

# Prayer for Memphis

*By Pastor Steve Gaines*

Heavenly Father, I come to You today in the name of Jesus thanking you for placing me in Memphis, Tennessee. I thank You for this city and ask You to bless and prosper it in every way.

Please bless every church in Memphis that exalts the name of Jesus and proclaims salvation in His name. Bless every Bible preaching pastor. Place Your hedge of protection around them and protect them and their families from every scheme and attack of the enemy. Bless every deacon and lay leader in Your churches. Help the churches in Memphis to love You, love each other, and love those who are lost and without Christ. Provide for every church and help every church to be diligent to guard the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. May the churches in Memphis enjoy peace, be built up, go on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, and continue to increase.

Help each church to be a house of holiness, a house of worship and celebration, a house of giving and joy, a house of evangelistic outreach, and above all, a house of prayer. Take away formalism, fanaticism, liberalism, legalism, and traditionalism from every congregation. May the latter glory of the churches in this city be greater than the former glory.

Bless our civic leaders. Bless the mayor of Memphis and each member of the city council. Bless the mayor of Shelby County and each county commissioner. Bless every judge and every other official. Bless their families also. Please give them your guidance. Help them to live godly lives and make wise, godly decisions that will help our city to prosper. Promotion comes from You, not man. You exalt one and put down another. Please place the people you desire into each position and office of leadership. Bless our educational systems – our public schools, private schools, and each family participating in a home-school program. Bless the administrators, teachers, other workers, the parents of the students, and most of all, the students themselves. May the students in Memphis, like Jesus, increase in wisdom, stature, and in favor with God and man. Keep the children safe at each school, and protect them from violence. Lord, please bless Memphis' economy. Bring in godly, wholesome businesses to Memphis that will provide employment for people so they can

provide financially for their families. Please help those who are able to work but are without jobs to find the right job opportunity so they can fulfill Your command to work. Please help us to reach out in love and compassion to those who are unable to work and meet their needs.

Bring about racial reconciliation in Memphis. Remove every form of racism. May those who are black, Hispanic, Asian, white, or of other ethnic background, love those of other races. Where there is bitterness, hatred, and resentment, replace them with forgiveness, love, and respect. Please help me to value and respect every person as You value them, because You created each of them in Your image and each of them is an eternal soul for whom Christ died to save.

Protect our city from violence and crime. Bless our law enforcement officers and protect them. Please remove and keep out any businesses that would encourage sin in this city, such as organized crime, gangs, gambling, strip clubs, and the trafficking of illegal drugs. Please send Your divine protection upon Memphis' citizens and help us to have a peaceful city.

Father, bless Memphis, Tennessee and its citizens indeed, enlarge our borders, let Your hand of blessing be upon us, and keep us from harm. Cause this city to become a center for spiritual awakening, prayer, and revival. Help Your people in Memphis to repent of our sins, humble ourselves before You, and walk in Your ways. Help us to be a blessing to the other citizens of Memphis. May Your favor and good hand rest upon Memphis. May the city of Memphis bring glory to the name of Jesus. We love You, and we love and pray for Memphis, Tennessee to be blessed in every way. In Jesus' name, amen!