

MAY 2020

THE CONNECTER

INFORM. CONNECT. MOBILIZE.



Global Shaking, Global Pause, Global Reset

By David Kubal, IFA President/CEO

The COVID-19 pandemic will always be remembered by this current generation. We have watched the entire globe be shaken by this novel virus that burst on the scene, crippled economies, and shut down the lives of billions. These global shakings required nations to reconsider the foundations of their cultures and relationships with other nations. It will be some time before we return to a “new” normal.

Forced or self-imposed quarantine resulted in billions of lives being put on pause and caused most to look deep within their souls as they faced mortality. Many turned to prayer. There is no way to measure the immensity of collective prayers, but if you could, this metric would be at a new all-time high. This prayerful pause caused many to reset their lives, while at the same time wondering how the economic reset would change their future.

And so, here we are, celebrating another National Day of Prayer. This one is different though. It feels different because it is not just one day of prayer this year, rather it is a collective urgent need. Many are feeling the need for divine intervention because of a viral infection or an infected loved one. Many are feeling the need to see the loving hand of God guide them into a new job. Many are feeling the need for supernatural intervention to meet payroll or save a business.

MANY ARE FEELING THE NEED TO PRAY.

To those desperate to see God show up in your life, I offer this: *[I]f you seek God, your God, you'll be able to find him if you're serious, looking for him with your whole heart and soul.* (Dt 4:29 MSG) This Scripture

is a great promise. All we can do is this: search for God, ask Him to show Himself, and pray He would visit our circumstances. The rest is up to Him.



During this time of resetting our lives, we must keep prayer at the center. It would be easy to fill our lives with counterfeit solutions that only bring emptiness. The grief of the current circumstances and the shock of what we have gone through will eventually wear off, but what will our lives be like on the other side? It is what emerges that will be important to remember.

National Day of Prayer's theme this year is “Pray God's Glory Across the Earth,” taking us beyond the borders of our nation to consider God's glory in every nation. However, the glory of God appears first in the lives of individuals who are desperately seeking God's presence in their own lives. So, pray today, that our nation, and nations across the earth, will continue to turn to the One who gives us peace and hope as we reset our lives. ★ IFA



Pray God's Glory Across the Earth

Kathy Branzell, President, National Day of Prayer Task Force

When God prompted us last summer with this year's National Day of Prayer (NDOP) theme, we had no idea what would be happening across America and around the world in the days leading up to the first Thursday of May. When the NDOP theme, "Pray God's Glory Across the Earth," was announced, some questioned why it was not specific to America. But we were convinced God was pointing us to Habakkuk 2:14. God's promise in Habakkuk's generation remains true throughout every generation: *"The knowledge of the glory of the Lord will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea."* We know "the knowledge of the glory of the Lord" is Jesus (2 Cor 4:6), so NDOP committed to pray and to share the love and message of Jesus as we prepare and mobilize America to pray together on May 7, 2020.

This promise is an example of how God's purpose will be accomplished even in the darkest of times and hardest of hearts. We take heart in knowing that heaven is never in chaos; that God is ALL mighty in all circumstances. As we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, we MUST be found courageous, even worshipful, knowing that Jesus is still our Shepherd.

So what are our marching orders as this physical and spiritual war continues to rage, yet sets the stage, for God's glory to be seen and spread across the earth? It should come as no surprise that the National Day of Prayer would list prayer as our first response. As the saying goes, "Prayer is our first response, not our last resort." These days have proven that we cannot rely on our health or wealth; we have absolutely no earthly power to instantly change our circumstances,

but our fervent effectual prayers speak to the ONLY One who is able. As we lift up our prayers we should watch for His answers, listen for His wisdom, and continually speak hope and faith to our neighbors and the world.

We also need to stay unified. In these amazing days we are able to shelter in place while simultaneously reaching around the world. FaceTime, video conferencing, social media, and conference call lines are all being used for prayer gatherings every day. In these days when we have no idea if Americans will be able to gather in face-to-face groups for the National Day of Prayer on May 7, rest assured there will be thousands, if not millions, of unified public prayers for America by way of streaming on the internet, social media, radio, and television broadcasts. Every prayer warrior can be building the army of pray-ers by inviting others to pray today and in nationwide unity on May 7. The National Day of Prayer is a law; the law requires the President of the United States to proclaim a day of prayer in America, for America. Prayer will not be cancelled. We will "Pray God's Glory Across the Earth." ★ IFA



FIRST FRIDAY *prayer*

MAY 1, 2020

On the first Friday of every month we encourage intercessors to fast and pray for America using the prayer focuses below.

RESET

Pray that the season of pause would bear great fruit. Pray Christians will seek God more earnestly and fervently. Pray for the Church to be reset with the solid foundation of listening and obedience. (Lk 6:46-49) Pray for a harvest of new believers in Christ to emerge from the coronavirus crisis. Pray for a continued surge in passionate national intercession.

GOD'S GLORY

Pray that the knowledge of the glory of the Lord will fill the earth as the waters cover the sea. (Hab 2:14) Pray that God would make Himself known through miraculous answers to the prayers of His people. Pray for Jesus to be exalted in our lives and in our nation. (2 Cor 4:6)

NATIONAL LEADERS

Pray for the leaders of our nation to have God's wisdom and direction in guiding us. Pray for Christians in government to be level-headed, focused on Christ, influential, and persuasive when sharing the wisdom of the Word. Pray they would be calm in crisis and confident in Christ. (Prv 14:26)



You are Invited, Will You Come Up?

