



Prayer
MINISTRY

Prayer Guide

3 October 2020

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

AN UNKNOWN SOLDIER

His toes were frozen white, yet his fingers were scorched from the heat of gunfire. His valor was part of a battle that helped change the course of World War II, but for nearly four decades, those deeds went unhonored and virtually unremembered.

Pfc. Will James was a 19-year-old raw recruit serving in the 394th Regiment of the U. S. Army. On December 16, 1944, he and his platoon were on a routine patrol near the sleepy Belgian hamlet of Lanzerath. No one anticipated what would happen next as Hitler unleashed the biggest surprise of the war—an offensive that would become known as “The Battle of the Bulge.”

For 18 hours, Private James’s platoon staved off the German spearhead, fatally disrupting the Nazi timetable and blunting Hitler’s surprise. Those hours afforded the Allies time to begin mounting the defense that eventually won the battle.

By nightfall, the snows of Lanzerath were strewn with 500 German dead; the platoon had lost only two of its men and was captured only when they ran out of ammunition. Blasted in the face by a Nazi machine gun, Private James was the last to be taken.

After the war, James enrolled into Cornell Law School and became a leading citizen in Port Chester, New York. Few knew about the pain he suffered from, the wounds he received, or the 36 surgeries he endured trying to reconstruct his face.

In 1978, columnist Jack Anderson found out what James and his platoon had endured and wrote an article about them. George Steinbrenner, owner of the New York Yankees, enlisted the aid of the Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, to seek just recognition for James and his platoon.

On October 9, 1981, almost four decades after the battle, James' wife, Lucille, accepted her husband's posthumous medal—the Distinguished Service Cross (second only to the Congressional Medal of Honor)—on behalf of her husband. In addition, the 17 other medals given to his comrades made the Lanzerath platoon the most decorated platoon of World War II.

Few noticed their courage during the war. Fewer noticed it for decades after the war. Things have not changed. And this is much similar to the spiritual battle we face every day as well.

Few will know that you are praying and fasting. Perhaps your spouse or your family does but no one else knows. **However, one day when the eternal rewards are passed out**, *"Your Father who sees what is done in secret **will reward you**"* (Matthew 6:6).

Be a soldier of the cross and pray. The army that advances on its knees never retreats.

Bill Street
Minister, Evangelism, Discipleship, and Prayer

PRAY FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING.

"Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Romans 13:11–12^{ESV}).

If there was ever a time to be spiritually alert, it is now! Rebellion, ungodliness, violence, and sin of every kind is coming forth. Today is the day to wake up from the doldrums of complacency and apathy and get engaged in the spiritual battle.

- Pray against a spirit of slumber. *"According as it is written, God hath given them the **spirit of slumber**, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear."* (Romans 11:8^{KJV}). A spirit of slumber is an evil spirit, one that God will allow to come upon those who are not alert and clothed in spiritual armor. This spirit causes people to be lethargic, immobilized, in a fog, or spiritually or mentally dull.
- Pray we will be spiritually awake, alert, and clothed with the armor of God. The following is from Bro. Steve's Warfare Prayer:

Today, I will stand firm in Your strength. Right now, I put on the whole armor of God. I gird my loins with truth. Thank You that Jesus, the living Word of God, is the truth, and that the Bible, the written Word of God, is the truth. I put on the breastplate of righteousness. Thank You that Jesus bore my sin and gave me His righteousness. I shod my feet with the preparation of the Gospel of peace. Thank You that I have peace with You because I have been justified in Christ. Thank You that You, the God of peace, will crush Satan under my feet. Today, I take the helmet of salvation. Thank You that I have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ and nothing can separate me from Your love. I take up the shield of faith that will quench all the fiery darts of the enemy. I pray that no weapon formed against me will prosper. I take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and I stand on the promises of Your Word. I confess that: greater is He Who is in me than he who is in the world; I am seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; I can do all things through Christ Who strengthens me; You will supply all of my needs according to Your riches in glory in Christ Jesus; I have overcome the evil one by the blood of the Lamb, the word of my testimony, and because I do not love my life even unto death; I am more than a conqueror through Him who loves me; and no evil will befall me nor will any plague come near my dwelling and that You will give Your angels charge concerning me to guard me in all of my ways. Thank You for these eternal, sure promises, O Lord!

