


If My People...

A 40-Day
Prayer Guide
for Our
Nation





If My People...

A 40-Day
Prayer Guide
for Our
Nation



A Gift for:

From:

Date:

IF MY PEOPLE

A 40-Day
Prayer Guide
for Our Nation

by Jack Countryman



If My People ...

Copyright © 2008 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Published in Nashville, Tennessee, by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

All Scripture references are from the NEW KING JAMES VERSION © 1982, 1992, Thomas Nelson, Inc.

Project Editor: Lisa Stilwell

Designed by: Robin Black, Blackbird Creative

ISBN-10: 1-4041-8728-6

ISBN-13: 978-1-4041-8728-3

Special edition ISBN numbers are:

ISBN-10: 1-4041-8732-4

ISBN-13: 978-14041-8732-0

Printed and bound in the United States of America

www.thomasnelson.com

CONTENTS

THE POWER OF PRAYER

DAY 1

DAY 2

DAY 3

DAY 4

DAY 5

GEORGE WASHINGTON

DAY 6

DAY 7

DAY 8

DAY 9

DAY 10

THOMAS JEFFERSON

DAY 11

DAY 12

DAY 13

DAY 14

DAY 15

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

[DAY 16](#)

[DAY 17](#)

[DAY 18](#)

[DAY 19](#)

[DAY 20](#)

[FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT](#)

[DAY 21](#)

[DAY 22](#)

[DAY 23](#)

[DAY 24](#)

[DAY 25](#)

[JOHN F. KENNEDY](#)

[DAY 26](#)

[DAY 27](#)

[DAY 28](#)

[DAY 29](#)

[DAY 30](#)

[RONALD REAGAN](#)

[DAY 31](#)

[DAY 32](#)

[DAY 33](#)

[DAY 34](#)

[DAY 35](#)

[DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER](#)

[DAY 36](#)

[DAY 37](#)

[DAY 38](#)

[DAY 39](#)

[DAY 40](#)

[PSALM 119:33-40](#)

[NOTES](#)

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Since our nation's very first days, God's greatest movements in our midst have been fashioned and sustained by prayer, from the signing of our earliest documents, to our triumphs over days of darkness, to the spiritual awakenings that have sustained our faith and resolve over the centuries. Throughout Scripture and throughout our history as a nation, persistent, prevailing, intentional, and never-ending prayer has always brought the presence of God.

How vast are the possibilities when we pray! Prayer is a wonderful power placed by the Almighty God into the hands of His saints. When we humbly seek His face in prayer, He is moved to act on our behalf and accomplish His desires for us.

And when we seek God in prayer for our leaders, we impact the very direction our nation will take. This forty-day prayer journey is designed to help quicken your prayers, to encourage you to seek God's will for our future, and to continually intercede on behalf of our nation. Prayerfully seek His face every day, believe that your prayers are making a difference, and claim all victory that is and is to come! For there is tremendous power in prayer.

DAY 1

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 I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

Father,

We seek Your sovereign blessing on our nation. Forgive us for our shortcomings and the times when we have failed You. Draw us back to Your love and strengthen us as a nation to serve and honor You in all that we do. May we forever be faithful to the calling that You have given us. We respectfully and humbly give thanks for Your continued blessing.

DAY 2

“Call to Me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”

JEREMIAH 33:3

Lord,

You have asked us to call to You, with the promise that You will answer when we do. We humbly seek Your guidance for our nation. Give us wisdom so that we will be a people guided by Your Spirit and filled with Your presence. Help us, O Lord, to honor You in word and deed, that we as a people will have Your blessing and favor.

DAY3

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6–7

Father,

The worries of each day are ever around us. Conflict, both within and without, threatens the peace we so desperately want and seek. Father, we come to You with an open heart, seeking Your guidance and being content with all that You have given us as a nation. Guard our hearts, O Lord, so that we will be faithful to You, and let the peace of Your presence surround us each and every day.

DAY 4

“Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country.”

DEUTERONOMY 28:1–3

Father,

Humble our hearts today so that we will hear Your voice. Help us as a nation to obey Your voice in all that we say and do. Continue to bless us, O Lord, and give us a compassionate and giving heart toward those around us. Hold us to a higher calling, that we will carefully observe Your commandments and be a nation under God with liberty and justice for all.

