for the content of textbooks so they will reflect biblical values. Ask God to send a revival to all campuses.

4. Business *(The Marketplace)*

This focus involves praying for a spiritual awakening in the marketplace. Pray especially for Christian businessmen and women, that God will use them to influence others in their professions. Pray for major corporations, that they will build their companies on a foundation of high moral and ethical standards.

5. Government *(Local, National, and International)*

Pray for heads of your local, state, and national government. Remember especially to intercede for the judiciary (judges) of your nation and the nations of the world. Include the military and law enforcement as well as other service officials, such as firefighters and civil servants.

6. Media *(The Press, Television, and Internet)*

Ask God to cause all aspects of the media and information technology to become a tool in His hands to change the culture around us for His honor and glory. Pray that the influence of the Internet and social networking will be used by Christians to capture a new generation of young believers. Pray that Christian values and ethics will find their way into all aspects of the media.

7. Arts and Entertainment *(Including Sports)*

This focus includes all those in any field of the arts or entertainment including sports. Some have defined this sphere as the “celebration” sphere because it takes many such aspects into consideration. Ask God to use the influence of those who know Him in these arenas so they might impact many around them. Pray for entertainers or athletes you know by name who have a strong Christian testimony. Ask God to expand their influence.



Fasting to Victory

*A Word about Fasting and Prayer
by Dick Eastman*

Fasting. It is a difficult discipline though dynamic in its results. For most believers, fasting is a seldom-pursued dimension of personal prayer. The flesh clearly opposes it. As Martin Luther once said following a time of fasting and prayer, “My flesh was wont to grumble dreadfully.”

Yet, of all levels of prayer and intercession, fasting in prayer seems to terrify our enemy more than any other. As a saint once wrote, “Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.” Add fasting to these prayers and Satan panics.

There is little doubt that fasting in intercession releases added supernatural power to our prayers. Intercessory fasting might well be labeled “authoritative intercession.” Engaging in such praying allows the believer to “fast” their way to victory.

OUR STRONGEST WEAPON

The apostle Paul spoke of the various weapons we have from God that remove or cast down satanic fortresses. He wrote, “We are human, but we don’t wage war with human plans and methods. We use God’s mighty weapons...to knock down the Devil’s strongholds. With these weapons we break down every proud argument that keeps people from knowing God. With these weapons we conquer their rebellious ideas, and we teach them to obey Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5, NLT).

Paul doesn’t specifically name each of these weapons because he knew the Corinthian believers were well aware of them. Fasting was a vital part of Jewish culture and tradition. And there is little doubt that the Corinthian Christians knew that fasting was a powerful weapon, one that added special authority to their spiritual warfare. On this very theme, Derek Prince once said, “On the basis of the record of the whole Bible, I would say that prayer and fasting combined constitute the strongest single weapon that has been committed to God’s believing people.”

PRAYER’S HIGHEST LEVEL

Authority is defined as “power to influence or persuade from knowledge or experience.” It is also “the legal or rightful power to command or act in specific situations.”

How does fasting relate to intercession and lead to authoritative praying? Intercession is the denial of self in prayer so that our

praying can be focused on others. Intercession is “others centered” prayer. Fasting is a physical form of that attitude of self-denial and humility. To combine the two is dramatic and dynamic. Fasting in conjunction with intercessory prayer is authoritative praying at its highest level.

Fasting, of course, is the practice of deliberately and voluntarily abstaining from usual nourishment, which when performed in the context of prayer, brings supernatural power to our praying. Fasting is to do without or to practice self-denial. Added to prayer, fasting brings a release of divine authority.

Following are several simple “keys” to help you fast and pray with a measure of authority, particularly as you use this guide for the United States.

1. WE SHOULD FAST SENSIBLY.

Although it is true that some in the Bible, like Moses, Elijah, and Jesus, fasted 40 days, and others like Daniel and Esther fasted several days to three weeks, the Bible includes numerous occasions when a specific fast was 24 hours or less. Note, for example, Israel’s battle with the rebellious tribe of Benjamin in Judges 20. When Israel saw the difficult circumstances facing them and they feared the worst, Scripture says they “went up to Bethel, and there they sat weeping before the Lord. They fasted that day until evening” (Judges 20:26, NIV). Notice this was a fast of but two meals, breakfast and lunch. David fasted similarly (2 Samuel 3:35), as did Cornelius the Centurion, who fasted until “the ninth hour,” which was mid-afternoon (Acts 10:30, KJV). This suggests Cornelius ate something after 3 p.m.

If God leads you to fast for 40 days for the United States, you may fast one full day a week or even one meal each day. You may even choose to fast 40 days “until evening,” meaning you would deny yourself breakfast and lunch for a full 40 days. Muslims fast a full month in this manner each year during the month they refer to as Ramadan. Each day they eat nothing after sunrise and do not eat again until after the sun sets. But this was also biblical for Jews and Christians. Consider also the fast of Daniel. He fasted 21 days eating “no choice food,” including any meat (Daniel 10:3). Many have taken this to mean Daniel ate the simplest of foods, perhaps vegetables or even just bread and water for 21 days. Imagine eating only bread and drinking water for 21 days. For most of us that would be a true denial of self, and thus qualify as a fast, even if only partially. Of course, a few may choose a full fast of 3, 7, 21, or even all 40 days, eating no solid foods and drinking only water or juice. These prolonged periods, however, should be done cautiously and, if one has medical problems or health concerns, such a fast should be done under the direction of a physician. However, don’t let your

fears limit you from fasting, even if only partially, like Daniel did. Even giving up one meal each day for a few days (or for each of the 40 days) will add spiritual power to your praying.

