

## The Strategic Prayer Initiative™ – Supplemental Prayer Guide For Use With Pink Sheets™

This guide is provided to help those who are seeking some additional information on how to pray for strategic people, places, and organizations, etc. listed on the Strategic Prayer Data Sheets (the Pink Sheets). It can be used during a learning period, used long-term or never used. This guide is provided as a service to you, not to burden you. Use it only if it is a help to you.

One request we would like to ask of you is that if you have a philosophical conflict concerning information on this Supplemental Prayer Guide, or on any particular prayer on a Pink Sheet, please simply disregard that prayer or prayer subject and replace it with a prayer that you believe is God-honoring as revealed in Holy Scripture. Please do not throw the baby out with the bath water. The 30 data fields (these fields are numbered 1-30) cover a large amount of data and have many prayer suggestions. It is only natural that there may be an occasional suggestion, or even a category, that you would rather bring before the Lord in your own way. If and when this happens, make an adjustment that you believe is honoring to the Lord Jesus Christ, the Great Commission, and God's holiness. We only ask that you do not allow an occasional difference of perspective to stop you from growing in nation/world changing, Christ honoring, strategic prayer. Below you will find additional information about the 30 data fields. This information often includes a few bullet-pointed prayer suggestions, some Scriptural references pertaining to those prayer categories, as well as sources where information has been obtained.

[Guide Edition C1]

**1. Our Senior Pastor** / Our Senior Pastors are the prime leaders who the enemy wants to defeat. They need our prayers more today than ever before. We ask that you draw a circle around the date on your monthly Pink Sheet that is the same as your birthday. For example, if your birthday is the 5<sup>th</sup>, circle the check-off box for day 5, and then pray for your senior pastor on that day and the first day of each month. Fervent prayer for our pastors and their families provides an important protective hedge for them and for your local congregation. As you may well know, Scripture indicates that persistent/on-going prayer is more effective. *Luke 11:8-10 and 18:1-6*

Pray for your pastor as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that your pastor would be kept safe from the enemy's attacks and temptations.
- Pray for your pastor's marriage to be strengthened, protected, and unified, that both spouses will remain faithful.
- Pray that your pastor would have a sufficient amount of meaningful time with their family.
- Pray that your pastor would maintain a life of personal holiness.
- Pray that your pastor would develop (or maintain) a strong personal prayer life.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would aid your pastor in sermon preparation and delivery.
- Pray that your pastor would be kept from burnout.
- Pray that your pastor would be a good steward of their physical body (balanced eating, exercise, etc.)

Note: For those who would like to do more for your pastor, consider starting or being part of, a Pastor's Stay Strong Team (SST).

**2. Persecuted Christians** / Experts estimate that 200 million Christians worldwide are suffering persecution, many severe persecution. Sources of specific information for this data field are: Voice of the Martyrs ([www.persecution.org](http://www.persecution.org)); Open Doors ([www.opendoorsusa.org](http://www.opendoorsusa.org)); and others.

*"And if one member (of the body) suffers, all the members suffer with it" 1 Corinthians 12:26a NIV "Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, and those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves are in the body." Hebrews 13:3 NIV*

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions for imprisoned or persecuted believers, should you prefer to use them:

- Pray for supernatural encouragement, better treatment, God-given strength, and God's presence.
- Pray that their family's needs would be provided for.
- Pray that they would have absolute awareness of the prayers being prayed on their behalf.
- Pray that God would bless them with ministry while in prison and grant them favor with their guards.
- Pray that they would have ample food, clothing, sleep, medical care, and health while imprisoned.

The Strategic Prayer Initiative also makes available a **Pink Sheet Expander** dealing solely with prayer for **Persecuted Christians**.

### **3. The United States Supreme Court**

*I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men [and women] to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 NIV*

1 Timothy 2 instructs us to pray for those in authority. The nine Justices of our U.S. Supreme Court wield huge amounts of power and authority (which at times even affect the world) and really should be in the prayers of all serious-minded American Christians.

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that God would draw the Justice into a deeper relationship with Himself. Also, pray that both people and circumstances would be divinely used to accomplish this deeper relationship.
- Pray that each Justice would make godly decisions, even if s/he is not a God-fearing individual.
- Pray that harmful interpretations would be blocked by God's superintending of both people and circumstances.
- Pray that lasting friendships would form between each Justice and a thoughtful, articulate, committed Christian.
- Pray that their lifetime job would end in God's sovereign timing.
- Pray that their replacement would be a person pleasing to the Lord, caring toward people and someone who is willing to uphold the Constitution as the original drafters intended it to be interpreted.

