

Shelter in Prayer

A 30 DAY PRAY FOR AMERICA GUIDE



DAY 1

Lord, sometimes what's happening in this country feels out of control. We're swept up in a swirl of charges and counter-charges, lies and half-truths. But you are Truth—and you can handle it all. I put my hope in you, Lord. Help our leaders do the same. Amen.

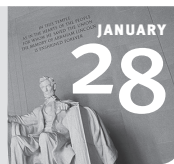


Trust in the LORD with all your heart;
do not depend on your own understanding.

PROVERBS 3:5

DAY 2

Lord, you stood with Moses when he felt overwhelmed, and you'll stand with any leader who leans on you. I pray that our leaders—from our mayors to our governors to the president—will do just that. Give them the humility to know they need you. Amen.

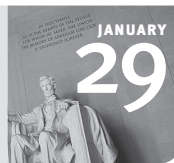


"Therefore, say to the people of Israel: 'I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment.'"

EXODUS 6:6

DAY 3

Lord, remind me often: You've got this world in your hands. Upcoming elections, the economy, my life, and the lives of those I love. All I see is yours, and so is all I can't yet see. I don't need to feel anxiety or surrender to cynicism. Remind me. Amen.



The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it.
The world and all its people belong to him.

PSALM 24:1

DAY 4

Lord, today I pray for the families of our leaders. Help them feel loved even as their loved ones serve other people, like me. Amen.



The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help.
He rescues them from all their troubles.

PSALM 34:17

DAY 5

Lord, you told your first followers to have courage because you were with them. Help us to soak in that message too, to feel it in our very bones. Remind us: You've got this. You're in control. It'll be okay. Amen.



They were all terrified when they saw him. But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage! I am here!"

MARK 6:50

DAY 6

Lord, your power has calmed fiercer storms than those rocking our nation. You've crossed wider divides than those dividing our people. Heal us, Lord. Amen.



Then he asked them, "Where is your faith?" The disciples were terrified and amazed. "Who is this man?" they asked each other. "When he gives a command, even the wind and waves obey him!"

LUKE 8:25

DAY 7

Lord, help us as a nation to see one another as neighbors, living and working together. Help us look past our biases and fears to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Amen.



The man answered, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind.' And, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

LUKE 10:27

DAY 8

Lord, these days seem dark and difficult in our nation. But you are the God who led your people through the Red Sea on dry ground. Things seemed dark then, but you provided freedom. Teach us also to follow you as our shepherd. Amen.



"The LORD will conquer your enemies when they attack you. They will attack you from one direction, but they will scatter from you in seven!"

DEUTERONOMY 28:7

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DAY 9

Lord, may our nation's leaders speak words of encouragement as they lead us into the future. And may our words to leaders also encourage. Lift the weight of worry, Lord. Amen.



Worry weighs a person down;
an encouraging word cheers a person up.

PROVERBS 12:25

DAY 10

Lord, your church gave the world hospitals, orphanages, and many other practical ways to care for the sick and abandoned. Thank you for faithful believers who put faith into action, whose work shows your love to the world. How would you have me lead with compassion today, Lord? Amen.



"You are welcome to stay with me," the old man said.
"I will give you anything you might need. But whatever you do, don't spend the night in the square."

JUDGES 19:20

DAY 11

Lord, open my eyes so I can see the way you protect me. Open my heart so I can feel your presence. Open my mouth so I can shout your praises. You are good to all who serve you and are called to your purposes. Amen.



Then I pray to you, O LORD.
I say, "You are my place of refuge.
You are all I really want in life."

PSALM 142:5

DAY 12

Lord, when Israel was cut down, it was you who orchestrated their crushing failures. Help me to trust you, even when things aren't going well for our nation, and help our leaders to seek you in all circumstances. Amen.



The LORD is close to all who call on him,
yes, to all who call on him in truth.

PSALM 145:18

DAY 13

Lord, I pray for leaders in the world of science—the doctors and researchers confronting disease at home and abroad. Give them contagious curiosity, deep discipline, and creative thinking as they seek to tame the plagues ravishing humanity. Amen.



In peace I will lie down and sleep,
for you alone, O LORD, will keep me safe.

PSALM 4:8

DAY 14

Lord, be with all who advise our leaders, the people whose influence helps frame options and shape decisions. May they speak freely, honestly, and wisely. Amen.



David consulted with all his officials, including the generals and captains of his army.

