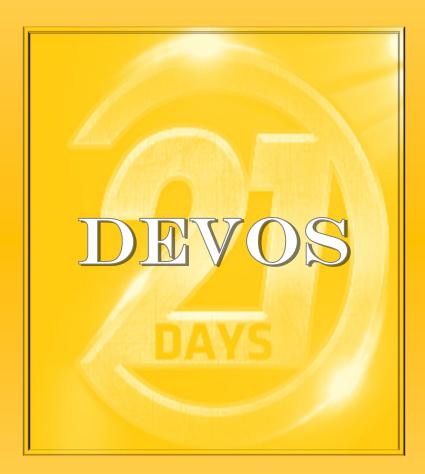
PRAYER & FASTING



Redeeming Love Family Church* 4525 Campground Road, Fayetteville, NC 28314





Blessings,

Let the Redeemed of the Lord say so! We are eternally grateful and excited you have set your heart to participate in this extended time of prayer and fasting. This season of consecration gives us the powerful opportunity to say so on so many levels. Indeed there is a language of praise, adoration, submission, humility, prayer and power for the Redeemed. Our hope is that this time of consecration will refresh us personally but also our church as we seek His blessing and revival for our nation and the world. As we allow the Lord to ignite us on the first day of our time of Consecration, know that He is pleased and stands ready to elevate us personally and collectively to a new dimension in Him.

21 Days Ablaze was intentionally designed to be flexible so no matter where you are or what level you are on, you can participate with a holy ease. Whether you have done a 21-day season of prayer and fasting before, or if this is your first time, you can start where you are and experience all God has in store for you in a powerful way. Daily devotions, scripture reading and even some guiding prayers are available throughout this season. Please commit to reading them each day.

Remember, fasting does not twist God's arm to move on our behalf, He already wants to move. It simply places us in a position to hear from Him more keenly, attune our hearts to His will and thereby producing a connection/power that we would not realize otherwise. Luke 12:32 reminds us "it is the Father's good pleasure to give us the Kingdom." We pray that you will experience the presence and power of God in an extraordinary way as you commit yourself to Him over the next 21 days. May the fire of God and the wind of the Holy Spirit draw you be closer to God than ever before as you seek Him first.

As you prepare for the next 21 days, we encourage you to think personally about why you are fasting. Is it for spiritual renewal, for guidance, for healing, for the resolution of problems, for special grace to handle a difficult situation, or for a major decision? Ask the Holy Spirit to clarify His leading and objectives for your fast. This will enable you to pray more specifically and strategically. Think about the top two or three most pressing issues on your heart and zone in on those with God. Write these down in your prayer journal, and be open to hearing what God wants to show you in those areas. When praying, make your primary goal to know Jesus more and experience Him. Focus first on Him, such as His goodness and His greatness, and see everything else through that wonderful filter. Remember you are in His hands.

Be sure to connect with RLFC or your Church to come into agreement for the prayer petitions of the ministry. Finally, make time to pray daily. Don't over complicate this! Just talk to God. Have that place and time where you can seek Him every day. If you don't plan to pray, more than likely, you won't. While prayer does take commitment and can require discipline to develop into a daily habit, we also want to remember that it's a "get to" not a "got to." It's a privilege to be able to come to God in this manner.

Praying expectantly with you, Pastor Tony & Louisa McKinney & The Leadership of Redeeming Love Family Church



THE PLAN

Review the 2019 Fasting /Prayer Packet Pray ~ Commit to specific times of prayer each day.

<u>Select</u> the type of Fast and duration each day. (See our 21 Days Ablaze Packet)

<u>Keep a journal</u> ~ Use a dedicated journal or notebook to record your prayers & what the Sprit speaks to you during this time.

<u>Prayer Teams</u> ~ Select one our of the 5 Teams with the prayer focus the Lord has laid most on your heart (See the RLFC Prayer Team Listing). Each Team has a Prayer Leader and will have about 20 minutes each Wednesday to pray together.

<u>Prayer Group</u> ~ If you have Facebook, you can be invited to join our NEW interactive Prayer Group where its all about prayer. We receive and answer request to Prayer, post words of encouragement & testimonials.

