

The Connector

NEWS. PRAYER. ACTION.



Trusting God for Government

DAVID KUBAL, IFA PRESIDENT/CEO

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Isa. 9:6).*

Amid the red and green, Christmas trees, angels, stars, cookies, parties, and even pageants and Nativities, you might not think of “government.” Yet there it is, in the midst of the greatest birth announcement ever written: “the government shall be upon his shoulder.”

What are we to make of this? What hope does this give the national intercessor?

God established three institutions to care for us: the family, the Church, and the government. In this passage, He highlights government. This institution impacts us in profound ways, which is why we are called to pray for our government and our leaders.

Knowing that the government ultimately rests on Jesus’ shoulders doesn’t relieve us of the need and burden to intercede. Actually, it increases the burden, because we know that He cares about how we are governed. So we have the boldness and the persistence to seek Him for His ways in our government.

This year we celebrate one of the greatest gifts of answered prayer we may see in our lifetimes: the overturn of Roe v. Wade. It makes this Christmas much sweeter to know that our nation’s legal record has been corrected and that the constitutional and moral wrong of Roe has been

IN THIS ISSUE

Trusting God for Government

State Prayer: Years in the Making

Release His Light into Our Nation

reversed. As we celebrate the life of Christ and His coming into the world as a baby, we thank God that our Supreme Court had the courage to declare that the law of the land does not demand abortion.

This great victory emboldens us to ask for more. Look at the beautiful words of this verse and how they address the issues our nation faces. Gender and identity confusion and warped views of what it means to be a human threaten our nation’s children and our religious-freedom rights — we need a Wonderful Counselor. Injustice in our laws, courts, and law enforcement corrupts our society — we need a Mighty God. The breakdown of the family, the addiction epidemic, and the push for legalized abortion are all relentless — we need an Everlasting Father. The disunity in our nation is fanned into flames by demonic influence — we need a Prince of Peace.

At the birth of IFA in November 1973, nine months after Roe v. Wade was handed down, this organization’s founders envisioned praying through the bicentennial year of America, 1976. In that year, the needs were still great, and the founders sensed the Lord’s direction to continue. Now, in 2022, Roe v. Wade has been overturned, and we are grateful and praise our God. Yet, the needs are still great, and we sense the Lord’s calling with even greater urgency to pray for this nation.

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I will be focused on thanking God for you, our community of intercessors who are shaping history through prayer and fasting, trusting God for government.



State Prayer: Years in the Making

BY KRIS KUBAL, IFA CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER

God orchestrated the state prayer effort at IFA masterfully: Years of prayer and a deep sense of calling led up to a 2022 launch. While God worked at IFA, He also worked in the lives of the intercessors who would become state prayer leaders.

Their stories encourage and inspire us. Here are just a few of the wonderful testimonies we have received from our IFA state prayer leaders.

BILL AND BETSY WEST, PA

When IFA cast the vision for state prayer leaders, we knew the need was urgent. I (Betsy) felt a deep call to pray for the person who would step up and lead our state. They would need to be someone with lots of time and who would be known as an outstanding intercessor. After an IFA meeting when they outlined their desire to establish the state intercessors as quickly as the Lord would allow, I could hear the Holy Spirit saying: *"Why not you?"*

"But I have never done anything like this before."

"Good, when you are weak, I am strong."

"But I can't pray with the skill that others possess."

"It's not about you, it's about bringing together intercessors with a heart for Pennsylvania.

You are not alone. It takes every gifting brought together to affect change in my nation."

I understood that obedience is better than sacrifice. I knew that my lack of ability did not disqualify me. I knew in my heart: If not me, then who? Our prayer calls began in May, and we have grown in number and in representation of counties across the state. We are a cohesive group of like-minded intercessors determined to deliver our state as one of Virtue, Liberty, and Independence (our state motto), and as a strong Keystone that supports the framework



Kris Kubal with Suzie MacAskil and Jeff Britton.

of the nation. We believe in faith that we will walk in our birthright as the "Seed of a Nation."

SUZIE MACASKIL, MA

I'm from Scotland, married to an American. My sister and I set up the prayer ministry in our church by God's leading with baby steps; He didn't show us the whole plan initially, or we may have backed off. He has just very gently kept moving us forward as prayer ministry leaders.

At the start of this year, I considered a word God had given me in 2016 from Isaiah 6:8 — *"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"* Then I said, *"Here I am! Send me."* I wondered where God intended to move me. That night we had an overnight prayer time, and I realized He'd sent me to Massachusetts. I became passionate about 24-hour prayer with many churches praying together. I didn't know how to start it. So, I didn't.

One day my sister challenged me about whether I had not obeyed God in anything. Instantly, I thought about Massachusetts prayer. I repented of not seeing it through, but I still wasn't sure how to do it. The very next day IFA sent an email about state prayer groups. I offered to help be part of setting up the group, along with others. God had other ideas. I was the only one from Massachusetts to respond, so I became the state leader!

First Friday Prayer

NEXT CALL IS FRIDAY

December 2

12:15 PM ET

CALL (667) 771-7910, CODE 2452#
WEBCAST IFApray.org/watch

Join with thousands across the U.S. in praying for America, its leaders, and its citizens on the first Friday of every month.