2. WE SHOULD FAST SENSITIVELY.

When Israel fasted prior to its battle against Benjamin, as referred to previously, we note they “inquired of the Lord” during their fast (Judges 20:26-27). One of the most important results of fasting is that it increases our sensitivity to receiving guidance from God. During your times of fasting and prayer with this guide, ask God to help you “pray between the lines” regarding each day’s prayer focus. As you read a specific request, listen to God’s still, small voice to help you prayerfully expand a particular focus. In addition, pray with an open Bible (particularly the Psalms). Then, as you fast and pray, read a passage of Scripture and turn the Scriptures you read into specific prayers that apply to a specific day’s focus. We’ve provided a sample verse with each day’s focus to help get you started. You’ll be surprised at how God’s Word seems to fit very specific needs of a particular day.

3. WE SHOULD FAST SACRIFICIALLY.

We have already suggested that fasting is a means of denying self that when combined with prayer brings supernatural results. Andrew Murray, a missionary to Africa many years ago, wrote the classic book *With Christ in the School of Prayer*. Murray wrote: “Fasting helps to express, to deepen, and to confirm the resolution that we are ready to sacrifice anything, to sacrifice even ourselves, to attain what we seek for in the Kingdom of God.”

Jesus, speaking of self-denial for His disciples said, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me” (Matthew 16:24, NIV).

For the person who normally eats little or no breakfast, to miss that particular meal is hardly a sacrifice. Also, for a person who eats a huge, late lunch, and then generally very little later in the evening, fasting the evening meal is not much of a sacrifice. The word “sacrifice” means “to deny oneself something for the sake of another.” The true hunger pains we feel during a fast serve to remind us that self-denial is indeed taking place. Fasting no doubt brings power to our praying because it costs us something that we can actually feel.

4. WE SHOULD FAST SPECIFICALLY.

When God chided His people for the hypocrisy and emptiness of their religious celebrations, including their hypocritical fasting

(Isaiah 58:1-5), He concluded, “Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?” (Isaiah 58:6, NKJV).

Allow God to choose the focus of your fast. This guide has a very specific focus on the United States. There is little doubt our fast for the United States is “to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free ...” (Isaiah 58:6).

If you feel God wants you to use this guide every day, initially for 40 days (and monthly thereafter), we encourage you to add the dimension of fasting and prayer to your regular prayers, even, as suggested, in a partial manner. But as you pray daily for various needs, please concentrate some of your times of fasting and prayer on the United States by using this guide. Think of your prayers as instruments being used by God to help open the eyes of many thousands of people in the United States.

5. PRAYING GOD’S WORD: ADDING AUTHORITY TO YOUR FASTING!

You will note that each of the 40 focuses in this guide conclude with a passage of God’s Word to encourage you to “pray the Word” over the focus for that day. The great British preacher, Charles Spurgeon, referred to this as “pleading God’s promises.”

Simply read a few words or a complete verse and then pause and turn those words into a prayer. For example, consider the passage of Ezekiel 34:26-27. The passage begins with the promise: “I will cause my people and their homes around my holy hill to be a blessing.”

You might “pray” this statement: “Oh Lord, you once said to your ancient people that you would cause their very homes and families to be a blessing. I pray you will cause all the Christian families of the United States to be a blessing. Cause the government of the United States to realize that true Christians are a blessing to our nation.”

You can probably add even more thoughts to that simple promise, further enlarging your prayers of intercession as you develop that phrase.

Now, do the same for the rest of the passage. In so doing, you are “praying God’s Word” and thus declaring His will over the focus of that day.

DAY 1

Today's Focus:

The Church (Religion)

(Religion, Revival, and Spiritual Awakening)

Pray specifically today for your church and other churches of your community or area. As you pray through today's passages from Scripture, apply these promises to this specific focus—Religion (and more specifically, the Church). Include churches and denominations by name, asking God to bless them with true revival. Pray specifically for revival in your church and the churches of your area and for a resulting spiritual awakening in your community so that many might come to Christ as the result. Additionally, remember people of other faiths and religions, that they might experience the transforming grace of Jesus Christ.

Today's Passages:

Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

Ephesians 1:17-19

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.



THE CHURCH (RELIGION)

DAY 2

Today's Focus:

Christian Laborers

*(Remembering Pastors, Evangelists, Teachers,
and Other Christian Workers)*

Today our primary focus for prayer as watchmen are those who help spread or teach the Good News of Christ in our community and nation. Be specific as you pray for those you know by name who are serving to advance the Kingdom of Christ. Some may be prominent leaders in the Church, known worldwide, while others may only be known to a small community of believers, including you. They need your prayers. Pray for those you know who may be beyond your theological sphere or denomination. Compile your personal list of those you want to pray for at least once each month. Pray also for more laborers to be called into the harvest (Matthew 9:37-38). Pray also for those who proclaim the Gospel, that it will be “the pure Gospel” and that all Christian workers, whether missionaries or indigenous pastors and evangelists, will remember Peter’s compelling words: “Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12, NKJV).

Today's Passages:

Matthew 9:37-38

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Romans 10:13-15

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”



THE CHURCH (RELIGION)

Today's Focus:

The Encounter Life Initiative

(Taking the Gospel to Every Home in America by 2030)

On October 1, 2016, Every Home for Christ is launching the *Encounter Life* initiative to partner with thousands of American churches in reaching every home in our nation with the Gospel. The mission of the Church is called the Great Commission—to faithfully carry out Christ’s command to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19), and *Encounter Life* seeks to do this here in the United States. It’s a two-pronged strategy of sharing the Gospel with the lost to lead them to faith in Jesus Christ and then discipling new believers through sound Bible teaching in order to preserve fruit that remains (John 15:16). As you lift up *Encounter Life* today, pray for “open hearts” that our neighbors who receive the Gospel will put their faith in Jesus. Pray for “open doors” that church leaders and members across our country will catch the vision and join us in reaching their own local communities with the Good News. And pray that God would provide laborers for the harvest, leading to a great spiritual awakening in America at this important time. To participate in the movement or to get your church involved, visit www.everyhomeusa.com.