<u>SERVICES:</u> Make it a point to come out each service. Communion will be available Sundays, Wednesdays & Saturdays

Sundays at 11am~Worship Celebration
Pastor Ministering on Prayer & Fasting

Wednesdays at 7pm ~ Word Explosion ~ Prayer (Prayer Teams) & Flames of Fire ~ at least 2 Speakers each evening:

October 9th: Min. Margie Snow & Elder Treva Bentley

October 16th: Min. Deborah Dillard, Min. Elondia Wilkinson & Sis. Macey Wright

October 23rd: Min Jeffrey Bentley & Min. Talesha Williams

<u>Saturdays at 9am Corporate Prayer (Prayer Teams):</u>

Oct 5th:RELENTLESS PRAYER TEAM & RESTORATION PRAYER TEAM

(Leaders: Min. Talesha Williams & Min. Erica Todd)

Oct 12th: RELIEF PRAYER TEAM & RECOVERY PRAYER TEAM (Leaders: Reginald & Sharon Howard & Elder Vanessa Hamilton)

Oct 19th: REDEMPTION PRAYER TEAM

(Min. Mary Murphy)



WHAT TO FAST FROM
Food
Media
That one thing you can't live without

WHAT / WHO TO PRAY FOR

Week 1

Pray for....

Singles, Families, Marriage & Relationships, Personal Finance,
Specific needs for your life and family
Hopes, dreams & goals
To clearly hear God's voice in your life & to fulfill His purpose for your life.

Week 2
Pray for...
Those in Authority (World Leaders,
Governments, 1st Responders,
The Military
Healing (Physical, Mental /Emotional)
Addictions—Freedom & deliverance from

Pray for...
The Lost (Unsaved, Unchurched,
Out of Church, backslidden),
The Body of Christ (Churches, Ministries,
Missionaries) & Revival or Awakening
Generosity to further God's Kingdom

Our Church Our Pastors Our Leaders Our Youth All Members

habits & hang-ups

Week 3



DEVO

Day 1. Tune In

John 10:22-30: Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

Have you ever tried to tune to a radio station only to be frustrated by finding static rather than music? You then focus to fine tune the dial again, and suddenly you hear a clear signal. The fact is, the signal always existed on the airwaves; the only difference is that now you have adjusted your tuner to the right frequency. In our hectic lives, there are so many signals bombarding our senses that it can become difficult to distinguish God's voice from the deafening "static noise" of life. Fasting enables us to tune out the world's distractions and tune in to God. As we fast, we deny our flesh. When we deny our flesh, we become more in tune to the Holy Spirit and can hear God's voice more clearly. If you still yourself to listen for God's voice, you will hear Him and faith will build within you. If you desire to tune out the static of life and really tune into the voice of God, come to Him first and foremost with ears that are willing to listen and a heart that is ready to obey what he says. (Psalm 34:18, Isaiah 66:2) The more we practice being in His presence, the clearer and more recognizable His voice becomes.

Journal Time:

- In this time of fasting, what is your mind tuned to? _____
- What distractions do you need to remove so that you can focus on God? _______
- Prepare your heart to hear the voice of God, and ask God to help you remove distractions that keep you from focusing on Him and hearing Him clearly.

PRAYER: Lord, we thank you that you help us to tune in to You. As distractions and temptations try to come, we trust you to give us abounding strength to turn to You. We know the Holy Spirit will teach us and give us eyes to see and ears to hear Your voice. We praise you for opening our hearts to Your Word. As challenges pop up in the days ahead, we know already that you've given us what we need to remain humble and honor you with a heart of integrity. We thank you in advance that you help us take time to spend time with You in secret, to trust in Your Word. You are the potter. We are the clay. Mold us and make us according to Your will. Thank You for being a God who I can trust. You are so faithful to me. I am Yours. In the mighty name of Jesus, Amen & Amen!

#21DaysAblaze

#TuneIntoHim

#YoureInHisHands

#EliminatingDistractions



DEVO

Day 2 - SEEK

The Bible tells us in Isaiah 55:6-7

"Seek the LORD while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way an and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

The Bible says the greatest treasure to be found is not silver or gold, but the Lord. Silver and gold, rings and other treasures, will never truly satisfy us, and they will all one day perish. But the treasure we have in God will truly meet the deepest needs of our souls, and it is eternal. But what does it really mean to "seek the Lord"? This verse tells us something about that. The Hebrew word here for "seek" is "darash", it means to "seek", or to read something repeatedly and study. A related word in the ancient world means to "beat a path" around something, because you are repeatedly going to it. That tells us something about what it means to "seek the Lord." To really "seek" God means more than just going to church once or twice. It means you "beat a path" there, seeking Him. It also means that you "study" His word — not flipping open your Bible once or twice, but really "wearing a path" in it.

