

Prayerwalking



Taking Your Faith Into The Real World



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Praying For The Nations

You're probably wondering what the phrase "nations praying" means. Nations praying is covering the nations of the world during your prayer times. It means praying for the nations of the world on a consistent basis. It is pleading with God to transform and bless all the nations of this world.

At this point, some of you may be ready to put the newsletter down and move on to something else. Your interest level might have bottomed out when you saw the title or read those opening words. You may be thinking that this is not really for you. Or, for others, you may feel a little overwhelmed by this. After all, the world is a big place.

But, hang on! God longs to use you in touching and blessing this world. Your heavenly Father wants you to have a global impact! He desires to use you in reaching the world. You can do this by practicing nations praying.

Growing up, I attended a church and belonged to a denomination that had a strong missions emphasis. I can remember my church hosting numerous world missions conferences. God gave me the privilege to hear and meet many missionaries. My pastors taught and emphasized world missions. Each year we had a special season of prayer and giving for world missions. God used all of these things to show me the need to support and pray for missionaries.

Yet, God began burdening me that I needed to go deeper. He convicted me that I

must cover the nations of the world. He wanted me to move out of my comfort zone - to forsake my usual, comfortable praying. He wanted to stretch my faith and my prayers to include the whole world.

This is God's desire you also. He longs for you to seek Him for the nations of the world. He wants to move you out of your comfort zone and into the place where you are His vessel for touching and changing the whole world. In this issue of *The Prayer Closet*, we will focus on nations praying. We will deal with why believers should practice this, some obstacles to this, and provide you with some practical advice on how to do this. God wants to guide you on the exciting journey of interceding for the nations of the world. Are you ready to hear and heed His call? In this issue of *Prayerwalking*, we will focus on how to pray for the nations of the world.

Dynamite Prayers For The Nations

The following prayer guide is designed to help you saturate a nation with prayer. These prayers are packed with power because they are based on the Word of God. These prayers can unleash God's power into a nation. You can use this guide to pray in faith and power for the nations of the world.

Father, I plead that the knowledge of You will fill _____ as the waters fill the ocean (**Habakkuk 2:14**).

Father, I ask that Your Word would spread rapidly among the people of _____ and that it would transform the entire nation. Remove any hindrances to this (**2 Thessalonians 3:1-3**).

Holy Spirit, I ask You to move powerfully in _____ saving and adding to the church (**Acts 2:47**).

Father, I pray that You would open the hearts of the people in _____ to the good news of Jesus (**Acts 16:14**).

Father, strengthen and encourage the believers of _____. Provide them with the power and boldness that they need to share the good news of Jesus Christ with the nation (**Acts 4:31**).

Lord of the harvest, raise up missionaries and send them to _____. I ask in the name of Jesus that they would reap a miraculous harvest in _____ (**Matthew 9:38**).

Father, I pray that the people of _____ would hunger and thirst for You, the living and the true God (**Psalm 42:1-2**).

Father, I plead that the leaders of _____ will be open to missionaries and the spread of the gospel. Move on their minds and hearts to open their nation to these things (**Proverbs 21:1**).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that the people of _____ will forsake all their false religions and idols that they might turn to Jesus Christ in true faith and repentance (**1 Thessalonians 1:9**).

Father, the Bible is Your Word. You inspired it and have preserved it. It reveals You and Your way of salvation. It shows people how to live a life pleasing to You. I ask in Jesus' name that the people of _____ will have a copy of the

Word of God. I pray that they will love and search the Word of God (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**).

Warfare Prayers For The Nations

The following prayer guide will help you do spiritual warfare for a nation. Only fervent prayer can break Satan's grip over a nation. These Scripture prayers can enable to pray for the destruction of Satan's grip and to open the doors for the gospel in a nation.

Father, in Jesus' name, I ask You to break Satan's grip over _____. By Your almighty power, destroy his deceptive, murderous grip over _____ (**Jeremiah 32:17**).

Father, in Jesus' name, I plead that the people of _____ would no longer believe the lies of the enemy. I ask that they would forsake the lies and receive the truth of Your Word (**John 8:44**).

Father, I pray in Jesus' name that You would strengthen and empower the believers of _____. I ask that You would deliver them from all the wicked intentions of the evil one (**Luke 22:31**).

Father, I plead in Jesus' name that Satan would not hinder the work or the advance of the church in _____. Protect the church in _____ and help them to do all the will of God (**1 Thessalonians 2:18**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would destroy all the schemes of the evil one against _____. Set them free from the power of the enemy (**2 Corinthians 2:11**).

Father, I plead in the name of Jesus that the people of _____ would say "No!" to the temptations of the devil. I ask that they would seek You and find freedom in Jesus Christ (**Matthew 6:13**).

Father, I ask in Jesus' name that You would deliver the people of _____ from the kingdom of darkness and that You would place

them into the kingdom of Your dear Son (**Colossians 1:13**).

