

The Connector

NEWS. PRAYER. ACTION.



Election 2024 Prayer Strategy

DAVE KUBAL, IFA PRESIDENT/CEO

Many of us are deeply concerned about our nation. And we might experience daily anxiety as we watch the news or read opinion pieces predicting that this election will be the last for our “democracy” (though what we really are is a *republic*). If *this* candidate wins, we’re told, he’ll use the government against us; if *that* one wins, he will be a dictator.

With the 2024 primaries in full swing, the Lord has directed me to a passage familiar to all of us: *Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts* (Psalm 139:23 NIV). This passage helps us know what to do in times like these.

God Has an Antidote to Anxiety

Psalm 139:17 reminds us that one antidote to our anxiety is to consider: *How precious to me are your thoughts, God! ...* (NIV). When we start feeling anxiety over the condition of our nation, we can pause and ask God what *He* thinks.

We Can Trust God to Act

Psalm 139:19 says: *If only you, God, would slay the wicked! ...* (NIV). It’s easy to become frustrated with what looks like a two-tiered justice system in our country, the constant demonization of biblical values, and the endless graspings for power. There is not one person, one group, or one committee that can fight and win the battle for righteousness. We must get to the same point where David was — and rely on *God* to frustrate the ways of the wicked.

IN THIS ISSUE

01 - *Election 2024 Prayer Strategy*

02 - *Why We Pray About Elections*

03 - *A Legacy of Answered Prayer*

God Leads Those Who Ask Him

Psalm 139:24 records David’s conclusion: ... *lead me in the way everlasting* (NIV). David’s request is that God show him the path to what’s eternally true. These days of moral relativity — in which people define their own “reality” and then expect everyone else to play along — require us to ask God for guidance and direction. David did not ask for patience to sit back and endure: David asked to be led on the path of everlasting truths. Did you catch that? History has never been impacted by someone sitting on the couch doing nothing.



Our Prayers for the Election Will Surely Make a Difference

It is impossible to overstate the impact of men and women of Christlike faith asking God to move, and then following His leading. It is vital for God’s people to be engaged in the election process and to ensure that His “everlasting ways” are at the very center of our government’s actions.



Why We Pray About Elections

IFA STAFF

In eight months, we will elect our next president. Primaries, caucuses, candidates, and conventions dominate the news. Political fortunes are said to rise and fall with the latest poll.

Some Christians are out zealously working for candidates. Others, perhaps the majority, disdain politics, refuse to stay informed, and will not even vote.

We must decide whether the elections are in fact worth praying for. Our action will be no stronger than our conviction. IFA believes that the election process should be of the utmost concern to Christians. Here's why:

It's important to God.

For there is no [governing] authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God (Rom. 13:1)... the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind, and bestows it [the realm] on whom He wishes ... (Dan. 4:17 NASB). If this is important to God, then it should be important to His people!

It's important for us.

When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when a wicked man rules, the people groan (Prov. 29:2). Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people (Prov. 14:34).

We enjoy a choice of who will serve as leaders.

Most people in the world don't. The freedom of choice is a God-given freedom; it reflects His nature: ... *choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve ... (Josh. 24:15)* — this describes that freedom, but also reminds us that great responsibility goes with it. From him to whom much is given (freedom), much is expected (wise stewardship of that freedom).

God's doing is tied to our praying.

Through prayer King Hezekiah, whose heart was toward God, was healed and his reign was extended (see 2 Kings 20), and through prayer the captivity of an entire nation was ended (see Dan. 10). God will show us how we are to pray. *"... Blessed be the name of God forever 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" (see Dan. 10).*

Here are ways in which we can pray — ways that are pleasing to God:

- that God would raise up the righteous and put down the wicked (Job 20:4,5; 34:24);
- that God would expose the hidden motives and evil in unrighteous candidates;
- that those seeking office would fully and truthfully declare their positions on abortion, sexuality, the protection of children, religious freedom, national defense, and immigration;
- that the media would not cause candidates' political positions to be distorted;
- that Christians would realize that apathy is a curse, and that we would rise to the opportunity God is giving us.

Finally, let us boldly put our confidence in God! The election won't be determined by the media, the elite establishment, China, or what happens in the Middle East.

In Thee, O LORD, do we put our trust!
— Reprinted from IFA Newsletter,
March 1, 1980

First Friday

NEXT CALL IS FRIDAY

March 1, 2024

12:15 PM ET

CALL (667) 771-7910, CODE 2452#
WEBCAST [IFApray.org/watch](https://www.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.

ELECTIONS AND THE ELECT

God has chosen us, His elect, to choose and elect our earthly governors. Let's pray, therefore, for faithful hearts in fulfilling this awesome responsibility. And let's pray that everyone who claims the name of Christ will take seriously this call and not fail to obey, to intercede, and to vote.

THY KINGDOM COME

The kingdom is the LORD's. All authority is given to Christ, and the governments of men belong to Him. Our God's purposes will always prevail. He merely waits for us to ask. Ask Him, without ceasing, to have His way and to fulfill His own purposes in the governments of men.

THE HEART OF THE KING

Remember what our God has said: The heart of the king is in His hand — He controls it as He wishes. As we prepare to go to the polls, let's plead unceasingly for Him to raise up and establish rulers who will be men and women after His own heart.