God's call to revival throughout the Bible is to return to HIM personally:

- He said in Nehemiah 1:9, "Return to ME"
- He said in Isaiah 44:22, "Return to ME"
- He said in Jeremiah 4:1, "Return to ME"
- He said in Joel 2:12, "Return to ME with all your heart"!

Throughout scripture, God commands His people who are seeking Him to return to HIM, personally: not just to "church", not just to "religion", not just to "good habits", but to HIM personally! Our Pastor beautifully expounded on this recently. So, when you are seeking God, make sure that what you are really seeking is HIM personally, and not other substitutes for Him. NOTICE something very important. There are a couple of important phrases here:

- it says seek the Lord "while He may be found";
- it says call upon Him "while He is near."

In other words, it is extremely presumptuous that we can come... that we will have the will to come later... that we can just "pick" when we want to come back to God, at our "leisure." If God is speaking to your heart today, and calling you to return to Him, and seek Him, then you need to respond now. That kind of conviction is a mark of God's grace and working in your life, and you must never take that for granted. You can't be sure it will continue if you continually put Him off. That's why II Corinthians 6:2 says "NOW is the acceptable time; NOW is the day of salvation." That's why Hebrews 3:15 says: "Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart."

Journal Time:	
What time is God impressing of me to set aside to seek HIM?	
What are the parameters of my Fast during this 21 Days Ablaze?	

Prayer: Lord we declare, we seek You and You alone.... No substitutions for you, We praise you for every tool and every resource, but God you are the SOURCE. We look unto You the Author and Finisher of our faith. We thank you that in the 21 Days we set a well worn path ablaze with your presence. We humble ourselves to pursue you as never before. We make a commitment to seek You in prayer every day, and to be more aware of your presence throughout the day. We seek You Lord, in quality and quantity of devotion. We seek you on behalf of ourselves, our families, our nation and the world. Revive us. Ignite us. Renew us. Consume us Lord.

21DaysAblaze #HelsTheTreasure #PurposePassionPrecision #NowIsTheTIme #ItOurTime #InHisHandsDay2





DAY 3 Declare

"Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has delivered from the hand of the adversary." (Psalm 107:2, AMPC)

Notice that the scripture doesn't say, "Let the redeemed of the Lord think so." Or, "Let the redeemed believe so." Of course, it's important to think right and believe right, but something supernatural happens when we open our mouths and declare a thing. You don't even have to say it to anyone else, you can just say it to yourself—driving to work or in the shower—you can say, "The economy may be low, but I am blessed. I am prosperous. I will lend and not borrow." "I may have had some setbacks, but I know those setbacks are a setup for a comeback! This is still going to be my best year so far. The favor of God is turning things around." You are prophesying your future.

Remember, when you say what the Lord has done for you, when you declare that you are redeemed, you are opening the door for God to move on your behalf. The scripture tells us that He watches over His Word to perform it. When you declare His Word, when you speak His promises, He is faithful to fulfill them and lead you into victory all the days of your life!

By: Elder Alton Allen

By: Elder Alton Allen
Journal Time:
What are you declaring over your life?
Declaration:
Father in the name of Jesus, we confess the Word of God dwells in us richly. Your Word shall not depart from out of our mouths We mediate in your Word day and night. We diligently act on your Word; therefore, we are prosperous and have good success We exalt and esteem your Word. We give the Word first place in our lives. We make our schedule around Your Word! Your Word is truth and forever settled in Heaven; therefore, we establish Your Word upon this Earth. Your Word is a lamp to our feet and light to our path. It is quick and powerful and sharper than a two-edged sword. We have hidden Your Word in our hearts that we might not sin against You. We plant the Incorruptible Seed of Your Word in our hearts. It is abiding in our spirits, growing in us mightly, and producing Your nature in our lives. In the name of Jesus, I confess that I walk by faith and not by sight. I am strong and mature in my faith and I practice it daily. hear God clearly and I continually speak His Word over my life. I confess that I am growing spiritually. Signs, wonders, and miracles are manifested through my life and I attract others to Christ. I confess that I am anointed and by the anointing on my life every yoke is broken and is destroyed; every burden is lifted. My God supplies all of my needs according to His riches in glory i Christ Jesus. By His stripes, I am healed and I walk in divine health. The favor of God is on my life and everything that I put m hands unto is blessed. The blessing of God is on my life and it causes me to be fruitful and to multiply. I fear not. For God is on m side. I walk in the wisdom of God and have His knowledge of every situation that I come up against. I greet each day with great anticipation of the good things God has prepared for me.
Notes:





