

WHO TO PRAY FOR

Suggestion: Each day, pick one category and pray for one or two individuals in that category.

President _____

Cabinet members _____

Senators _____

Congressional representatives _____

Supreme Court _____

Military leaders _____

Governor _____

State legislators _____

Mayor _____

Police chief, sheriff _____

Others _____

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HOW TO PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

*“It is a great privilege, as well as our responsibility,
to pray for our government leaders.”*

— Billy Graham

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“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.” —1 TIMOTHY 2:1–3, NKJV

- **Petition** means to ask. God urges us to ask, and He is pleased when we do.
- **Prayer** is talking to God, anywhere, anytime, in any way.
- **Intercession** is praying for someone else. The Bible tells us that Jesus Christ constantly intercedes for us (see Romans 8:34), so it pleases God when we intercede for someone else—including heads of state and others in authority—because we are doing what Christ does.
- **Thanksgiving** always pleases God, and the Bible specifically tells us to include thanksgiving when talking to God about those in authority.

We are to pray respectfully for leaders. “Honor all people. ... Fear God. Honor the king” (1 Peter 2:17). We are to pray with the clear understanding that government authority is established by God. “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God” (Romans 13:1). We also pray knowing that God’s Word says, “The king’s heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes” (Proverbs 21:1).

You can pray using words and thoughts from Scripture.

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- Open the heart of our president [or any leader at any level] to hear and respond to the Gospel message if they do not know you. Acts 16:14
 - Help [name] to accept wise counsel. Proverbs 11:14; 15:22
 - Teach [name] to trust in You. Psalm 21:7
 - Protect [name] from the influence of the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3:3
 - Give [name] discretion, foresight, and understanding in making decisions. 1 Chronicles 22:12
 - Deliver [name] from opinions contrary to Your Word. Psalm 119:105
 - Protect [name] from harm, and bless and protect his/her family. Psalm 21:11; Ezra 6:10
 - Enable [name] to carry out his/her duties with humility toward You and toward others. 1 Peter 5:5
 - Give [name] the courage to do the right thing even when urged to do the wrong thing. Proverbs 2:11–15
 - Give [name] a tender heart of compassion toward those he/she leads and serves. Colossians 3:12