



# 40 Days Prayer Prayer AMERICA



## 40 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR AMERICA

A quick skim of the headlines shows that America is in desperate need of God. Sexual promiscuity and "alternative" lifestyles are on the rise. Millions of people seek satisfaction in drugs or other substances. Divorce is becoming increasingly common, even among Christians. To top it all off, many prominent churches are rejecting the truths of Scripture to be more inclusive and welcoming.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"How should we pray for America? We must pray revival prayer. Only prayer can hold back the flood tide of sin and God's judgment upon us. Only our serious commitment to pray will release the cleansing, healing hand of God. We're at a crossroads, and we dare not be lackadaisical." Dr. Francis Schaeffer said, "One of these days soon if we do not change, we're going to wake up and find the America we once knew is gone."

America will not be saved by a politician, improving schools, or implementing support structures for people.

Only God Himself can bring healing and wholeness to America. God must save people from their sins and move them to repentance. God must repair the relational rifts that have risen between people. God must warm the hearts of believers who drifted away from Him.

If we want to see God move mightily in our nation, we must return to God in prayer. We must ask Him to do the kinds of things that only He can do. Our hope is not ultimately in a president or political party; our hope is in the living God who can change hearts and minds.

In this guide, we're going to walk through 40 days of prayer for our nation.

We'll start by praying for ourselves, asking God to fill us with fresh love for Him and others. Then we'll move to our families, friends, neighborhoods, and churches. Then we'll pray for our cities, country, and finally, the entire world.

#### In Ephesians 3:20, Paul said:

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us..."





#### Before you ask God to work in others, ask Him to work in you.

It's easy to think about revival in terms of God working in others, but the reality is that true revival starts in our hearts. When we love God with all our hearts and love others as we love ourselves, it shows the world that God is worth more than everything the world has to offer.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"We err when we lament, 'O, if only Hollywood ...if the government would...if pornographers would go out of business...if abortionists would stop' But God doesn't look to them. He's looking at us, His people! He's looking at you. We're to humble ourselves, pray, and repent. Are you one of His people? Then stop putting the blame on anyone else. If America falls, it will be our fault – the fault of God's people."

If we want God to move in others, we must first ask Him to move in us. We must ask Him to fill us with fresh love and affection for Him. We must plead with Him to help us love our families, friends, neighbors, and coworkers.

#### James 4:8-10 says:

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

This is such good news. When we draw near to God, He will draw near to us. When we humble ourselves, He'll lift us up.

Day 1: Pray the Lord would increase your love for Him. What keeps you from loving God more fully? Are there any idols in your life that you need to turn from?

Day 2: Ask God to help you pursue holiness and be completely obedient to His commands. Are there any sins that you need to confess to God? What is one specific area you want to grow in?

Day 3: Pray the Lord would increase your desire for and love of both the Bible and prayer. What is one simple way you can increase your Bible reading and prayer this year? How would it change your life if you read and prayed consistently?

Day 4: Ask God to convict you of specific ways you sin and then confess those sins to the Lord. What actions do you need to take to put off those sins? Is there anyone to whom you need to apologize?

Day 5: Pray God would renew you spiritually and draw you closer to Him. What does spiritual renewal look like? Are there any actions you need to take to "pave the way" for spiritual renewal?





#### Pray God would work mightily in all your family members.

One of the greatest opportunities to share the Gospel is with our family members. We all have relatives who don't know the Lord. We can point family members to the Lord both by how we live and by telling them the good news of the Gospel.

We may be tempted to believe that a family member will never change, especially if they've been rooted in their ways for a long time. But the Bible makes it clear that no one is too hardened for God to save. The thief on the cross was saved in the final hours of his life after many years of running from God.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"What should I do if my prayers aren't answered? You keep on praying. There's a time to persist in prayer. Daniel exemplifies a godly man who persisted when there was no quick answer. It looked like God was doing nothing. Was God even hearing his prayer? After 21 days, an angel came to Daniel and said, "Daniel, your prayer was heard when you began to pray three weeks ago." (See Daniel 10:12.) Daniel prayed and kept on praying. This is an intriguing passage you should study. In Luke 18:1, Jesus said we 'ought always to pray, and not to faint.' There's a time to persist – to keep on keeping on in prayer."