Day 4 - Control

2 Peter 1:3-8

"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness. Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

"Watch what or who has control in your life. Influencing factors are all around. Watch what or who has button-pushing authority in your life. Who or what can influence you. Do you have your Godly principals, morals and standards in the right place? Understanding how control can control you, is the key to understanding what you stand for. 1 Thessalonians 4:7, no holiness, no control." The following is an excerpt from "One Word Believe" Devotional & Prayer Journal (pg. 96), written by Vanessa Hamilton.

All of us have areas of weakness. Ask Sampson (check out Judges Chapters 13-16). God wants these character flaws to show us how dependent we are upon Him. When we handle them properly, they drive us into a deeper, closer relationship with the Lord. But uncontrolled weakness wreaks havoc in a person's life. What is your weakness? Is it insecurity, fear, lust, greed, gossip, or pride? Personality flaws can be a powerful motivation for good or ill, depending on our response. A proclivity for sin can ruin a person's life—as it did Samson's—or drive you to utter dependence on God. The outcome is up to you.

Journal Time: What are your weaknesses?
What or who has the most influence in your life?
Prayer: Dear Lord, we live in a salacious world which encourages us to indulge in every whim, but you are calling us to rise abo it all. We yield to you this day to teach us the virtue of self-control. Help us to know and be honest with ourselves. Teach us to recognize our weaknesses and walk in holiness. Let us repent, and follow you in all things. Thank you for your unending grace a mercy toward us when we need it most. Help us to trust you with our lives. We yield to you God. Take control. In the matchles name Jesus' Name, Amen.
#21DaysAblaze #InHisHandsDay4 #RiseAboveItAll #ControlledByHim
Notes:



Day 5 - Forgive

Proverb 15:1 says, "a soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. Ephesians 4:26 tells us that we can be angry but do not sin and in that same passage it says, "do not let the sun go down on your anger." I know this is a hard saying when you have every reason to be harsh to someone who has done you an injustice.

"When you put evil in its proper prospective, that it's a spirit against God working to turn you against His Word and His principles, you understand these scriptures better. Live spell backwards is evil. So, allowing evil to control your life is living backwards. Anger is truly connected to evil. So, we must guard our heart and not let anger consume us. I know forgiving someone who has done you wrong is not easy, but God expects us to do so. You truly become free when you can forgive those who wronged you and open the door for God to bless you beyond measure. Both Old and New Testaments of the Bible teaches that vengeance is the Lord's, not ours. So, if God, knowing full well of our sin, is still willing to set a plan in place, that despite the punishment we so deserve, makes a way for us to be forgiven though Jesus Christ. I pray we all can find in our heart to forgive."

By Elder Charles Hamilton, RLFC Youth Pastor

Refuse to allow your life to be defined by loss and grief. Forgive and push through to new horizons and possibilities of what can be rather than getting stuck in what has been. You will have opportunities to bring positive definition to your life by simple obedience to the Lord.

Journal Time: List the people are you currently challenged to forgive? Challenge: List the why by each person & pray for them.
Is the Holy Spirit leading you to go to any person you need to ask forgiveness of? If so, when are you going?
Prayer: Father, in the name of Jesus, we thank you that you love us & through the power of the Holy Spirit, you have given us all things to live a life that is pleasing to you. It is not your desire that unforgiveness and bitterness consume our lives. Our desire is to forgive those who have hurt or offended us. Help us to come to the place our Christian walk where we let things go swiftly when people hurt us, offend us, or do anything against us. Help us not to allow unforgiveness to gain any kind of hold in our hearts or minds. We bless you that you help us keep our thoughts on good things. We thank you Lord that every day, we make the choice forgive quickly so that we may serve you fully unhindered. In the name of Jesus, the one who died, so that we might be forgiven. Amen & Amen
#InHisHandsDay5 #PurpoePassionPrecision #21DaysAblaze Notes:



Day 6 Wisdom for Parents Joshua 24:15: As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

#21DaysAblaze

Sometimes, parents worry and lose sleep over raising children and what that really means and looks like at different stages of life. We want them to love God and cultivate a taste for what is good... for what's bigger than themselves. But here's the thing we must grasp. We do more to direct their appetites by setting a banquet (of example) of what is true and worthy before them, than by force feeding. Believe it or not, parents we are not in the business of changing our children, but training our children. We merely do the work of inspiring wonder by beholding what and who is worthy ourselves. We correct in love and discipline with patience and compassion.

