

31 Days of Prayer for My Nation

DAY ONE (FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022)

WHY PRAY FOR MY NATION?

*Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit
Binding yourselves together with peace.*

Ephesians 4:3

Unity is our only hope for all that divides us, Jesus prayed, “I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me” (John 17:21).

- Lord, regardless of our own preferences or traditions, draw each of your followers together as a witness of Jesus to the entire world.
- Father use your church to serve as the unifying body of people in our nation.
- Holy Spirit, wake up your church to spiritual revival, experiencing the manifest presence of God as a people.

Our leaders must turn toward His Word and will: “The king’s heart is like a stream of water directed by the Lord. He guides it wherever he pleases” (Proverbs 21:1).

- Lord Jesus, we ask you to turn the heart of our president, vice president, and both houses of Congress towards You.
- Father, we ask you to inspire and lead the hearts of our political leaders to come together for the good of our nation.
- Holy Spirit, we ask you to place God’s armor upon each of our leaders, protecting them and their families in every way.

The truth is that the next great spiritual awakening can usher in the fulfillment of the Great Commission. This is why Paul reminds, “This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is, time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed” (Romans 13:11).

- Father, we ask that your sovereign will be for the next great spiritual awakening to occur in our generation.
- Lord Jesus, because of your grace pour out your powers upon our nation, bringing forth a spiritual awakening that will result in millions coming to faith in Jesus Christ.
- Holy Spirit, move your church to pray extraordinarily until we see the next great spiritual awakening in our generation.

DAY TWO (SATURDAY, JULY 2, 2022)

WHAT TO PRAY FOR MY NATION

*Our God can do anything, anytime, anywhere, with anyone.
God can do more in a moment than you could ever do in a lifetime.*

THREE PRAYER PRIORITIES FOR UNITY

Whether you pray daily or weekly for our nation, please join in praying with the authority of the Scriptures for these three priorities for our nation.

PRAY FOR UNITY IN OUR NATION

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
(Ephesians 4:3 NIV)

- Father in heaven, you are the only one who can bring unity, harmony, and oneness in our nation. We pray and ask you for unity in our nation.
- Lord, call the churches of our nation to live in unity within their own church and in unity with churches that are biblically based and Jesus-centered.
- Jesus as your church walks in unity, harmony, and oneness, may your church personify, lead, and call our nation to unity.
- Lord Jesus Christ, in this crisis moment in our nation, it is incumbent upon each of us to come together for the sake of the gospel, the testimony of the gospel, and the global advancement of the gospel; consequently, God, may we *make every* effort to unite in prayer and pursuit of your purpose for this nation.
- Father, while our nation is filled with so many challenges and divisions abound, use each of us to unify our families, our churches, our workplaces, and our communities.

TRUST GOD TO LEAD OUR NATION THROUGH THESE CRITICAL TIMES OF DECISION-MAKING.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

- Lord, we trust you to convict our nation’s leaders of your desire for them to work together in unity for the well-being of our nation.
- Sovereign Lord we appeal to you alone to give our nation a future and a hope.
- Spirit of God, move upon the leaders of our nation to work together toward resolving the following issues for the welfare of our nation; Greed/monopoly, gun control and violence, the institution of poverty, fair taxation, credible health care for all, terrorism (at home and abroad), respect for all of God’s manifestations/creations, and to extend hospitality to strangers amongst us.
- Lord and Defender, we appeal to you to protect the leaders of our nation and their families, as well as the members of our military worldwide, all civil servants and marketplace employees in our nation that work for the common good. We pray for your justice and mercy to people that are wrongfully incarcerated and for those who experience abuses.

BELIEVE GOD FOR HIS SUPERNATURAL INTERVENTION IN OUR NATION ON THIS DAY.

In those days when you pray, I will listen. If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. (Jeremiah 29: 12-13)

- Lord on this day when your people gather in numerous settings, please listen to our prayers as we seek you with all our hearts.
- Father in these most critical moments in our generation, please call leaders of denominations, churches, government, education, business, cities, and all communities in our nation to create numerous gatherings that will saturate their communities in prayer for unity in our nation.

DAY THREE (SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2022)

HOW TO PRAY FOR MY NATION

“I looked for someone who might rebuild the wall...to stand in the gap...so I shouldn't have to destroy the land, but I found no one.” (Ezekiel 22:30)

It is the people in God's house who hold the future of our nation, not government leaders. We are called to pray for those in authority but not to depend upon them for the healing of our nation.

God has been filled with grace and mercy toward a nation characterized by a lack of biblical truth. Believers *know* the truth, but it does no good if that truth doesn't live fully within them and if it is not expressed in their everyday lives. Crisis in our nation will not be averted through an election but only because the people, who are called by His name, have humbled themselves and prayed, sought His face, and turned from their wicked ways (see 2 Chronicles 7:14).

