



Prayer Guide

3 May 2021

Thank you for your commitment to pray for 30 minutes on the third day of the month!

God answers prayer! However, He only answers the prayers we pray!

Our world, country, state, city, churches—even we as individuals—are all in need. We need God to move. What moves God? The prayers of His people!

While today is the day Bellevue has chosen to seek God in prayer and fasting, we also want to be mindful that May 6 is the National Day of Prayer. Bellevue is participating by praying from noon–1:00 p.m. live in the West Lobby and online at bellevuelive.org. We hope you will join us!

- **Approach God Confidently**

As you pray, listen to the Holy Spirit as He guides you in prayer. Be bold in your praying! We do not pray as orphans but as children of the King! *“Therefore let us draw near with **confidence** to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need”* (Hebrews 4:16).

- **Confess Any Sin**

Make sure that your heart is clean before the Lord. *“Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? And who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood and has not sworn deceitfully”* (Psalm 24:3-4).

- **Ask Expectantly**

Ask God to pour out His Spirit upon us as we pray that we might be revived!

*“Listen to my voice in the morning, LORD. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait **expectantly**” (Psalm 5:3^{NLT}).*

PRAY FOR CHRISTIANS TO HAVE AN ABIDING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

Jesus commanded, *“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither can you unless you abide in Me. **I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.** My Father is gloried by this, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be My disciples”* (John 15:4–8, emphasis added).

We often drift. We get so caught up in the busyness of life trying to figure out what is next that we don’t “keep the main thing, the main thing.” Apart from an intimate relationship with Jesus, we will do nothing and accomplish nothing. You can draw a man no closer to Christ than where you are.

- Pray believers will abide in the Word of God.
 - To read, study, and feed our souls on it daily
 - To live our lives based on the truth of the Word of God, not what we see or feel
 - To focus on the promises of the Word of God, not the circumstances of life
- Pray believers will live in a spirit of prayer.
 - To begin our days in prayer
 - To pray the Word of God back to God
 - To turn every challenging opportunity into a time to call upon the Lord
- Pray believers will bear much fruit.
 - To walk in an intimate relationship with Jesus
 - To share Jesus with people
 - To demonstrate *“love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control”* to others (Galatians 5:22–23)

PRAY FOR CHURCHES

“So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase” (Acts 9:31).

- Pray the Word of God will be proclaimed with Holy Spirit power from every pulpit in Memphis!
 - Pray by name for the pastors and churches that God brings to mind. The Spirit of God will guide you regarding what to pray.
- Pray Christians would not be satisfied with emotionalism, traditionalism, or dead orthodoxy, but would instead hunger for the Word of God and the living presence of God.
- Pray each church would become *“a house of prayer for all nations”* (Isaiah 56:7^{NLT}).
- Pray for genuine revival to break out in churches and for people to embrace the Holy Spirit moving in a fresh way.
- Pray God will raise up men and women who will Love God, Love People, Share Jesus, and Make Disciples. *“The church is not developing her recruits into disciplined soldiers. We are fighting the greatest battle of all time with the most untrained army on earth”* (Vance Havner).

PRAY FOR LEADERSHIP IN MEMPHIS AND THE MID-SOUTH

“It is an abomination for kings to commit wicked acts, for a throne is established on righteousness” (Proverbs 16:12).

- Pray God will raise up righteous political leaders, men and women who lead out of a sense of personal responsibility to God and serve in a holy fear of God.
- Pray for your political leaders by name. (You will find a listing after the Prayer for Memphis.)
 - Pray for the salvation of our leaders if they are not saved.
 - Pray God will surround them with godly friends and associates.
 - Pray political power will not be an idol.
 - Pray God will bring political leaders to their knees in surrender to and dependence on God.
- Pray city and county leaders who are believers will pray with one another and will walk in a unity of Spirit.

PRAY GOD WILL RAISE UP CHURCHES TO COVER MEMPHIS IN PRAYER 24/7/365

- *“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by ceasing to pray for you; but I will instruct you in the good and right way”* (1 Samuel 12:23).
- *“For this reason also, since the day we heard of it, we have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God”* (Colossians 1:9–10).
- *“As we night and day keep praying most earnestly that we may see your face, and may complete what is lacking in your faith”* (1 Thessalonians 3:10).

