



INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

THE CONNECTER

INFORM. CONNECT. MOBILIZE.



Praying for America's Leaders

David Kubal, IFA President/CEO

While we are *shaping our nation's history through prayer and fasting*, God is illuminating areas where IFA can help intercessors become more effective. We have heard from intercessors repeatedly that there are two things that would really help their intercession: First, connection and community with fellow intercessors and, second, direction about how to interface with elected officials on issues. Praying for America's Leaders, a new initiative from Intercessors for America will address these two needs—and more!

Recently we feel God has unfolded a strategy that helps strengthen ties with other local intercessors, provides more personal involvement in issues that need prayer, and offers opportunities for effective action as we band together. Our heart is to see intercession for our nation integrated into many facets of our lives—with others in your community, in the local church, among believers across your state, and as a national body of intercessors.

Praying for America's Leaders is the new initiative that builds on the interactive map-based technology from Vote Your Values and applies it to praying for your state and with others from your state. As we provide information about immediate prayer and action needs in your state, you will be able to immediately send a message, take action, pray in unity with provided prayer points, and connect with others who are also praying through Zoom prayer meetings and online forums.

This initiative is rolling out in stages. Be watching for information and invitations to pray with your state. Check out the Praying for America's Leaders website which will feature



PHOTO BY TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

the leaders map, your personal prayer dashboard, the Headline Prayer newsfeed, prayer resources, webcasts, videos, and more. From national to regional and state issues, involving individual intercessors standing alone and empowering churches for intercession, Praying for America's Leaders is the initiative we are praying is used by God in our nation at this strategic time.

The mandate of Intercessors for America has always been to intercede for our nation, including interceding for the various elected officials who lead it. Birthed in the era of Nixon, intercessors prayed in 1973 about Roe v. Wade, Watergate, and their concern about where America was headed. We have not run out of things to pray about! But we are learning new ways of walking out our call to intercession through the latest technology, inspired and directed by God. **★ IFA**



Lessons Learned from 2020

Kim Potter, IFA Contributing Writer

2020 held a great deal of challenges. However, it was also plentiful in opportunities to learn spiritual lessons that if embraced will produce godly and lasting fruit. We can choose how we respond to challenges. We can act according to the Word of God rather than react. Challenging times can make us better or bitter – the choice is up to us.

BE PREPARED

At the beginning of 2020, God began to speak one thing to me. Prepare.

Of course, I could not have imagined what was coming. Sadly, I didn't fervently pray into what He was saying. I thought He was only urging me to prepare spiritually for something ahead – which I did. But, He was telling me to prepare in the natural as well.

Since that time, I have stayed prepared. Spiritually and physically. I keep myself built up in faith. I do my best to not allow anything to shake me. To do this, I avoid the news media and instead keep my ear turned to God. I also keep my shelves filled with enough supplies to last a few weeks if need be. It was a hard lesson but one I am thankful for. There is a great peace in staying prepared for whatever may come our way. (2 Tm 4:2, Prv 6:6-8)

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAITH IN GOD AND HIS WORD

Challenges are time to allow our roots to grow deeper into God: *Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.* (Col 2:7)

In 2020, I learned it was vital to make sure our foundation is in Him and His Word to determine that our roots will continue to go deeper into Him. If our faith is in anything or anyone other than God, we will bend, and may break. For this

reason, our firm foundation must be established in the Word of God.

God revealed areas of my life where I was certain I was trusting God when I was not. God's Word is the only truth. We must remain in God and His Word, for it will not return void. His Word is a light to our path and will show us the way to go, as we trust in Him. Choosing to continue in faith is cumulative, you must decide day after day that you trust in God alone. (Jer 29:11-13, Ps 119:105)

THE IMPORTANCE OF WORDS

I have witnessed many people speaking fear and negative outcomes and then watched those words come to pass in their lives. Our words are vital; the Bible tells us so. It tells us to guard our words. Our words produce life and death. Words have never been more important. We eat the fruit of our words. It is up to us to speak life or death and whatever we choose – we will eat those words – we will live those words. (Prv 18:21, Prv 13:3)

A REVEALING OF MY HEART

The greatest lesson I encountered through 2020 was the revealing of my heart. God allows us to go through seasons to show us the true content of our hearts. (Jer 17:9)

Pressure and challenges reveal things in us that come out no other way. The good news is when those things come to the surface, we can repent and turn from them. Those God loves, He chastens or corrects. We should be thankful.