Today's Passages:

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”



THE CHURCH (RELIGION)

Today's Focus:

Other Faiths and Belief Systems

Many Americans embrace belief systems and ideologies that claim to point the way to salvation through some system of self-sacrifice and good works yet miss the transforming power of the cross and resurrection. The apostle Paul taught, “if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV). Pray that believers across America will have opportunities to share the reality of knowing Christ with those who have never experienced His “amazing grace.” Especially pray for the various faiths that exist in America, as well as the many organizations and individuals focused on demonstrating the compassion of Christ among people of these groups. Pray that the growing “prayer, care, share” strategy of truly praying for and loving those of other faiths through caring for and helping meet their felt needs will become a national strategy of the Body of Christ. Pray by name for neighbors and friends you know who embrace different belief systems, asking God to enable you to share the Good News of your own testimony with them in love and humility.

Today's Passage:

Acts 26:16-18

“Now get up and stand on your feet. I have appeared to you to appoint you as a servant and as a witness of what you have seen and will see of me. I will rescue you from your own people and from the Gentiles. I am sending you to them to open their eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”



DAY 5

Today's Focus:

Unreached Peoples

A compelling love for the lost led Jesus to the cross to die for the sins of the world, yet nearly 2,000 years later millions of inhabitants live among unreached people groups that have yet to receive a clear presentation of the Gospel. Even within America today pockets of unreached people exist. Pray that all barriers that hinder the spread of the Gospel to these people will be overcome. Pray that God will divinely call and save key individuals to help share the Good News, make disciples, and plant churches among all these unreached people groups. Pray for ministries using Christian radio programs, gospel literature, and other methods to help introduce these unreached people to Christ. Draw encouragement from the apostle John's vision in heaven: "After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands" (Revelation 7:9, NKJV)

Today's Passage:

John 10:15-17

Just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again.



THE CHURCH (RELIGION)

DAY 6

Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Religion

On Day 6 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those areas of the sphere of “The Church (Religion)” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write out a few churches, ministries, and individuals in ministry that you can take time today to pray for.

[illegible]

Today's Focus:

Family and Marriages

(Influencing Family Values and the Sanctity of Marriage through Prayer)

The main focus for prayer today is families and marriages. Satan seems to have initiated all-out warfare on marriages in recent years, including Christian marriages and those of pastors and leaders. Satan knows that if he can destroy marriages, and thus the family, he can destroy the very fabric of any society. Pray today especially for families in distress that you know of as well as your own family. Pray for marriages of those close to you and for those of Christian leaders.

Today's Passage:

Ephesians 5:25-30

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church—for we are members of his body.



DAY 8

Today's Focus:

Children

(Children in Danger, Children Trafficking, and Orphans)

Jesus loved children. In Matthew 19:14 He said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Today we remember these innocent ones of society. Child prostitution and the trafficking of young children are on the rise in America. In addition, there are children in America who are without homes, food, and families. The children of America need our prayers today. Pray by name for children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews in your family. Extend your prayers to children in your neighborhood, your state, and the nation. Pray that Christian parents will raise their children to know and love the Lord. Pray for Christ-centered alternatives in TV programs, movies, video games, and music that will help build a child's faith, rather than destroy it. And pray for international evangelistic programs that help share the Gospel and make disciples of children around the world.

Today's Passages:

Matthew 18:2-5

He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.



Today's Focus:

The Elderly

The elderly often face difficult challenges without complaint, and many have no one to help them in times of need. Pray that the younger generation will respect the unique gifts and wisdom of the elderly. Proverbs 16:31 says, “Gray hair is a crown of splendor; it is attained in the way of righteousness.” Ask God to reveal to elderly believers that they have a special opportunity to use their wisdom and spiritual maturity to be dedicated intercessors for the lost and others in need. Some may even feel called to be full-time intercessors. Pray that God will show them how to embrace this unique calling. Pray, too, about starting or joining an outreach team in your church or community that specifically provides assistance to the elderly. Pray by name for the elderly in your church who may need assistance. Befriend them, visiting them at home or in a senior care facility where they live. Pray for opportunities for sharing the Gospel with people who may have lived long lives but have not yet asked Jesus to come into their hearts.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 71:17-23

Since my youth, God, you have taught me, and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds. Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come. Your righteousness, God, reaches to the heavens, you who have done great things. Who is like you, God? Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up. You will increase my honor and comfort me once more. I will praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, my God; I will sing praise to you with the lyre, Holy One of Israel. My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you—I whom you have delivered.



Today's Focus:

The Disabled

(Those Developmentally Impaired and the Handicapped)

Daily life is difficult for people who were born with physical or mental challenges or who were left disabled by a severe illness or injury. Often some of the most neglected people are those with serious handicaps or various physical or mental impairments. They also can be the most severely mistreated and regularly abused. Today, in addition to all else we claim in prayer as watchmen, we especially weep over these, praying that God will touch followers of Jesus in these areas to seek out the needs of such people and to find ways to love and care for them—in the name of Jesus. Prayerfully remember those in this condition in your own community. Do some “prayer homework” and learn of ministries that specifically target the disabled and pray for them as well as support them in their mandate to care for and disciple the disabled. Pray also for the creation of more church-based outreaches to the disabled in local communities. Pray that every church, especially in the less developed areas of the nation, will be sensitive to the needs of the disabled who are part of their congregation or people they know. Pray by name for disabled people you may know at church or in your neighborhood. Also pray for family members and caregivers who help loved ones with special needs.

Today's Passage:

Isaiah 35:4-6

Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.” Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.