We live in a culture that's quick and easy, materialistic and mechanical and it has made many impatient and sometimes lazy. Sometimes God gives us to steward that which, or those who cause unexpected uses of our strengths or unwanted spotlight on our weaknesses. And sometimes He causes tender shoots to grow up where we think there's only hard soil. He's full of surprises like that, so don't lose heart singles and couples alike. We so easily slump our shoulders when we feel inadequate as parents or in other areas of weaknesses. Those very weaknesses should mold us into what we couldn't become without the Lord. We need to need Christ, before we can be transformed by Him, and before we can help others see transformation. Keep investing where no one's applauding, when nothing seems productive, when parenting is grueling and beyond what you can manage even if your children are grown and or gone. Sons and daughters, men and women are formed day by day, little by little; shaped by everyday conversations and choices that seem insignificant. Who they are becoming has everything to do with Gods faithfulness in all of us & little to do with how perfect we are. If your children are still within your house, we encourage you to create time to pray as a family beyond grace at meals. It is a vital discipline. Building the habit of worshiping together is critical to becoming the people and the family God desires for us to become. The investment is not in vain. We're not telling you what to do but encouraging you to never, ever give up.

Journal Time: Write whatever the Lord lays on your heart for your family: ______

Prayer: Father, we submit ourselves to you. We realize that you are the ultimate parent and that we need your help. We partner with you and thank you that you give us all things pertaining to life and godliness. Therefore, we thank you for wisdom, discernment, revelation, and guidance as we raise the children you have go graciously given us. Father, we need your strength and patience, along with a generous portion of your love flowing through us every day. Teach us how to love them the way you love us. Where we need to be healed, delivered, changed, matured, or made whole, we invite you to do that in us. We praise you that you help us walk in righteousness and integrity. We bless you for the Holy Spirit who, teaches us your ways and thank you for enabling us to obey your commandments and do what is pleasing in your sight. May your presence be evident in us as we walk as godly role models. We ask for ways to communicate and the skills needed to teach and nurture our precious gifts. Make us the parents you desire us to be. Show us how to pray and truly intercede for the life of our children. You've given them to us and we dedicate them back to you. We speak only good over them. Thank you for covering their life in you and helping them to realize the destiny you have set before them. We honor you Lord for this and so much more. Amen



Day 7. Clarity

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength...

Remember, God will give you strength for every battle, wisdom for every decision, peace that passes understanding. He promised He will not only bring His vision to pass, but He will give you even the secret desires of your heart. Dare to trust Him. Rest in the place of peace. Don't allow worry and fear to dominate your faith. God has you in the palm of His hand. He has never once failed before, and the good news is. He is not about to start now!

What is it that you need strength for today?
What are you most grateful for today?
Declaration: We declare the clarity of the Lord over you in this season. God is causing confidence & a Holy Ghost knowing to overtake your sensibilities as confusion evaporates like a midst in the rising sun. For your God is not the author of confusion. Nei ther is He the source of unrest. but of peace. He plans & issues decrees for your life with crystal-clear precision. What's for you is for you. We declare clarity of God in Jesus name. We speak patience & tenacity as you wait for the blessings God is preparing for you. Amen! #Clarity #21DaysAblaze #InHisHandsDay7
Notes:



Day 8 - Be Vigilant

1 Peter 5:8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.

What makes many Christians shrug our shoulders when we ought to be flexing our muscles? What makes us apathetic in a day when there are loads to lift, a world to be won, and captives to be set free? Why are so many bored, when the times demand action? Christ told us that in the last days there would be an insipid attitude toward life. The late Rev Billy Graham once stated, "When comfort, ease and pleasure are put ahead of duty and conviction, progress is always set back"

As we continually surrender to the Lord, we are not only filled with the His Spirit but are led by Him as well. We gain a keen sense of His presence in our life. The Lord energizes and gives us an urgency for His Word and for prayer. We have the wind of the Sprit to accomplish His Will.