DAY 5

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

JEREMIAH 29:11–13

Father,

We know that Your heart's desire for us is to be at peace with You and with those around us. Place within our hearts the desire to live for You and to listen to the leading of Your Spirit. Let us diligently search for You. Open our eyes that we might see what is good, honorable, and just for this country and for the well-being of all people.

GEORGE WASHINGTON

O eternal and everlasting God, ...increase my faith in the sweet promises of the gospel; give me repentance from dead works; pardon my wanderings, and direct my thoughts unto thyself, the God of my salvation; teach me how to live in thy fear, labor in thy service, and ever to run in the ways of thy commandments; make me always watchful over my heart, that neither the terrors of conscience, the loathing of holy duties, the love of sin, nor an unwillingness to depart this life, may cast me into a spiritual slumber, but daily frame me more and more into the likeness of thy son Jesus Christ, that living in thy fear, and dying in thy favor, I may in thy appointed time attain the resurrection of the just unto eternal life bless my family, friends, and kindred.

—UNDATED PRAYER FROM WASHINGTON'S
PRAYER JOURNAL, MOUNT VERNON

DAY 6

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

MATTHEW 28:19–20

Lord,

You have commanded us to make disciples of all nations—may we begin within our own hearts! You are the way, the truth, and the life, and we thank You for Your promise to be with us always. Give us sincerity of heart and unfailing courage to spread this good news, whether with our neighbors across the street or with lost souls across the earth. We trust in You to work through us—without You we can do nothing!

DAY 7

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

JOHN 15:7–8

Lord,

We as a people have become self-absorbed and busy with activities that bring temporal value. Help us turn our hearts back to You and Your Word so our nation will bear the fruit of righteousness and be set above all other nations! Strengthen us with the power of Your Spirit in our inner being as we strive to abide in You and continue in faith that You will do more for us than we could ever imagine.

DAY 8

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

JAMES 5:16

Father,

Give us Your guidance and strength as we honestly confess our sins to You and to one another. And give us compassionate hearts as we pray for each other and our leaders across the country and the world. Rid us of judgment, condemnation, and pride, and fill us with a spirit of grace, mercy, and love. Create in our hearts a fervent desire to pray every day for Your leadership to reign in our lives.

DAY 9

*The sacrifice of the wicked is an
abomination to the LORD,
But the prayer of the upright is
His delight.*

PROVERBS 15:8

Father,

Your Word says that if we delight ourselves in You, You will give us the desires of our heart (Psalm 37:4). Please direct our paths in Your ways everlasting so that Your will becomes our desire; so that Your way becomes our delight. Fill us with the power of Your presence and bind us together as a people of one nation under God. And through each day, to You be the glory for all goodness and blessing that comes our way.

DAY 10

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16–18

Father,

The joy of the Lord is our strength; therefore, let us rejoice as a nation and as a people that have been blessed beyond all that we could ask or conceive. Let us pray each day for Your divine guidance, O Lord, and never forget Your benefits. Thank You, Lord, that You welcome us to Your throne of grace to receive Your blessing.

Thomas Jefferson

Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage; We humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Thy favor and glad to do Thy will. Bless our land with honorable ministry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people, the multitude brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endow with Thy spirit of wisdom those whom in Thy name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to Thy law, we may show forth Thy praise among the nations of the earth. In time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in Thee to fail; all of which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

—WASHINGTON D.C., MARCH 4 , 1801

DAY 11

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

ROMANS 8:26

Thank You, Lord, for the gift of Your Spirit that continually helps us overcome our weaknesses. We confess that all things are possible through You and *nothing* is possible without You! Open our hearts and intercede with the Father that we may humble ourselves in Your presence. We thank You for Your forgiveness. Strengthen us to live with purpose and empower us to serve You.

DAY 12

*The LORD is my rock and my fortress and
my deliverer;
My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;
My shield and the horn of my salvation,
my stronghold.
I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy
to be praised;
So shall I be saved from my enemies.*

PSALM 18:2–3

Lord,
You are the rock and strength of this nation. You are the only one who can deliver us from our enemies. We trust in You and pray humbly for Your guidance and direction for this great nation. Give us wisdom to make right choices. Help us to live in such a way that Your name will be honored in all things. May You forever be praised.

