

“Forgive the sins of our state – the idolatry of loving self, loving things, loving money, loving pleasure, rather than loving you. Forgive our injustice and lawlessness, our hatred and malice, our sexual immorality, our lying and deception, our greed.”

“Give us your grace to forgive others – and bring forth a spirit of redemption, reconciliation and harmony”.

“Give us your strength over temptation – to surround the state with your protection and restrain the impulses to do evil, and silence the voices of systemic sinfulness”.

“Deliver us from evil and the evil one – by exposing the sinful schemes of corruption, and tearing down the strongholds of prejudice, witchcraft, injustice, perversion, and bring healing.”

“We give you glory for all your kingship and power at work”



The Encouragement of Answered Prayer.

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One of the most important influences to seeing people pray more is the encouragement that comes from answered prayer. All too often, as individuals and churches we pray for things, but never hear what happened. We never get a chance to praise God for answered prayer, and see our faith built through remembering God’s grace and mercy. That is why it is important to look for ways to record what is being prayed for and the answers that come.

There are a number of journals that are published in which you can record petitions and note when they are answered for individuals or circumstances being faced. When we pray in general for everyone or all the missionaries it is difficult to know if our prayer has been answered or if our prayer had any part in the answer. If we believe God hears and answers our prayers then it is important to give proof to such. The way we can give proof is by writing down our specific requests and the dates they were answered. Keeping a journal of our prayer interaction with God can have a profound effect on the building of our faith and can markedly increase our excitement in prayer.

Grace-filled God, You answer prayer in so many amazing ways, large and small. Answered prayer builds my faith so much and yet so often I do not share the testimonies of what You do in my life in response to my prayers! Help me to develop the spiritual discipline of journaling so that I might be able to see You at work more fully, and so that I can share Your answers with others! May the excitement of seeing You move increase my faith and the faith of everyone around me. Yet, help me to seek Your face because of Who You are and my love for You rather than looking to “get” something from You. Guard my heart against selfish motives so that I will instead proclaim Your goodness and power!

Adapted from **Giving Ourselves to Prayer: An Acts 6:4 Primer for Ministry** (Chapter 30, Prayer Journals/Diaries by Gary Waller). This book is available at prayershop.org

An excellent prayer journal is The **Pray! Prayer Journal** by Dean Ridings.

Prayer Points

Praise God for meeting with his people in special ways through weekly worship services. Give thanks that you can continue to be with him today! Confess times of ignoring God during the weekdays. Commit yourself to a special time of worshipping God through personal devotions each day this week. Ask the Lord to remind you of his presence throughout this day. Pray that unsaved persons around the world will see that brilliant witness of Christian leaders and glorify God. Ask God to shine clearly and consistently through you in your sphere of influence.

–Prayer Points taken from **Patterns for Prayer** by Alvin VanderGriend. This book is available at prayershop.org.

Praying the “Lord’s Prayer” for Our State

Jesus Christ designed His “mighty works” to impact the whole states (Matthew 11:20-24). Jesus wept over Jerusalem with a personal longing to “gather” its people under His protection, but they rejected Him (Matthew 23:37).

He called His message “this Gospel of the Kingdom” (Matthew 24:14), the good news of God’s kingship of a culture that would change for all people.

He taught His followers to pray for God’s Kingdom to be established on earth and not just “in church” (Matthew 6:10).

Each resident of New York needs to ask themselves, “Do we need, and so we want the Father’s name to honored, His kingdom to come, His will to be done, His resources, His forgiveness, His overcoming strength for temptation, His deliverance from evil - in our state? If we do, then let’s pray the “Lord’s Prayer” for our state.

“Father, we honor your name – as the Life-Giver and Sustainer of our state, its people, its resources, and its life. You are the Designer of our state’s destiny. You know the plans and purposes you have for its people and its productivity.”

“Let your kingship come – to rule over the governments, its courts, its banks, its churches, its hospitals, its schools. Let the authority of your righteousness transform, govern and renew the state’s people and atmosphere.”

“Let your will be done – to carry our determined desires in the activities of its cities, workplaces, parks and recreation areas, communication systems, healthcare”.

“Give us day by day the food – to nourish and strengthen us, to provide for the poor and needy. And feed us your creativity, knowledge, wisdom, inspiration, motivation for the state to grow.”

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