Day 6: Pray for God to give increased affection for your family members. Are there any family members that are especially difficult for you to love? What Scriptures can you turn to when you are struggling to love them?

Day 7: Ask God to save any family members that don't yet know Him. Is there anyone who you think is beyond God's ability to save? What does the Bible have to say about this?

Day 8: Pray the Lord will bring reconciliation to damaged relationships in your family. Why are reconciliation and unity so important to God? Are there any actions you need to take to facilitate reconciliation?

Day 9: Ask the Lord to give you increased boldness to share the Gospel with your family. What holds you back from sharing the Gospel with them? What initial steps can you take to begin conversations about the Gospel with your family?



# PRAY FOR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

#### LIFE APPLICATION

### You can boldly share the Gospel with those around you, knowing that God will use your efforts for His glory.

For most of us, our primary mission fields are our neighborhoods and workplaces. God has called us to share the Gospel with our friends, neighbors, and coworkers. And the truth is, they need Jesus just as much as individuals in other countries!

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"A father is one who has children. Do you have any spiritual children? This is a mark of a growing Christian – that you are multiplying yourself (what God did in you) by sharing it with others. When you appear before the throne of God, will you be standing there alone? Or will you be standing with children you have "parented" in Christ?"

You may think, what if I'm not eloquent enough or I can't answer all their questions? If a person's salvation depended on the eloquence of our delivery, then no one would be saved. But it is God who does the saving, not us! It is the simple Gospel message that has the power to save. We don't need to worry about being able to deliver the perfect message.

In <u>1 Corinthians 2:1-5</u>, Paul's confidence was not in his powers of speech, but in the power of God. He knew that if he proclaimed Christ crucified, God would save people. We can have the same confidence. God will use our evangelism to bring salvation to people.

Day 10: Ask God to work powerfully in each of your neighbors, bringing salvation to them. How can you deepen your relationships with your neighbors? What are some specific ways you can serve and bless them?

Day 11: Pray God would save your friends and give you opportunities to share the Gospel. What keeps you from sharing the Gospel with your unsaved friends? Which friend will you reach out to this week?

Day 12: Ask the Lord to bring salvation to your coworkers. Do your coworkers know that you're a Christian? How can you be more proactive in sharing the Gospel at work?

Day 13: Pray God gives you the boldness to share the Gospel with friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Do you ever feel afraid to tell others about Jesus? What Scriptures can encourage you when you feel fearful?

Day 14: Ask God to open doors for you to share the Gospel with those around you. Why should you be motivated to share the Gospel with others? What are some simple steps you can take to reach out to those who don't know Christ?





#### Pray that your church would clearly show Christ to your community.

The Church represents Christ to the watching world. When people see a group of people who love God and each other and serve their community, it is deeply attractive to them. If a church is full of conflict, disunity, and selfishness, it is very unappealing to those looking in from the outside.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"When we talk about our nation, we must first talk about the house of God – the Church – for the time has come for judgment to begin in the house of God. We as a church must repent. How many churches across America are playing church, praying without fasting, witnessing without tears, and giving without sacrifice? Is it any wonder we sow without reaping?"

If we desire to see God move mightily in our cities, we must pray for our churches. We must pray our pastors would hold tight to sound doctrine and live holy lives befitting their positions. We must pray for unity and love among members. And we must pray for grace and strength to reach out to unbelievers in the community.

In <u>Acts 2:46-47</u>, the Early Church is described and characterized by unity and by new believers being regularly added. We should ask the Lord to bring about those same things in our churches as well.

