

The Connector

NEWS. PRAYER. ACTION.



Preparing for the Coming Glory

DAVE KUBAL, IFA PRESIDENT/CEO

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you (Isaiah 60:1-2).

These are trying times. The prophet Isaiah saw days much like these: People lived in willful ignorance of God and His ways; wickedness was increasing; and death and destruction appeared to reign. Darkness was everywhere.

Today, too, a thick darkness covers “the peoples” (the nations). This “darkness” is more than just a lack of light. It is, more directly, the overall impact of a lack of light. And we’re not talking about any ordinary darkness. No, this is “thick darkness”—a darkness we can almost touch. This darkness fills up the hollow spaces and seems to be permeating everything.

America faces chaos: threats of war; the crisis at our borders and the resulting evils of life-threatening drugs and human trafficking; an obsession with woke-ness and with transgender madness; tech leaders who are exalted as rulers, while honest parents are despised as nonentities. Our freedoms as citizens and as Christians are threatened. Even more, our enemies worldwide seem to be rising higher, while we seem to be sinking lower.

Where does it end? What can we do? Thankfully, our God is faithful, and He isn’t asleep. He hasn’t left us without hope. Instead, He has promised to give us His *glory*.

The Hebrew word for “glory” is *kabod*, a term that means “wealth” and even “splendor.” The word also means “weight” — and God’s *kabod* is weighty, as shown in His honor, dignity, and reputation. God’s glory is not something anyone can make up. It’s either there or it’s not. It is noticeable.

His promise of giving His glory is certain. Once God makes a promise, there’s no possibility of reversal.

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But there is a condition. It’s up to us to receive God’s promises. Let’s bring down any barriers to His promises and to His glory in our lives. For example, complaining is a barrier, and disunity is a barrier. These cause us to walk in the flesh and not in the Spirit. They breed selfishness and a focus on ourselves instead of on Christ. When we quarrel and complain, we can’t hear from God:

Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned.
(James 5:9).

In our struggle against thick darkness, we might wonder: Will we rise again? And the answer is yes, *we will*.

The passage from Isaiah does not say maybe, sort of, or it might. No, it speaks of God’s glory as an absolute outcome, a result with a 100% chance it will happen. It speaks of a full change — a complete and overwhelming change.

When God’s glory comes in its fullness, it will be obvious, all-encompassing, and visible to all. It will be something that comes in and totally changes our world — and that totally changes us. His glory is coming. And the darkness will not overcome it.



The Year in Review

JUDY MCDONOUGH, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

IFA celebrated its 50th anniversary all year long, culminating in the Shaping History Conference & Gala, which we will report on in our next issue of *The Connector*.

This year's webcasts featured interesting and insightful guests. Highlights of the First Friday webcast include visits with high school football coach Joe Kennedy, *Duck Dynasty's* Willie Robertson, televangelist Sid Roth, and a live broadcast from Israel with American-Israeli author Joel Rosenberg. The award-winning Pray With America's Leaders weekly webcast featured such government officials as Oklahoma Gov. Kevin Stitt; South Dakota Secretary of State Monae Johnson; Sen. Ron Johnson, of Wisconsin; Rep. Glenn Grothman, of Wisconsin; Rep. Bob Good, of Virginia; and several state legislators.

In the spring, thousands of intercessors joined Dave Kubal to study *Shaping History Through Prayer & Fasting*, the book that helped launch IFA 50 years ago. The response was tremendous, so we created and published a companion study guide, which is now available from IFA. This is just one of four books that IFA released this year. Another, *Inspired Stories: 50 Years of Answered Prayer*, is a beautiful and incredible collection of answered-prayer stories taken from the IFA archives. We also partnered with Derek Prince Ministries to release a special edition of *Shaping History Through Prayer & Fasting*, and with Plymouth, Massachusetts-based Proclamation House on a special edition of *Monumental Prayers*. All of these resources are available from IFA.

A look at IFA's top stories in 2023 reminds us of the historic year this has been. "Israel at War" quickly became

a top read. "Revival Stirs Asbury Again," an IFA original article on this historic move of God, garnered over 100,000 views. The next most read article was "Top 5 Evil Spirits Operating in Our Nation Today," by IFA contributing writer Jamie Rohrbaugh. There are many Christian news sites, to be sure, but very few of them address the news with insight about spiritual warfare.

