

GOD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS

28 Days of Prayer Leading to the Election

TABLE OF CONTENTS

How to Use This Resource	4
Introduction: Welcome to the Journey	5
28 Days of Prayer:	
Week 1: Prayer for My Heart	6
Week 2: Prayer for My Family	14
Week 3: Pray for My Church & Community	23
Week 4: Pray for My Country	32
Conclusion: Thank You For Joining Us!	40
About Our Church Votes	41
What You Can Do Now	42

Copyright (c) 2020 by Our Church Votes, an initiative of My Faith Votes.
All Rights Reserved.

Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2007, 2013, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers Inc., Carol Stream, Illinois 60188.
All rights reserved.

www.ourchurchvotes.org

How to Use This Resource

We've designed this devotional for you to use either individually or in a group.

You can use this as a way to jumpstart your morning devotions or to refocus over your lunch break. Or you can use it as a guide for your small group or church. It's designed to unite us together in prayer as we move towards the election.

Welcome to the Journey

We're so glad you're here and we're excited for you to use this devotional. As you're getting started, you might be asking a question that we hear a lot:

Why should I pray for the elections?

An estimated 25 million Christians in America chose not to vote during the last presidential election.

That is an enormous number of people and a huge missed opportunity to have our values represented in our nation's leadership. If we each take the time to prayerfully consider how to vote in a way that aligns with our beliefs, we can have a very different outcome this year.

As believers, we are called to pray for our leaders and for our country.

1 Timothy 2:1-2 says, "***Pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority***" and in Daniel 2:20-21 we see, "***Praise the name of God forever and ever, for he has all wisdom and power. He controls the course of world events; He removes kings and sets up other kings.***"

As we enter a new season in our nation, it's time for us to unite in prayer and actively seek His will for our country and our leaders.

Let's spend a few minutes each day over the next 28-days aligning our heart with His and interceding for our families, our communities, and our country.

WEEK 1:
PRAY FOR MY HEART

*"Create in me a clean heart, O God.
Renew a loyal spirit within me."*

Psalm 51:10

DAY 1:

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART

"Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me."

- Psalm 51:10

Key Takeaway:

God is able to renew and restore us. When our heart is aligned with His, we'll be open to His leading.

Devotion:

What a gift it is to be able to come before the throne of grace and ask God to recreate us. As we approach the elections, take some time to consider your own heart and who God is calling you to become and how to live out your faith in this season.

The renewal of your spirit is not a one-time event that is completed at the moment of salvation. It is the on-going process of becoming more like Christ every day. Spend a few minutes contemplating if your spirit is right before God and how you can actively live out your beliefs.

Guided Prayer:

Father, restore my union with You. I pray You would align my heart with Yours and help me value what You value, help me see what You see, and equip me to be Your hands and feet here on earth.

DAY 2:

SEARCH ME AND KNOW ME

“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.”

Key Takeaway:

God knows us even better than we know ourselves and when we surrender to Him, He leads us into peace and life.

Devotion:

Isn't it incredible to think that God knows you better than you know yourself? Every anxious thought, every hidden fear, even deep desires that you haven't recognized yet - He knows and covers in His love.

Our culture is inundated with noise and it can be hard to truly listen for God's still, small voice. Turn off your phone. Turn off any background noises and spend a few minutes alone in silence. Practice listening for His voice. Are there any areas in your life you need to surrender to Him? Is there anything in you that is not aligned with Him and His word? Ask Him to give you eyes to see and a heart that is gentle towards His prompting.

Guided Prayer:

Father, You know my heart. You know my fears and my worries. I pray You search me and root out anything inside me that is not of You. Take my anxious thoughts about the future of our nation and replace them with Your peace. Make me sensitive to Your voice.

DAY 3:

THE TABLET OF MY HEART

“Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart.”

- Proverbs 3:3

Key Takeaway:

We are called to actively pursue love and faithfulness and let them be our guide.

Devotion:

Election seasons are most often marked by division and polarization and judgment. It’s easy to let the negative narrative of the media creep into your own perspective. But as believers, we are called to live in love and faithfulness. We are called to practice carving those characteristics into the “tablet of our heart” so that love is the natural pattern of our life, the groove worn into our soul.

Spend a few minutes thinking about practical ways you can actively pursue love and make it a habit in your responses to the negative narratives around you. Can you read the news and first pause to prayer for the author before critiquing their view? Can you listen to the speech of a candidate you don’t agree with generally but focus on one or two things you do align on?