If our dependence is on God, then we will continue to seek Him on behalf of our nation despite any election results. Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your laws, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive, us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen (*The United Methodist Hymnal*, Lord and Table Service, page 8).

But God

If we, who are His people and who are called by His name, will truly humble ourselves and pray, seek his face, and turn from our wicked ways, then He will hear from heaven, forgive our sins, and heal our land. What an incredible promise that has been left unclaimed in this generation.

It's time to blow the trumpet and sound the alarm (see Joel 2). Believers must not stop seeking the face of God until revival is poured out upon a repentant people and His kingdom is unmistakably established within our nation once again.

The future of our nation is teetering on a precipice, and our response to this perilous moment in history will reveal the true condition of our hearts. May our God find us faithfully about the work of earnest and focused

intercession so that He will hear the prayers from His humble, broken people, pour out His merciful forgiveness, and heal our land.

DAY FOUR (MONDAY, JULY 4, 2022)

OUR NATION IS BROKEN

“ . . . A humble attempt to promote explicit agreement and visible union of God’s people in extraordinary prayer for the revival of religion and the advancement of Christ’s kingdom on Earth....” Jonathan Edwards

Prayer is imperative because our nation is broken. Division is undeniable and unity is missing. “The covers of hatred, prejudices and isms [authoritarianism, elitism, fascism, racism, sexism, etc.] are pulled back, propaganda and alternative facts thrive when truth is optional but pollutes our hearing and judgment; exploitations are applauded, and wrongs are called rights” (EAM). Reconciliations appear impossible. Governments cannot fix us. Politics will not heal us. We need God now more than at any time in our generation.

It is prayer that precedes and forwards the advancement of the gospel. It is prayer that precedes any great movement of God. In fact, it is prayer that will precede the revival of the church and the next great spiritual awakening. In this desperate and urgent hour, when turmoil and division are evident in our nation and security threats are very real, it is imperative that God’s children agree and mobilize in prayer for our nation.

Paul writes, “Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace” (Ephesians 4:3 NIV). The present spiritual crisis is calling us to pray for and take all the necessary actions to come together as a nation. God is the only one who can bring unity, harmony, and oneness to our country; therefore, we look only to Him in prayer.

Call upon God to empower us to make every effort to live in unity, call for unity, and to promote unity in our nation continually from shore to shore.

THANKS

- ***Give thanks to the Father:*** Father we have been abundantly blessed by your hand upon our nation, I rejoice and give thanks for the divine favor and protection that you have provided

CONFESSION

- ***Listen for the Holy Spirit’s prompting for confession:*** Forgive us that we have too often received your grace and favor in vain. We repent of looking for manmade solutions to struggles that need your divine touch. Turn our eyes and hearts back to you, beginning with me.

PETITION

- ***Join Jesus in prayers of petitions:*** Continue to pour out your grace; hold back your judgment as you unite your people in prevailing prayer for revival in your church and spiritual awakening in the nation.

WORD

- **Proclaim promises from His Word:** Open eyes to see and hearts to embrace that “God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance” (Romans 2:4 NIV).

ENGAGE

- **Engage with other followers of the way in a lifestyle of prayer:** Become actively involved in the ministries of the Upper Room Prayer Center, an intercessory prayer ministry hosted by Christian volunteers.
- Email: prayer@upperroom.org
- Web: prayer-center.upperroom.org/
- Phone: 1-877-899-2780, ext. 7215
- Fax: 615-340-7523

DAY FIVE (TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2022)

WHY UNITY MATTERS

The Heart of Jesus

*We are on the precipice of either experiencing awakening
or falling into the abyss.*

In one of the few recorded prayers we have of Jesus, He prayed specifically for unity of His future followers: “I pray that they will all be one ...” (John 17:21). Why did He want that? He went on to pray, “May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me” (John 17:23).

First Timothy 2:1-4 indicates that God’s desire is for all people to be saved. And that happens best—according to scripture—when His people are in unity, working, fellowshiping, and praying together.

Looking historically at revival and spiritual awakening in the United States, we find that a key element that launched those moves of God was unity. Churches started praying together, seeking God for their communities and nation. In the prayer meeting revival of the late 1850s, believers from many different churches started meeting in noontime prayer meetings across cities, not caring about the “tribes” with which they shouldn’t mingle. That had a common goal and vision.

God is at work to tear down those walls that divide the denominational (and nondenominational) thrives for the sake of the gospel. Pastors need to be less concerned about what intermingling might do to theological purity and be more concerned with what unity will do for the sake of lost souls.

THANKS

- **Give thanks to the Father:** I praise and thank you, Lord Jesus, that in you “we are many parts of one body and we all belong to each other” (Romans 12:5).

CONFESSION

- ***Listen for the Holy Spirit's prompting for confession:*** Forgive me, Lord for not crossing barriers to love beyond my comfort zone; extend your life and love through me to those unlike me.