Day 15: Pray God would bless, protect, and strengthen your pastors and their families. How can you encourage and be a blessing to your pastor today?

Day 16: Ask the Lord to bring deep unity and love to every person in your church. What hurts the unity of the Church? What simple steps can you take to actively seek unity?

Day 17: Ask God to bring many unsaved people into your church so they can hear the Gospel. When was the last time you invited someone to church? Who can you invite to church this week?

Day 18: Pray the Lord would help every person in your church stay faithful to Scripture. What happens if a church deviates from God's Word? What actions do you need to take to ensure you hold fast to Scripture?

Day 19: Pray for specific challenges or problems that your church is facing. Can you be part of the solution to any of the problems? Are any of your actions contributing to the problems?





#### Ask the Lord to move mightily in your city and state, bringing powerful revival.

In 1734, Jonathan Edwards preached a series of sermons about salvation by faith alone. God used those sermons powerfully, with many in the community being saved from their sins. From there, the revival spread outward to 25 different communities. When God brings revival to one location, it often results in other surrounding locations experiencing similar revivals.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"If you study the record of the church in modern history, you'll see from time to time, from place to place, God has come down. I want God to come down upon the church. Don't get the idea America has to be changed before we can have revival. You, my friend, can have revival. You can have personal revival. You can have revival in your Sunday school class. You can have revival in your family. You can have revival whenever and wherever – you can be a one-person revival."

We must pray that God would come down in power upon our churches and bring revival to our cities and states. When God brings revival, entire communities are transformed. Hearts are changed, sinners are saved, the broken are healed, and enemies are reconciled. What amazing things God might do in our cities and states if we seek Him in prayer!

Day 20: Pray God gives wisdom to local and state leaders and helps them lead in His way. Do you criticize your leaders more than you pray for them? When was the last time you thanked or affirmed one of your local leaders?

Day 21: Ask God to bless and strengthen all the churches and pastors in your city and state. How would it transform your city and state if all the churches were working together in harmony? Do you see other churches as brothers and sisters or as competition?

Day 22: Pray God would bless and prosper local ministries in your city and state. How can you support local ministries serving your city? Are there any ways you can get involved in these ministries?

Day 23: Pray for local schools and universities, asking God to move powerfully in them. Are there any ways you can be a blessing to local schools? What would it be like if revival happened in one of these schools?

Day 24: Pray for any unique challenges your city and state face (drugs, violence, apathy, etc.). Are any of these challenges too difficult for God? What are some Biblical examples of God saving people who faced similar problems?

Day 25: Ask the Lord for a powerful move of the Holy Spirit in your city and state. What happens in a city or state when the Holy Spirit brings revival? Do you eagerly long for God to work in your community?





#### Pray God would bring revival to our nation, including the highest places of power.

Wouldn't it be incredible to see God move powerfully throughout the entire country? The spread of revival across a country can result in millions coming to know Christ. What this country needs more than anything else is Jesus. We must pray that God ordains leaders who will ultimately point people to Christ.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"There's both a moral crisis and a leadership crisis in America. Leadership is crucial. There's a saying that asks: "If the gold rusts, what shall the iron do?" That is, if our leadership is not what it should be, what will the people be like? God is greatly interested in a nation's political life. Some say He ought to stay out of government, but the truth is, government must always look to Almighty God."

#### In 1 Timothy 2:1-4, we read:

"Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Notice the connection between praying for those in authority and the salvation of many. When there are godly leaders, it creates an environment where the Gospel can be freely proclaimed. When the Gospel is freely proclaimed, more people can come to a saving knowledge of the truth."

Day 26: Pray the President would truly know God and lead the nation in a way that honors God. Do you pray for the President as much as you talk about him? How does it encourage you to know that God is in control of all things, including the President?

Day 27: Pray that godly people be appointed to high positions and that they honor the Lord. What are some specific issues you feel led to pray about? Are there any actions you can take, such as sending a letter to your representative or supporting a ministry that works on a particular issue?