GOVERNMENT

Pray for your community, state, and national leaders. Pray that they would govern in ways that honor God, in accord with His will. Pray for salvation for those who do not follow Jesus and for the strengthening of those who do. Pray for government that reflects God's will and God's ways.

STATE PRAYER

Thank God for birthing an IFA state prayer ministry in 2022. Pray for more intercessors to participate and for every state and the District of Columbia to be covered in prayer. Ask the Lord to give these groups supernatural insight and discernment in intercession.

CHRISTMAS

Pray that this month would be a celebration of Jesus. Thank Him for coming into our world and our nation to dispel all darkness. Speak into the darkness and chaos, with the authority Jesus gives us, and declare the presence of light. May the light and love of Jesus Christ, our Savior, cover this earth during this season.



Release His Light into Our Nation

BY KIM POTTER, IFA CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Across the country, houses, businesses, and streets are illuminated with Christmas lights. In stark contrast, the world we live in appears to become darker and darker with each passing day. What's the answer? The answer for darkness can be found in the reason for this season: Jesus. The answer for darkness has always been light.

Light. Our hope is in the one true light.

In the first chapter of John, we find this hope and light:

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it (John 1:1-5 NKJV).

Light overcomes darkness. Darkness will not and cannot remove the light.

While the New King James Version uses the word comprehend, other renditions say the darkness cannot "overcome," "suppress," "overpower," or "extinguish" the light. Allow that to go deep into your heart — darkness cannot dispel the light.

Who then, will see ultimate victory? We will. Jesus has already obtained victory. He is the Light that conquers all darkness.

America was founded on the word of God, and as a result, Jesus is

the light of our nation. Because of Jesus, we never have to walk in darkness again — not in our cities, and not in our nation at large (John 8:12, Isa. 9:2, Luke 1:79).

During this Christmas season, let's celebrate the Light. Instead of focusing on the darkness, let's release the light. In the book of Genesis, when God looked into the chaos and saw only darkness, He did not command the darkness to flee. He simply declared, "Light be" — and light was. He released the light. Jesus gave us the authority to do the same thing. We can, just like God, call those things that are not as though they were.

This Wonderful, Mighty, Everlasting Light came into our world, in the flesh. This constant, unchanging light will bring deliverance to our nation. In fact, He has already brought deliverance to our nation, through the finished work of the cross.

It's important to note that Jesus not only came into this world as a Light, He also came as Savior — a Savior to the whole world (1 John 4:14, John 4:42).

Savior means deliverer, preserver, one who brings order to government. This holiday season, He is shining His glorious light in our nation and in our government. He is dispelling darkness and bringing forth deliverance.

While the battle remains, the darkness will not overcome the light. As we celebrate Christmas and the Source of Light, let's release that illumination and be that light to shine in the darkness.

Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas in prayer.

Pray for those who are hurting from loss and disappointment.

"The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound" (Isa. 61:1 NKJV).

Pray for wholeness in your family.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jer. 29:11 NKJV).

Pray for God to bless our nation.

"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 I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land" (2 Chr. 7:14 NKJV).

TEAR-OFF

Continued from page 2.

Pray to be a blessing to others.

"And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Gen. 12:2-3).

Pray for the Prince of Peace to grant peace among the nations.

"And the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth" (Zech. 9:10).

Thank God for Jesus — the reason we celebrate.

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6).

FIND MORE RESOURCES LIKE THIS AT

IFApray.org

TEAR-OFF

JEFF BRITTON, IN

I was involved in IFA a year or so after it was founded. Life interrupted, and I disconnected. It took a long time to get my bearings again. I asked the Lord to get me back on track but to keep me from politics.

Of course, as part of my reassignment, the Lord reminded me of my intercessory call. Building on my early years of study, the Bible opened up layers deep. It amazed me. God had been working on me during those years in the wilderness. One important revelation was that governance is a powerful theme from Genesis to Revelation. Governance is at the top of God's mind. Another revelation was that the Holy Spirit spoke into darkness and chaos to bring order — I could now see through the murky political chaos.

I reconnected with IFA, and after a few exchanges, I asked who was covering Indiana for state prayer. It turns out it was me. The weekly call now includes regular prayer warriors who are the most mature and awe-inspiring Christians I have ever known in my life. Our group strikes at the root of governance problems. We powerfully apply and enforce the victory of Christ throughout our state. There are times when we all fall silent at what has just been said and applied in the Spirit. I learned that accepting this position as state prayer leader opened the door to extra insight, gifting, and angelic backup.

I did decide to meet God — to move, even crawl, toward Him. He definitely decided to meet me.

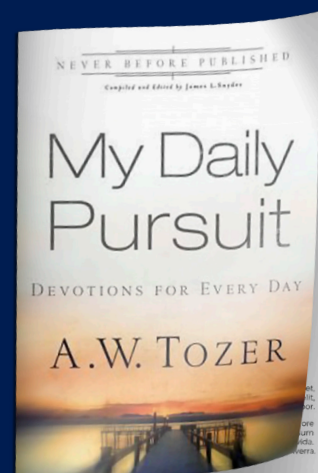
What About You?

God has long been orchestrating this effort in the states. What power He will pour on these efforts that He has initiated! Join in what God is doing in your own state by participating in IFA's state prayer groups. You may find that God has a calling and a story for you through involvement in prayer and action for your state. Find the details for your state's prayer group by visiting IFA's state pages at IFApray.org/states/.

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order online.



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A higher purpose.*