**4. Unreached People Groups** Our primary source of information for Unreached People Groups is [www.joshuaproject.org](http://www.joshuaproject.org).

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28:19-20a And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come. Matthew 24:14*

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray for additional laborers to be raised up to reach this people group.
- Pray for additional resources to be strategically focused on the needs of this people group.
- Pray for divine appointments for seeking viewers or listeners, for whatever type of Christian media that might be available.
- Pray for the Lord to do whatever is necessary to help those truly seeking Him to have saving knowledge of the gospel.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit will soften the hearts of leaders who can influence this people group toward Biblical truth.

The Strategic Prayer Initiative also makes available a **Pink Sheet Expander** dealing solely with **Unreached People Groups**.

**5. The Primary Leader Of Each Country On Earth** / Our initial source has been: Every Home For Christ ([www.ehc.org](http://www.ehc.org))

*I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Timothy 2:1-4 NIV [This reference has been repeated here intentionally.]*

Although the primary leader of a country does not typically have all power in a country, they do have a great deal of authority. We are urged to pray for these leaders because they influence whether or not their country has peace or war. Additionally, Scripture indicates that these prayers have a direct relationship on whether or not people are saved and come to knowledge of the truth. These simple prayers for each country's primary leader are an opportunity for you to personally influence the evangelization of the world!

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that the leader would help create an environment of peace allowing physical safety for their citizens, and preventing religious persecution.
- Pray that the leader would make decisions to help the gospel to be spread freely in their country.
- Pray that the leader would help build and/or maintain systems of real justice in their country.
- Pray that their position of leadership would end in God's sovereign timing.
- Pray that their replacement would be a person pleasing to Jesus Christ and caring toward people.
- Pray that the leader would keep themselves aware of the needs of the poor, and find ways to truly address them.
- Pray that the leader would be drawn into a personal relationship with the Savior, or continue to spiritually mature, if they already know the Savior.

*"No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:44 NIV "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life." 1 John 5:11-12NIV*

The majority of the information on world leaders has been used with permission from Every Home For Christ, 640 Chapel Hills Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80920 800.423.5054 A small color map, with each world leader, is available free from Every Home For Christ.

**6. Bibleless People Groups** / *Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands; Jeremiah 31:10aNIV*

Over 1,500 languages in the world do not have the Holy Scriptures translated into their own language. This means that tens-of-millions of people still do not have access to the Bible in their primary language (also called their heart language). Translation of the Bible is fundamental to the Great Commission. If we are to make disciples of all nations, then we must see the Scriptures translated into the world's languages. Wycliffe BibleTranslators is at the forefront of these translation efforts. Their heart's desire is to see many thousands of churches and individuals mobilized to pray for their translation work.

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that God would assemble and supply a team to work with the language, and anoint the work of the team.
- Pray that the team would have favor with the indigenous (local) population.
- Pray for the right local helpers to be identified and empowered to aid in the work.
- Pray God's hedge of protection to be formed around the translators and their work.
- Pray for the translation to convey God's truth in culturally relevant ways.

*How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! I gain understanding from your precepts [commands or principles]; therefore I hate every wrong path. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Psalm 119:103-105 NIV*

*Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble. I wait for your salvation, O LORD, and I follow your commands. I obey your statutes, for I love them greatly. I obey your precepts and your statutes...May my cry come before you, O LORD; give me understanding according to your word. Psalm 119:165-169 NIV*

The source for this information is Wycliffe Bible Translators, P.O. Box 628200, Orlando, FL 32862-8200 ([www.wycliffe.org/bppp](http://www.wycliffe.org/bppp)). If you or your church is interested in adopting a Bibleless people group, contact Wycliffe's Bibleless People's Prayer Project Coordinator.

**7. Additional Pastors, Elders, Deacons, and/or Staff** / This data field is to increase prayer for additional individuals at your church who hold positions of responsibility. Pray as you feel led. However, if you would like additional prayer suggestions, most of the prayer suggestions for your pastor can be applied to these individuals as well.

We are planning future changes to this data field (i.e. Pastorals, Elders, Deacons, & Staff) that will allow a larger number of staff from your church to be prayed for each month.

