



## Prayer Guide November 24, 2021

The matters we are praying for this month regarding Memphis are big prayers! As John Newton, author of *Amazing Grace* wrote "Thou art coming to a king, large petitions with thee bring, for His grace and power are such, none can ever ask too much." Big prayers require God. God requires that our petitions are prayed in faith.

The following requests are not a list to be hurriedly read to God, but are areas where God the Holy Spirit wants to do a deep, powerful, and personal work in you and through you. **The goal is not to get to the end of the list!** And you may not. As God prompts you to settle down on a particular request, do that.

### PRAISE

*"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you . . . and **pray to the LORD on its behalf**; for in its welfare, you will have welfare"* (Jeremiah 29:7).

In Deuteronomy 8:18 Moses wrote, *"but remember that the LORD your God gives you the power to gain wealth."* Take a few moments to praise God that He has provided good jobs for the Memphis area. Ford Motor Company and SK Innovation recently announced they will invest \$5.6 billion to build a 3,600-acre mega campus called Blue City Oval on the Memphis Regional Mega site, where production of the next generation all-electric F-Series trucks will begin in 2025. The project will result in the creation of 5,800 new jobs in West Tennessee (with tens of thousands of other workers to be positively impacted)! Let us *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving"* (Psalm 100:4) as we begin our prayer time.

### CHURCHES

*"So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria enjoyed peace, being built up; and going on in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it continued to increase"* (Acts 9:31).

- Pray for the Word of God to be proclaimed from every pulpit in Memphis with Holy Spirit power! *Pray by name for the pastors and churches that God brings to mind. The Spirit of God will guide you regarding what to pray.*
- Pray that Christians would not be satisfied with emotionalism, traditionalism, or dead orthodoxy, but would instead hunger for the Word of God and the living presence of God.
- Pray that churches would become *“a house of prayer for all nations”* (Isaiah 56:7).
- Pray for genuine revival to break forth in churches and that people would embrace the Holy Spirit moving in a fresh way.
- Pray that God will raise up men and women who will love God, love people, share Jesus, and make disciples. *“The church is not developing her recruits into disciplined soldiers. We are fighting the greatest battle of all time with the most untrained army on earth.”* (Vance Havner)

## LEADERSHIP IN MEMPHIS AND THE MID-SOUTH

*“It is an abomination for kings to commit wicked acts, for a throne is established on righteousness”* (Proverbs 16:12).

- Pray that God will raise up righteous political leaders, men and women who lead out of a sense of personal responsibility to God and serve in a holy fear of God.
- Pray for your political leaders by name. (You will find them after the Prayer for Memphis.) Pray for their salvation if they are not saved. Pray that God will surround them with godly friends and associates. Pray that political power will not be an idol. Pray that God will bring political leaders to their knees in surrender and dependence to God.
- Pray that city and county leaders who are believers will pray with one another and will walk in a unity of Spirit.

## SCHOOLS

*“An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge”*  
(Prov. 18:15, ESV).

The average ACT score in Memphis’ lowest performing communities is between 14 and 16, while the highest performing public schools average 23-26, and the leading private school students average above 28. ACT scores range from an approximate minimum of 11 to an average of 21 and a maximum of 36, which puts many Memphis students closer to the minimum possible score than the national average. Only 7% of students graduating from Shelby County Schools are ready to attend college.

At the end of 2019, only 19% of 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students in SCS and the ASD (Achievement School District) had attained mastery or were on track to mastery in language arts for their grade level on the Tennessee end-of-year tests. In math, the portion on track or having attained mastery was 26%.

Memphis has the second highest rate of disconnected youth in any U.S. metro area: almost 1 in 5 youth and young adults age 16-24 is neither employed nor in school.

- Pray that God will *“Restore (unto this city and these families) the years that the swarming locust has eaten”* (Joel 2:25, ESV) in regard to lost educational and economic opportunities.

- Pray that families and churches will embrace the disciplines that surround the area of educational endeavors.

## SAFETY

- Pray God will quench a spirit of violence that frequently strikes our neighborhoods and people.
- Pray God will give police and elected officials wisdom on how to combat this evil. *“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).
- Pray God raises up soul winners, disciple makers, and churches that will reach those who are committing violence so that they will be born again and transformed. *“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness”* (Mark 7:21-22).

## IN CLOSING

*“I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but **I found no one**”* Ezekiel 22:30.

As God searches Memphis, Tennessee, may He say, “I have found them.”

## PRAY FOR POLITICAL LEADERS

We have been commanded to pray, “for kings and all who are in authority” (1 Timothy 2:2).

- Pray those who are saved will lead with righteous values and will share the Gospel of Christ with other political leaders.
- Pray the pressures of leading will cause lost politicians and judges to call on Jesus to be saved.

President of the United States: **Joe Biden**

Vice President of the United States: **Kamala Harris**

Supreme Court Justices:

**John G. Roberts, Chief Justice of the United States**

**Clarence Thomas**

**Stephen G. Breyer**

**Samuel A. Alito**

**Sonia Sotomayer**

**Elena Kagan**

**Neil M. Gorsuch**

**Brett M. Kavanaugh**

**Amy Coney Barrett**

Governor of Tennessee:

**Bill Lee**

Tennessee Senators:

**Marsha Blackburn**

**Bill Hagerty**

West Tennessee Congressmen:

**Steve Cohen**

**David Kustoff**

**Memphis/Shelby County Elected Officials:**

Mayor:

**Jim Strickland**

Director of Police:

**Cerelyn "CJ" Davis**

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 2:

**Chairman, Frank Colvertt, Jr.**

District 1:

**Rhonda Logan**

District 3:

**Patrice J. Robinson**

District 4:

**Vice Chair Jamita Swearingen**

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 Warre**

**Shelby County Commissioners:**

District 11:

**Chairman Eddie Jones**

District 13:

**Pro Tempore Brandon Morrison**

District 1:

District 5:

**Michael Whaley**

District 6:

**Willie F. Brooks, Jr.**

District 7:

**Amber Mills**

**Tami Sawyer**

District 2:  
**David C. Bradford**

District 8:  
**Mickell M. Lowery**

District 3:  
**Mick Wright**

District 9:  
**Edmund Ford, Jr.**

District 4:  
**Mark Billingsley**

District 10:  
**Reginald Milton**

District 11:  
**Van Turner**

**Bartlett Elected Officials:**

Mayor:  
**Keith McDonald**

Chief Administrative Officer:  
**Mark Brown**

Police Chief:  
**Jeff Cox**

Fire Chief:  
**Terry Wiggins**

**Board of Aldermen:**

Alderman, Position 1  
**W.C. (Bubba) Pleasant**  
Alderman, Position 3  
**David Parsons**

Alderman, Position 2  
**Emily Elliott**  
Alderman, Position 4  
**Bobby Simmons**

Alderman, Position 5  
**Jack Young**

Alderman, Position 6  
**Kevin Quinn**

“Prayer is the slender nerve that moves the muscles of omnipotence.”  
~ Charles Spurgeon