Find ways to let love be your first response.

Guided Prayer:

Father, let love be my foundation, my language, my first response. Help me to approach conversations with love and gentleness. Help me to be faithful to You and to Your truth.

DAY 4:

LIVE AT PEACE

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

- Romans 12:18

Key Takeaway:

We are called to actively pursue peace and have a responsibility to bring peace into our interactions with those around us.

Devotion:

What is peace? Some might say it's the absence of conflict or the pursuit of balance. In Hebrew, the word for peace is *šālôm* which has a wide variety of translations, including completeness, wholeness, harmony, and well being.

As children of God, we have the unique privilege of carrying His peace with us wherever we go. We are responsible for bringing that wholeness, that harmony, with us because His spirit of perfect peace dwells in us. Let that reality really sink in. You are the bearer of His peace to this world. "This world" isn't abstract and intangible. It means you are the embodiment of His peace to your family, your friends, your coworkers. The more time you spend in His presence, soaking up His peace, the better able you are to live peacefully with those around you. Spend a few minutes asking for Him to fill you with His Spirit of peace today.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help me to pursue peace in my own heart and to approach those around me with a spirit of peace. In a world that is divisive and dismissive, let me be a bearer of Your perfect peace. I pray that whatever storms may lie ahead, You are my anchor.

DAY 5:

ABOVE ALL ELSE

"Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life."

- Proverbs 4:23

Key Takeaway:

We are called to prioritize protecting our hearts. When your heart is aligned with God, you'll walk in His ways.

Devotion:

Our culture is adept at protecting our material goods. We have alarm systems for our homes. We have two-step verification for our bank accounts. We have fake smiles and carefully protected online images. But we don't spend much effort protecting the things that are most valuable: our hearts, our souls.

One of the best ways to safeguard your heart is through worship and allowing the truth of the lyrics to be the backdrop of your life. As you think about what it means to protect or watch over your heart, take a minute to ask yourself these questions:

1. What kind of media do I allow into my life?
2. What voices do I listen to?
3. What is one voice I can add or cut out of my life to help protect my heart?
4. Is there one regular habit I have where I could add worship in the background?
(Maybe driving to work or when you're getting dressed in the morning.)

Guided Prayer:

Father, give me discernment to know what voices to listen to in my life. Help me choose wisely what I allow into my heart and to protect it from apathy, from discouragement, and from fear. Give me a heart that is attuned to You and open to Your prompting.

DAY 6:

INTERNAL PEACE

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God’s peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.”

- Philippians 4:6-7

Key Takeaway:

Prayer is the gateway to peace.

Devotion:

Perfect peace comes when we surrender our fears and turn complaining into praise. God invites us to come to Him with anything and everything that is on our minds. When we do that and focus on thanking Him for what He’s done, He promises to give us His perfect peace as a replacement.

What are the three things you are most worried about right now? Take a moment to pause, surrender them to the Father, and thank Him for what He’s doing in your life right now. If you’re struggling to make His promise of peace tangible, spend some time memorizing the verses above and repeat them to yourself throughout the day. Recentering yourself on God’s word is a practical way to usher peace into your life.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help me to bring my anxieties and fears and struggles to You first before I post online or share with a friend. Exchange my worries – about our country, about my family’s future, about our elected officials’ leadership – for Your perfect peace.

DAY 7:

THANKFUL IN ALL THINGS

“Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.”

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Key Takeaway:

His will for us is to be joyful, to pray, and to be thankful in every circumstance.

Devotion:

In a world that feeds on fear, it can be hard to practice joy and gratitude. But it’s essential that we keep our eyes fixed on God’s kingdom and on His truth.

As we get closer to the election, the news and conversations around it will inevitably continue to get more and more divisive. It’s easy to feel overwhelmed by the political landscape in our country. But we have access to a God who sees us, hears us, and knows what lies ahead. We can make it a habit to sacrificially worship and give Him thanks and praise, even when we don’t know where the path leads. It’s our job to take a step in faith, trusting Him with the outcome.

This Week’s Action Step:

If you’re not registered to vote, take a few minutes to register now. You can [click here](#) to get started.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help me live this out. Help me to truly be filled with your spirit of joy and to practice gratitude in every situation. Help me to prayerfully consider how to live out my faith and what actions I can take to help bring Your kingdom here on earth.