Father, Your Word declares that the devil is like a roaring lion that prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Satan wants to afflict, wound, and destroy the people of _____. He wants to lead them into eternal darkness and misery. I pray that You would have mercy on _____. Deliver them from the evil one and draw them to Jesus Christ in true faith and repentance (**1 Peter 5:8**).

Father, Satan has taken the people of _____ captive to do His will. Set them free from the trap of the enemy that they might walk in the paths of righteousness for Your name's sake (**2 Timothy 2:26**).

Praying Psalm 19 For A Nation

Psalm 19 teaches that God reveals Himself to sinful mankind. Man is under the darkness of sin. Yet, God has shined the light of His glory and greatness into this darkness. God has determined to make Himself and His will known to mankind. In this psalm, we see that God desires to reveal Himself to all the peoples of the earth. You can use this psalm to guide you in your praying for the nations. As you pray **Psalm 19**, you might consider using the following prayer pointers:

- *Pray that the people will pay attention to and respond to God's revelation (19:1-5).* In these verses, God's declares that He is revealing Himself all over the world day and night. Plead that the people will take heed to this revelation and respond with belief. Ask God to do whatever He must to gain the attention of the people of a nation. In those nations that are bound by unbelief and false religion, plead that He will use whatever means possible—creation, dreams, and miracles—to speak to the people.

- *Plead that the Word would fill the nation and do its work among the people (19:7-9).*
 - Restore the people to God (v.7)
 - Making the wise simple (v.7)
 - Rejoicing the heart of the people (v.8)
 - Opening the eyes of the people to God and His will (v.8)
 - Provide hope and stability to the people (v.9)
 - Show the people how to please God (v.9)
- Ask that the people will desire God's Word more than any thing in this world (19:10).
- Pray that the people will hear the Word and repent of evil; ask that they will experience freedom from sin through the Word (19:11-13).
- Plead that the people of the nation will obey the Word and live a life pleasing to God (19:14).

How Do I Pray For The Nations?

You may be wondering, "How in the world do I pray for the world?" You may be thinking, "How do I start?" or "Where do I begin?" The following are some keys that you can use to develop your ability to intercede for the nations of the world.

- (1) **Ask God to create His heart in you.** God's heart beats for the world. He delights in bringing people from the nations of the world to Himself through the gospel (**Revelation 7:9**). He longs for the nations of the world to bow before Him in adoration and praise. Call on God to create His heart in you for the nations. Pray that He will give you the same perspective that He has on this world.
- (2) **Remember that the world is not as big as you may think.** When I first began praying for the nations of the world, I was overwhelmed by it. But, as I began to pray, I realized that the world is not as big as I thought it was. It is possible for a believer to cover the nations of the world in intercession. This is not an impossible

task. God wants you to have a global impact!

(3) **Stay informed.** An essential key to powerful intercession is staying informed about what is happening in the world. As you gain more understanding about nations and people groups, you can pray with greater power and effectiveness. The following are sites that can help you stay informed about what is going on in the world. They will provide you with the information that you will need to grow in your nations praying:

Bethany World Prayer Center

(Excellent and detailed information about the people groups of our world).

www.bethany.com

Christian Information Network

www.christian-info.com

U.S. Center For World Missions

www.uscwm.org

International Mission Board

www.imb.org

Central Intelligence Agency

(The CIA Factbook can provide you with a treasure of information about every nation in the world).

www.cia.gov

(4) **Develop a plan.** It is essential that you develop a plan for covering the nations of the world. You might consider praying for a continent at a time. You could cover a nation once a week until you have prayed for the whole world. You might also consider praying for all the nations in one year. You could even cover the entire world in one month. The Prayer Closet has designed a calendar that can help you pray for every nation in one year. We also have brochures to help you pray for the entire world in one month. If you don't already have a plan of intercession, please contact us for help in this area. By having a plan, you can cover the world with believing prayer.

(5) **Enlist a prayer\accountability partner.** Ask another believer to help you develop faithfulness in praying for the nations of the world. Have this person hold you accountable concerning this. Make sure that they ask you the tough questions concerning your consistency. You might even consider developing a "Great Commission Team." This team could meet and pray for the nations and hold each other accountable concerning this.

(6) **Adopt a nation or nations.** You might consider adopting a nation. You could learn everything that you can about this nation. You could then offer intense prayer for this nation for a period of time.

(7) **Adopt a people group.**

(8) **Cover the continents.** You could commit to cover each continent for a period of time. This would give you the opportunity to cover all the continents over a year or whatever period of time you choose.

(9) **Pray for and get involved with missionaries.** One of the ways that you can bless the nations is by praying for the missionaries who are sent there. Get to know the people who are on the frontlines. Adopt and pray for missionaries. As you do this, you will find your concern for the nations growing. You will also become more effective in praying for the world.

**Dr. Kevin Meador, President
The Prayer Closet Ministries, Inc.**

P. O. Box 278,
Hickory, MS 39332

(601) 635-2180
(601) 646-5960

EMAIL:
prayer@prayerclosetministries.org

WEB PAGES:
www.prayerclosetministries.org