DAY 13

*Evening and morning and at noon
I will pray, and cry aloud,
And He shall hear my voice.*

PSALM 55:17

Father,

We exalt our praise and adoration to You all throughout the day and night! May we never forget that You are merciful and gracious, and that You, our Creator, receive our devotion and prayers with an attentive, listening ear. Give us eyes to see the splendor of Your holiness and ears to hear the majesty of Your Voice as you lead us to holy and righteous living.

DAY 14

We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you, since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of your love for all the saints.

COLOSSIANS 1:3–4

Father,

We humbly come before You and ask that Your Spirit reach across the lands to all who are hurting and spiritually lost. Restore their hearts with hope everlasting; comfort them with Your tender, loving arms. May we be sensitive to their needs, whether physical or spiritual, and be eager and willing to share Your love for them, just as you have bestowed Your love upon us.

DAY 15

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 1:9–10

Father,

May Your love flow through and around us. Speak to our hearts and open our minds that we may see You and the light of Your glory. Cleanse us, O Lord, that we may stand before You without blemish. Help us as a nation to be a discerning people with moral voices that will bring honor and glory to You, O God.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Fondly do we hope, fervently do we pray, that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet if God wills that it continues . . . until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid another drawn with the sword . . . so still it must be said that the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us finish the work we are in, to bind up the nations' wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and for his orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

—SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS,
MARCH 4 , 18 65

DAY 16

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man . . . to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

EPHESIANS 3:14–16, 19

Lord,

We bow before You in humble thanksgiving for Your gifts of power and strength, fortitude and might! We claim the riches of Your glory and the fullness of Your grace that come through the indwelling of Your Spirit within us. We pray for our nation to remain firm and steadfast in the knowledge of Your truth and the promise of the victory that is ours through Christ, who loves us.

DAY 17

*I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have
my being.*

*May my meditation be sweet to Him;
I will be glad in the LORD.*

PSALM 104:33–34

O Lord,

We lift our voice and praise Your holy name! May You forever be the center of our thoughts, that in all things we may lift You up in worship and song. Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be a sweet aroma to You, for you are our King—our joy comes from You! Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne, therefore we praise Your holy name forever.

DAY 18

*Give ear to my words, O LORD,
Consider my meditation.
Give heed to the voice of my cry,
My King and my God,
For to You I will pray.
My voice You shall hear in the morning,
O LORD;
In the morning I will direct it to You,
And I will look up.*

PSALM 5:1–3

We beg You, O Lord, to hear our supplications. Do not let our words fall on deaf ears. Let us come to You each morning with a heart full of joy, for You are our Most High God, and everything we have comes from You. Bless us that we might bless others. Let us always look to You for every provision. Let us be an open vessel filled with Your wisdom, that others might know Your saving grace.

DAY 19

*Hear me when I call, O God of my
righteousness!
You have relieved me in my distress;
Have mercy on me and hear my prayer.*

PSALM 4:1

Father,
You are *so* wonderful! Through Jesus Christ we have an open invitation to come to You in prayer. We give thanks for this blessing and each day find joy in all that You give to us. What a blessed people we are to know and embrace Your unconditional love.

DAY 20

*The LORD has heard my supplication;
The LORD will receive my prayer.*

PSALM 6:9

Father,

We thank You for hearing our petition. Strengthen us by the power of Your Spirit to live in such a way that glorifies You. Forgive us when we do things that displease You and separate us from Your presence. Lead us each day, that we might live a life that is pleasing to You. May You forever be praised.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Almighty God: Our sons, pride of our nation, this day have set upon a mighty endeavor, a struggle to preserve our Republic, our religion and our civilization, and to set free a suffering humanity. . . .

Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith. . . . Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. . . . Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph. . . .

With Thy blessing, we shall prevail over the unholy forces of our enemy. Help us to conquer the apostles of greed and racial arrogances. Lead us to the saving of our country, and with our sister nations into a world unity that will spell a sure peace—a peace invulnerable to the schemings of unworthy men. And a peace that will let all men live in freedom, reaping the just rewards of their honest toil.