WEEK 2:
PRAY FOR MY FAMILY

“But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.”

Joshua 24:15

DAY 8:

ME AND MY FAMILY

But if you refuse to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the Lord."

- Joshua 24:15

Key Takeaway:

We get to choose through our actions and our priorities who we serve and what we invest our lives in.

Devotion:

We are all worshipping and serving something. What do you worship? As a family, who do you serve? Who do your kids serve? Is it your career, or safety, or financial security or comfort?

An easy litmus test for this is to look at your calendar and where you invest time, energy, and resources. Take a few minutes today to think about how your values and your priorities play out in your family. If your family is committed to serving the Lord, what does that look like and how do your actions reflect that? What does it mean to serve the Lord in every area of your life, including how you engage in the leadership of your community and country?

Guided Prayer:

Father, I pray for our family. I pray that we would love You most and serve You first. That our hearts would be turned towards You and that we would not be distracted or dissuaded from serving You with all that we have and all that we are.

DAY 9:

PEACE FOR MY CHILDREN

"I will teach all your children, and they will enjoy great peace."

- Isaiah 54:13

Key Takeaway:

We get to choose through our actions and our priorities who we serve and what we invest our lives in.

Devotion:

How is the Lord speaking to your kids right now? What is He doing in their lives? He promises to teach each of us His ways and when we follow Him, peace is our prize. As parents, we want what is best for our kids. Imagine how much more the Father wants what is best for each of us.

His perfect peace is a safeguard from the constantly shifting landscape of our culture and the never-ending uncertainty of the world we live in. Spend some time praying over your children and for them to find their identity and their peace in God.

Guided Prayer:

Father, I pray over my children. I pray that they listen to Your voice and lean into Your teaching. Protect them and keep them close to You. Equip them to be Your hands and feet here on earth.

DAY 10:

DON'T DISCOURAGE

"Fathers, do not aggravate your children, or they will become discouraged."

- Colossians 3:21

Key Takeaway:

Be gentle in your interactions with your family so that they are encouraged and built up by you.

Devotion:

There's something about the political sphere that can bring out the worst in us. Even as Christians, it's easy to quickly fall into an "us vs. them" mentality and sometimes we bring that home to the kitchen table. We're sure that we're right and we want our kids to fall in line with our views.

As parents of older or adult children, it can be especially hard to remember that your children have opinions and values that may be different from yours, but are equally valid. As our nation approaches the elections, remember to keep your conversations gentle and encourage rather than discourage your kids. There is room at the table for many different viewpoints because, at the end of the day, faith comes first.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give me humility and wisdom as I interact with my children in the season leading up to the elections. Help us to truly listen to each other and build each other up. Help us speak life over one another.

DAY 11:

NO GREATER JOY

"I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth."

- 3 John 1:4

Key Takeaway:

When we teach our children to love God and love His ways, it will bring us joy.

Devotion:

So many things clamor for your children's attention. They will be faced, from every angle, with challenges and pressure to perform and conform. What are you teaching them? We often say we believe that faith should be put into action, but do we actually do it?

Your children are looking to you to see what it means to follow Christ. Spend some time today thinking through a few ways you can actively teach them to follow the truth.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help me instill in my children Your truth. Help me be a good example of Your love and give me wisdom as I teach them Your ways. I pray You protect them and keep them on Your path.

DAY 12:

GRACIOUS CONVERSATIONS

"Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone."

- Colossians 4:6

Key Takeaway:

Graciousness is a key characteristic of Christ-followers and it opens the door to being heard.

Devotion:

We each have our family sphere of influence: our spouse, our kids, and our close relatives. God has given you a unique ability to do life with and influence these people in a special way.

How can you use that influence for good in a time when tensions are high and conversations can get heated? Being gracious and truly listening is both the key to being heard and the key to understanding the people that are close to you. Practice being intentionally gracious today in the words you chose, the way you speak, and the opinions you share.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give me a heart that is open and gracious. Help my words to be seasoned with salt, to be appropriate to the situation, and to bring life and truth. Give me wisdom on when to speak and when to be silent. Let my words be molded by Your word in me.

DAY 13:

ACTIVE FORGIVENESS

"Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others."

- Colossians 3:13

Key Takeaway:

Forgiveness is central. Since we have experienced the Father's forgiveness, we have a responsibility to extend forgiveness to others.

