

How to Pray for Our Nation

In his first epistle to Timothy, Paul wrote, "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour" (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

To Titus, the apostle wrote, "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1). It is God's will for Christians to be good citizens. We are to obey the laws of the land. We are to respect those in public office. And we are to pray for government officials. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God.

When you pray, pray for . . .

1. The president or prime minister, his cabinet members, and his advisors.

*Pray that he would have the moral and political courage to do what is best for the nation.

*Pray that he would set high moral and ethical standards of conduct for himself and those associated with him, setting an example for other world leaders to follow.

*Pray that he would surround himself with people of integrity and godly wisdom.

*Pray that he would have a "Daniel" to reveal the things of God to him.

2. The Supreme Court.

As the small rudder of a large ship determines its direction, the decisions of the men and women of the Supreme Court affect the course of North American society.

*Pray that the justices would be just and upright in their decisions.

*Pray that the Holy Spirit would give them wisdom and insight.

*Pray that men and women of high moral character and sharp, legal minds would be added to the bench as the older justices are replaced.

3. For Congress or Parliament.

Members of Congress or Parliament establish the laws that govern our nation.

*Pray for people of integrity and moral character to be elected to these chambers.

*Pray that they would have strength to withstand political corruption.

*Pray that they would have vision and wisdom to pass the laws to promote domestic tranquility while keeping the nation safe internationally.

4. For the governor or premier and state or provincial officials.

*Pray that the governor or premier and state or provincial officials would see what is best for the state or province and not what is just politically expedient to satisfy lobbyists.

*Pray that they would be of high moral character, sensitive to divine leadership, and strong enough to resist, political corruption.

5. County commissioners, mayor, and city council.

The mayor, council members, and commissioners are our neighbors and reside in our communities.

*Pray that they would seek the good of the city and county and not just their own.

*Pray that they would be men and women of morality and integrity, with strength of character.

*Pray that would promote peace and tranquility in the communities.

*Pray that they would help establish an environment that helps the church to fulfill its commission.

*Pray that the city or county's laws and ordinances would not hinder the growth of the church as it seeks to reach out to the lost and to build new facilities.

6. Civil service personnel that protect and service our communities.

Police officers, fire fighters, sanitation workers, hospital workers, and other such men and women help to make our communities safe and comfortable places to live.

*Pray that God would protect them and keep them safe and that we all may live in security and peace.

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