1 CHRONICLES 13:1

DAY 15

Lord, be with the leaders of our military. Protect them even as they and those under their command are put in harm's way. Go with them, and bring them home safely. Amen.



Turn away from evil and do good.
Search for peace, and work to maintain it.

PSALM 34:14

DAY 16

Lord, Mordecai wondered if Esther had been made queen at that time so she could save her people. May those who lead in Washington wonder why they have power at this moment and ask you what you might want them to do with their influence. Amen.



"If you keep quiet at a time like this, deliverance and relief for the Jews will arise from some other place, but you and your relatives will die. Who knows if perhaps you were made queen for just such a time as this?"

ESTHER 4:14

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DAY 17

Lord, David knew you well. He prayed, "Lord, where do I put my hope? My only hope is in you" (Psalm 39:7). This statement is so simple and so true. Thank you that you are the exact center for both hope and certainty. Amen.



So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the LORD, for you know that nothing you do for the LORD is ever useless.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

DAY 18

Lord, bless grandparents—those who influence not only their children but also their children's children. May that influence be loving and long-lasting, focused on faith and rich with affirmation. Amen.



I will bring honor to your name in every generation.
Therefore, the nations will praise you forever and ever.

PSALM 45:17

DAY 19

Lord, thank you for the psalmist's reminder about who I can turn to in tough times: "God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble" (Psalm 46:1). Thank you for this reassurance. Prompt our leaders to lean on you too. Amen.



"Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be honored by every nation.
I will be honored throughout the world."

PSALM 46:10

DAY 20

Lord, may those who labor for the safety of this nation do their work with dedication and compassion. May they think clearly, act decisively, and be motivated by a desire for peace. May they marshal their resources for good, Lord. Amen.



But as for me, I will sing about your power.
Each morning I will sing with joy about your unfailing love.
For you have been my refuge,
a place of safety when I am in distress.

PSALM 59:16

DAY 21

Lord, those leaders who are struggling with how to make health care work in our nation could use your wisdom. Speak to and through them. Help them find solutions to our health care problems that will benefit everyone. Amen.



My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

GALATIANS 2:20

DAY 22

Lord, I pray for those who lead in the church. Encourage them today, and help them to see the lives they're influencing and the way you're working through them in the world. Infuse them with hope. Amen.



Welcome him in the LORD's love and with great joy, and give him the honor that people like him deserve.

PHILIPPIANS 2:29

DAY 23

Lord, for better or worse, this nation's economy is fueled by commerce. Be with the Treasury Department and all who manage our national finances. May their hearts reflect the words on our currency: "In God We Trust." Amen.



Do your planning and prepare your fields
before building your house.

PROVERBS 24:27

DAY 24

Lord, thank you for the curiosity and courage that leads to discovery. Guide our country's scientists and innovators to new discoveries—to inventions that serve people and the planet, to insights that give us a clearer vision of who we are and who you are. Amen.



Never stop praying.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

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DAY 25

Lord, thank you for the reminder to pray “for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity” (1 Timothy 2:2). Hear me as I pray for our leaders today, and give me wisdom. Amen.



I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.

1 TIMOTHY 2:1

DAY 26

Lord, be with those who run toward danger, not away from it. May your hand guide and guard first responders: paramedics, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, police officers, and all those who risk it all to save others. Thank you for their service and sacrifice. Amen.



Let them praise the LORD for his great love
and for the wonderful things he has done for them.

PSALMS 107:15

DAY 27

Lord, I’m grateful for our veterans. Bless all the men and women who have served in the armed forces and those who fought to protect our country. Grant them peace. Amen.



By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way
through the curtain into the Most Holy Place.

HEBREWS 10:20

DAY 28

Lord, I pray for journalists today. Give them objectivity and a desire to stick to the facts as they report stories. Give them a passion for honesty, even when others discourage them. They lead in shaping public opinion; help them lead with integrity as they deliver the news. Amen.



Respect everyone, and love the family of believers.
Fear God, and respect the king.

1 PETER 2:17

DAY 29

Lord, thank you for the Salvation Army. Give joy to all who ring Salvation Army bells this season. May they lead the way in inspiring a generous spirit among all people. Amen.



Yet I will rejoice in the LORD!
I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!

HABAKKUK 3:18

DAY 30

Lord, I pray for the people who run small businesses in my community and in this country. Bless them, and through them bless the families of their workers. Amen.



Let them all praise the name of the LORD.
For his name is very great;
his glory towers over the earth and heaven!

PSALM 148:13

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