Devotion:

It's important to practice forgiveness any time, but especially in these weeks leading up to the election when differing opinions and diverse values can cause conflict. Be intentional in these next few weeks to be quick to ask for forgiveness and quick to forgive.

It's essential as parents to model forgiveness for your children and to normalize both making and receiving a heartfelt apology. Unforgiveness can quickly lead to bitterness and isolation in families. It's important to take God's charge to us seriously and actively practice forgiveness. As you consider the idea of forgiveness, is there anything that has happened in the past few days you need to ask forgiveness for?

Guided Prayer:

Father, help our family to be quick to forgive and to actively extend forgiveness when we get hurt. I pray you would give us open communication and that love would run deeper than offense in our relationships.

DAY 14:

DON'T BE DISTRACTED

"Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ."

- Colossians 2:8

Key Takeaway:

Know why you believe what you believe and see if your values are aligned with Christ's.

Devotion:

What is truth? Where's the line between right and wrong? If you don't know where you stand, it's easy to be swept up in the wave of whatever philosophy or ideology is popular at the moment.

Take some time to think through what you believe and why you believe it. Write it down. If you have kids, involve them in the process and make it a family conversation. Take time to answer their questions and listen to their thoughts.

1. What makes a good leader?
2. What values do you need your leaders to be aligned with you on?
3. What ones are you ok compromising on or what issues are not as important to you?

You cannot live out your values if you don't know what they are.

This Week's Action Step:

Spend some time this week researching a few local and national leaders and learning where they stand on key issues that you value.

Bonus:

Ask your spouse and kids to do the same and have a thoughtful, respectful conversation around why you value what you value and how you would like your leaders to stand up for those issues.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give our family wisdom as we research, discuss, and decide how to put our faith in action this election season. Help us to be grounded in Your word and value what You value.

WEEK 3:
PRAY FOR MY CHURCH & COMMUNITY

“Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”

Isaiah 41:10

DAY 15:

I WILL HOLD YOU UP

“Don’t be afraid, for I am with you. Don’t be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand.”

- Isaiah 41:10

Key Takeaway:

Being in God’s presence drives out fear and His plans for us are good. He will not abandon us.

Devotion:

One of the quickest ways to burn out in pursuing good in your community or for our country is when we start to rely on our own strength and forget that it’s God who equips us and upholds us. Often the change we’re working for doesn’t come quickly and it can feel overwhelming. Or even pointless. How much difference can one person make?

If you are listening to His voice and following His call, one person can make all the difference. Remember when you grow weary that He is holding you up and His plans for you are good. He sees you and He is working behind the scenes to take the seeds you plant and make them grow.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help us, as a church and as a community, recognize Your presence and live in freedom, not out of fear. Help us to not grow weary in doing good but to continue to make choices that reflect our faith.

DAY 16:

LOVE EACH OTHER

"If someone says, 'I love God,' but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see?"

- 1 John 4:20

Key Takeaway:

If we love God, we have to practice love towards the people in our community.

Devotion:

Loving people is an extension of our love for God. We cannot love Him and hate, or even be indifferent, to His creation. As Christians, we're called to practice action-based love towards the people in our family, in our church, and in our community. We've been given the unique privilege and responsibility to be Christ's hands and feet in their lives. It's part of what makes life worth living. Without friendship, isolation traps us.

As C.S. Lewis says in *The Four Loves*, "Friendship is unnecessary, like philosophy, like art... It has no survival value; rather it is one of those things which give value to survival." We are created for community.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give me eyes to see who You have placed in my life that I can demonstrate Your love to. Help me be a light in my community. Help our church to be Your hands and feet in practical, tangible ways.

DAY 17:

CHOOSE TO DO GOOD

“Remember, it is sin to know what you ought to do and then not do it.”

- James 4:17

Key Takeaway:

As a church, we are called to take action and do good.

Devotion:

The honesty in this verse is convicting. How many times do we know what the right thing to do is but instead of taking action, we avoid it or make excuses or pass the responsibility off to someone else, assuming they will step up?

It's interesting that James calls the absence of action sin. It is not that he is "calling them out" for actively doing something wrong, but for passively ignoring to do what is right. Take some time to consider what responsibility you, your church, and your community have in taking action during the election season. If you know what the right thing to do is, how can you take that first step and start putting that into practice?