**8. An Orphanage Needing Your Prayers** / Source: Kinship United (Orphan and Widow care) [www.kinshipunited.org](http://www.kinshipunited.org)

*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. James 1:27 NIV*

You are encouraged to select an orphanage for your church or yourself and then pray for the children regularly, by name if possible.

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Heavenly Father, please comfort \_\_\_\_\_ (*orphan's name*). Provide healing from the trauma of losing his/her parents and bring people to help him/her to gain strength out of these hardships to begin a new life. (*Job 29:11-12 and Psalm 146:9*)
- Father, please provide \_\_\_\_\_ with spiritual mentors – that somehow throughout his/her life, mature loving people from the body of Christ would come alongside him/her and pray for, disciple, and love them. (*Psalm 82:3 and Psalm 10:18*)
- Father, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will know Your joy and peace. (“A father to the fatherless” *Psalm 68:5a NIV*)
- Father, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will be able to learn a trade or a reputable skill set that they can use to earn a living.
- Lord, I pray that \_\_\_\_\_ will become a laborer for your kingdom and help evangelize his/her country, or beyond.

**9. Abortion Clinics and Alternatives** / This data field includes an Abortion Clinic, and a Crisis Pregnancy Center.

*For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place...your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. Psalm 139:13-18a NIV*

Note: A large number of abortions take place on a fetus/baby that feels pain and/or has a beating heart!

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them. The first six prayers apply to abortion clinics. The next four prayers apply to crisis pregnancy centers. The last two concern individuals.

For an abortion clinic:

- Pray that God would put a deep burden of conviction upon all who come to the clinic, that their eyes would be opened to see their baby the way God does. Pray they would choose not to abort and consider possibly putting the baby up for adoption.
- Pray that this center would be open to showing their customers an ultrasound of their unborn fetus/baby.
- Pray that this clinic would stop performing abortions on the unborn that can feel pain or have a beating heart.
- Pray that the legal system would uphold the free speech rights of those counseling and picketing.
- Pray that God Himself would cause the center to close (through a non-violent means).
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would bring great restlessness to the workers at the clinic regarding their employment. Pray each worker would see things that reveal the truths of what they are doing, and ultimately find their peace in Christ's Lordship.

For a crisis pregnancy center:

- Pray that the non-abortive crisis pregnancy centers would be God-driven in their focus.
- Pray for the Lord to call compassionate and gifted workers and volunteers to this important work and to this center.
- Pray that God would compel pregnant women to come via word-of-mouth, ads, or supernatural means.
- Pray that women would be helped to not abort their baby/fetus and given wisdom for how best to care for the child.

For Individuals:

- Pray for women who have had abortions to find forgiveness, healing and peace in the person of Jesus Christ. *Luke 7:50*
- Pray that God would lead some of the women who have had abortions in the past to become counselors, that they could help other women seeking this procedure to know all of the realities behind it.

**10. Pornography and Other Addictions** / Pornography is ruining multitudes of lives. Male and female, religious and secular, young and old, and marriages are among the casualties. Pray that God would teach you individually and the church corporately, how to effectively pray and act against this problem and this industry, in the United States and the world. This issue is huge. Without our efforts it will continue to get worse. Besides pornography this data field addresses various other addictive practices for prayer (e.g. drugs, eating disorders, gambling, etc.).

*Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.*

*Romans 13:13-14 NIV*

- Pray that marriages harmed by pornography could be restored.
- Pray for any children harmed by pornography to find healing and/or to be protected from pornography's devastating influences.
- Pray that those who are in the industry would experience deep restlessness, dissatisfaction and would ultimately leave.
- Pray for Godly individuals to reach out and befriend those involved in all aspects of the industry.
- Pray that any person involved in pornography, from whatever aspect, would find strength and victory through Christ.
- Books and CDs such as *Everyman's Battle* by Stephen Arterburn and Fred Stoeker can be helpful. Pray that those who would be helped by various material would obtain it, work through it, and do so with accountability to one or two fellow believers.
- Pray that churches would purchase, and show annually, the two DVD sets entitled the CONQUER SERIES – THE BATTLE PLAN FOR PURITY (Volumes 1 and 2). The video series are over \$200 total but are still a good investment for a church.
- Pray that the Lord would help people develop new and more effective ways to deal with the onslaught of internet pornography.

