



FOCUSED EDUCATIONAL PRAYERS

April 2024 *State, Nation and World*

The praise and repentance below is courtesy of www.saltandlightcouncil.org

PRAISE

Dear Lord, The psalmist in Psalm 145 says it so eloquently, "I will praise You to the heights, my God, the King. I will bless Your name forever and ever." He exclaims he will bless God every day and always. Lord, we join the chorus of believers through the ages who have read this Psalm and had it pierce their own hearts with praise for You. Verse 4 reminds, "Each generation will praise Your works to the next and proclaim Your mighty acts. We concur fully; and deliberately: With immense and heartfelt passion, we exclaim, "How great is our God!"

REPENTANCE PRAYER

Dear Lord, Forgive us for allowing evil forces to indoctrinate our culture and move it far, far away from faith in God. We want to fight back, Lord. It starts with acknowledging there is a problem, so we can take responsibility and step in with solutions. A major enemy of solutions is called "denial." When we refuse to take responsibility by saying the problem does not exist, or that is not so bad, we give place to ungodly forces all too willing to step into our places of authority, and the problems go from bad to worse. Forgive us, Lord. Government, education and media have been stolen away. Today is the day I commit to being part of the solution rather than perpetuating the problem. I commit myself totally to the restoration of Your plans. I choose to courageously stand in obedience and accord with Your Word. I purpose to take my place among the saints, who in their own time sought in prayer how to manifest Your Heavenly will on earth, as commanded in The Lord's Prayer recorded in Matthew 6:9-13.

The prayers below are courtesy of www.presidentialprayerteam.org

PRAY FOR OUR PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION

President Joe Biden stated that the federal government should cover the cost of rebuilding the Francis Scott Key Bridge after a cargo ship collided with one of its supports and caused it to collapse.

We pray for the president and his advisors to be led by God's wisdom as they propose programs and projects.

PRAY FOR OUR CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia introduced a motion to vacate after House Speaker Mike Johnson compromised on government funding legislation.

We pray for discernment for members of the House majority as their number continues to be reduced and concerns rise over foreign aid and the national debt.

PRAY FOR OUR JUDICIARY

The Supreme Court heard initial arguments this week for the restriction of mifepristone, a prescription drug used in medication abortions that can be sent via mail. While it does require a

prescription, it does not require an in-person visit from a doctor. Opponents have brought suit over dangers to women's health without in-person medical oversight.

We pray for the justices as they deliberate over the health implications to women who are not physically evaluated by a doctor prior to receiving abortion pill prescriptions.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

The Government Accountability Office has found that the majority of U.S. Armed Forces members get less than the Defense Department's minimum recommended number of hours of sleep per night. The GAO report stated, "When service members don't get enough sleep, it can affect their performance. Fatigue has led to fatal accidents and hundreds of millions of dollars in damage to ships, vehicles, and aircraft." The agency provided nine recommendations to address the issue.

We pray for U.S. military leaders and officials as they consider the dangers of sleep deficiency for U.S. troops.

PRAY FOR AMERICA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

The U.S. Congress approved aid to Ukraine in the most recent government funding legislation. Pentagon spokesperson Major Charlie Dietz said, "For Ukraine, this supplemental is vital — there's no other way to meet Ukraine's needs at scale."

We pray for wisdom for U.S. governing officials as they weigh the needs of Ukraine against America's rising national debt.

PRAY FOR AMERICA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

The U.S. abstained from voting against a UN Security Council resolution calling for an unconditional cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war for the last two weeks of Ramadan. This move allowed the resolution to pass. Prime Minister Netanyahu, delivering on his promise to call off the planned meeting with President Biden if the U.S. did not veto the measure, canceled the Israeli delegation's scheduled visit to Washington.

We pray for the Lord to guide U.S. officials as they make decisions regarding Israel and its enemies. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and wisdom for Israeli leaders.

PRAY FOR AMERICA'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The end of the COVID-19 health emergency has led to the disenrollment of over 18 million people from Medicaid. Eligibility determinations for roughly 35 million have either not been completed or reported. States must redetermine eligibility for those previously covered as they process new applications.

We pray for federal and state officials as they untangle Medicaid eligibility and coverage requirements in the aftermath of the pandemic.

PRAY FOR THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

The National Pawnbrokers Association reports that pawnshop inventories have increased, and balances across the nation have risen in the past two years. While the average loan would generally last one to three months, customers are more often pawning items and not coming back to reclaim them. A spokesperson for the association attributes the trend to "cost-of-living increases, the lack of access to credit, [and] short-term emergencies," which half of American households cannot cover due to a lack of savings.

We pray for U.S. economic officials and advisors as they evaluate the impact of policies on the American household. Pray for U.S. citizens and residents as they seek to make ends meet.

PRAY FOR NEEDS ACROSS THE STATES

The Missouri House of Representatives passed legislation that would prohibit colleges and universities from discriminating against religious student groups. The bill's sponsor said, "Students should not have to retain legal counsel in order to protect their First Amendment rights."

The attorney general of California announced another recall effort of Governor Gavin Newsom. The reasons provided for the launch of the signature gathering include increasing homelessness, rising crime rates, high taxes and a budget deficit, and immigration issues.

We pray for the governing officials of the states as they address issues that are of particular concern to their residents.

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MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN

Lord, we acknowledge that the family is Your idea and marriage is intended to be a lifelong, divinely instituted covenant between one man and one woman. So, we pray that Your people would not renegotiate or redefine marriage and the family according to their wants and desires, but rather they would be called to preserve and respect what you have Divinely instituted. We thank you for establishing marriage to be a secure and stable environment for raising children. We pray our government upholds Your definition of marriage, and the Church teaches and speaks out in its support.

SEX — LIES — LIFE FROM CONCEPTION

Lord, Hand-in-hand with Your gift of marriage comes Your gift of sex. We pray that as a society we would follow Your plan for intimacy inside of the covenant of marriage. By following Your plan, it would virtually eliminate rape, prostitution, adultery, sexually transmitted disease, abortions and divorce. We pray we would not be fooled by the enemy into thinking our human nature should rule our lives, but we would see Your laws as loving and keeping us from heartache and disaster. Please raise up Christians to support truth, redemption and repentance in America.

SALT AND LIGHT PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

God, we pray that you would call this nation together and unite your people to stand for truth. We pray that those appointed into office would stand to fight for your justice and that it would prevail over evil. That we would turn away from "Political Correctness" and once again become "Biblically Correct."

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there" — 2 Chronicles 7:14-16 (NKJV).

MISSION PRAYER OF SALT AND LIGHT

"Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus" — 1 Timothy 2:1-5 (NKJV).