PETITION

- ***Join Jesus in prayers of petition:*** Father God, help us to keep our focus on eternal priorities, that in them we might “all agree and that there be no divisions among [us]” (1 Corinthians 1:10 NASB).

WORD

- ***Proclaim promises from His Word:*** Holy Spirit make my life an answer to the high-priestly prayer of Jesus: “Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are” (John 17:11).

ENGAGE

- ***Engage with other people of faith in a lifestyle of prayer.***

DAY SIX (WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2022)

BE THE ANSWER

Unity of Faith and Works

Our nation is facing a spiritual crisis

The moment you separate body and spirit, the result is a corpse. Separate faith and works, and you get the same thing—a corpse. When there is a seamless unity of “believing and doing,” we are exercising faith as God intends.

Much joy comes in our prayers as we listen to God’s urging to “be the answer,” trusting Him to show us how to meet the needs of those for whom we pray. At times, we may be a source of financial provision. This may be as simple as bringing a meal that’s needed, offering words of encouragement, or going to the hospital to pray while someone is having surgery.

Our praying for others is vital and important; however, if we don’t pair this with listening and responding to the voice of the Father, urging us to become the answer to the prayers, then we are only going halfway in our faith. When the burden is placed upon you to pray, God often will also give you a burden to respond. What a privilege that God chooses to work through His people to be the answer to their own prayers. When we respond in obedience, we learn what it truly means to be part of the body of Christ Jesus, and that is life-changing and culture-transforming.

THANKS

- ***Give thanks to the Father:*** Thank you, Father, for the privilege to collaborate with you on behalf of the gospel as you unite my prayer and walk.

CONFESSION

- ***Listen for the Holy Spirit's prompting for confession:*** We have often been prayer-less in the face of crisis; forgive us. I have, sadly, at times, only prayed while looking for others to fulfill my prayers; forgive me.

WORD

- ***Proclaim promises from His Word:*** Lord Jesus, may my prayerful walk with you be consistent with your Word as “a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path” (Psalm 119:105).

ENGAGE

- **Engage with other people of faith in a lifestyle of prayer.**

DAY SEVEN (THURSDAY, JULY 7, 2022)

EXTRAORDINARY UNITED PRAYER

*How good and pleasant it is
when God's people live together in unity!*

Psalm 133:1 NIV

Have you ever wondered what makes the difference between a spotlight and a laser? How can a moderate laser burn through heavy metal in a matter of seconds, while the most powerful spotlight only makes it warm? Both may have similar electrical power, but the difference is in unity. All the laser photons (light beams) are in unison, and the spotlight photons move in all different directions.

In Scripture, we see both negative and positive examples of the power of unity. In Genesis 11, for example, when the whole world had one language and a common speech, they devised a plan to build for themselves a city with a tower reaching to the sky. The problem seems to be found in their motivation: “This will make us famous and keep us from being scattered all over the world” (Genesis 11:4).

This drew the Lord's attention. “Look!” he said. “The people are united, and they all speak the same language. After this, nothing they set out to do will be impossible for them!” (Genesis 11:6). Of course, the result was a confusing of their language and a scattering of the people, thus stopping the building of the city.

Conversely, in Acts 2, on the day of Pentecost, when believers were all with one mind in the same place, they experienced a powerful visitation and infilling of the Holy Spirit (see Acts 2:1-4). This unifying force began to remove language, cultural, and national barriers, resulting in the salvation of three thousand souls. The synergy of their Spirit-empowered prayers created an extraordinary unity described in this way:

And day by day, continuing steadfastly with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread at home, they took their food with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people.

And the Lord added to them day by day those that were saved. (Acts 2:46-47 ASV)

Drawing from both physical and spiritual illustrations, can you imagine what will transpire in our nation when God's people gather together in extraordinary united prayer? With laser-focused prayers, putting aside cultural, denominational, racial, generational, gender, and any other biases, we can ask God for Christ awakening in our nation, and nothing will be impossible or withheld.

THANKS

- ***Give thanks to the Father:*** Father, we are grateful for the blessings you give those who walk in unity of spirit and purpose to glorify your name.

CONFESSION

- ***Listen for the Holy Spirit's prompting for confession:*** Forgive us that we have too often pursued those things which will make us renowned or favored in the public eye, and this has often divided and separated us from one another. Help us to remember Paul's encouragement to "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 interest of the others' (Philippians 2:3-4 NIV).

PETITION

- ***Join Jesus in prayers of petition:*** Help your people to live in such a way that we sense you saying, "This is good and pleasant," and experience the anointed power of prayer that comes when we are in unity, desiring to please you above all others, even ourselves.

WORD

- ***Proclaim promises from His Word:*** Father, as we walk in a love relationship with you and one another, we believe and proclaim that we will experience the answer to Christ's prayer: "May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me" (John 17:23).

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