—D-DAY, JUNE 6 , 194 4

DAY 21

*Because Your lovingkindness is better
than life,
My lips shall praise You.
Thus I will bless You while I live;
I will lift up my hands in Your name.
Because You have been my help,
Therefore in the shadow of Your wings
I will rejoice.*

PSALM 63:3–4, 7

Father,

We praise You for Your grace, mercy, and loving-kindness. May we as a nation look to You with thanksgiving in our hearts for the blessings You have poured upon us. Let us forever rest in the shadow of Your wings and shout for joy with praise, for You are a most gracious God, and You bless us even beyond our understanding.

DAY 22

*Hear my cry, O God;
Attend to my prayer.
From the end of the earth I will cry to You,
When my heart is overwhelmed;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.
For You have been a shelter for me,
A strong tower from the enemy.
I will abide in Your tabernacle forever;
I will trust in the shelter of Your wings.*

PSALM 61:1–4

Father,
We recognize that there are those who would speak evil against You when hardship knocks at their door. Let us forever stand firm in the foundation of our faith. Let us live in the center of Your will. We will come to You each day for strength and endurance. Help us, O God, to be the people You wish us to be, for we trust in You.

DAY 23

“For You, O my God, have revealed to Your servant that You will build him a house. Therefore Your servant has found it in his heart to pray before You. And now, LORD, You are God, and have promised this goodness to Your servant. Now You have been pleased to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever; for You have blessed it, O LORD, and it shall be blessed forever.”

1 CHRONICLES 17:25–27

Lord,

We are so blessed that each day You come to us with the gift of Your Spirit to help us and strengthen our purpose for Your glory. Continue to work in us, O Lord, and help us grow to be the people You wish us to be. Thank You for Your continued goodness even when we stumble; thank You that You are ever present to hold our hands and lift us up. Your unconditional love has been promised forever. Thank You for Your gracious mercy to us each day.

DAY 24

“Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.”

MARK 11:24–25

Father,

Help our nation with its unbelief! Lead us into a renewed relationship with You! Forgive us when we find fault in our brothers—help us to look beyond their shortcomings and look deeper within ourselves to become better people. Forgive us when we fall short of doing all that You’ve called us to do, and when we fail to demonstrate love and forgiveness toward those who wrong us. Thank You for the blessing of knowing that we are forgiven—no matter what.

DAY 25

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

LUKE 11:1

Lord,

We come to You with an open heart and ask that You speak to our spirits with words of wisdom and direction, that we may know how You wish for us to pray. Help Your humble servants to speak words of praise and adoration, for You are the King of kings and the Lord of lords. Teach us, Lord, that we may know You and the power of Your resurrection. Fill us with Your presence and forgive our shortcomings. Lead us, O Lord, to a higher place, that You might be lifted up and draw all men to You.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Let us therefore proclaim our gratitude to Providence for manifold blessings—let us be humbly thankful for inherited ideals—and let us resolve to share those blessings and those ideals with our fellow human beings throughout the world.

On that day let us gather in sanctuaries dedicated to worship and in homes blessed by family affection to express our gratitude for the glorious gifts of God; and let us earnestly and humbly pray that He will continue to guide and sustain us in the great unfinished tasks of achieving peace, justice, and understanding among all men and nations and of ending misery and suffering wherever they exist.

—THANKSGIVING DAY, 1963

DAY 26

*Give ear to my prayer, O God,
And do not hide Yourself from
my supplication.
Attend to me, and hear me;
I am restless in my complaint and
moan noisily.*

PSALM 55:1–2

Lord,
There are so many times when we have burdens almost too heavy to bear. Our nation faces hardships and pain; we need Your wisdom and help in all areas. Strengthen us as a people and lead us in the way that will bring honor and glory to You. Lord, You have promised that if we humble ourselves and seek Your face and pray, You will heal our land. May we forever be humble in Your sight, and may we experience Your blessings in the midst of our great need.

