

PRAYER GUIDE APRIL - JUNE 2018

24-7 PRAYER MOVEMENT SOUTH SOUND

2 things are included in this quarter's prayer guide:

1. "How to pray transformation in your city"
2. 8 Sectors of society praise reports and prayer targets

How to Pray for Transformation in Your City

"Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you" - (Isaiah 60:1-2).

Transformation is the reflection of God's character coming forth in every way possible. This is what we want in our cities. Let us not draw back at such a critical hour. We are now at the desperate stage in our cities. Let us move forward in prevailing, passionate prayer by the grace of God and seek Him for transformation and revival! This is an opportunity that we must grasp now.

The following are principles that can bring life to your city. They are adapted from *The Quickenings* DVD:

- **Pray and invite God into your city.**

God wants to be invited into our communities. He wants His presence to become so strong that men see themselves as lost and start coming to Him. If God is to increase our spiritual appetite, we must ask Him. First we must be emptied of our own satisfaction and feel the awareness of our emptiness. We are "undone" like Isaiah which will cause a cry from our heart (Isaiah 6:5-8). As God's watchmen, we must call on the Lord and invite Him into our cities.

"I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem; they will never be silent day or night. You who call on the Lord, give yourselves no rest, and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth" (Isaiah 62:6-7).

- **Pray for holiness and humility.**

God is drawn to holiness and humility. If we want to be change agents in the city, we must be changed agents. The humble and the poor in spirit He brings to himself. The biggest thing that impedes unity is our own pride. What is ready to die? We have to make the basic decision, *“I will not be offended by others.”* God uses humility and broken people. A sincere heart cuts into the frozenness of the world.

“Has not my hand made all these things, and so they came into being?” declares the Lord. ‘These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit and who tremble at my word’” (Isaiah 66:2).

- **Pray for corporate revival.**

It begins with individual obedience and solitary decisions. The most important thing is that we begin. It’s not what we do but why we do it. Man is impressed by activity but God is impressed with obedience. We will encounter resistance and get discouraged, but God is focused on us. We must make that commitment ourselves and search out a core group who have that commitment. It starts with a few who won’t give up, press on and keep praying and crying out to God month after month with fasting, prayer and humility. This will have a domino effect.

“Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective” (James 5:16).

- **Pray for unity.**

Biblical unity is a majority with God. It’s not based on numbers. Unity is a byproduct of relationships. When kingdom connection occurs, we then live under kingdom rule. Where two or three hungry hearts join together in the cause of revival, God is there. The presence of God unites people in a supernatural unity. Leaders must be committed to a community.

“How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity... For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore” (Psalm 133:1, 3b).

- **Pray for fervent prayer among the churches in your city.**

Breakthrough, fervent prayer releases destiny. It’s desperation and humility, a foundation of fervent, persevering prayer when we become desperate for God. People of traveling prayer have a determination with a desperation that says, *“We will not let go of you until we hear from you.”* Allow Him to break

and mold you. Pray for your city's destiny. We forget that God is the God of destiny, and we are people of destiny. Prayer has to be more of a priority, and we must hear the trumpet call.

"They all joined together constantly in prayer" (Acts 1:14).

God's work will always be unique. It's risky, aggressive, and brought about through prayer. It's not predictable and out of our control. There is an unexpectedness of God. We are often fooled by strategy, but we lack God's processing power. You can't format God. We are proud and impatient, but God's approach is to come in through the back door. He shows up, not shows off. There is a flow with the Holy Spirit that is not stage-managed. He is willing to be invited but only on his terms. We must persevere through apathy and not give up. It's not a quick start but a long run. The goal is to love God and direct men and women toward the kingdom.

God is looking for leaders who will stand in the gap for their nation who don't care who gets the credit. They are not stakeholders but shareholders. They give God the glory. Revival leaders are often unlikely choices. The measure of leadership is not influence with the public but influence with God.

8 SECTORS OF SOCIETY PRAISE REPORTS AND PRAYER TARGETS

CITY AND GOVERNMENT

Praise reports from Police Chief Andy Hwang

I want to take this opportunity to first thank the faith community for the continual prayer for our police officers. Police officers have a difficult and a challenging job and all the prayers are very much appreciated. I am pleased to report that no Federal Way police officer was seriously injured or killed in 2017.

Second, I want to report that crime is down in Federal Way. In 2017, we saw an overall 11% reduction in crime and the positive crime trend is continuing for the first two months of this year. We have had no gun related homicide so far this year through February, and only one person shot – a domestic violence situation in which a father shot his son. Gun violence in Federal Way is way down. Again, thank you for your support!