(If you know a pastor or a church in the Memphis area who would like more information on how to be involved in this opportunity, contact Bill Street, Minister of Evangelism, Discipleship, and Prayer at bstreet@bellevue.org or call (901) 347-5750.)

PRAY CHRISTIANS WALK IN CHRISTLIKE LOVE TOWARDS ALL PEOPLE

“If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,’ you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors” (James 2:8–9).

- Pray Christians will be Spirit-filled, sensitive, and intentional in their love for one another, regardless of race.
- Pray the world will notice how Christians of different races love one another.

Bro. Steve’s sermon, *“The Sin of Prejudice”* is a tremendous resource. You can type in *“The Sin of Prejudice”* into the search bar on YouTube to find the video.

PRAY FOR MEMPHIS

Rather than simply reading the words of Bro. Steve's Prayer for Memphis, please take time to verbally pray for our city using this prayer as a guide.

Heavenly Father, thank You for Memphis. Thank You for strategically locating our city in the middle of this nation, so we can be a catalyst for revival and spiritual awakening. Please pour out Your Spirit on Memphis, Shelby County, the Mid-South, and beyond. Help every Christian and every Bible-believing, Jesus-loving, and Gospel-preaching church to Love God, Love People, Share Jesus, and Make Disciples. Demolish every demonic stronghold of pride, violence, racism, poverty, crime, sexual immorality, drug abuse, sickness, religious formalism, fanaticism, legalism, liberalism, and traditionalism. Replace them with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control, blessing, mercy, grace, hope, healing, liberty, and freedom. Destroy the stronghold of religion in Memphis that has a form of godliness but denies the power thereof. Give us churches that believe in the Bible and preach salvation only in Jesus Christ. Let Your Kingdom come and Your will be done in Memphis on Earth as it is in Heaven. Bring pastors, lay leaders, and congregations together as we pray for this city. Bless our governmental leaders, schools, and economy. Please send good jobs to Memphis. Keep casinos, strip clubs, and occultic activity out of Memphis. Do a work of revival in Memphis that can only be explained by Your presence and power and do it all for Your glory. Call Your people to fervent, united, visible, and extraordinary prayer. May the latter glory of Your Kingdom in Memphis be greater than the former, and please grant Memphis Your peace. Do exceedingly and abundantly beyond all that we can ask or think. In Jesus' name, amen!

PRAY FOR CITY AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

We have been commanded to pray, "for kings and all who are in authority" (1 Timothy 2:2).

Memphis/Shelby County Elected Officials

Mayor:

Jim Strickland

Director of Police:

James Ryall, Interim

Director of Fire

Services:

Gina Y. Sweat

City Court Clerk:

Myron Lowery

Shelby County Mayor:

Lee Harris

Shelby County Sheriff:

Floyd Bonner, Jr.

City Council:

District 2:

Chairman, Frank Colvert, Jr.

District 1:

Rhonda Logan

District 3:

Patrice J. Robinson

District 4:

Vice Chair Jamita Swarengen

District 5:

Worth Morgan

District 6:

Edmund Ford, Sr.

District 7:

Michalyn Easter-Thomas

Super District 8-1:

JB Smiley, Jr.

Super District 8-2:

Cheyenne Johnson

Super District 8-3:

Martavius Jones

Super District 9-1:

Chase Carlisle

Super District 9-2:

J. Ford Canale

Super District 9-3:

Dr. Jeff Warren

Shelby County Commissioners:

District 11:

Chairman Eddie Jones

District 13:

Pro Tempore Brandon Morrison

District 1:

Amber Mills

District 2:

David C. Bradford

District 3:

Mick Wright

District 4:

Mark Billingsley

District 5:

Michael Whaley

District 6:

Willie F. Brooks, Jr.

District 7:

Tami Sawyer

District 8:

Mickell M. Lowery

District 9:

Edmund Ford, Jr.

District 10:

Reginald Milton

District 12:

Van Turner

“God has determined that certain expressions of His power will only be exercised in response to prayer. Simply put, God won’t do it unless you pray for it.”
—Mark Batterson