Guided Prayer:

Father, convict our hearts to see what areas in our life You're calling us to do good in but we've been avoiding it. Help us be bold and take action. Help us use our voices and our votes to do good. Give us the courage not to sit on the sidelines but to be part of the work You are doing in our community and in our country.

DAY 18:

DIVERSITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.”

- Romans 12:4-5

Key Takeaway:

As a community of believers, we are called to embrace and recognize the importance of a variety of gifts and callings.

Devotion:

We often surround ourselves with people that look like us and think like us. Our default is comfort, so we insulate ourselves from diverse perspectives and voices. But God calls us to embrace the many different parts of the body of Christ and the different gifts He has given each of us.

During this political season, intentionally seek out the voices of other believers who may not look like you or agree with you. Listen to their stories. What can you learn from their perspective? How is God using them in their community and how is He using you in yours? Spend a few minutes praying for them and over your friendship with them.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give me eyes to see and embrace the diverse gifts, talents, and callings You have given the people in my church and my community. Help us create a culture of humility and respect and love - where we all are listening to Your voice.

DAY 19:

PUT GOD'S WORD INTO ACTION

"But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves."

- James 1:22

Key Takeaway:

Faith and belief in God's word are the catalysts for action.

Devotion:

What is God's will? What does His word say and how does He call you to live? If you search the Bible, you'll find answers to these questions and a beautiful narrative of God's overwhelming love for people, for justice, and for truth.

Knowing God's word is important, especially so that you can give an answer for the hope that is in you (1 Peter 3:5). But actually doing what it says is an even better witness. True knowledge of God and His heart leads to action and a desire to see His kingdom values play out here on earth. We are called to put into action what we learn at His feet. And that means actively supporting those in leadership in our country whose values align with His.

Guided Prayer:

Father, I pray that You give me and each person in my church and in my community the courage and perseverance we need to not just listen to Your word but actively pursue it. I pray we put Your word into action.

DAY 20:

THE POWER OF OUR PRAYERS

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.”

- James 5:16

Key Takeaway:

True fellowship and sincere prayer bring healing to our community.

Devotion:

Prayer is central to the Christian community and to our impact in our community. Our prayers have the power to change things. Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his pivotal book *Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community* says, “A Christian fellowship lives and exists by the intercession of its members for one another, or it collapses.”

True fellowship is marked by earnest prayers that have the power to change circumstances and influence hearts and minds. Isolation is from the enemy. We are created to be in relationship. Don't fall into the trap of apathy towards your church and your community. Spend a few minutes praying for them and interceding on their behalf.

Guided Prayer:

Father, You have created us for community. Help us to build a community where we truly lift each other up and support each other and spur each other on to the good works You call us to. Bring healing to our community and our country through our prayers.

DAY 21:

LIVE IN THE LIGHT

“But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.”

- 1 John 1:7

Key Takeaway:

We're called to live in fellowship and in the light, following the example of Jesus.

Devotion:

The world will try to steal your joy and your light. Sometimes the darkness comes crashing in all at once and sometimes it creeps in slowly. It will try to tell you that God is not for you, that all is lost, and that nothing will ever change. It will tell you that your actions don't make an impact.

God is light. God is love. God is hope. Cling to those truths and let yourself experience the renewal and refreshment that comes in His presence. Find a few people from your church or your community that you can intentionally walk in the light with. Encourage each other to keep pursuing what is worthy and to not grow weary in doing good. As we approach the elections, help each other by keeping your eyes fixed on Jesus.

This Week's Action Step:

Consider getting your church involved and helping host a Voter Registration Sunday. Learn more [here](#).

Guided Prayer:

Father, help us live in the light and bring Your light here in our community. I know that true fellowship comes when we put You at the center. Help us to not be distracted by anything and to keep our eyes fixed on You and bringing Your kingdom here.

WEEK 4:

PRAY FOR MY COUNTRY

“And I will give them one heart and one purpose: to worship me forever, for their own good and for the good of all their descendants. And I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good for them. I will put a desire in their hearts to worship me, and they will never leave me. I will find joy doing good for them and will faithfully and wholeheartedly replant them in this land.”

- Jeremiah 32:39-41

DAY 22:

ONE HEART AND ONE PURPOSE

"And I will give them one heart and one purpose: to worship me forever, for their own good and for the good of all their descendants."

- Jeremiah 32:39

Key Takeaway:

Worship is essential for ongoing blessings and the good of future generations.