Prayer requests:

- Pray for the safety of Federal Way police officers, South King police and fire fighters, first responders, local FBI agents, as well as for the safety and security of our citizens.
- Prayer for our elected officials for the wisdom and discernment to lead our community. (Issues of homelessness, caring for the poor, safety, new business and job opportunities)

CHURCH

Praise reports:

Strong unity continues in the church of FW.

The church is highly recognized by our city leaders as a solid foundation for the health of our city.

Prayer requests:

- Intercessors pray for the Church to be revived. So many churches are not currently carrying out the great commission in the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Pray that God's Spirit would stir up those who are discouraged, or simply unfocused. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His fields.
- Pray for the Lord's church to be deeply in love with Him. As we love Him and love one another people will be drawn to Him and to His Church.
- Ask God to reveal to all the members of His Church their spiritual gifts, those areas of ministry where they are especially empowered by the Spirit to bring His grace into the lives of others. Ask Him to move people into areas of effective ministry and a recognition that every church member is a minister.
- Pray for the pastors, leaders and staff members of our local congregations. Ask God to guide each one into His refreshing presence regularly, and to show them how to remain balanced in their lives. Ministry can be overwhelming when our eyes are focused on the needs. Pray for God's guidance to be clear to each one, so that they will do the work He has assigned them and not take on a yoke that is too heavy.
- Jesus said the gates of hell would not prevail against His church (Matt.16). The enemy wants to keep our city and her people in bondage. The church is God's army to bring spiritual freedom to all. Ask the Lord to reveal His strategy to bring down the strongholds of Federal Way that resist God's will.

EDUCATION

Praise Reports:

There is continued favor with FWPS district officials and many of our church people are being honored at the Heroes banquet again for strong church/school partnerships

Pastors/ministry leaders continue to pray together every Thursday at the School District building

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for more mentors from our churches to be that “one caring adult away from success” for at-risk students. (The goal is 100) If they have a mentor, students are far more likely to succeed, graduate, and contribute to society.
- Pray for righteous men and women to hear the call of God to key positions of leadership in the FWPS district and schools.
- Pray for Dr. Campbell, Superintendent of FWPS, to be surrounded by godly and wise counsel, and for the pastors and church leaders to have a greater voice concerning ideas for the welfare and advancement of the families and students.
- Pray that the church partners with the school district in teaching kids to read by 3rd grade at 3rd grade level. (Many studies have proven that illiteracy has a negative domino effect on many key areas of the students success and future)

HEALTH

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for the church to better foster and train healthy and holistic lifestyles
- Pray for the church to pray “the prayer of faith to save the sick” regularly and fully trust the Lord to heal them.
- Pray for our health industry leaders to offer city-wide health seminars that lead to much healthier lifestyles in the families in our region.

FAMILIES

Praise Reports:

There is a new temporary shelter for Homeless Mothers and Children in FW

There is a land donation for the purpose of a permanent mother's and children shelter

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for the church to continue to offer more targeted small groups, marriage groups, counseling, pre marital counseling, and conferences to help strengthen the families.
- Pray for God's people to feel called to ministry to marriages and families that will rescue and restore broken families and build godly families.
- Pray for Spirit-lead and highly intentional outreach plans to reach and disciple hundreds more children this quarter for Jesus. (23,000 students in our school district presently)

BUSINESS

Praise Reports:

The economy of this city and region remains very strong and continues to grow in prosperity and offer many more job opportunities.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for Mayor Jim Ferrell to give him continued wisdom for business partnerships and new relationships with key business leaders who desire to establish new business in FW.
- Continue to pray for business leaders to treat employees fairly and provide healthy work environments.
- Pray for great faith for young Christian entrepreneurs to have vision and strategies for new businesses that will provide more jobs in our community and influence on other business leaders for Christ.

MISSIONS

Praise Reports:

Light up the City movement (150 + churches in 25 cities in the Seattle/Tacoma/Bellevue Region) continues to unite, expand, and influence more and more city church networks and cause greater city transformations.

Saturate the Sound movement has begun to unite church networks in the mission of making disciples who make disciples.

Prayer Requests:

- Remember this verse - “Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf...” (Jer. 29:7).
- Pray - “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38).
- Pray for a greater design and united strategy in the church of our region to really make fully devoted disciples who make fully devoted disciples of Jesus! Nothing else will transform our city greater than this!

MEDIA

Praise Reports:

More and more positive news continues to be reported in the FW Mirror and the FWPS newspapers

Shelley Pauls (We Love Our City coordinator) was nominated 2017 citizen of the year (a real testimony for Jesus)

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for churches to learn new ways of utilizing social media to share the Good News of Jesus in all types of creative ways so that “by all possible means we will save some”. (1 Corinthians 9:22)
- Pray for righteous people to seek places of influence in the media world of this region to influence and persuade the types of reporting to be much more positive and inspiring.