**11. The Big 3 (China, India, & Indonesia = Over 40% Of The World)** / The Big 3 are the countries of China, India and Indonesia. Although once a month you are praying for one of the approximately 195 nations of the world, one of these three countries have been given an extra prayer slot each month. The reason for their special emphasis is due to the fact that these three countries are three of the four most populated countries in the world. China has a population of about 1.4 billion people. India also has approximately 1.4 billion people, and Indonesia is fourth, with roughly 270 million people (The United States has been excluded, but it is third with over 320 million). These three countries have 3,070,000,000 people of the earth's 7.5 billion people. Added together, they represent over 40% of everyone alive at this time. The monthly entry in this data field, is a prayer request for one of the three of them. You can however add more prayers for that country if you feel so led.

These prayer points are usually longer-term strategic prayers whose source is typically the book *Operation Word*, or the Operation World CD-ROM. These prayer points are not usually intended to be updated in conjunction with the current news from the respective countries.

**12. The Damascus Road Petition** / This prayer field gets its name from Saul of Tarsus (later known as the apostle Paul), a highly trained and committed Jewish leader, who was adamantly opposed to the spreading of Christianity. Christ supernaturally intervened in Saul's life while Saul was traveling on the Road to Damascus, where Saul's intent was to persecute the Christians in Damascus upon his arrival. Christ made it clear that Saul himself was to become a Christian and serve Him. Let us agree in prayer that God would supernaturally intervene in the lives of thousands of leaders from the other religions of the world, who are trying to sincerely love God with all of their heart, with all of their soul, and with all of their mind, just as He did in the life of Saul. Pray that God would use whatever means necessary, including dreams, visions, or signs and wonders to persuade them to become servants of the Lord Jesus Christ: the way, the truth, the life, and the only infinite atonement for their sins. Prayer for this "Data Field" alone can change the world!

*Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples . . . He ...asked ... for letters ... so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way (i.e. Christian believers), whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked. "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied... " go... and you will be told what you must do." Acts 9:1-6 NIV*

Note: The fact that Jesus Christ has laid His life down as the only infinite sacrifice/atonement for humanity's sin does not mean He will be unfair in His judgment of followers of other world religions. Christ has made it our job to get the gospel to them; it is His job to judge them justly. We know that God will get saving knowledge to all who sincerely seek Him with their whole heart (Deuteronomy 4:29). We know that there will be people present in heaven from every tribe, nation, and people (Revelation 7:9). We also know that people who do not seek more revelation/information about God, will be "without excuse" (Romans 1:18-20). And finally, we know that we have been instructed to take the gospel to the ends of the earth, and to make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20). Therefore, let us be faithful

to our duties to prayerfully get the gospel out, and let the complexities of God's justice be left to Him. Further information on this important subject can be secured from your pastor.

**13. Community Institutions** / ...businesses/organizations whose practices serve (some unknowingly) "the forces of evil"...Choose one from your community, and pray in the authoritative name of Jesus Christ, that the Lord would diminish its effectiveness.

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:10-13 NKJV)*

**Concerns about praying for some of these institutions.**

The institution(s) you may feel compelled to pray for could come from a broad range of different entities, some examples being: fortune tellers/tarot card readers, adult book stores, abortion clinics, locations where prostitution is practiced, bars, crack houses, strip clubs, churches of false religions, secret societies, etc. We know from the Holy Scripture that some (if not a lot) of the institutions we struggle with in this world can have connections with demonic *principalities and powers* and/or "*spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*" Consequently, the advice of some Christian leaders is that individuals should be cautious about how they pray concerning institutions that may have some connection to demonic powers. Concerning praying directly against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms, etc., some feel you should never do this because it invites more retaliation against you. One of their suggestions is to pray in the opposite. For example, praying for sexual purity in a community with a lot of adult bookstores and/or prostitution. Another approach is to pray for God to remove something instead of you praying for it to be removed. For example, don't pray, "I come against any spiritual forces involved in the local prostitution industry." Rather, do pray, "Lord I ask you to come against any rulers, authorities, powers of this dark world, or spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms that have any influence over our local prostitution industry."