Today's Focus:

The Homeless

Today we place special emphasis during our prayer on those who lack a place to dwell, the homeless. In some regions of America, children live and sleep in city culverts and under bridges because that is their home. An increasing number of families are seeking help from local homeless shelters because they have no place to live. Many homeless, who often suffer from mental illness or addictions, sleep in parks and beside the road in bushes and shrubs. Pray for the well-being of the homeless and especially that the Church will rise up to help meet this growing need. Pray about ways that you and your church might become specifically involved in ministering to the homeless—providing food, clothing, and assistance in finding employment and meeting family needs. Especially remember ministries you know of that are devoted to this specific challenge. Above all, pray for opportunities for sharing the Gospel with homeless people who do not know the Lord. Encourage them with the words of the prophet Samuel: “The Lord...raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes and has them inherit a throne of honor” (1 Samuel 2:7-8).

Today's Passages:

Psalm 61:2-4

From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. I long to dwell in your tent forever and take refuge in the shelter of your wings.

Psalm 12:5

“Because the poor are plundered and the needy groan, I will now arise,” says the LORD. “I will protect them from those who malign them.”



Today's Focus:

Sanctity of Life

Since Roe v. Wade in 1973, an estimated 54 million pregnancies have been terminated through abortion in America. Pray today for the unborn children of our nation. Pray for their protection in a society that debates their humanity. Children are a blessing from the Lord and something He has fashioned very purposefully. Pray that they will be treasured and seen as gifts. Pray for mothers who face the overwhelming prospect of an unplanned pregnancy. Pray that God will give them courage and provide them with supportive communities that will love and guide them through a trying season. Pray for children born to parents unable to care for them, that God will place them into loving homes where they will be nurtured and taught the love of Jesus. Pray also for the medical doctors who perform the abortion procedure, that God will open their eyes to the reality of what they are doing and convict their hearts to do it no longer. Pray for those mothers who have already undergone an abortion that, rather than shame and condemnation, they will come know the forgiveness and grace of Jesus. And finally, pray for the people of the United States to see clearly that all life is a sacred gift worthy of our protection and love.

Today's Passages:

Psalm 139:13-16 (NIV)

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made...My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.



Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Family and Marriages

On Day 13 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those areas of the sphere of “Family and Marriages” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write out the names of members of your family (or other families that are dear to you) that are especially in need of prayer.

[illegible]

FAMILY AND MARRIAGES

Today's Focus:

Education

*(All Institutions of Learning, Teachers,
and Administrators)*

Pray for all levels of education—from younger children in elementary school through more advanced education, including college and university students. Pray for an awakening among students of all ages as well as for their teachers. When possible pray by name for students and teachers you know. Pray also that godly principles will come into the curriculum being taught at all levels of education.

Today's Passages:

Ecclesiastes 12:9-10

Not only was the Teacher wise, but he also imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true.

Proverbs 1:5-9

Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance—for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. Listen, my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teaching. They are a garland to grace your head and a chain to adorn your neck.



DAY 15

Today's Focus:

Youth

(The Next Generation)

Young people, especially teenagers, are bombarded with immoral messages and temptations through movies, TV, music, and the Internet. Social media is adding to this dilemma. We need to enter into the spiritual battle that is raging for the souls of our youth. The words of Proverbs are still true today: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6, NKJV). Pray by name for youth leaders in your church and the churches of your community. Ask God to raise up many who can meaningfully share His Word and encourage young people to follow the Lord. Pray for effective youth programs in our churches that will attract young people from our communities who need to hear the Gospel. Pray that churches will offer courses to help train Christian youth in how to share their faith with non-Christian friends.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 119:9-12

How can a young person stay on the path of purity? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you. Praise be to you, LORD; teach me your decrees.



Today's Focus:

Colleges and Universities

Pray today for colleges and universities across America. Today in our nation, the next generation of leaders is being educated, many times by professors who hold disdain or disregard toward Christ. Pray that students will establish a solid foundation in their walks with God and not be persuaded to follow empty philosophies. Pray that students will be Christ-centered and seek to find the truth in Christ. Pray that the Lord will empower believing students to resist the godless culture that surrounds them and instead be an instrument of light and the love of Christ. Pray for unbelieving students across college campuses, that the Holy Spirit will move on their hearts and that they will find their identity and purpose in Christ. Pray for teachers and officials who instruct and lead college campuses across America to encounter Jesus. Pray for Christian ministries that focus on college and university outreach, that the Lord will make them effective in shaping this generation. Pray for an awakening on college campuses across America, that this next generation will love Jesus with all their hearts, souls, minds, and strength.

Today's Passages:

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

Philippians 4:8-9

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.



Today's Focus:

Elementary, Junior High and High Schools

Pray today for the students, teachers, and administrators of America's elementary, junior high and high schools. Especially pray that the Lord will protect the destiny that He has for each young one. Pray for those with little or no godly influences to be divinely connected with people who will intentionally reflect Christ to them. Pray for young minds to be taught the truth of Christ and protected from falsehood. As our youth mature, pray that the Lord will protect their identity. Declare over our students that they are loved and accepted. Pray that students will be filled with discernment and have real, authentic encounters with Christ that will keep them through their teen years and beyond. In a culture where youth are encouraged to squander and experiment, pray that the Lord will raise up an army of young people who will spend their strength for Christ and become God's great instrument of change in America. Pray for those struggling with depression, suicide, cutting, eating disorders, bullying, family dysfunction, divorce, peer pressure, drugs, domestic violence, substance abuse, and sexual bondage. Pray specifically for high school students you may know by name. Pray for teachers and administrators to lead students with integrity and the fear of the Lord. Pray for those responsible for shaping curriculum, that God will mold the information being taught. Pray for church ministries and outreaches to students that the Lord will use them mightily. Pray that the youth of America will be equipped to passionately follow Jesus their whole lives.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 31:20

In the shelter of your presence you hide them from all human intrigues; you keep them safe in your dwelling from accusing tongues.