Devotion:

We all want good for our children. We want to prepare them for the world and give them the gift of a good future. In this passage from Jeremiah, the prophet talks about how key worship is to creating that good future for your children and your children's children.

When we look at our country and pray for the nation that our kids will inherit, it's amazing to consider the fact that our heart of worship today will impact and influence their reality. God's blessing comes to those who worship Him. Spend some time today praying for us to be united as a nation and to seek Him first.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give us one heart and one purpose. Teach us to worship You in humility and in truth. Guide our nation and show us how to live in a way that prepares our nation for future generations.

DAY 23:

HE WILL DO GOOD FOR US

“And I will make an everlasting covenant with them: I will never stop doing good for them. I will put a desire in their hearts to worship me, and they will never leave me. I will find joy doing good for them and will faithfully and wholeheartedly replant them in this land.”

- Jeremiah 32: 40-41

Key Takeaway:

God’s plans for us are good and when we align with His heart, He will establish us.

Devotion:

In a world where there are so much sin and evil, it’s easy to lose hope and look around wondering where God is and if His heart for us is good. This passage promises that when we desire Him and worship Him, He will never leave us and will faithfully establish us in the land.

As we get close to the elections, remember that His heart for our country is good. His desire is for our nation to walk in His ways. And He is faithful to bless us with His favor when we put Him at the center of our lives.

Guided Prayer:

Father, we know Your heart is good. And that Your plans for our country are good when we put You at the center of our lives. Turn our nation back to You and establish us in this land.

DAY 24:

RESTORATION COMES WITH SEEKING

“Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.”

- 2 Chronicles 7:14

Key Takeaway:

Seeking Him is the catalyst for His healing and restoring our country.

Devotion:

Humility is not something often admired in American culture today. We tend to look to the bold and the brash, the loud and the public, and applaud their ability to make a name for themselves.

But in God’s economy, humility is essential when we’re seeking His face and is essential to His restoration. Humility is the precursor to repentance. As a nation, we need to humble ourselves and turn away from evil, so that we can truly hear His voice and follow Him. He promises that when we do this, He will hear us and forgive us and restore our nation.

Guided Prayer:

Father, give us humility. Turn hearts of stone into hearts of flesh and guide us in Your ways. I pray over our nation, that we would seek You and Your will. Heal our land. Restore our hope. Give us a vision for the future You are calling

DAY 25:

PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY

“And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare.”

- Jeremiah 29:7

Key Takeaway:

We're called to pray for God's blessing and protection over the city and country we live in.

Devotion:

We're called to both work and pray for the peace and prosperity of our nation. Like we've talked about throughout this devotional, action is an important part of the Christian life.

We're called to pray and intercede for our nation. And then we're called to put those prayers into action and work for that peace we pray for. Prayer shifts our hearts to align with God's so that we know how to act and the best way to honor Him through those actions. Spend some time today praying over our elected officials, our business leaders, and our cultural leaders. And then find one way you can take action to bring about the change you want to see.

Guided Prayer:

Father, I pray for peace and prosperity in our country. Make me a bearer of Your peace. I pray You give us fresh eyes and hearts that are sensitive to what You are doing here. Show us Your ways and help us walk in them.

DAY 26:

OUR KINGDOM IS UNSHAKABLE

"Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe."

- Hebrews 12:28

Key Takeaway:

We can approach life with gratitude and worship because our hope lies in God's unshakeable Kingdom.

Devotion:

What is your hope in? When we think about where our hope lies, we're really talking about what we worship and where we place our trust. There are a lot of different idols we can have. Maybe it's idolizing a certain political party or trusting in our own wisdom and placing our hope in an earthly "kingdom".

At the end of the day, we can approach the elections - regardless of the outcome - with thankfulness and peace because we know our hope lies in God's Kingdom and not here on earth. We work to bring about His Kingdom values here and we actively pursue being His hands and feet in every area of influence in our lives, but we know that our hope is in Him alone.

Guided Prayer:

Father, help me remember where my hope truly lies. Give us a spirit of thankfulness as we approach the election - remembering that our hope is in You and Your Kingdom.

DAY 27:

GODLINESS MAKES A NATION GREAT

"Godliness makes a nation great, but sin is a disgrace to any people."

- Proverbs 14:34

Key Takeaway:

Our nation is called to live in godliness and with that obedience to His ways comes God's blessing.