PRAY FOR AN OUTPOURING OF GOD'S SPIRIT.

In 1 Kings, we see an encounter between Elijah the prophet and the prophets of Baal.

*“Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD, and the God who answers by fire, He is God.” And all the people said, ‘That is a good idea.’ ... Then Elijah said to all the people, ‘Come near to me.’ So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD which had been torn down... At the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, Elijah the prophet came near and said, ‘O LORD, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, today let it be known that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and I have done all these things at Your word. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that You, O LORD, are God, and that You have turned their heart back again.’ Then the **fire of the LORD fell** and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, ‘The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God!’” (1 Kings 18:24, 30, 36–39).*

It is one thing for a glass to be clean; it is another for it to be filled. It is one thing to be spiritually alert and armed; it is another to be anointed by God's Spirit.

We need the fire of God to fall upon people and churches.

- Pray God's people will hunger for His presence and power and will not be satisfied with anything but God Himself. *“Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down, That the mountains might quake at Your presence”* (Isaiah 64:1).

- Pray God, the Holy Spirit, will breathe life upon us. *“The hand of the LORD was upon me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; and it was full of bones. He caused me to pass among them round about, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley; and lo, they were very dry. He said to me, ‘Son of man, can these bones live?’ And I answered, ‘O Lord GOD, You know.’ So I prophesied as He commanded me, **and the breath came into them**, and they came to life and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army”* (Ezekiel 37:1–3, 10).
- Pray God will revive His people. *“Will You not Yourself revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?”* (Psalm 85:6).

PRAY FOR THE 2020 ELECTIONS.

*“Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, **‘Because you have prayed** to Me about Sennacherib king of Assyria, this is the word that the LORD has spoken against him”* (Isaiah 37:21–22).

Judah was surrounded by an army that wanted to overthrow them. In the same way, Christ-centered values are being constantly attacked. God gave deliverance to Judah because the King prayed. We need to pray for godly, praying leaders in our local, state, and national government.

- Pray God will give us leaders who are:
 - Pro-life. *“For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother’s womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well”* (Psalm 139:13–14).
 - Pro-biblical marriage (marriage is between one man and one woman). *“For this reason, a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh”* (Genesis 2:24).
 - Pro-religious freedom. *“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).
 - Pro-biblical values. *“I will make justice the measuring line and righteousness the level”* (Isaiah 28:17).
- Pray Christians will see that our ultimate deliverance is from God, not any person or political party. *“O give us help against the adversary, for deliverance by man is in vain. Through God we shall do valiantly, and it is He who will tread down our adversaries”* (Psalm 60:11–12).
- Pray for those who are presently leading. (See list on following pages.)
- Pray for Supreme Court Justice Nominee, Amy Coney Barrett, for God’s will to be accomplished in this nomination.

United States Elected Officials

President:

Donald J. Trump

Vice President:

Mike Pence

Speaker of the House:

Nancy Pelosi

Senate Majority Leader:

Mitch McConnell

TN Senators:

Lamar Alexander

Marsha Blackburn

West TN Congressmen:

Steve Cohen

David Kustoff

Memphis/Shelby County Elected Officials

Mayor:

Jim Strickland

Director of Police:

Michael Rallings

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 3:

Chairwoman Patrice Robinson

District 1:

Rhonda Logan

District 2:

Vice Chair Frank Colvett, Jr.

District 4:

Jamita Swearengen

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 4:
Chairman Mark Billingsley

District 6:
Willie F. Brooks, Jr.

District 11:
**Chairman Pro Tempore
Eddie Jones**

District 7:
Tami Sawyer

District 1:
Amber Mills

District 8:
Mickell M. Lowery

District 2:
David C. Bradford

District 9:
Edmund Ford, Jr.

District 3:
Mick Wright

District 10:
Reginald Milton

District 5:
Michael Whaley

District 12:
Van Turner

District 13:
Brandon Morrison

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!

“Only God can move mountains, but faith and prayer move God.”
— E. M. Bounds