DAY 27

*Cast your burden on the LORD,
And He shall sustain you;
He shall never permit the righteous to
be moved.*

PSALM 55:22

Father,
You are so wonderful. Thank You for caring about our burdens. Open our hearts to Your Spirit, let us listen to Your Voice. Strengthen us, O God, with confidence in You, that we may live for You and glorify Your name. Father, we praise You for all the gifts that You have given us. Draw us close to You that we may see Your glory.

DAY 28

*The mouth of the righteous speaks wisdom,
And his tongue talks of justice.
The law of his God is in his heart;
None of his steps shall slide.*

PSALM 37:30–31

Father,

True wisdom is a gift that only You, Father, can give. May we always be in right standing with You. Let the words we speak honor You, and let us never speak Your name in vain. Let us stay steadfast and live in such a way that Your light will shine through us wherever we go. Thank You, Father, for Your mercy and love.

DAY 29

So Jesus answered and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ it will be done. And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

MATTHEW 21:21–22

O Lord,

Strengthen our faith. Help us to never doubt Your Word and Your faithfulness. Lift us up that we may boldly proclaim Your truth each and every day. Let us be sensitive to the leading of Your Spirit and never forget that “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13). Lord, we praise You because Your mercies are new every morning, and Your faithfulness is great.

DAY 30

Therefore, I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercession, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior.

1 T IMOTHY 2:1-3

Lord,

Our nation needs Your guidance and direction. We humbly ask that Your Spirit intercede with the leaders of the nation, giving them the wisdom to make decisions that will honor You. We pray fervently for peace both here and abroad. Let us live a life with reverence for You and with peace in our hearts for our fellow man. We know this is Your desire. May we always remember that You are our God and Savior.

RONALD REAGAN

To preserve our blessed land we must look to God. . . . It is time to realize that we need God more than He needs us. . . .

Let us, young and old, join together, as did the First Continental Congress, in the first step, in humble heartfelt prayer. Let us do so for the love of God and His great goodness, in search of His guidance and the grace of repentance, in seeking His blessings, His peace, and the resting of His kind and holy hands on ourselves, our nation, our friends in the defense of freedom, and all mankind, now and always.

The time has come to turn to God and reassert our trust in Him for the healing of America. . . . Our country is in need of and ready for a spiritual renewal. Today, we utter no prayer more fervently than the ancient prayer for peace on Earth.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. . . .” And God bless you all.

—FROM A SPEECH TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE,
FEBRUARY 6 , 198 6

DAY 31

*Because Your lovingkindness is better
than life,
My lips shall praise You.
Thus I will bless You while I live;
I will lift up my hands in Your name.
My soul shall be satisfied as with marrow
and fatness,
And my mouth shall praise You with
joyful lips.*

PSALM 63:3–5

O Lord,

Let us never forget to praise Your holy name. You are a wonderful God. You are slow to anger and patient, with an unconditional love that has no end. Let us bless You each day and lift up our thanks in praise for the wonderful things You have done for us. May we forever give honor to Your name, for without You we are nothing.

DAY 32

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

JOSHUA 1:8

Father,

You have given us a guide for life and have asked us to meditate in Your Word day and night. Place that desire within our hearts—give us a hunger for Your Word, that we may know You. Lord, You want us to be successful in life and to be prosperous in all that we do. Lead us back to Your Word that we may honor You through all that we say and do.

*How precious is Your lovingkindness,
O God!
Therefore the children of men put their trust
under the shadow of Your wings.
They are abundantly satisfied with the
fullness of Your house,
And You give them drink from the river of
Your pleasures.
For with You is the fountain of life;
In Your light we see light.*

PSALM 36:7–9

Lord,
Your loving-kindness is new every day. May we forever trust in You with all our heart and find rest in the shelter of Your love. The very life we live comes from You alone. Bless us, O Lord, with the light of Your presence and place within us the desire to share Your light so that others may come to know the saving grace of our Lord and Savior.

DAY 34

*The LORD is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
When the wicked came against me
To eat up my flesh,
My enemies and foes,
They stumbled and fell.
Though an army may encamp against me,
My heart shall not fear;
Though war may rise against me,
In this I will be confident.*

PSALM 27:1–3

O Lord,

Today we face many hardships in a time when our faith is continually tested. But we know there is nothing to fear because You, Lord, are in control of all things. You are our strength and our defender; there is nothing too hard for You. Therefore, let us be confident in our faith and bold in telling others of Your marvelous unconditional love.