Devotion:

If we want our nation to be great, we need to embrace godliness in every sphere. We are called to walk in His ways and follow Him.

What area of our cultural or political scene is most important to you? You don't have to try to change every area. Pick one or two that matter most to you and follow that passion. Start taking action to help bring godliness into that specific arena. We each have a part to play in helping bring His values to play here on earth. That starts in our own hearts, our own family, and our own community and expands to our nation. If we each commit to a godly life, we'll start to see the ripple effect of that pursuit on the broad-scale of our national landscape.

Guided Prayer:

Father, turn our hearts to You and let us be a reflection of Your truth in the world. Give us the courage to live godly lives and let our nation reflect Your heart.

DAY 28:

A JOYFUL NATION

“What joy for the nation whose God is the Lord, whose people he has chosen as his inheritance.”

- Psalm 33:12

Key Takeaway:

There is great joy for the nation that follows God.

Devotion:

What would it look like for our country to be a nation of joy? We have faced so much division, so much hatred, and polarization that it can be hard to picture a nation truly blessed by the Lord’s joy. But take a few minutes and imagine what that would look like.

The decisions made in this election season will have an impact for generations. You have the opportunity to make a lasting difference and help point our nation to the Lord. Each one of us is responsible for helping to cultivate a nation whose God is the Lord. When we do that, He will bring His joy and blessing to our country.

This Week’s Action Step:

Vote! And offer to drive a friend to go and vote with you.

Guided Prayer:

Father, as we seek Your face and seek Your heart for the future of our nation increase our joy and give us a vision for what You are calling us to. Give us perseverance to courageously pursue and value what You value. Turn our nation back to You.

Thank you for joining us!

Thank you for joining us on this 28-day journey of prayer leading up to the elections!

We're so encouraged by how many people have united together to intercede on behalf of our families, communities, and our country.

As it says in James 5:16 "the earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results". The Lord is at work in our country and we are excited to see how He moves. Thank you for partnering with us in prayer and influencing the future of our country.

Together, we are shaping the future of our nation through prayer.

ABOUT churchvotes

Our Church Votes makes voter registration and education accessible to any size church through technology and resources designed for corporate, small group, and individual devotional experiences. Our Church Votes has the resources you need to engage, educate, and equip Christians to take their faith and convictions from the pew to the public square.

WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

THANK YOU so much for prayerfully working through this resource. We hope it help you grow in some new ways. And we believe that God will honor your desire to be used by Him through your vote, especially through the upcoming election.

Here are some next steps to consider

If you haven't already, register to vote. It's absolutely free and will ensure you have the opportunity to turn your faith into action through voting when the time comes.

Our desire is to let your pastor know about OurChurchVotes.org. We are a non-partisan outreach ministry of MyFaithVotes.org. Our desire to resource churches to engage, educate, and equip Christians to vote.

Consider downloading The Church Toolkit on our Church Resources section of our website. You will have everything you need to lead your church through a Voter Registration Drive to ensure as many Christians as possible have the opportunity to vote.

Share this resource with others. Send it as an email. Print it out and distribute it in your church. The more Christians who pray about voting, the more likely those same Christians will vote in the ext election.

Sign up to stay connected to OurChurchVotes.org. We'll let you know as new Resources are available for use in your small group, family, and personal reflection times.

Pray. Pray like you never have before. Our country needs your prayers right now. And when Christians gather to pray and see God, He will honor our requests. Be an example to others about what it means to pray, do good, and vote.

To help you and your church understand the Christian foundation as you pray for our Nation, check out **100 Bible Verses That Made America**. Robert J. Morgan takes you on a Biblical tour through American history, and teaches you about the Bible's role in defining moments and the impact on America — reminding us of the beauty at the intersection of faith and our Nation. Go to www.robertjmorgan.com to learn more.

Our Church Votes: An Initiative by My Faith Votes

In order to influence the culture you must engage the culture

This is the principal behind the Our Church Votes initiative. It is true that more than 25 million Christians chose not to vote in the last presidential election.

We can do better.

My Faith Votes is working to ensure that the Christian voice is heard and is strong in the struggle for our culture — and one of the best ways to exercise our Christian voice and make our voice heard is in the ballot box.

One way you can truly make an impact is through our Church Voter Registration Drive. You can work with your church and My Faith Votes to get your church community informed and registered to vote!

You can learn more, and get your church community involved by going to www.ourchurchvotes.org.