

Election Prayer Guide

The following is a suggested guide in how to pray for our country in the upcoming election. We at New City believe it is important for Christians to participate in the political process. We also believe that Christians are called to pray for our leaders. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of things to be prayed for, but a series of suggestions as to how you may pray for the upcoming election.

Prayer for our Country and Government:

2 Chronicles 7:14 ¹⁴ *if my people who are called by my name 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.*

- Recognize that this promise concerns Israel. But the principle of praying for our nation is one applicable today.
- Pray for our leaders, that they will look to God for wisdom and guidance in decisions that impact the course of our nation.
- Pray for the spiritual climate in our nation, focusing on several key areas:
 - o Pray for the spiritual health of Christians, that we will grow in our faith, boldly stand for the gospel, and reflect the love of Christ.
 - o Pray for our churches, that they will be powerful centers of discipleship, worship, mercy ministry, and evangelism.
 - o Pray that the ills of society—crime, addiction, violence—will be replaced with a desire to honor God and His Word.

Look graciously, O Lord upon this land.

Where it is in pride, subdue it,

Where it is in need, supply it.

Where it is in error, rectify it.

Where it is in default, restore it.

And where it holds to that which is just and compassionate, support it.

(Church of Pakistan, 20th Century)

Prayer for the Election

Almighty God, who holds us accountable for the use of all our powers and privileges: Guide, we ask, the people of our nation in the election of their rulers and representatives; that by wise legislation and faithful administration the rights of all may be protected, and our nation be enabled to fulfill Your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Book of Common Worship, 1946)

- Pray that Christians would take an active part in the political process and vote in large numbers.

Romans 13:1-2 *Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.*

- Acknowledge the sovereignty of God in the electoral process. Praise Him that He controls all things.

Psalms 16:7-8 ⁷ *I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. ⁸ I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.*

- Pray that the Lord would give you wise counsel in how to vote in this election.

1 Peter 2:17-18 ¹⁷ *Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.* ¹⁸ *Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust.*

- Pray for the ability and temperament to accept the election's outcome, whether your preferred candidates win or not. Pray for Christians everywhere to exhibit strong conviction married with humility and respect, and that in this, many would be won to Christ.

Prayer for specific issues

Pray that our new administration would address issues of concern for Christians, such as:

Family – Pray for our government to protect the important institution of marriage (between a man and a woman). Pray also for a decrease in divorces and a stabilization of the family structure in America. Pray for governmental policy that is pro-family in all respects.

Creation Care – Pray for our government to encourage conservation and care for our environment. Pray for advances in energy efficiency and policies that would reflect a respect for and stewardship of God's creation.

Sanctity of Human Life – Pray for our government to institute and preserve laws that protect human life in all its stages. Pray especially for the rights of the unborn and for abortion to be abolished in this country.

Economics and Poverty – Pray for wisdom in all levels of government as to how to proceed in dealing with the current financial situation. Pray for economic policies that are fair and just with regard to those on the bottom of the socio-economic spectrum. Pray for the creation of new jobs and reduction of unemployment.

Military – Pray for wisdom for our next President as he acts as Commander-in-Chief of our Armed Forces. Pray for safety for our men and women in service, and for comfort for their families. Pray for a wise foreign policy for the next administration.

Religious Freedom – Pray for our government to continue to extend religious freedom to worshippers in our country. Pray for religious voices to play a substantial part in the public square. Pray for religious organizations to continue to have the freedom to work for the glory of God and the good of people in our society. Pray for the continued freedom for faith-based organizations to hire people who share their beliefs/values.

Tone of Public Discourse – Pray for the ability to love and care for those whose politics are different from your own. Recall that Jesus died for you even when you had bad ideas. Pray that this knowledge would lead you to love people who don't share your convictions. Pray also for the ability of people of all political persuasions to work together for the common good.