DAY 18

Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Education

On Day 18 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those aspects of the sphere of “Education” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write down the names of young people who are currently learning within the American education system. Pray for these young people by name. Also consider writing down the names of teachers you know who currently work in the American education system and spend time today interceding for them.

[illegible]

Today's Focus:

Business

(The Influence of the Marketplace)

Pray for businesses in your community or nation that God will use them to accomplish His purposes. Ask God to raise up godly businessmen and women to be witnesses for Him wherever they serve. Apply today's passages of Scripture specifically to the marketplace. Pray that God will release funds from businesses in your area and throughout the world to make possible the advancement of Christ's Kingdom and the completion of the Great Commission.

Today's Passage:

Isaiah 60:1-5

“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look about you: All assemble and come to you; your sons come from afar, and your daughters are carried on the hip. Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell with joy; the wealth on the seas will be brought to you, to you the riches of the nations will come.”



Today's Focus:

The Economy

(Banks, Lending Institutions, and Greed)

The uncertainties of the economy affect all of us in different ways, including those ministries that seek to spread the Gospel globally. Very often missions organizations are the first to suffer in an economic slowdown. Pray for a healthy recovery in all sectors of the economy and that a spiritual awakening will take place that helps overcome greed. Pray also that God will get the attention of Christians to depend on Him, to reject the ways of the world, and that a true revival will result. The great spiritual awakening of the 1850s, in which hundreds of thousands came to Christ, began as a result of a nationwide failure of America's banking system. In particular, as you serve as a watchman of the Lord today, ask God to allow Hebrews 13:5 (paraphrased) to come alive in the hearts of His children: "Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you.'" More specifically, intercede for individuals you know of by name who have lost their jobs and are struggling financially. Ask God to open opportunities for them to find meaningful employment. Additionally, pray that Christians will continue to give faithfully to their local churches and other worthy ministries.

Today's Passage:

1 Timothy 6:5-10

And constant friction between people of corrupt mind, who have been robbed of the truth and who think that godliness is a means to financial gain. But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.



Today's Focus:

Health Care

(Doctors, Nurses, and Medical Professionals)

Pray today for those who do not have adequate medical care and for those who have a heart to help meet this need in our nation. Ask God to use Christian doctors and nurses not only to minister to the physical needs of their patients but to spiritual needs as well. Especially pray for those involved in medical missionary enterprises as they often risk contracting the very diseases they seek to treat. Pray by name for doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals you may know. Pray that those Americans who are followers of Christ will make themselves available as frequently as possible to go on short-term mission trips to use their unique gifts to help the sick and suffering in less-developed nations of the world. In this way they will help fulfill God's promise of Psalm 72:12: "For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help."

Today's Passage:

Jeremiah 33:6-8

"Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security. I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them as they were before. I will cleanse them from all the sin they have committed against me and will forgive all their sins of rebellion against me."



Today's Focus:

Humanitarian Ministries

(Charities, Nonprofit Agencies, and NGOs)

Christian humanitarian ministries, often referred to as NGOs or “Non-Government Organizations,” provide aid to people living in poverty or who have become victims of natural disasters, acts of violence, and other unexpected tragedies. They see Christ in those they serve, remembering His words in Matthew 25:35: “For I was hungry, and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in” (NKJV). Pray by name for humanitarian ministries working today in America that you support or are familiar with. Pray for the protection of Christian aid workers who often work in dangerous conditions to minister to people in need. Especially pray that Christian ministries will not compromise their responsibility to share the Gospel with the people they minister to. Pray they will have many opportunities to share the message of salvation openly in areas that might not otherwise be freely open to Christian evangelism.

Today's Passage:

Proverbs 3:27-29

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, “Come back tomorrow and I’ll give it to you”—when you already have it with you. Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you.



Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Business

On Day 23 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those aspects of the sphere of “Business” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write down the names of Christian businessmen and business leaders who are active today in America. Pray for these people. Write down the names of Christian businesses you may know and intercede for these businesses.

[illegible]

BUSINESS

Today's Focus:

Government

(Local and National Government)

The apostle Paul instructed Timothy in his first letter to this young leader to, “pray for all that are in authority” (1 Timothy 2:1-2). There is little doubt that Paul’s first concern in this regard was for prayer that impacted those in government positions. Pray for your local government leaders as well as for national government leaders.

Today's Passages:

Romans 13:1

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.

1 Timothy 2:1-4

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.



Today's Focus:

The Military

(Those Serving in the Protection of the Nation)

Men and women who serve in the armed forces are willing to make the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives to protect their nation and help maintain peace in the world. Pray for the various branches of the military in our nation as the Holy Spirit leads. Ask God to hold back any armies that may seek to create arbitrary conflicts that may lead to war in various regions of the world. Pray especially that Christians in all branches of service will “put on the whole armor of God” as described in Ephesians 6:10-20. Pray that godly officers and particularly chaplains will lead their troops with moral character and courage. Intercede for conflicts now underway in the nations that peace will be restored so that the Gospel can go freely throughout those nations or regions. Pray by name for servicemen and women you may know. Ask God to help you minister to the spiritual, emotional, and practical needs of the spouses, children, and family members of military personnel who are away on dangerous deployments around the world.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 33:12-20

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind; from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth—he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.