Challenges push us to grow and encourage us to change, not for our destruction, but for our benefit. Whatever the season, may we continue to grow, firmly established in God and His Word, allowing the seed of every adversity to create greater benefits in our life. ★ IFA

FIRST FRIDAY *prayer*

MARCH 5, 2021

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

DISCERNMENT FOR LEADERS

Pray for divine discernment for government leaders. Ask God to open their eyes to deception.

Pray for God to give leaders His wisdom. Pray that godly leaders will be protected—that no schemes to discredit and harm them would succeed. Pray that God will help them wield influence for righteous laws in our nation and communities.

PRO-LIFE EFFORTS

Pray for all the leaders who are working to stop the advances of pro-abortion laws and legislation. Pray for workers in pro-life pregnancy centers, for sidewalk counselors, for national pro-life organizations. May the message of the intrinsic value of the unborn take root in hearts and minds in our nation so that fewer and fewer women will choose abortion, regardless of what the laws are.

CHRISTIANS IN CONGRESS

Pray for the many Christians who are serving in Congress as elected officials or staff. Pray that they would seek God, His plans, and His purposes for our nation. Pray for humility and the recognition that God placed them in position to honor Him in government, for His glory and for the benefit of the American people.



2021: A Year of Mercy

Tracey de Blank, IFA Staff

I saw something on social media at the beginning of 2021 asking me to post my “word of the year.” I laughed and scrolled on. I didn’t have a word—for the year or even for the day. But in God’s great mercy He gave me that very word.

I purchased a new study Bible recently and am starting at the beginning in Genesis. The first example I see of mercy in the Bible is in the Garden of Eden. I’ve read Genesis many times and wasn’t expecting a lightning bolt to hit when I read it again. I got to Genesis 3, when the eyes of Adam and Eve were opened after they sinned. I was practically skimming it, then I read this: *And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.* (Gen 3:21)

I started to cry. After their direct disobedience, God had so much mercy on Adam and Eve that He clothed them Himself. I pictured a loving Father sewing clothes for His wayward children. How many times have I had the opportunity to extend mercy to someone but replaced it with judgment or anger?

Now, more than any time in recent memory, Christians are crying out to God for mercy for ourselves and our nation. We have this promise in the Bible to hold onto: *We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.* (2 Cor 4:8-9)


We are not crushed—when we are weak, He is strong. We are not in despair—in His presence is fullness of joy. We are not abandoned—we are heirs according to the promise. We are not destroyed—we are seated in heavenly places and have the Holy Spirit living in us.

No one exemplifies this gift of mercy more than Jesus.

And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” (Mk 10:46-47)

What did Jesus do? Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted. The beggar wanted to see, and once Jesus restored his sight, he followed Jesus. Jesus wants to hear what we want. He cares about the smallest details of our lives. He wants us to follow Him.

In God’s great mercy, He sent Jesus to die on the cross on our behalf. Such a great sacrifice can hardly be comprehended. God’s mercy isn’t limited by our understanding of events and circumstances. Ask Him to help you see Him, yourself, and others through His eyes, the eyes of mercy and grace.

Mercy is my “word of the year.” What is yours? 



TEAR-OFF



PRAY FOR THE BIDEN Administration

That President Biden and Vice President Harris would bow their knees to Jesus and receive forgiveness for their sins; and that they would turn and walk the way of righteousness.

That You would surround them with wise and godly counselors and deliver them from ungodly counselors.