IFA launched The Community, an online forum for prayer and interaction. Intercessors often tell IFA that they desire to connect with other intercessors. The Community provides a framework for bringing intercessors together, helping us pray in agreement while also offering a daily prayer list, the names of "leaders of the day," and open discussions. We're hopeful this will become the most visited part of the website.

The IFA Policy & Prayer events connect policymakers with intercessors in Washington, D.C., and in the states. At the Pennsylvania and West Virginia events, relationships were forged that promise to be valuable for statewide prayer and legislative battles in the future. Kudos to Lisa Townsend, IFA Louisiana state prayer leader, who organized her own successful IFA event.

Our state prayer groups, meanwhile, continue to thrive. This year, IFA Massachusetts spearheaded state and national prayer about a satanic network that held a national meeting in Boston.

In November, more than 500 intercessors gathered in Washington, D.C., to celebrate IFA's 50th anniversary. Whether you were able to attend or not, we thank you for faithfully being part of what God is doing in our nation.

First Friday

NEXT CALL IS FRIDAY

December 1, 2023

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.

THE COMING GLORY

God has promised that the glory of the Lord will rise upon us, His Church. Let's pray that we meet the conditions of this promise — that we ask the Holy Spirit to convict us of sin, that we repent, and that we allow Him to change us. Let's stop complaining and grumbling so that we may be called blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and perverted generation, shining like stars in the universe (Phil. 2:15).

GOD HAS BLESSED IFA

Thank God for the amazing things He is doing in the midst of the darkness in the world and that He is using IFA! Thank God for prayer groups in all 50 states, compelling webcasts, strategic prayer resources, new books, and a user-friendly website. Thank God for the growing number of praying Christians connecting with IFA.

THE MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS

May God help us do our part in promoting His kingdom throughout every one of our cities and states. May we see His powerful hand in our land — on earth as it is in heaven. And may we become bold in sharing with others the gospel and the precious gift of Jesus.



A Joy to Be Part of Something Impactful

KIM POTTER, IFA CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This article came to IFA unsolicited from one of our writers and intercessors. We think it is a beautiful message of gratitude for the wonderful IFA community. Remember, YOU are IFA!

2024 is fast approaching! Many are glad to see a new year arrive. Others, like me, are taking this time to reflect on the blessings of 2023, determined to enter the new year with a thankful heart.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus (1 Thess. 5:16-18 NIV).

There are many things I'm thankful for, IFA being at the top of my list. If you are reading this, you, too, have been blessed by IFA. The members of this ministry are making an eternal impact in our world today. I'm thankful to be a part of what they are sowing daily.

The articles are timely and relevant. IFA gathers seasoned intercessors to pray over urgent needs weekly. Moreover, they supply resources to assist prayer warriors in their call to pray. And this is only a small part of what they do.

Through IFA, I have become enlightened about many important and sometimes hidden things that are happening worldwide. In a time when most are focused on building their platforms, IFA is busy sowing into the nation and its people.

Leviticus 7 talks about a thank offering. This offering, a sacrifice of thanksgiving, was intended to be voluntary. This is also termed the "thanksgiving offering"

(see Lev. 7:12). One meaning of the Hebrew word for thanksgiving is *praise*.

So, first, a thanksgiving offering is *voluntary* — we don't *have* to be thankful; it is *our choice*.

Perhaps you, like me, have had your eyes opened to some prayer needs through IFA. Maybe you've read an article that has encouraged you. Or perhaps one of IFA's awesome prayer guides has caused your prayer life to become supercharged. It could be that you've seen change in your city or state because of the intercessors of IFA. If so, pray about being a blessing to them today.

The Bible teaches us that we are to give to the places where we receive spiritual food (see Gal. 6:6).