Take note that we are on our eighth day of fasting. It is typical to feel some fatigue, stomach cramps, soreness, irritability, and even brain fog. These symptoms will pass. It is important we remain deliberate to keep up the water intake. It will help to flush the toxins that the body is releasing and help ease the symptoms faster. Allow yourself to rest as you need it.

Lastly, it is imperative we remain vigilant and spiritually focused. The best is yet to come with awesome days ahead. You'll be glad we pushed through this time, so don't give up!

Oh, and if you've, slipped, that's normal as well, especially if fasting is new to you. Do not let it defeat you. Get back up and continue on. We still have 2 weeks to go. You can do this.

ournal Time: Today I am feeling	
am reminded in God's Word:	
rayer: Dear Lord, we thank you for vigilance that comes from your Spirit. We bless you for the wind of the Holy Spirit that uides, corrects, and comforts us. Just as we expect our soldiers to be vigilant and alert, so let us remember that we are your oldiers and you call us to be your hands and feet. You call us to hear your voice and respond swiftly to your commands. Help uo not fall asleep on the mission you have before us. Father, remove the apathy, that so often blinds vision. Thank you for your race. In Jesus' name, Amen! FullyAwakeBride InTheArmyOfTheLord 21DaysAblaze InHisHandsDay8	
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Day 9 – Out Country & Our Leadership Wednesday, September 17, 2014

"I urge that petitions, prayers, requests, and thanksgivings be offered to God for all people; for kings and all others who are in authority..." (1 Timothy 2:1-2)

Too many of us complain about our political leaders today, but imagine living during Jesus' time and in the time of the early church. Emperors Augustus, Nero, Caligula, and others, were corrupt, insane, enemies of God, and persecutors of the church, claiming to be God themselves and demanding worship. Yet Jesus commanded those who questioned him to pay taxes to those very leaders. And in his letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul urged the believers to pray for those in authority. Are we doing this faithfully? If not, we can begin to do so today. By J. Cymbala

Journal Time: What is your heart concerning our nation's leaders?	_ Are you praying for them faithfully? _	
Are you wisely voting for leaders with Godly values?		

Lord God, we desperately need your wisdom. You have given us a great country, founded on principles and truths from Your Word. Father from our local jurisdictions all the way up the White House and Supreme Court, we need men and women who will honor You, trust You, and lead us to You. We pray for servant leaders who love the things You love. Give us leaders with discerning hearts, bold faith, and wise minds that model Your character. Teach them—and us—not just what is good, but what is best. Guide them in the way our country should go. Give them purity in their intentions, and godliness in their convictions. We pray for leaders that know you, love you and live their lives for you. Energize their spirits and bodies physically and spiritually, and keep them emotionally secure in the knowledge of who You are—and whose they are. Help them to be bighearted and sincere, energetic in goodness, and kind. Protect them Lord and weed out any with ill intentions that seek to do harm.

Raise up leaders with the greatest potential of godly leadership, those who can ease confusion, expose illusion, and heal delusion. You alone hold the power to turn the hearts of leaders, but You listen and use our prayers to move them into right action. Help us to be faithful to care and to pursue Your heart in prayer. Help our leaders to be quick to admit failure, but ready to rebound in persistent resilience. Encourage them to choose wisely, and when they don't know what to do, help them keep their eyes on You. We thank you Lord for leaders that take a firm stand on issues that truly matter to You, regardless of the consequences or approval ratings. Let them be God-pleasers, not puppets; leaders filled with conviction, not corruption. Surround them with people for their life that will impart wisdom and understanding for this nation.

As a nation, God, help us to desire righteousness more than rights, and to mirror sacrifice more than selfishness. You know us well, and You understand our flaws. Turn those weaknesses into strengths; bathe us with Your grace and mercy. Fill us with the boldness to choose the kind of freedom that will benefit everyone. Open our eyes to see others as You do—with godly potential and value. But help us, too, to recognize our own pride in trying to elevate ourselves and others above You and Your purpose for our lives.

We need, You, God. Oh, how we need You! You have exercised nothing but faithfulness and fairness in Your treatment of our country, even when we've turned our back on You and forgotten Your goodness to us. Your discipline at times is hard, but You are just. Your purpose is always to draw us close to You, to bless us, and to make us a great nation who honors You. You are a good, good, Father—and Your love for us has a proven track record.