**On the other hand**, other individuals believe that Christians have been given authority in the name of Jesus Christ to be able to come directly against spiritual forces of evil. They would tell you (in the authority you have as a Christian and in the authoritative name of Jesus Christ - see the following Scripture references) to come directly against these *principalities and powers* in your prayers. Due to the differences of opinion concerning issues of spiritual warfare, we advise you to seek out your pastor for guidance (and possibly some book referrals) in these serious matters. **In the absence of guidance from your pastor, we encourage you to take a conservative position in your prayers for the institutions in your community.** *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith... 1Peter 5:8-9a NIV*

*Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits. Mark 6:7 NIV*

*The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven." At that time Jesus, full of joy through the Holy Spirit, said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Luke 10:17-21 NIV*

*And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; Mark 16:17a NIV*

*I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name [in addition to the authority of Jesus' name, another important aspect of "in my name" is according to the character of Jesus], so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it. John 14:12-14 NIV*

*...but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God...You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you [the Holy Spirit] is greater than the one who is in the world [the devil]. 1 John 4:3-4 NIV*

**14. The Strategic Prayer Initiative (SPI™)** / We believe that many Scriptural references indicate the importance of the Christian body growing in fervent and righteous prayer. The Strategic Prayer Initiative exists to encourage and help all true believers to have a good prayer life (acknowledging that it will look different for different people). On this day we are asking you to pray for some of the needs of the Strategic Prayer Initiative work. (If you feel so led, some of you could also make the day of your birthday an additional day each month to pray for the SPI.)

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Ephesians 6:18 NIV*

*Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. James 5:16-17 NIV*

**15. Christian Ministries** Source: www.ehc.org (**Some Churches and/or Denominations choose to replace** the Christian Ministry in this data field with prayer needs for their missionaries, or other specific needs of the church or the denomination.)

The **Christian Ministries** data field is made up of a few hundred Christian ministries who are at work in various capacities throughout the world for Christ and His kingdom. Many, but not all, have their own base of prayer support. However, any additional prayer can be an important part of helping their work to prosper, for Jesus Christ and His kingdom.

*Finally, brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you. 2 Thessalonians 3:1 NIV*

*For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever." And this is the word that was preached to you. 1 Peter 1:24-25 NIV*

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that the workers and their families would be kept safe from the enemy and a protective hedge would be formed around them.
- Pray that God would grant extraordinary and strategic wisdom to the leaders of the ministry.
- Pray that ministry strategies would be the most effective in doing the Lord's work in the Lord's way.
- Pray that all members of the ministry would be careful, wise, and frugal stewards of the Lord's resources.
- Pray that if there are any dishonest stewards that they would be identified and either disciplined or removed.
- Pray for sexual and moral purity among all of the ministry's workers and their families.
- Pray that God would bring the people of His choice to work with the ministry and keep all others away.
- Pray for sufficient resources to be made available to accomplish exactly what the Holy Spirit wants, not more and not less.

The listing of Christian Ministries has predominantly been provided by EHC and used with permission: Every Home For Christ, P.O. Box 64000, Colorado Springs, CO 80962 - 800.423.5054

**16. United States House of Representatives** / We should not underestimate the importance and power of these 400(+) women and men. Our national House of Representatives should be daily bathed in prayer at a level commensurate with its power to change our country and influence the world. These are truly men and women "in authority." A suggestion we have for many of you is that you (if you don't know it already), find out the name of your congressperson (from your district) and just pray for them every 16<sup>th</sup> of each month.

*"...For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12 KJV*

*I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 1 Timothy 2:1-2NIV*

Pray as you feel led. Below are a few prayer suggestions if you prefer to use them:

- Pray that each would be given divine wisdom to carry out their high levels of responsibility.
- Pray that they would realize their awesome responsibility before God and strive to honor Him in their decisions.
- Pray that God would turn their hearts to make godly decisions, even if they are ungodly individuals.
- Pray that God would move them to make decisions that would facilitate a sustained revival of holiness in our land.
- Pray that they would become a regular attendee of a church that has a truly authoritative view of the Holy Scripture.
- Pray that God would draw these men and women to Himself, that they would make Jesus their Lord and escape damnation.

**17. The Top 7 State Leaders From Each State** / This data field is made up of seven of the top leaders in each of the 50 states. The Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Treasurer, and each state's two national Senators, who together, account for 350 men and women who hold great amounts of authority concerning the affairs of our country. Furthermore, many of the decisions of the 100 Senators, besides being crucial for the country, have huge ramifications for the world.)

