

PRAYER GUIDE

January 17-23, 2021

WE BELIEVE GOD IS INVITING IRVING BIBLE CHURCH to respond in a time of fasting and prayer on behalf of the world in this difficult and divisive time. In fasting, whether you choose to abstain from food for a single day this week or to abstain from a single meal each day this week, our intention is that our bodies' desire for food would give way to our hearts' desire for God to do a deep work in the church and the world. In prayer, we will join together using the daily prompts below to call upon the one "who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us" (Eph. 3:20).

SUNDAY

The Unity of the Church

- » Pray for wisdom for the pastors and elders of IBC as they serve the body of Christ
- » Pray for all God's people to grow in humility and the desire to serve one another
- » Pray for churches across our city, state, country, and world to live as the body of Christ
- » Pray for God's help as we make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace

Father, as the Lord Jesus prayed for all who would follow him: may we be one. Unite your church in the name of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

MONDAY

Racial Reconciliation and Justice

- » Pray for all to come to a deeper understanding of the issues of racial injustice and enmity
- » Pray for godly, courageous leaders to help the church and society take steps toward healing
- » Pray for the church to be a beacon of light to all
- » Pray for our Prince of Peace to guide us beyond the divisions that mark our broken world

Father, on this Martin Luther King Jr. Day we pray you would give us the grace, courage, and strength to pursue justice, reconciliation, peace, and equality for all people.

TUESDAY

The COVID-19 Pandemic

- » Pray for healing for all those who are sick
- » Pray for those who are at risk and those who are suffering emotionally, relationally, and financially
- » Pray for those who are grieving losses experienced because of or during the pandemic
- » Pray for the distribution and effectiveness of vaccines and other treatments

Father, you are our Healer and Deliverer, so we ask for your mercy, care, protection, and provision to comfort the hurting and vulnerable. Bring an end to this pandemic, Lord.

WEDNESDAY

The Peaceful Transition of Power

- » Pray for our democratic processes and the events of this week to be protected from violence
- » Pray for the safety of our elected officials and security personnel
- » Pray for peace of mind for all who reside here
- » Pray for a watching world to see and understand the value of freedom and peace

Father, on this Inauguration Day we pray for peace to prevail. Please bless this transition of power as a symbol of freedom that reflects your desire to see people flourish.

THURSDAY

Our Leaders and Authorities

- » Pray for our national leaders across the executive, judicial, and legislative branches to steward their God-given authority with wisdom, courage, and grace
- » Pray for state and local leaders to serve their communities faithfully
- » Pray for a renewed non-partisan commitment to the pursuit of the common good

Father, the leaders of our country need your help. Grant them all the guidance and resources they need to serve the wellbeing of our families, our neighbors, and our world.

FRIDAY

The Renewal of the Church

- » Pray for a posture of reflection and repentance to take hold in our hearts
- » Pray for our lives to be marked by a deeper engagement with prayer and the Scriptures
- » Pray for believers to live in transformative community that encourages their discipleship
- » Pray for the work of the Holy Spirit to produce new depths of holiness in us

Father, may our love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that we may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ. May we be faithful and fruitful for your glory.

SATURDAY

Outreach and Multiplication

- » Pray for God to reignite our passion to see his gospel go out and his church expand
- » Pray for God to awaken our neighbors to their need for redemption through Jesus
- » Pray for opportunities for us, individually and collectively, to show and tell others God's love
- » Pray for God to equip and empower us to make new disciples, develop new leaders, and establish new churches

Father, help us to lift up Jesus in our homes, our neighborhoods, and our city, that he might draw people to himself.



Thank you for joining with us in as we seek God's presence and help. May we continue to be formed in the way of Jesus for the sake of the world.