By Gloria Robles, IFA Intercessor

In February of this year, God gave me a vision for the coronavirus season of pause. A group of Christians were gathered next to a massive wall. I asked about the wall. The people said, "There's an altar on the other side." I knew the altar was not literal, but represented a meeting place with God. I decided to go up. I began to scale this massive wall, and when I was about halfway up, part of the wall became mud. My foot slipped and I fell down. I fell hard and those watching gasped. Winded, and in pain, I climbed up again. I made it higher and fell, got back up, made it higher and fell, got back up, until finally, with almost no strength, I reached the top of the wall. I was determined to let nothing stop me from meeting with God. To my surprise, it wasn't a wall at the top at all—it was an upper room prepared for God's people. There were candles, pillows, seats, and a place for me. I asked the people there what they were doing. They said, "Waiting on God." The atmosphere was very intimate. There was no striving, no busyness, no worry, just peace.

I looked for a rope to throw down to help the others, but there was none. I looked over to see if anyone else was coming up, but saw none.



God calls us to intimacy and an invitation to come up higher. In the natural, walls represent a barrier or obstruction. This wall separated us from meeting with God. There was no rope to let down—no shortcuts to Him. The wall had to be climbed. The mud pit in the wall was a trap that caught my foot; I slipped and fell. This is a call to repentance for the body of Christ. If you have fallen into the "trap" and sinned, or are stuck in the cycle of sin and can't seem to break free, repent and come back to God. Acts 3:19 promises when we repent, we receive times of refreshing. Repent and get back up again—go after God with everything within you. Proverbs 24:16 says, "For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again..." God's people who have felt discouraged, ashamed, and weak need to get back up again. No matter how many times you miss it, get back up again. Let nothing stop your pursuit of drawing closer to God. The upper room represents the fullness of God—unity, outpouring, waiting on God, and communion with God most of all. >>

TEAR-OFF

INTERCESSORS
for
AMERICA

THE POWER OF *praying* **THE WORD** IN NATIONAL INTERCESSION

WHY PRAY THE WORD?

The Lord gave the word;
Great was the company of
those who proclaimed it.
(PSALM 68:11 NKJV)

YOU CAN RELEASE THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD INTO ANY SITUATION.

FIRST, speak the Scripture aloud, with confidence, and it is helpful to personalize it to the situation at hand.

SECOND, choose to have faith that the Scripture is true, no matter what things look like in the natural.

THIRD, praise the Lord!

Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, and that light dwells with Him. ...For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

(FROM DANIEL 2:20-22 &
DANIEL 4:34-35 NKJV)



"Lord, the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you."
(2 CHRONICLES 20:6 NIV)

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.
(EPHESIANS 2:10 ESV)

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice....
(PROVERBS 29:2 KJV)

When justice is done, it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.
(PROVERBS 21:15 NIV)

"Great and marvelous are your deeds, Lord God Almighty. Just and true are your ways, King of the nations. Who will not fear you, Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."
(REVELATION 15:3-4 NIV)

TEAR-OFF

answered PRAYER

COVID-19 PRAYER WALL
COVID-19 came to America and intercessors responded with the greatest outpouring of prayer that IFA has witnessed. Over 100,000 prayers were posted on the COVID-19 Prayer Wall within just the first two weeks. There is no way to quantify the tremendous impact of this community of intercessors.

NATIONAL PAUSE TO PRAY
The National Day of Prayer on May 7 will be the second official National Day of Prayer for America in 2020. In response to the coronavirus crisis, President Trump called on the nation to come together in concerted prayer on Sunday, March 22, 2020. Prayer conference call lines were overwhelmed by the demand for intercession.

FIRST FRIDAY prayer CONFERENCE CALL

**MAY 1, 2020
12:15 PM ET**

Please plan on setting these important 30 minutes aside to join with hundreds across the U.S. in praying for America, its leaders, and its citizens.

Call: (712) 775-7430
Replay: (712) 775-7432
Access code: 2452#

Considering this dream, I prayed for a move of God. The Lord interrupted me: "Stop praying for a move of God and *be* the move of God!" Selah in the Bible means "pause." This is where we are as the people of God. The root word, "sel," means connect. It's time to connect with God like never before. Come up higher! You will find rest in God's presence. There is movement in God's stillness. Beloved, now is the time to climb up into communion with God. ★ IFA

UPCOMING events

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
The National Day of Prayer on May 7, 2020 will be commemorated with both state and national events. Go to nationaldayofprayer.org for the most up-to-date information.

TOGETHER 2020
On June 20, 2020, in Washington, D.C., join a living tribute to the Bible, as thousands gather for immersive experiences of art, music, and culture as part of Year of the Bible. Visit togethergeneration.com for more information.

This First Friday Prayer Letter, provided on request, is published 10 times annually. IFA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit ministry. All Scripture references are NIV unless otherwise noted. Contents may be reproduced, except for items separately copyrighted; please credit IFA.

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