Today's Focus:

Liberty and Freedom

(Issues of Human Rights and Individual Freedoms)

One of the most important of the “seven spheres of influence” involves government and politics. People around the world are willing to lay down their lives for the freedoms expressed in the United States’ Declaration of Independence in 1776: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Pray that we, as Americans, do not forget that the freedoms and liberties we experience are gifts from God that can be lost if we turn our backs on Him. Pray that God will intervene in America’s national and local governments in ways that promote individual freedoms. Pray that more devoted, righteous people will seek and be elected to public office, thus helping provide a moral compass for their communities and nations, for where there is no vision, the people perish (Proverbs 28:18).

Today's Passage:

Romans 8:19-21

For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.



Today's Focus:

Civil Servants

*(Police, Firefighters, and Others Who Serve in
Our Communities)*

Men and women who hold city, state, or federal jobs serve within one of the “seven spheres of influence” that are foundational to government structures. The responsibilities they have and the decisions they make impact communities on multiple levels and in ways that may affect thousands of people. Pray that public servants will act responsibly in their jobs. Pray by name for people you may know who work in the public sector. Also pray that Christians will stand out as model employees as they mirror Christ’s example of a faithful servant, mindful of His words: “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all” (Mark 9:35, NKJV). Pray especially for the police of your community, that they will be protected as they often are in harm’s way. Pray against all corruption that can often be tempting to those in such positions of trust. Pray, too, for the families of those in law enforcement, as often the intensity of their work impacts their home life in negative ways. The same is true for firefighters who generally have to live away from home for many days at a time in order to be on call at all hours of the day and night.

Today's Passage:

Philippians 2:3-8

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!



Today's Focus:

Crime and Violence

(Drug Cartels, Drug Trafficking, and Organized Crime)

Escalating crime and violence are symptoms of a society that has drifted away from God or outright rejected Him. Commenting on the end-times, Christ said: “Many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end shall be saved” (Matthew 24:11-13, NKJV). Pray against all those who would seek to tarnish our culture through criminal activity and all manner of corruption. Pray that God will show the younger generation that involvement with any kind of “recreational” drug use does not only destroy their health, but fuels organized crime in the nations. Pray against the drug cartels operating throughout the country. Ask that God would cause cartel leaders to make critical errors in how they conduct their business in such a way that leads to their downfall. Pray especially for the protection of Christian workers who work in the fearful atmosphere of these drug cartels. Pray also that those in law enforcement specifically focused on this problem will find more and better ways to combat this plague through modern technology and other means.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 11:1-7

In the LORD I take refuge. How then can you say to me: “Flee like a bird to your mountain. For look, the wicked bend their bows; they set their arrows against the strings to shoot from the shadows at the upright in heart. When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?” The LORD is in his holy temple; the LORD is on his heavenly throne. He observes everyone on earth; his eyes examine them. The LORD examines the righteous, but the wicked, those who love violence, he hates with a passion. On the wicked he will rain fiery coals and burning sulfur; a scorching wind will be their lot. For the LORD is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face.



Today's Focus:

Justice

(The Courts and Judges of America)

Justice is defined as “the upholding of what is just, especially fair treatment in accordance with honor, standards, or law.” It is to “treat adequately, fairly, or with full appreciation.” The judicial branch of the government is clearly an influential authority in America. Their decisions touch the life of every citizen and, when functioning properly, help protect individuals from exploitation, settle disputes, and punish criminals who break the law. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you areas in your own nation or community where justice is desperately needed. Pray specifically for areas of the government that you know to be lacking in administering true justice to people. As followers of Jesus we should be model citizens who, “Defend the poor and fatherless; do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy; free them from the hand of the wicked” (Psalm 82:3-4, NKJV). Pray that God will raise up more Christian judges and lawyers in America who are guided by honesty and truth.

Today's Passage:

Proverbs 2:1-9

My son, if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding—indeed, if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding. He holds success in store for the upright, he is a shield to those whose walk is blameless, for he guards the course of the just and protects the way of his faithful ones. Then you will understand what is right and just and fair—every good path.



Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Government

On Day 30 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those aspects of the sphere of “Government” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write down the names of the men or women who serve in the high offices of government that directly represent you at the state or national level. Pray for these people by name. Pray for the President of the United States.

[illegible]

Today's Focus:

Media

(Radio, Television, Print, and Internet)

The impact of all forms of media in the American culture cannot be overemphasized. Whether it is the print media (newspapers and magazines), television, radio, or the rapidly spreading influence of the Internet and all forms of social networking, media should be an object of our daily prayers. This is why you will see this on our daily list for focused prayer as one of the “seven spheres of influence.” Today we will take added time to concentrate our prayers specifically on this vital focus. Pray that God will use publishers of newspapers and magazines as well as Internet websites to report in such a manner that is ethically and morally sound. Ask that God will redeem the media to advance His Kingdom. Claim the same for the television industry. Ask that God will continue to use radio in a significant way to spread the Gospel globally. Especially pray for the growing influence of the Internet and social networking. Pray against the spread of pornography on the Internet and that God will cause those who “surf” the Internet to come upon godly websites that draw them to salvation in Jesus Christ.

Today's Passage:

Ephesians 2:1-7

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus.



Today's Focus:

Social Networking

With the vast change in the way Americans communicate and receive information today, there is a great opportunity for the Church to use social networking for Christ. Pray today that God will give inspiration and new ideas to believers who have influence and skill in social networking. Pray that these ideas will shape the industry and cause its influence to be in the hands of godly leaders. Pray that this medium of communication will be used to spread the name of Jesus and put before people's eyes the truth.

Today's Passages:

Proverbs 2:6

For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.

1 John 5:20

We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.