A Legacy of Answered Prayer

JUDY MCDONOUGH, IFA EDITOR IN CHIEF

Exactly 50 years ago this month, IFA mailed out its first newsletter to concerned Americans with a passion to pray for the nation. The amount of labor needed to create that newsletter was enormous — from the careful typesetting to the bulk-mail bundling. Today, our operating processes have changed dramatically, of course, but the mission is the same.

IFA was one of the first national prayer ministries, dedicated to joining Christians to pray strategically, with endurance, and in agreement for the purposes of God in our nation.

When we first began mailing out monthly calls to pray, America was enduring what President Gerald Ford called a “long national nightmare.” The country was experiencing a plethora of problems: the Watergate scandal, the Vietnam War, the Arab oil embargo, the Roe v. Wade decision, a growing toleration of drug abuse and sexual immorality, and many other challenges that were radically changing the way Americans lived and thought.

It was a historic year for the office of president of the United States. In October of 1973, just before IFA was formed, Vice President Spiro Agnew resigned, and Rep. Gerald Ford of Michigan was chosen to replace him. Because of the Watergate scandal, President Richard Nixon faced impeachment, and he resigned in August 1974. Vice President Ford then assumed the presidency. He had never been elected, nor had he ever sought to become president. He is the only president in U.S. history to take this particular path to the office, and he is therefore a unique figure, and his tenure was thus an unlikely one.

One of the first things President Ford said in his inaugural address had to

do with prayer: “I am acutely aware that you have not elected me as your president by your ballots, and so I ask you to confirm me as your president with your prayers. And I hope that such prayers will also be the first of many,” he stated with disarming humility. And he closed with another humble statement: “God helping me, I will not let you down.”



Gerald Ford swearing in. (Photo by Robert L. Knudsen/Gerald R. Ford Library via Getty Images)

*... For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.
(Rom. 13:1)*

Thus, one of the very first answered prayers IFA intercessors ever celebrated was that of the inauguration of a president who believed that the prayers of the citizens would prove essential to his ability to lead effectively. Ford knew that he needed God’s help and the prayers of the people. This was most certainly an answer to prayer.

In 2024, we mark the 60th presidential election in our nation’s history. IFA intercessors have prayed through 12 national presidential elections. This year let’s take courage from the lessons of the past. God does hear and answer the prayers of His people, and He moves in unlikely ways.

TEAR-OFF

PROPHETIC DECLARATIONS FOR AMERICA

*We declare that the righteous will once again be in authority in America, so that the people will rejoice; that America will fulfill God’s purposes for our nation.
(see Prov. 29:2)*

*We declare that America will protect life and value truth, that America will honor the LORD, and that His glory will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea!
(see Ps. 94:20–22; Hab. 2:14)*

*We declare that righteous men and women will flourish, and that they will not be “canceled,” removed, or censored for standing up against unrighteousness.
(see Ps. 92:12)*

We declare that righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne, O God, and that they will be the foundation of America and our government once again.

We declare that godly men and women of integrity who honor the LORD will hold positions of authority (see Ps. 89:14).

We declare that the angel of the LORD encamps around all who fear Him. He rescues us from evil men.

We declare that America is blessed because we take refuge in God.

We declare that unrighteous judges and leaders will be exposed and cast out of their places by His mighty hand (see Ps. 34:7-9).

We declare that the LORD is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble, and therefore we will not fear. (see Ps. 46:1-2)

We declare that the LORD will redeem our souls and our nation in peace from the battle which is against us, for there are many who strive with us (see Ps. 55:18).

Though many fight against us, we declare that whenever we are afraid, we will put our trust in God, whose Word we praise! What can mere man do to us? (see Ps. 56:2,4)

We declare that we will run and not be weary; we will walk and not be faint. The LORD has sent His Word to heal us and to deliver us from destruction. (see Is. 40:31; Ps. 107:20)

We declare that the name of the LORD will be made known in our land and not be profaned any longer! And the nations will know that the Holy One is the Lord God! Surely it is coming, and surely it shall be done! (see Ezek. 39:7-8)



FIND MORE RESOURCES LIKE THIS AT IFAPRAY.ORG

TEAR-OFF

Answered Prayer

God is on the move in the 50 states of America!

Intercessors and legislators gathered in the West Virginia Capitol for a state prayer caucus to kick off the legislative session. **Every speaker emphasized unity.** This was not a humanly organized plan, but rather a plan of the Almighty, who is asking His children to set aside their differences and individual opinions to arm up as warriors in this continuing fight against evil.

Many representatives testified about how they feel our prayers. They said they value and need the warring prayers of intercessors, reaching heaven and providing protection from the Enemy, who is around every corner seeking to cause harm. Our voices, as they reach heaven's throne room, are without a doubt working and doing all they've been sent up to do. We are shaping the history of the state of West Virginia, and of our nation, through our dedicated prayers.

— Ed and Donna Rollyson,
IFA West Virginia



This document, signed by West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice and West Virginia Secretary of State Mac Warner, proclaimed Jan. 10 to be a West Virginia Legislature Day of Prayer

**SIGN UP TO
GIVE
MONTHLY
AND RECEIVE A FREE
T-SHIRT
AND
MUG!**



**CALL IFA AT
1-800-872-7729**

**MONTHLY
MINISTRY
PARTNER**

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

IFA Office: PO Box 915,
Purcellville, VA 20134;

Tel: 800-USA-PRAY;

e-mail: IFA@IFAPray.org

IFA Websites: IFAPray.org,
HeadlinePrayer.org, and
PrayforAmericasLeaders.com



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*