



Prayer Guide

The Week of November 1, 2020

Intro Questions

- Have you been tempted to check on your neighbor's voting status?
- Why should we pray for elections?
- Why do you think Christians can be complacent when it come to politics and voting?

Why Prayer?

- Read 1 Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. This is good, and it pleases God our Savior, who wants everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

In Paul's teaching on prayer in 1 Timothy 2:1–4, one of the major thrusts is praying for those in authority. According to Paul's reasoning, we want good government that allows us to live "peaceful and quiet lives"—ultimately freeing us to evangelize those who are lost.

Paul would have been amazed that Christians could someday actually take part in selecting those leaders. I believe he would have been even more amazed (and appalled) that many of those Christians didn't even bother to get involved in selecting those leaders for the purposes of God to be fulfilled.

Praying for the electoral process is the first step in seeing the fulfillment of what Paul is writing about to Timothy. I don't believe we should wait for a leader to be selected before we move into obedient prayer for those in authority. In prayer, we invite the Lord into the process of electing those leaders who will ultimately allow us to lead "peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

So why pray for the elections? There are a number of compelling reasons:

- The Bible commands us to pray for those who are in leadership, which would include those who are vying to become leaders.
- Godly leaders can help slow the erosion of religious liberties in our land, providing an increased window of opportunity for the Church to pray and evangelize.

- The selection of leaders who understand and lead according to God's righteous standards can bring great blessing to a nation (Prov. 14:34).
- Scripture also says, "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers" (Prov. 11:14). The determination of who leads our nation will also determine who advises that leader and how we are guided.

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Our Nation & The Issues It Faces

- Read John 8:32
Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
 - Pray for truth to become valued again in American society.
- Read Isaiah 53:6
We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
 - Repent on behalf of our nation, because we have turned from making Scripture the basis of law, leaving behind wisdom and instead, looking to ourselves for truth.
- Read Jeremiah 29:13
"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."
 - Ask the Lord to pour out a spirit of repentance on our nation, that we might become a nation committed to following His ways.

The Election Process

- Read Isaiah 28:17
I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the plumb line; hail will sweep away your refuge, the lie, and water will overflow your hiding place.
 - Ask the Lord to remove those who might try to unjustly and illegally change the outcome of the voting.

Candidates & Leaders

- Read James 3:16
For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.
 - Pray for the salvation of those who are in leadership of our nation. Ask the Lord to remove all envy and selfish ambition.

- Read Isaiah 7:9
...if you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all.
 - Pray that candidates will take brave stands for righteousness, even when it may not be well received.
- Read Psalm 12:78
You, Lord, will keep the needy safe and will protect us forever from the wicked, who freely strut about when what is vile is honored by the human race.
 - Pray that their families will be protected from harm and unnecessary scrutiny.
- Read Psalm 111:10
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.
 - Ask the Lord to surround them with godly advisors.
- Read Galatians 5:15
If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.
 - Pray that each candidate will focus on the issues we face as a nation—and not on personal attacks on other candidates.

The Church

- Read Ephesians 6:19
Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.
 - Ask the Lord to equip Celebration to rise up with a strong, biblical voice for America.

The Media

- Proverbs 22:21
...teaching you to be honest and to speak the truth, so that you bring back truthful reports to those you serve?
 - Pray for truth to be an established standard in our news media. “In your majesty ride forth victoriously in the cause of truth, humility and justice; let your right hand achieve awesome deeds”

Spiritual Warfare

- Read 1 Peter 5:8-9

Be serious! Be alert! Your adversary the Devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for anyone he can devour. Resist him and be firm in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being experienced by your fellow believers throughout the world.

- “The strife and unrest in our nation is not by accident. There is no doubt that the enemy, Satan, is throwing an all-out offensive against this nation. His primary target is the church. While he would love to destroy this nation, he is wreaking havoc in order to hinder, hurt, and cripple the church. The church of Jesus Christ must stand firm. We must seek God to help us in this war. ” (*The Prayer Closet Ministry Newsletter, September/October 2020*)
- I pray that believers of Celebration Baptist Church will trust Christ and His victory over Satan and his demons. I plead that they will trust Christ for victory in their temptations and battles. Deliver us from doubt and help us to walk by faith and not by sight.

Revival

- Read Isaiah 64:1-4

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

- Ask the Lord to bring revival to the Church in America.

Going Deeper

This prayer guide is adapted from the Revive Our Hearts Blog Post
“How to Pray for the Upcoming Election”

<https://www.reviveourhearts.com/articles/how-pray-upcoming-election/>

The Prayer Closet Newsletter-

<http://prayerclosetministries.org/assets/newsletters/JulyAug2020.pdf>