That You would fill them with Your Spirit of Elijah, that You would turn the hearts of the children to the fathers and the fathers to the children—that they would protect, honor, love, and cherish children, both unborn and preborn; and that they would love, cherish, honor, and protect the elderly at all stages of life as well.

That they would love and cherish freedom, including religious freedom, freedom of speech, freedom to do business, freedom to travel, freedom of the press, the right to bear arms, etc.—and that their laws would only protect freedom, not destroy it.

That they would resolve the crisis at our Southern border and not make it worse. That immigrant children at the Southern border would be reunited with their parents, and that trafficked children at the border would be rescued and brought into a place of safety and love, with people who will care for them well.

That all human trafficking would be exposed and brought to justice during this administration, and that both adults and children who are being trafficked would be rescued, saved, and healed.

That You would use this administration to heal racial division among Americans.

That that they would be restrained from making any decisions that would harm Americans, American jobs, and the American economy.

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That You would use them to help us steward this earth which You created—but that environmental regulations would be only in agreement with the will and Word of God.

That they would not allow terrorists to enter our country, that they would not call people terrorists who are not and they would not be blind to those who are in the U.S. and around the world.

That they would cease persecuting, labeling, and trying to cancel those who disagree with them.

That all their works, both good and evil, would be exposed and come to light.

That You would fill them with a holy and good spirit of patriotism for the United States of America, and that they would put Your will for the United States first in their governmental priorities. We ask that You would prevent them from making any trade deals, treaties, accords, or other decisions that would harm the USA.

That they would love and bless Israel, and that You would use them to protect Israel.

That You would fill them with wisdom from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, willing to yield, and full of mercy and good fruits.

That You would fill them with a spirit of honor toward Yourself, toward the American people, toward the American military, toward the Constitution, and toward righteous government. Give them a holy fear of the Lord. Fill them with Your Spirit of the fear of the Lord, which is the beginning of wisdom.

Let only words of life proceed out of their mouths. Let them speak words of life to the American people—words that truly unite instead of words of division.

Bring President Biden, Vice President Harris, the nation of the United States of America, the American government, and the American people into righteousness and justice in all things.

TEAR-OFF

answered PRAYER

PRAYER REVIVAL

In the last year, the ministry of IFA has grown exponentially.

Despite efforts to censor our reach on social media, the number of intercessors doubled. Not only did the number of intercessors increase, but also the passion for intercession for the nation. In every means of measurement, people have been praying for the nation more.

DEPENDENCE ON GOD ALONE

As the events of 2020 unfolded, we heard from many of our intercessors that God is removing the exaltation of government, leadership, personal accomplishments, and self-righteousness. This is bringing us back to dependence on Christ alone, the King who has never left His throne. We are hearing more and more of people on their faces before the Lord, going back to the basics of prayer, worship, and the Word. We praise God for personal revival and a return to Him.

THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE US

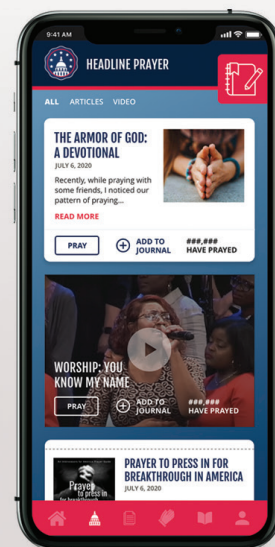
In Matthew 5, Jesus tells us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. We have an incredible opportunity to show the love of Christ to an angry, hurting world. We may not have thought to pray for rioters bent on destruction, leaders that we didn't vote for, or even the media, but as Christians, we have the opportunity to shine the light of Christ now more than ever. Let's thank the Lord for using us to bring His love to others during this stressful season.

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FIRST FRIDAY prayer CONFERENCE CALL

MARCH 5, 2021

12:15 PM ET

Join with thousands across the
U.S. in praying for America, its
leaders, and its citizens.

Call: (712) 775-7430

Webcast: IFAPray.org/live

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 ESV unless otherwise noted. Contents may be reproduced, except for items separately copyrighted; please credit IFA.

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A higher purpose.