



FOCUSED EDUCATIONAL PRAYERS

May 2024 *State, Nation and World*

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

PRAISE

Lord, We thank you for a day celebrated across the United States on the last Monday of May, this year on May 27. That federal holiday is Memorial Day, when we honor and mourn the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the US Armed Forces. In times of turmoil, we in America need to remember our history of courage—even under fire. We praise You for the opportunity, as Americans, to show moral courage even in the face of great evil. We give thanks to our military, and the families whose fathers, sons, mothers and daughters, brothers and sisters paid the ultimate price so our great nation can endure. May we always give the utmost for Your highest, strive for Your peace, and live according to Your Word that reminds us always to overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21.

REPENTANCE PRAYER

Dear Lord, Warfare does not always enter America from outside; sometimes, the fighting starts within our own borders, be it on a national, state, local level, or even in our own homes. At this time, when students and others are turning our educational places of higher learning upside down with protests, we pray those in authority hold firm to rules already in place for the good of all involved. We pray salvation for those in spiritual darkness—that even the pressure to repent draws them to see the God who created and loves them, and who even now calls them to Himself. We pray that as they submit to God, they confess Jesus as Lord with testimonies that replace acts of rebellion with the seeds of revival. In Jesus' Name, Amen. Philippians 2:10-11.

The prayers below are courtesy of www.presidentialprayerteam.org

PRAY FOR OUR PRESIDENT AND HIS ADMINISTRATION

Commissioner Danny Werfel of the Internal Revenue Service said the agency will use Inflation Reduction Act funding to utilize artificial intelligence in system modernization. He said for basic information, "We're going to need an AI-powered solution to help taxpayers get the answers they need." The commissioner added that the IRS will "continue to have human interaction and expert account managers to help" for more complex tax questions.

We pray for Treasury Secretary Yellen and Commissioner Werfel as they seek to improve and modernize IRS systems.

PRAY FOR OUR CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and other leaders of the minority party have pledged to support House Speaker Mike Johnson in his presiding role in the lower chamber. Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene and others have proposed to vacate the speakership over the legislative compromises Speaker Johnson has made in recent months. The unusual support of the opposing party is motivated by a desire to maintain the stability of House proceedings.

We pray for the House speaker and party leaders to receive God's direction as they proceed with House business.

PRAY FOR OUR JUDICIARY

The justice of the Supreme Court heard oral arguments this week regarding the provision of abortions to pregnant women in emergency rooms in the state of Idaho. President Biden's administration has sought to leverage the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA) to overrule an Idaho law that restricts most abortions in the state.

We pray for the justices to be wise in the interpretation of EMTALA and its scope regarding abortions.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Chinese surveillance ships tailed U.S., Philippine, and French vessels in the South China Sea during the allies' annual joint military drills. U.S. Indo-Pacific Command confirmed, "The Armed Forces of the Philippines has been monitoring the unauthorized presence of a Chinese-flagged research vessel, 'SHEN KUO,' in the vicinity northeast of Viga, Catanduanes." Days later, China's coast guard damaged a Philippine coast guard vessel with water cannons in the South China Sea.

We pray for U.S. and Philippine military commanders and leaders as they oversee operations in the Indo-Pacific and South China Sea.

PRAY FOR AMERICA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

U.S. officials have advised against Ukrainian attacks on Russian oil depots over global supply chain concerns. This week, Ukraine reported that drone strikes against two of Russia's oil installations were successful. The Defense Department reportedly has no excess inventory after the repeated tranches of military aid that have been sent to Ukraine since Russia's invasion in early 2022.

We pray for discernment for U.S. and Ukrainian officials as the conflict with Russia continues.

PRAY FOR AMERICA'S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

The U.S. is planning sanctions against Israeli Defense Force officials for human rights violations that occurred prior to October 7 of last year. The Israeli finance minister responded, "The decision to impose American sanctions on the IDF while Israel is fighting for its existence is complete madness."

We pray for Secretary Blinken and other U.S. officials to be prudent in their decisions regarding Israel. Pray for wisdom for Israeli leaders and protection for the people of that nation.

PRAY FOR THE AMERICAN ECONOMY

Experts forecast challenges in the construction sector this presidential election year as inflation and high interest rates persist. The increasing U.S. national debt also limits the government's ability to support the industry.

We pray for the president's economic advisors and commerce officials as they seek options to strengthen the construction sector.

PRAY FOR NEEDS ACROSS THE STATES

Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro announced an initiative to have half of state agencies powered by solar energy. The state has entered a 15-year fixed price contract with an energy company to implement the plan. The initiative is intended to not only increase the state's energy independence but create jobs in the energy sector and reduce consumers' energy bills.

New York Attorney General Letitia James is being sued by pro-life advocates for violations of their First Amendment rights to promote abortion pill reversals. The suit states the state attorney

general “has no business” interfering with medical decisions of expectant mothers who seek to reverse the effects of abortion drug, mifepristone, and save their unborn babies.

We pray for state officials as they address the specific challenges and needs of their residents and communities.

PRAY FOR AMERICA’S FAITH COMMUNITY

“This is what I know, this is the most important thing to know, that God is with me in the next hour, the next day, month, year. He is with me. And if I know that, I can live, withstand, overcome anything that happens... Abraham heard a call. You and I are alive and breathing, God has called us and is calling us... Abraham didn’t know where he was going. He just knew he was going with God, and God was going with him, and that was enough. Friend, listen to me, is that enough for you? To know that God is with you and you’re with God. If you know that, then go with God... and no matter what life throws at you, you’ll overcome it in His power, in His name.” – Pastor Jack Morris, The Healing Word, April 2024

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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).