Today's Focus:

News Media

With the explosion of the Internet in the late 90s and the creation of mobile devices that now allow unlimited access to Internet data and news around the world, Americans literally have endless information at their fingertips. To know what is happening across the globe at the push of a button is now normal to us. However, with the great inundation of information there have also come more opinions, propaganda, and exaggeration in the reporting of news. As believers we have a great responsibility to shape the culture around us and literally change the news that happens around our nation. Pray that the news media will be flooded with the influence of Christ. Pray that broadcasts, reporters, websites, and online reports will be filled with integrity. Pray that believers will seek out useful information in the news that will help them to pray more effectively for the circumstances impacting our nation and our world. Pray that God would give believers discernment as they watch the news and help them to be guided by His Spirit. Pray that the news media will not use fear tactics nor exaggerations in their reporting to gain better ratings or increase their profits. Pray that broadcasters will use their influence with pure motives and not for selfish gain. Pray that all corruption and falsehood would be replaced with the truth and authenticity of Christ.

Today's Passages:

Colossians 3:17

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Hebrews 13:5

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you."



Today's Focus:

Pornography (Sex Trafficking) Industry

The vile and perverted images that fill the worldwide web are grounds for us to shut down the whole system and render it unbeneficial for the consumption of American society. However, the manifestation of pornography and the sex trafficking industry are sad reflections of the desires of the hearts of Americans. The Internet is not bad in and of itself; it is the people who have chosen to pervert this medium that clearly show where the problem lies. Shutting down the system may help temporarily, but it's our hearts and our minds that need healing so that we as a society do not crave and perpetuate these vile practices. Pray for revival in the hearts of Americans. Pray that we will return to our first love and that every power of sexual immorality we have agreed with will be broken as we turn our hearts back to Jesus. Pray that we will no longer prostitute ourselves to practices that steal the innocence of our children, rob our marriages, and give us counterfeit ideas of intimacy. Pray for the Church to rise up and overcome and be a loving witness to the world that these practices will not make their hearts whole. Pray for a great turning of hearts and that every pimp, prostitute, and consumer of this industry will encounter the powerful love of Christ that sets them free. Pray that the framework and ideology that enforces these practices and mindset will be dismantled and replaced with the truth of Christ. Pray for all of the victims of this industry who have been forcefully swept into its chains, that they will be released and healed in the name of Jesus.

Today's Passage:

Psalm 119:37

Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.



DAY 35

Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Media

On Day 35 of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those aspects of the sphere of “Media” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write down the names of people who have broad influence within the realm of the media. Pray for these people by name.

[illegible]

MEDIA

Today's Focus:

Arts and Entertainment

(Influencing the Influencers of All Forms of Entertainment)

Related to the previous focus (the media) are the areas of the arts, entertainment, and sports. Praise God for the growing number of famous entertainers and sports personalities who have professed Christ as Savior. Pray that God will greatly expand their influence. Use today's passages of Scripture to claim God's presence in the entertainment industry and sports arena in our nation. Ask God to raise up more anointed Christian spokespersons (men and women) in all areas of sports and entertainment. Pray also that God will open the eyes of those who are impacted by the entertainment industry (or sports) to recognize when they are being led astray by ungodly influences.

Today's Passage:

Ephesians 4:17-24

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.



Today's Focus:

Professional Sports

God has given us all different talents and gifts. For some of us and for some of our children, professional sports athletes have served or currently serve as role models. Professional sports athletes have a great opportunity to not only serve as positive role models but to make an impact for Christ. Pray today for Christian professional athletes across America. Pray that they will be given boldness to reflect Christ in the culture of sports and serve as positive role models. Pray that their Christ-centered lives will lead fans and teammates to realize the love of Christ and the joy in living life for Him. Pray that the Lord will cause Christian athletes to stand firm in their faith and convictions in spite of negative media or comments by fans or others in social media. Pray for the whole of professional sports, that it will be used as a medium to teach ethics, responsibility, and good values to Americans.

Today's Passages:

Hebrews 12:1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

1 Timothy 4:8

For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come.



Today's Focus:

Movie Industry

Stories have always moved the hearts of Americans. Not only stories, but good stories. We like to see happy endings, stories of redemption, and restoration. Our desire for good stories stems from our one great desire to be a part of God's story. It's the story that we were made to live, and sometimes movies remind us of this story. However, movies also reflect our fallen flesh and our desire for the things of this world. Pray that God will invade the movie industry. Pray that He will send in bold witnesses who will produce films that draw Americans and turn their hearts back to God. Pray that Americans would no longer crave the filth and defilement that fill the industry because of changed hearts. Pray for the production of films that reach audiences who would not otherwise be open to hearing about the story of Jesus. Pray that the profits from godly films would go toward spreading the Good News about Jesus around the world.

Today's Passages:

Titus 2:11-13

For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Colossians 3:5

Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.



Today's Focus:

Art and Music

Pieces of art have always had the power to move our minds and impact our hearts. God Himself made everything that we can see in order to reveal who He is. He crafted the earth and filled it with beauty to show us what He is like. Creation testifies of what God is like. Likewise, God gave us the ability to create music and songs. Today, artists create pieces of art to reflect certain truths, and musicians write songs to gather people around certain ideas. Pray that today God would influence artists to create works of art that reflect His truth. Pray that artists around America would be drawn into a revelation of Jesus and that they would seek ways to share this revelation through art. Pray for musicians and popular music. Pray that it would be flooded with the sounds of heaven and would support the cause of Christ. Pray for musicians to encounter the truth of Jesus that causes them to sing His praises and turn the minds of their listeners to Christ.

Today's Passage:

Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Psalms 105:2

Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.



Today's Focus:

Personal Prayer List for Arts and Entertainment

On the last day of this season of prayer, take special time to pray for those aspects of the sphere of “Arts and Entertainment” that God has specifically impressed on your heart. Take time to write down the names of professional athletes, musicians, or movie stars who may need to know Jesus. Pray for these people by name. Also, if you know any Christians who have influence in this sphere, write down their names as well and pray for them by name.

