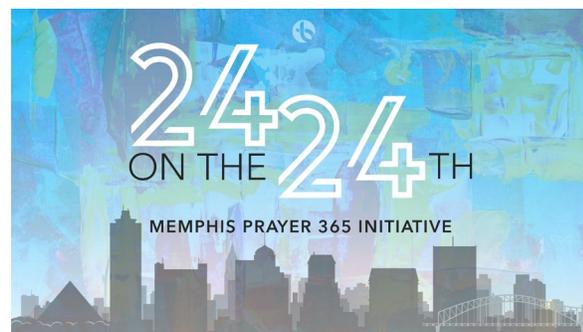


PRAYER GUIDE

DECEMBER 24, 2021 | BARTLETT BAPTIST CHURCH

Thank you for your commitment to pray for 30 minutes on the twenty-fourth day of the month.



PRAY WE WILL LIVE IN THE REALITY OF THE "REASON FOR THE SEASON"

It is so easy to get caught up in the hectic pace of the holidays: parties to go to, presents to buy, and people to make sure and remember (and I won't even mention the busy CHURCH CALENDARS!). Pray Christians will make time to reflect on, and live in light of, Jesus' birth, life, death, burial, resurrection, and return. In other words, pray that we will focus on the eternal, not the temporal.

- Pray we will truly worship. *"After coming into the house they saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell to the ground and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh"* (Matthew 2:11).
- Pray we will unashamedly share the good news. *"But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord'"* (Luke 2:10-11).
- Pray we will, in light of the price He paid, live holy lives. *"Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; For my eyes have seen Your salvation, Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, A LIGHT OF REVELATION TO THE GENTILES, And the glory of Your people Israel"* (Luke 2:29-32).

PRAY OUR CANDLELIGHT SERVICE WILL BE ANOINTED BY GOD

- Pray those who need to be saved will hear the gospel, and will repent, believe, and receive Jesus.
- Pray those who need encouragement will receive a touch from God.
- Pray those who need hope will be filled.
- Pray those who need strength will receive it.

PRAY WE WILL GUIDE GENERATIONS TO EXPERIENCE TRANSFORMATION IN JESUS IN BARTLETT AND BEYOND

God has placed us in a multigenerational community in desperate need of Jesus and He has called us to be about helping people come to know the transforming power of Christ. The greatest need people have isn't social, economic, or political, it is spiritual. Consequently, every battle we fight is a spiritual battle! Paul tells us, *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places"* (Ephesians 6:12). Our greatest need is to be the people of God experiencing the power of God flowing through us.

- Pray God will revive His people. *"Will You not Yourself revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?"* (Psalm 85:6).
- Pray we will walk in both the fear of God and faith that God will respond to believing prayer. *"LORD, I have heard the report about You and I fear. O LORD, revive Your work in*

the midst of the years, In the midst of the years make it known; In wrath remember mercy.” (Habakkuk 3:2).

- Pray God will both revive present leaders and also raise up new spiritual leaders, men and women who know that the living God is the only answer. *“Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself. Then we shall not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name. O LORD God of hosts, restore us; Cause Your face to shine upon us, and we will be saved” (Psalm 80:17–19).*

PRAY SPIRITUAL STRONGHOLDS WILL BE BROKEN

As you pray for the Mid-South, specifically pray God would demolish every stronghold of pride, violence, racism, poverty, crime, sexual immorality, drug abuse, sickness, religious formalism, fanaticism, legalism, liberalism, and traditionalism. Strongholds are developed in lives, families, churches, and the culture where the truth of God is ignored or rebelled against, and sin is not forsaken.

- Pray we will realize that problems and the solutions to what we face are spiritual. Drugs, violence, poverty, pornography, and intolerance all have their root in rebelling against God. *“For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds” (2 Corinthians 10:4^{ESV}).*
- Pray we will engage in spiritual warfare. Resist does not mean to ignore. Resist means to stand against. *“Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded” (James 4:7–8).*
- Pray we will clothe ourselves with the armor of God. *“Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:13–17).*

PRAY THAT MEMPHIS PRAYER 365 WOULD SEE MEMPHIS COVERED IN PRAYER 24/7/365

The prophet Isaiah challenged God's people to build a spiritual wall around Jerusalem through prayer. *“On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen; All day and all night they will never keep silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest for yourselves; And give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth” (Isaiah 62:6-7).* We believe He wants to see the same for Memphis. At this point, 18 days of the month are covered 24 hours a day. Every day of the month, at least one church has embraced the calling of praying for Memphis.

- Pray God calls other churches to this mission until Memphis is covered 24/7/365.
- Pray churches experience the presence and power of God as they are “standing in the gap.” *“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).*

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 Joe Biden

VICE PRESIDENT Kamala Harris

SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

John G. Roberts, Chief Justice of the United States

Clarence Thomas

Samuel A. Alito

Elena Kagan

Brett M. Kavanaugh

Stephen G. Breyer

Sonia Sotomayer

Neil M. Gorsuch

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

City Court Clerk:

Myron Lowery

Director of Police:

Cerelyn "CJ" Davis

Shelby County Mayor:

Lee Harris

Director of Fire Services:

Gina Y. Sweat

Shelby County Sherriff:

Floyd Bonner, Jr.

CITY COUNCIL

District 1:

Rhonda Logan

Super District 8-1

JB Smiley, Jr.

District 2:

Frank Colvett, Jr., Chairman

Super District 8-2:

Cheyenne Johnson

District 3:

Patrice J. Robinson

Super District 8-3:

Martavius Jones

District 4:

Jamita Swearngen, Vice Chair

Super District 9-1:

Chase Carlisle

District 5:

Worth Morgan

Super District 9-2:

J. Ford Canale

District 6:
Edmund Ford, Sr.

District 7:
Michalyn Easter-Thomas

Super District 9-3:
Dr. Jeff Warren

SHELBY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

District 1:
Amber Mills

District 2:
David C. Bradford

District 3:
Mick Wright

District 4:
Mark Billingsley

District 5:
Michael Whaley

District 6:
Willie F. Brooks, Jr.

District 7:
Tami Sawyer

District 8:
Mickell M. Lowery

District 9:
Edmund Ford, Jr.

District 10:
Reginald Milton

District 11:
Eddie Jones

District 12:
Van Turner

District 13:
Van Turner

BARTLETT ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor:
Keith McDonald

Police Chief:
Jeff Cox

Chief Administrative Officer:
Mark Brown

Fire Chief:
Terry Wiggins

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Position 1:
W.C. (Bubba) Pleasant

Position 2:
Emily Elliott

Position 3:
David Parsons

Position 4:
Bobby Simmons

Position 5:
Jack Young

Position 6:
Kevin Quinn

If you aren't believing God for big things, you probably aren't praying regularly or intensively enough.

~Mark Batterson