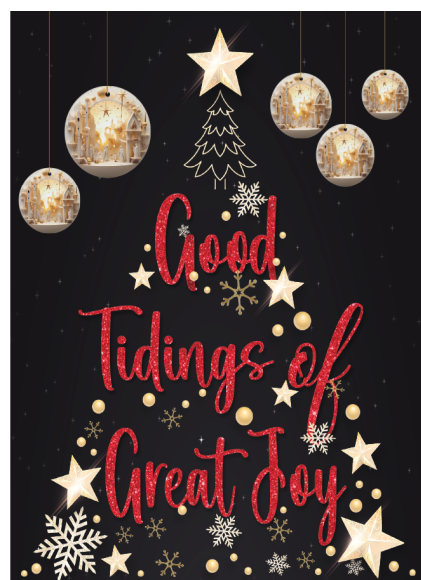
It's easy to see the perpetual harvest that comes from those seeds sown by IFA daily: changes in our government, hidden evils exposed, and prayers answered. We are seeing harvest! Personally, I want to be a part of this group that is making a difference in our world. Don't you?

As 2023 wraps up, remember the things you are thankful for. Is IFA one of those? If so, consider giving your best thank offering to IFA, an entity that is undoubtedly impacting our family, nation, and world.



Please consider a year-end gift to IFA.

TEAR-OFF



When Jesus came to earth, awesome promises from God the Father accompanied His arrival. Fulfillment of those precious promises was accomplished and established at the cross. Today we come into agreement with God's purposes and declare the manifestation of His Word in the earth!

Our God, it is written that the government, the rule, and the dominion rest upon the shoulders of our Lord Jesus Christ, who continues to establish His plan for our nation. There is no end to Your rule and dominion — they are infinite!

God, You establish peace. Your peace, which transcends all understanding, guards our hearts and our minds as we keep our thoughts fixed upon You. Please release the fulness of Your peace. This we ask in Jesus' name, amen.

TEAR-OFF



Lord, You are the Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. Thank You for Your extraordinary acts of judgment and redemption in the earth. Thank You for Your zeal for Your people. We gratefully and joyfully celebrate You this Christmas season.

Our God, Your Word says that we have not because we ask not. Today, we ask You to establish Your kingdom on the earth. Release Your favor upon Your people in this season, just as You promised.
In Jesus' name, amen

Father, today we proclaim, just as You did long ago, good tidings of great joy to all those who belong to You! Glory to God in the highest! Let peace be established on the earth, and may goodwill be to all Your people. In Jesus' name, amen.

Prayers inspired by Isaiah 9:6-7 and Luke 2:8-14.



FIND MORE RESOURCES LIKE THIS AT IFAPRAY.ORG

Answered Prayer

IFA State Prayer Sees Results

Our Connecticut prayer group has been a wonderful expression of the heart of our Father and an integral part of intercession on behalf of Connecticut, its government, its people, our constitution, and our freedoms.

The declarations, petitions, and proclamations of our forefathers and the Scriptures are pulling down strongholds! Our unity and prayers are really such a blessing, reflecting Psalm 133. We are awakening to righteousness in this very real battle, reclaiming our state, our nation, and the beautiful world the Lord has given us to rule and reign in His authority. We have experienced victorious triumphs over evil powers and principalities that were long at work. It's always been our Lord's desire that we would follow the mandate in 2 Chronicles 7:14, and by doing so, He would heal us and deliver us!

We have seen incredible results in our state, including greater access to honest news, more involvement from concerned people in elections, prayer groups joining together, and exposing issues in our public schools. We believe our prayers helped defeat over 4,000 bad bills.

Our two focuses every week are our government and our children. We have prayer-walked at the Capitol building in Hartford several times. We experienced an incredible prayer breakfast with over 40 people from our state legislature joining in prayer with many prayer groups in attendance. We attended our state's second annual March for Life, an event that was very well attended by people of all ages throughout the state. Our community of people who love to pray for Connecticut has really come together through the state program initiative launched by IFA. It has been an incredible blessing to all of us and we thank IFA for all the support to fulfill the vision of having groups throughout the country praying for our local issues. Thank you, Lord, for IFA and all His saints! — Laurie Lestage and Mona Colwell, IFA Connecticut

New IFA exclusive book

PERFECT FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING

28 true miraculous answered prayer stories, all in one volume!



Scan code or call
800-USA-PRAY
to order multiple copies

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A higher standard.
A higher purpose.