



# Prayer Guide

3 January 2021

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

Would you like to know why people don't intercede, pray, for others more? It's not very complicated; however, it is convicting. Really convicting. Prepare yourself.

The reason we don't pray for others more than we do is because we don't really love them.

Think about it.

Are there people and things that you pray about often? Sure.

- You pray for yourself—no problem with love there.
- Your family? Most of the time. Unless you're really frustrated, hurt, or angry with them, you pray for them. After all, they are family.
- Close friends? Normal issues of life, probably not. However, if it's a real crisis, you work them into your prayers.
- The pastor and staff? Maybe you pray for them. After all, if they are falling apart spiritually, that will have an impact on you.

Okay, here's where it changes.

- Political leaders? The ones you "like," you might pray for around election time. But, do you pray for the others and at other times? You may say, "If I was a monk, maybe, but I'm busy."

*All references are NASB unless otherwise noted.*

- Christians suffering around the world? They are in the headlines, but do they make it to our prayers? You're sorry they have it hard, but when we are praying, their needs rarely bubble to the top.
- People you see every day—neighbors, the person at the cleaners, schoolteachers? It's hard to care, much less pray, for people you don't really know.

Where is it that prayer and love interface? Notice what Paul says to the Philippian believers: *"For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may overflow still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment"* (Philippians 1:8–9). See the process? *"Long for...pray...love"*—they go together like peanut butter and chocolate.

One of the four points of our church's Mission Statement is Love People.

If you really Love People, you will pray for them, and if you pray for people, you will find yourself loving them more.

Walk in love. Walk in prayer. Then, walk in love again.

And when we do this, we will show how we are walking with Jesus, and that is a great way to start a new year.

Bill Street

*Minister, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Prayer*

## **SIGN UP FOR PRAYER AND FASTING**

**[bellevue.org/prayer](https://bellevue.org/prayer)**

Would you answer God's call to be a watchman? Sign up at [bellevue.org/prayer](https://bellevue.org/prayer) for a specific time to pray on the third of each month in 2021. Each month you will receive a reminder and a prayer guide to help you know some specific things to pray for.

## PRAY GOD WILL DELIVER US FROM AND THROUGH COVID-19.

*“If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up” (Daniel 3:17–18).*

Someone once said, “Sometimes God calms the storm; sometimes He calms His child.” Since He is able to do *“exceeding, abundantly beyond all we ask or think,”* we are asking Him to do both: deliver us from this pandemic and deliver us from the effects of fear and discouragement.

First, deliver us from the pandemic:

- Pray God will provide vaccines through those who have been and are being approved by the FDA: Pfizer, Moderna, and others.
- Pray these vaccines will be effective in dealing with COVID-19.
- Pray the vaccines will get into the general population quickly.

Second, deliver us from the effects of the pandemic (physically and spiritually):

- Pray for supernatural protection from COVID-19. (As God protected the children of Israel from the plagues, may He protect us from the pandemic.)
- Pray believers will live lives of peace and confidence knowing that “everything over our heads is under His feet.”
- Pray our words and thoughts will reflect the Lordship of Christ over our lives. *“Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus” (Acts 4:13<sup>ESV</sup>).*
- Pray God will show us how to use the pandemic as a platform from which to Share Jesus. *“Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it” (1 Peter 3:15<sup>NLT</sup>).*

## PRAY FOR CHURCHES TO RESPOND TO COVID-19 IN A CHRISTLIKE WAY.

The sons of Issachar were *“men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do”* (1 Chronicles 12:32).

- Pray pastors and leaders will have God’s wisdom in leading their churches and communities.
- Pray Christians will wisely minister to those who are hurting—those looking for work, single parents, shut-ins, those who have lost a loved one. *“Rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep”* (Romans 12:15).
- Pray God will give peace among His people. Some individuals see little danger in COVID-19. Some see great danger. *“To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit”* (1 Peter 3:8).
- Pray God’s people will respond to the Lord, not to the circumstances we encounter. *“We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus”* (1 Thessalonians 5:14–18).

## PRAY FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS IN GEORGIA.

*“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity”* (1 Timothy 2:1–2).

- This election (which will be held January 5, 2021, and will result in the election of two senators from Georgia) will determine the majority leadership of the Senate. Pray God will give us godly leadership, Senators who fear God and lead according to biblical values.
- Pray all Christians will vote.
- Pray Christians vote in line with God’s Word.
- Pray the voting and counting of votes will be without controversy and will result in clear winners.

## PRAY GOD WILL GIVE WISDOM TO POLITICAL LEADERS.

- Pray the President, Governor, Mayors, and City and County Leaders will lead with clarity and discernment.
- Pray business leaders are able to lead in a way that addresses physical health as well as the financial health of families and businesses.
- Pray God will give political leaders the courage to do the right thing, not just the politically expedient thing.

## Memphis/Shelby County Elected Officials

Mayor:  
**Jim Strickland**

City Court Clerk:  
**Myron Lowery**

Director of Police:  
**Michael Rallings**

Shelby County Mayor:  
**Lee Harris**

Director of Fire Services:  
**Gina Y. Sweat**

Shelby County Sheriff:  
**Floyd Bonner, Jr.**

### City Council:

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District 3:  
**Chairwoman Patrice Robinson**

Super District 8-1:  
**JB Smiley, Jr.**

District 1:  
**Rhonda Logan**

Super District 8-2:  
**Cheyenne Johnson**

District 2:  
**Vice Chair Frank Colvett, Jr.**

Super District 8-3:  
**Martavius Jones**

District 4:  
**Jamita Swearingen**

Super District 9-1:  
**Chase Carlisle**

District 5:  
**Worth Morgan**

Super District 9-2:  
**J. Ford Canale**

District 6:  
**Edmund Ford, Sr.**

Super District 9-3:  
**Dr. Jeff Warren**

District 7:  
**Michalyn Easter-Thomas**

Shelby County Commissioners:

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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**

## PRAY FOR MEMPHIS.

Don't just read. Please take time to verbally pray Bro. Steve's Prayer for Memphis.

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, 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, extraordinary prayer. May the latter glory of Your Kingdom in Memphis be greater than the former, and please grant Memphis Your peace. Do exceeding and abundantly beyond all that we can ask or think. In Jesus' name, Amen!

**“Prayer moves the hand which moves the world.”  
—J. A. Wallace**



**bellevue.org** Bellevue Baptist Church  
2000 Appling Road | Cordova, TN 38016 | (901) 347-2000

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