Day 28: Ask the Lord to appoint godly judges and to cause these judges to make wise decisions. What are the blessings that come from having godly Supreme Court justices? What are some specific issues or rulings that you can pray about?

Day 29: Pray God blesses national ministries that seek to honor God and point many to Christ. What specific ministries have been a blessing to you? How can you be more active in supporting these ministries?

Day 30: Ask God to raise church planters to start Gospel-preaching churches across the country. Do you know any church planters? What are some specific ways you can pray for them?

Day 31: Pray the Holy Spirit would bring conviction of sin and repentance to many people. Why are conviction and repentance even more important than having godly laws passed? What happens when God brings conviction and revival to a large group of people?

Day 32: Ask the Lord to bring about a return to Biblical values in this country. What Biblical values have been lost by society over the years? What would our country look like if it returned to Scriptural values?

Day 33: Pray churches throughout the country would be healthy and grow. Are there some churches besides your own that you can pray for? Who are some well-known church leaders you can pray for?





God desires that all men and women would be saved from their sins and come to know Him.

He doesn't want anyone to perish. We should consistently pray that God

would save people around the world.

Ultimately, God desires that His glory would spread throughout the entire world. As we pray for our nation, we should also pray that millions of people around the world also come to know Christ.

We should pray that God would save people from every country, city, and people group. That He would rescue those in China, Russia, France, and Chile. That Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, and atheists would be saved.

#### In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus told His disciples:

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Day 34: Ask the Lord to raise more missionaries who will take the Gospel around the world. Do you know any missionaries? What are some specific ways you can pray for them?

Day 35: Pray for Christians around the world being persecuted; ask God to strengthen them. What would it be like to be persecuted for following Christ? If you were being persecuted, what would you want others to pray for you?

Day 36: Ask the Lord to grant religious freedom to believers around the world. What are some countries that don't have religious freedom? Why is freedom of religion so important?

Day 37: Pray God exposes false religions and that millions would come to Christ. Do you know any people who believe in a false religion? What truths about God do they need to know?

Day 38: Ask the Lord to remove oppressive leaders who resist Christianity. What are some Biblical examples of God removing ungodly leaders? How do these examples encourage you?

Day 39: Pray for a global movement, with many people being drawn to the living God. What are some incredible ways the world would be transformed if millions came to Christ? Is anything too difficult for God?

Day 40: Pray for the return of Jesus. Do you long for the return of Christ? Are you living in readiness for the return of Christ?



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God is eager and ready to answer our prayers. He loves us, our families, our friends and neighbors, our churches, our cities and states, our nation, and our world. Our hope is not in ourselves, politics, or presidents.

#### Pastor Adrian Rogers said:

"Some say it's too late. Don't be one of them. Don't say revival is impossible. God's power and His grace are sufficient. "But, pastor, sin is pandemic." Yes, but Romans 5:20 says, "Where sin abounded, grace abounded much more." God is omnipotent, and He is our hope...Don't look to some political party to save us. Tell both parties, "Repent and get right with God." We're in a mess because we have wicked people who elect wicked people, who will make wicked laws apart from God. We must have revival, and its source is Almighty God. Get your eyes on Him."

As we pray for our nation, let us pray with hope and faith. Things may look bleak, but nothing is too hard for God. God can cause light to shine into the darkness. He can soften hearts and open the eyes of the spiritually blind. He can save even the most wicked sinners.

Don't despair when you look around. Instead, fix your eyes on God. He can bring the revival we so desperately need.

#### In 2 Chronicles 7:13-14, the Lord said to Solomon:

"When I shut up Heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land or send pestilence among My people, 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."

God stands waiting, ready to hear and answer our prayers. For the sake of our nation, let's consistently join together in prayer.





PO Box 38300 | Memphis TN 38183-0300 | (901) 382-7900