For prayer suggestions look at the previous data field – **Item #16 - United States House of Representatives**

**18. President's Cabinet** / In the executive branch of our government, the President's cabinet executes daily decisions that are of the utmost importance to our country's welfare. These men and women must have our prayers. If you are already praying for the cabinet, feel free to use this date for another subject that seems appropriate to you. However, if you are not, this is a very important group of leaders for the United States as well as the world. These men and women, at times, wield more authority than many of the kings that have ever lived. When 1st Timothy 2 talks about praying for kings and all those in authority, these are some of the most powerful that have ever existed. For some additional prayer suggestions refer back to **Item #16 - United States House of Representatives**

**19. The Nations** / There are about 195 countries that make up our world as we know it today. The prayers in this data field reflect the differing needs of the individual nations. As you know, praying for all the nations would be an onerous task if it were up to only you or only your church. It is the body of Christ who can easily handle the huge task of praying for the world. Let us not forget that getting the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world and making disciples of the nations is "The Great Commission" that we have been given. The place of prayer is one way each of us can fulfill our part in carrying out The Great Commission (*Mark 16:15-16, and Luke 24:45-47*).

*Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. Matthew 28:18-20a*

*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations... Matthew 24:14a NIV*

Please note: These prayer points are longer-term strategic prayers whose source is the book Operation World, or the Operation World CD-ROM. These prayer points are not intended to be updated in conjunction with day-by-day news concerning the respective countries. As you become more aware of the nations of the world you may want to use the daily news to help you pray for them.

Pray the prayer listed on your pink sheet. If you desire to pray additional prayers for the country, some suggestions follow:

- Pray for the gospel to be allowed to (or continue to be) spread freely throughout the country.
- Pray God prevents churches from being burned or bulldozed (or if this happens, for enormous spiritual fruit to come from it).
- Pray that God would strengthen existing churches (if any) and plant new churches. Pray for the Lord to raise up literally millions and millions of house churches throughout the world. *1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 16:19, Col. 4:15, Phil. 1:2 and Romans 16:5*
- Pray that believers in the country would have the wisdom and boldness to effectively share their faith.
- Pray for the Lord to raise up (or maintain) a great movement of fervent and righteous prayer in the country.

**20. The Poor** / The poor are precious to the Lord; let us lift them up in prayer and action. Jesus said: *For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.' "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?' "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'* *Matthew 25:42-45 NIV*

*James, Peter and John, those reputed to be pillars, gave me [the Apostle Paul] and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and then to the Jews. **All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.*** *Galatians 2:9-10 NIV*

**21. The Church** / The church is immeasurably precious to God. Lift up your church (and others too) with ever-increasing prayer.

*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.* *Eph. 3:10-11*

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.* *Ephesians 3:20-21 NIV*

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he feeds and cares for it, just as Christ does the church-- for we are members of his body. "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." This is a profound mystery-- but I am talking about Christ and the church... *Ephesians 5:25-32 NIV**

**22. The Family** / Prayer for our nation's families has never been more needed. Each month there will be a different prayer for our families. Spend time praying for your own family. Then, if you feel so led, pray for other families that come to mind. The family unit God designed is under intense attack. Marriage is meant to be for a lifetime (*Matthew 5:32 and 19:9*), large quantities (~40%) of children in the US are born out of wedlock. Many fathers fail to provide for the children they have brought into the world (*If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 5:8 NIV*), unbiblical divorce is rampant, etc. Fifty years ago it was the exception to have divorced parents; today it is commonplace.

Pray for emotional healing for all the men, women, and children who have been hurt by divorce. Pray that God would raise up millions of firsttime Christian marriages that will choose to go back to the position of no non-Biblical divorces accepted. Those that have been married for many years know that marriage is almost always difficult at times, but in the past real Christians knew that they were expected to try to value the commitment more than the option to divorce. Since marriage is always between flawed individuals, a second marriage will have its own share of problems, as will a third. God hates divorce because of the children. Spiritual help for your family (or someone else's) is available by calling 1.800.A.FAMILY or through the web at [www.family.org](http://www.family.org). "*But did He not make them one, Having a remnant of the Spirit? And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Therefore take heed to your spirit, And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. "For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce . . ." Malachi 2:15-16a NKJV*

**23. Education System and Higher Learning** / Although many of our universities like Harvard and Yale were formed to train up godly men, universities are now often hostile to the gospel, and teach from a secular humanistic perspective. It is critical that more prayer is raised up for our schools and universities. Too often our children are being taught from an anti-Christian bias. Pray for the teachers and the students. Pray that our students will be taught both sides of an issue. Pray that hearts would be opened to true truth.

