

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER – THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2014

“So that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.” - Romans 15:6

ONE VOICE UNITED IN PRAYER

“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”

2 Chronicles 7:14-15

24-7 Prayer for New York State

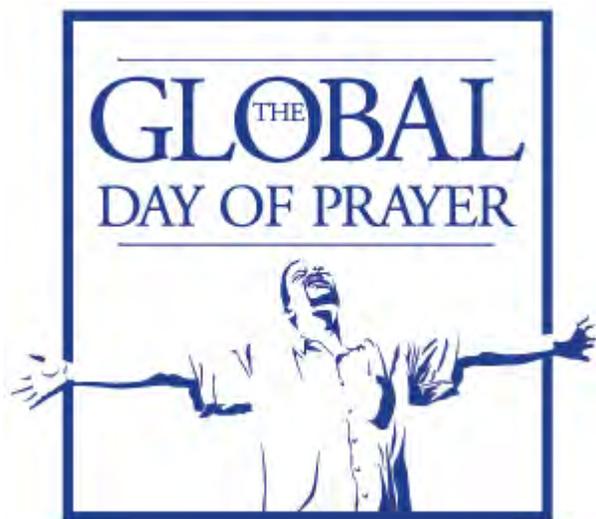
Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

May 2014



“Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name” (Psalm 100:4).

Thursday May 1st 2014



Sunday June 8th 2014

Prayer is always personal even when offered in public. It is an expression of relationship between persons. Jesus' intimate conversation with the Father often spilled over into His public life and ministry. When our lives are filled with prayer this will happen to us as well.

Praise—“I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes” (Mt. 11:25). In the middle of a sermon Jesus' hidden dialogue with the Father is revealed when He can no longer contain the praise that is in His heart over the gracious work of the Father. True praise erupts when we have eyes to see and ears to hear the activity and voice of our Father. The personal forms of prayer lead to this public expression of passion.

Thanksgiving—“Father, I thank You that You have heard Me” (Jn. 11:41). It would be unfathomable to picture Jesus, the only Son of God, as anything but overflowing with gratitude to the Father He is so intimate with. In addition to thankfulness at meals (Jn. 6:11; Mt. 26:26), more significant was Jesus grateful responsiveness to the Father's work and listening ear.

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The raising of Lazarus was in response to Jesus' petition and even before the request was fulfilled Jesus' gratitude was expressed, knowing that He had been heard.

Passion in prayer gives the settled assurance that we have been heard without having to see the answer enacted. It is an example of the mature faith of believing without seeing, of living by faith not by sight.

Father, my heart is filled with gratitude for Your goodness in my life! Your praise is always on my lips for You have blessed me beyond anything I could ever think or imagine! May I never miss an opportunity to lift up Your name as I walk by faith and not by sight.

Adapted from [Giving Ourselves to Prayer: An Acts 6:4 Primer for Ministry](#) (Chapter 23, Jesus as a Role Model of Personal Passion in Prayer by Howard Baker).

Prayer Points

Praise God for his great mercy. Thank God for forgiving you and bringing you back after failure and rebellion (Zech. 8:7-8). Confess times of presuming on his patience and mercy. Commit yourself to consistent obedience from a heart of gratitude for God's forgiveness. Ask him to forgive your debts as you have forgiven your debtors, and to lead you not into temptation but to deliver you from evil.

Pray that the unsaved in your network of relationships will be won to the Prince of Peace by seeing fallen Christians restored. Ask God to show them his healing through the mending of your own life.

-Prayer Points taken from [Patterns for Prayer](#) by Alvin VanderGriend.

A Praying Plan for Our State

Praying from Scripture:

God has given His people the Scriptures as a manual to tell why He made the earth and its people. It is the Bible which gives us the answer to the questions, "What are states here for, and what does God want for their life and peoples, and from them for His global purposes.

Praying with Purpose:

God is a purposeful God, and has created states and everything in them, with His designs for their success. In listening prayer we discover and discern His purpose. In praise and asking prayer we affirm our desire - that we WANT what He WANTS for our state.

Praying with Persistence:

God knows that we truly want what He wants for our state if we pray consistently and persistently for His Presence and working in our state. Praying is an activity like breathing. We never stop doing it. It's our life source. It is the life-flow of God's wisdom, love and strength for our state.

Praying with Humility:

When we pray let us have an attitude that we are in the presence of the Lord God Almighty. He is Sovereign and knows what is best for our state and its people, and provides for it according to His designed purposes and plans. When we pray let us "surrender to His Sovereignty" ("Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done") to receive what He gives in His agenda, worked out in His ways, in His time. In praying we humbly ask for His will, not our wishes.

Praying with Hope: God has promised to hear and answer our prayers, as we ask according to His will, based on the promises in His Word. Jesus Christ promised His disciples, "Ask and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you". For everyone who asks receives, he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."(Luke 11:9-10)But more than the promises of God, the purposes of God give us a resounding assurance of the HOPE of His working. God told the prophet Isaiah, that Messiah would come - a "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, prince of Peace," and of the "increase of His government and peace there would be no end . . . The zeal of the Lord of Hosts will accomplish this" (Isaiah 9:6-7). That is the hope in the committed, passionate heart of God to fulfill His eternal, global purposes!!!