

# Timely Ways to Pray for the USA



"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you...pray to the Lord on its behalf."

With all that's going on in America this year, have you ever felt discouraged about the state of our nation? I know that Mary and I have. In the late spring, and into the summer, we were feeling stressed. Truth be told, we'd felt like that for a few months. We both had a lot of changes going on in our lives, even without Covid-19, the election, and the chaos in our cities.

## Called to Hope

However, as the summer progressed, God was drawing us back to the basics, and one of the things that meant was back to our Only By Prayer website. We did a major revamp of the site and went into a planning frenzy. As we sought Him for what that looked like, God reminded us that Jesus calls us to be people of hope and to faint not. One powerful tool that we always have when we need to fight the enemy and his schemes is prayer. Rather than despairing of ever seeing things change for the better, God reminded us to be a catalyst of change for

the better.

*Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. 'The lord is my portion,' says my soul. 'Therefore I hope in Him.'*

*Lamentations 3: 22-24 NKJ*

## Pray for the USA

Patiently, He impressed upon us the importance to stop moping and to start praying for the USA more and to mobilize others to pray too. With that said, we'd like to give you an update on what's in the works here at Only By Prayer so you can join us if you'd like.

1. **Facebook prayer group.** We revamped a Facebook group we started four years ago and renamed it Pray for the USA. We then launched an event called 5 Days to Fast and Pray for our Nation in August. To our surprise, as of October 2020, God has brought over 800 people to the group to pray. Thank you, Lord! We'd love to have you join us as well. It's a non-partisan group, and we do not allow any political arguments on the page – just praying.
2. **October Event.** We are ramping up for our next event on Pray for the USA: 5 Days to Pray for the Election. This is another virtual prayer event held on October 28, October 29, October 30, November 2, and November 3. We are adding 24-Hour Prayer to this event in addition to our daily prayer topics. Be sure to check out the details.
3. **Pray for the USA Prayer book!** As we were organizing the prayer group, we realized how hard it can be sometimes

to pray specifically about issues that are happening in our country. Mary felt God leading us to write a 31-day book of prayers targeted to culturally relevant issues of our day. Again the Lord came through. We recently finished this short book called Pray for the USA, and it's now available for sale on Amazon. You don't have to have an actual Kindle tablet to read it. You can download the Kindle app for your phone or computer and read it that way. We think you'll find it helpful to pray through the relevant issues of our day. It only takes about two minutes or so to pray each prayer. If you happen to be a member of Kindle unlimited, you can actually read Pray for the USA for free. If you do purchase it/read it, we'd love if you'd leave us a review on Amazon.

4. **ThanksLiving event.** In November we are hosting our 12 Days to ThanksLiving event. It will run from Friday, November 13, to Tuesday, November 24. It will be held entirely on our website and is completely free. Details to follow soon.
5. **Advent devotion.** In late November through December, we will be leading a group through our Advent devotional (also published on Kindle) called Advent-urous: Seeking Jesus in the Season of Advent . This starts on Sunday, November 29 and runs through December 24, with a bonus week after Christmas.
6. **3 Weeks to a Healthier You.** In the works for January 11-29 is a new venture we are starting called **3 Weeks to a Healthier You, Body, Soul, and Spirit.** More information to follow on this, but we are excited because the body segment will include an exercise program developed just for our group by certified fitness trainer Sarah Lewis. Sarah is also available for online training in these Covid times if you're interested.

# Join Us

Finally, we thank you for your support. We hope you join us for Pray for the USA and however many of the other events you wish. We're excited for the upcoming months and how God is working in each of our lives during these difficult times. We pray He is encouraging you and your families too. Let us know if you have any questions in the comment section below. May God bless you!

Our latest book on Amazon called Pray for the USA

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*Jane Van Osdal*