[illegible]

JOIN A WALL OF PRAYER FOR AMERICA

A “Wall of Prayer” consists of all the hours in a week (24/7—168 hours) covered by participating intercessors praying for common goals, such as revival and spiritual awakening in our nation and world evangelization. We invite you to consider two objectives in helping establish continuing Walls of Prayer for our nation (and the world):



1. Devote one hour per week (or even one hour per day) to be a part of a Wall of Prayer for our nation.

*Visit **www.ehc.org/prayer** to register and to receive daily prayer targets to help you participate in a Prayer Watch for America.*

*2. Consider organizing a complete Wall of Prayer for your church, community, or prayer network. Visit **www.ehc.org/prayer** to organize and register your very own wall of prayer.*

FREE UNITED STATES PRAYER MAP

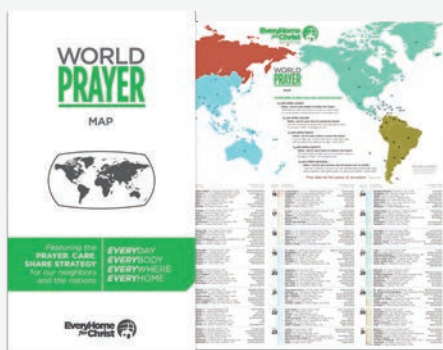
This prayer map features all 50 states of the United States broken down into a 31-day prayer calendar. The map shows the physical location of every state and provides up-to-date information on state leaders and population figures. Request your free United States Prayer Map today.



How to get your free map:

Call 1-800-944-4693 or visit **www.ehc.org/map** (U.S. addresses only, limit one per individual)

MORE FREE PRAYER RESOURCES



Now that you have a United States Prayer Map, get your free World Prayer Map! Every Home for Christ's World Prayer Map helps you focus your prayers on a different region of the world every day of the week, providing you with general information on the region, photos, and specific prayer points.



Taken from Dick Eastman's classic book, The Hour That Changes the World, this Prayer Break series explores a set of five-minute, powerful teachings that will help energize and strengthen your prayer life! You will also learn steps to cultivating delight through practical prayer in your personal times with the Lord.

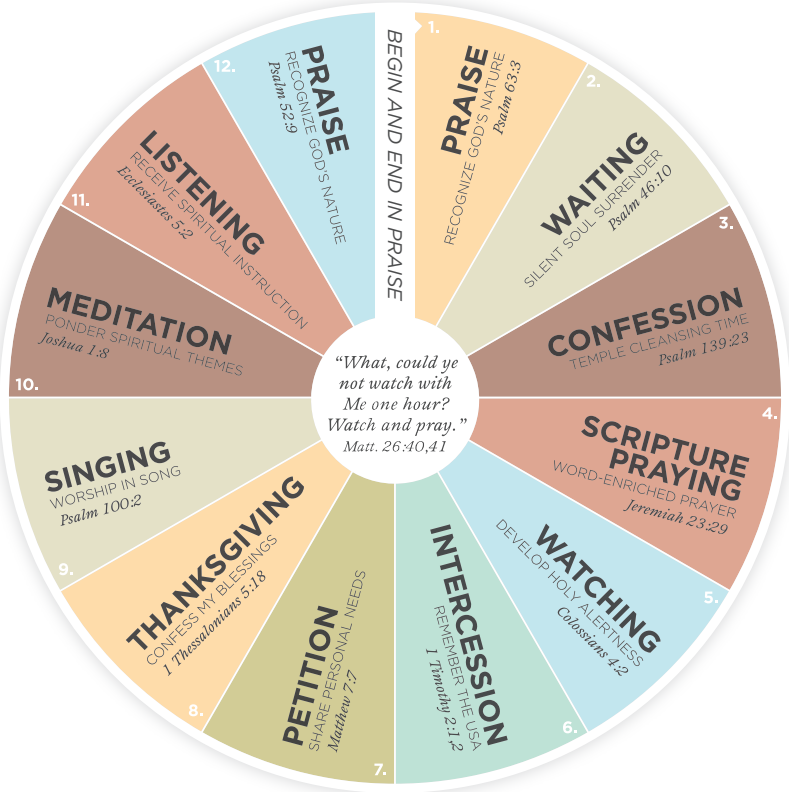


A resource that gives you access to prayer requests straight from the front lines of the global evangelism movement. Prayer requests from real-life pioneer missionaries ministering in some of the hardest and darkest places on earth are displayed every 60 seconds. As you lift these requests before the Lord, be a part of seeing the Gospel spread! Join the movement to pray for the fulfillment of the Great Commission!

www.ehc.org/prayer

THE HOUR THAT CHANGES THE WORLD

By dividing an hour into 12, five-minute segments, you can pray daily for one full hour. Use this model to sustain prayer for the USA, the people in your personal sphere, and your own life. Then watch God work!



1. **PRAISE** Recognize God's Nature (Ps. 63:3)
2. **WAITING** Silent Soul Surrender (Ps. 46:10)
3. **CONFESSION** Temple Cleansing Time (Ps. 139:23)
4. **SCRIPTURE PRAYING** Word-Enriched Prayer (Jer. 23:29)
5. **WATCHING** Develop Holy Alertness (Col. 4:2)
6. **INTERCESSION** Remember the USA (1 Tim. 2:1,2)
7. **PETITION** Share Personal Needs (Matt. 7:7)
8. **THANKSGIVING** Confess My Blessings (1 Thess. 5:18)
9. **SINGING** Worship in Song (Ps. 100:2)
10. **MEDITATION** Ponder Spiritual Themes (Josh. 1:8)
11. **LISTENING** Receive Spiritual Instruction (Eccl. 5:2)
12. **PRAISE** Recognize God's Nature (Ps. 52:9)



An Initiative to Reach Every Home in America

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to get your church involved, visit
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