**24. Cultural Influencers** (Various actors, musicians, bands, television programs, and internet content, etc. that have the ability to strongly influence American culture, as well as many other cultures in the world). People often absorb and act out the values of what's

current in the world of pop culture, young people particularly. The tragedy is that the values taught by the popular media are very seldom the values revealed in God's Word, **yet He wants us to be in the few** (*Matthew 7:13-14*) **who choose to reach out and attain eternal life**, though He desires it for all, and offers it to all (*1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 2:4, John 3:16 and 19*). The pop culture, as it is seen in movies, music, television, streaming, etc. is leading millions down a false path that will, often in this life, and ultimately, bring them great harm.

Pray for the celebrity/music group/or program listed. Pray for the cast and crew of TV programs or for music group members:

- Pray that those seeking or needing a relationship with God will find Him and the peace, healing, and hope which He provides.
- Pray that the content of songs and TV programs would help viewers grow in godliness vs. growing in godlessness.
- Pray that individual cultural influencers would become role models of lifestyles and beliefs that will help more people to get to heaven vs. being role models which lead fans down the broad path of eternal destruction (*Matthew 7:13-14 & 21-24*).
- Pray that Christians in media will lead godly, exemplary lives and that they will have loving boldness to express their moral convictions in their marketplace. Also, pray God will help them to be wise and flee from all types of temptation and sin.

Note: When time permits, we plan to add a brief explanation of each **Cultural Influencer** on the monthly pink sheets. The names of Cultural Influencers have been used with permission from Mastermedia International, Inc. 132 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016 [www.mastermediintl.org](http://www.mastermediintl.org).

## **25. Power Players in Film and Television** (per Mastermedia International)

The average American home has the television, or streaming on for at least five hours per day. Of the approximately 39% of the country that attends church regularly, they are often getting only one to two hours weekly of spiritual instruction, versus the 7 to 28 hours a week that they are being taught values from film, television, cable and the internet, etc. The men and women that make up this data field have power to morally influence the world at a level never before dreamed of. Let us help these individuals with our prayers:

- Pray that those seeking or needing a relationship with God will find Him and the peace, healing, and hope which He provides.
- Pray that these individual's loved ones would be guided and equipped by God to be granted the gift of heaven.
- Ask God to give these individuals strength to deal with the pressures of their industry.
- As God to guide them and give them His wisdom and discernment.
- Pray that they would have the strength to make decisions on earth that they would be proud of when they meet their Creator.

The names of the Power Players in Film and Television have been used with permission from Mastermedia International, Inc. 132 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016 (Quarterly Media Leader Prayer Calendars are available from Mastermedia International.)

**26. Television** / There are many issues concerning television, but a main item for monthly prayer is that God would intervene to stop nudity from being broadcast over the airwaves (vs. cable, etc.). Additionally, pray that Christian families would cancel services that compromise their own holiness. *But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people...For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person--such a man is an idolater--has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. Ephesians 5:3-5 NIV*

**27. Important Legal Case Or An Important Humanitarian Relief Situation** / In this data field we will give you various legal cases or issues to pray about. The legal issues come from a number of legal organizations who are representing cases that have particular relevance to the work of Christ's church in the United States. At other times this data field will be used to help generate prayer concerning needs related to various humanitarian relief efforts (some of which are being thwarted for political and/or selfish reasons). SPI makes available **Pink Sheet Expanders** for both **Humanitarian Relief Situations** and **Legal Issues**. (Additionally, SPI makes available the **RUF Prayer Guide** - RUF stands for Rights Under Fire).

**28. Personal Revival** / Pray that you would be shown any sin in your life, and given the strength to resist it. *No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 1 Corinthians 10:13 NIV*

**29. National Revival** / *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered. 2 Chronicles 7:14-15a For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God. 1 Peter 4:17a*

**30. Laborers** / *The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Luke 10:2* Many of us know this verse, but do not pray it on a regular basis. Praying Luke 10:2 back to God, on a regular basis, is another way you can help evangelize the world and see His kingdom come.

## **31. Neighbor \_\_\_\_\_ Co-worker \_\_\_\_\_**

Data field number 31 is intended to help you to choose one or more of your unsaved coworkers and one or more of your unsaved neighbors to single out for evangelistic prayer. In the event that you would like to pray for them more often, space has been provided on the large and medium size "Blue Cards" to transfer these individuals' names. *The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. 2 Corinthians 4:4 NIV*

For a strongly Biblical approach to evangelism praying please see -- [A Study Guide for Evangelism Praying](#) by Evelyn Christenson.