Forgive us for wanting our own way and making our own paths—often the ones paved with least resistance. Forgive us for fence-walking, or for ignoring completely the truths that can so easily set us free. Deliver us from mindless quarrels and destinations that lead us nowhere, but away from You. Free us from divisiveness, and melt our hardened hearts to love, not hate.

Our history has cried for king-like leaders who will solve our problems and meet our needs. But there is only one King, and that is You, Lord. We have blindly sought answers from others to life's unresolved questions through the years, but You are the only wise Counselor. We have longed for peace, but You are the only Peacemaker, and the only Prince of Peace. We look at outward appearances; You see the heart. With You, nothing formed against us can prosper. Without You, we are nothing.

Make us a great nation, yes. But more than that, make us good, Lord, with a heartbeat that wants every person of every creed and color to know Your love, Your goodness, and Your worth. Make us wise as serpents, but gentle as doves. Turn our fears to faith, as we look to You and You alone for the future of our country. Give us God-confidence that no matter what happens, we will believe You are not only in control, but that You know exactly what is needed to accomplish Your purpose. Help us not to second-guess Your moves, but to move at Your command, always without hesitation.

We look to You and to You, only, Lord. Help us make wise decisions that move our country in the right direction. Help us to do our part in praying and in staying with what we know is right according to the truth of Your Word. Teach us to make our actions count and our words matter, and line them both up to Your sense of rightness, not ours. Guide us with Your eye; grip us with Your strong arm; teach us what we need to know to make our lives—and our nation—count for you. We pray for our leaders, but we ask You to make us both leaders and followers: leading in the way of Truth, and following those who honor You.

In the precious and powerful name of Jesus,

Amen

Prayer adapted from Rebecca Barlow Jordan crosswalkcom



Day 10 - 1st Responders,

When tragedy strikes, we all look for help.

We believe the vast majority of the U.S. population appreciates and honors those trained to provide crisis-situation help—protection, medical care, rescue, and or defense of our country. Yet we also witness our authorities under attack. Growing misunderstandings and distrust (valid or invalid) can severely affect our first responders In a day of global unrest and terrorism it is important that we pray for our police, fire, and medical response teams.

Journal Time: If you know of any 1st responders. Write their names down & pray for them by name. Pray for our local officers.

Father, we are so blessed to have men and women who work diligently for our safety and well-being, even when their jobs are difficult and often thankless. Help us remember to thank You for their sacrifices and service to our community. May we touch heaven with prayers of gratitude whenever we see or personally encounter first responders. Give them the strength that You provide so that as they serve, You will be honored.

Lord Jesus, we pray for first responders everywhere who have not yet made You their Lord and Savior. Please put Your people in their paths, so that they might learn to seek You first and honor You. It's so important to have godly men and women in these positions of influence for the sake of Your Kingdom. We also pray that You will intervene in the lives of those who once knew You well but have fallen away from You due to the pressures of their jobs. Reignite their hearts with passion for all that You are, Lord Jesus! Stir people all over our nation to pray fervently that our first responders will be salt and light in dark places and beacons of hope to the hopeless. Help them to minister in a very difficult occupation so that they might be change agents for the sake of Your name!

Gracious God, first responders have such dangerous jobs! Help them to dwell in Your shadow. May You always be their refuge in difficult situations. May they trust in You completely, moment by moment. Show them Your power when they find themselves in unsafe situations or when they face people who threaten to harm them. Keep them safe for the glory of Your name!

Lord, every day first responders have to make difficult and complicated decisions. Help them to choose wisely and well in every situation. Give them clarity and help them to stay calm and collected in the most tense moments they face. Help them call out to You whenever they don't know what to do. May they always keep their eyes fixed upon You.

Father, please keep our first responders emotionally strong but spiritually tender when they are confronted by the evil and brokenness around them. Give them Your peace as they deal with the pain and suffering of others—and at times experience injustice. May they have compassion for those whose lives are broken and may they demonstrate kindness to them. Help them to recognize that when others express hate and anger toward them, they can find their security in You.

Lord God, the families of first responders experience so much stress and fear. As a result many marriages among first responders are broken and the divorce rate is high. Bring Your peace to their families, Lord. Help these men and women to keep their eyes fixed upon You so that they might love their spouses as You have instructed, and so that they might train up their children in godly ways. Help them to find quality and quantity time with their families.

Prayers by Dave & Kim Butts

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