DAY 35

*I will bless the LORD at all times;
His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
My soul shall make its boast in the LORD;
The humble shall hear of it and be glad.
Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together.*

PSALM 34:1–3

Lord,
You are the creator of the universe—we praise Your blessed and holy name! You alone are the provider of all things, and with You all things are possible—may You always be lifted up! Let us live each day in the center of Your will and live for Your glory. If we say nothing, the rocks will cry out Your magnificent name. Let all men praise Your holy name, for You are a marvelous God, and Your light shines over all who choose to call You Lord.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Almighty God, as we stand here at this moment my future associates in the executive branch of government join me in beseeching that Thou will make full and complete our dedication to the service of the people in this throng, and their fellow citizens everywhere.

Give us, we pray, the power to discern clearly right from wrong, and allow all our words and actions to be governed thereby, and by the laws of this land. Especially we pray that our concern shall be for all the people regardless of station, race, or calling.

May cooperation be permitted and be the mutual aim of those who, under the concepts of our Constitution, hold to differing political faiths; so that all may work for the good of our beloved country and Thy glory. Amen.

—INAUGURAL ADDRESS,
JANUARY 20, 1953.

DAY 36

*Teach me Your way, O LORD;
I will walk in Your truth;
Unite my heart to fear Your name.
I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all
my heart,
And I will glorify Your name forevermore.*

PSALM 86:11–12

Lord,
We hunger for Your Word. Teach us in the way that we should go and help us to walk in Your truth each day. May Your praise always be on our lips, and may You fill our hearts with the joy of Your love and blessing. You are a gracious and loving God whose mercy is new every morning.

DAY 37

*I will bless the LORD who has given
me counsel;
My heart also instructs me in the night
seasons.
I have set the LORD always before me;
Because He is at my right hand I shall
not be moved.*

PSALM 16:7-8

Father,
We humbly ask for Your blessing. Help us to listen to Your counsel when we are alone with You. Speak to our hearts each moment, for You are the anchor of our souls, and we will rest in Your presence. It is You alone that we desire, and no one or no thing can take Your place.

DAY 38

*Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
But his delight is in the law of the LORD,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper.*

PSALM 1:1–3

Lord,
Your Word has given us counsel on how we should relate to and act toward one another. May we be steadfast and immovable in our commitment to You and to one another. Let our roots go deep into Your Word to praise and glorify Your name. May our weakness be Your strength and our purpose in life be to honor You.

DAY 39

*Hear a just cause, O LORD,
Attend to my cry;
Give ear to my prayer which is not from
deceitful lips.
Let my vindication come from Your presence;
Let Your eyes look on the things that
are upright.
Uphold my steps in Your paths,
That my footsteps may not slip.*

PSALM 17:1–2, 5

Lord,
We cry out to You with hearts that need Your blessings. Give us wisdom to make right decisions that will bring honor to You and will purify our hearts. Let the words that we speak draw us closer to Your presence. We recognize, O Lord, that You are in control of all things. Help this nation to hear Your voice, protect us from evil, and lead us in the path of righteousness for Your name's sake.

DAY 40

Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

ROMANS 13:1, 7

Lord,

We live in a nation that is free to elect those chosen for public office. We confess that the servants who are chosen are there with Your approval. Let us faithfully support those elected to office, giving honor to their position. Let us help them fulfill the obligation and responsibility for our nation. With prayer and understanding, let us unite ourselves to the one purpose of living a life in which "In God We Trust."

PSALM 119 : 33–40

*Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall keep it to the end.
Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall
observe it with my whole heart.
Make me walk in the path of Your
commandments,
For I delight in it.
Incline my heart to Your testimonies,
And not to covetousness.
Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless
things,
And revive me in Your way.
Establish Your word to Your servant,
Who is devoted to fearing You.
Turn away my reproach which I dread,
For your judgments are good.
Behold, I long for Your precepts;
Revive me in Your righteousness.*



NOTES

