









Greetings!

We are pleased to bring you IPC Connections for September 2020.

There has been a sensing among prayer leaders around the world of a significant corporate calling to identificational repentance for our nations. We have been led simultaneously to draw the Church together to pray concertedly in the spirit of 'If my people...' (2 Chron 7:14) for the healing and renewing of each of our lands. This has culminated in a number of online events and initiatives that are taking place over the next 2 months. Some of these are detailed in this edition of IPC Connections.

With this calling to repentance in mind, we are grateful to IPC's Senior Advisor and co-founding member, Brian Mills for his editorial article this month, entitled: 'Preparing for his Return!' The article relates the times that we are in to 2 Chronicles 7:13-14 and reminds us of the significance of repentant prayer and reconciliation and why this is an important place to begin - if we are genuinely and earnestly seeking the renewal and transformation of our nations.

We would invite all of our partner networks to join us for the first of these united prayer events, which will be a **World Prayer Together** call on **Saturday, September 19th**, at 1200 UTC, (5 am PT, 8 am ET, 3 pm Jerusalem time). See the article below for more info and visit our website to join the call www.worldprayertogether.com.

The Covid-19 pandemic has now affected 25 million people worldwide. We bring you up to date information on this along with prayer points and links to various resources. A number of countries are facing challenges at this time; we are highlighting the situation in North Korea and praying earnestly for a breakthrough and for 'one unified Korea'.

International Prayer Connections is produced and distributed freely each month to inform God's praying people around the world. We are grateful to those who have given generously to enable this to happen and continue to need such support for this and our other transformational prayer initiatives. If you would like to make a gift towards our costs by giving through our funding arm, the Transformation Prayer Foundation, we would appreciate it. Please click here.

Thank you for continuing to partner with us in mobilising and informing united prayer across nations, denominations, movements, and generations for the fulfilment of the Great Commission.

May we express grateful thanks to Andy Page and the IPC Editorial Team who put this email together each month.

Wishing you His continued blessings,

Jason Hubbard - Executive Coordinator John D Robb - Chairman International Prayer Connect

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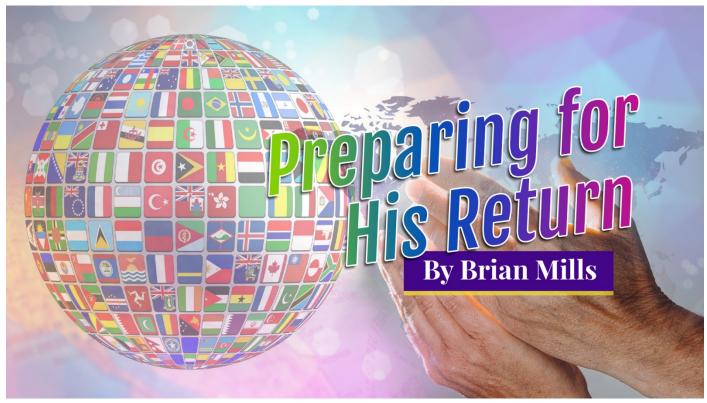
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01 Editorial: 'Preparing for His Return' - Brian Mills



What a subject! What a year! What an occasion! To be able to connect praying people around the world has never before in history been possible until recently. And this has all gathered pace in the season we are in as the world is alarmed and the church is awakened by this coronavirus pandemic.

For sure, we are all living through times of unparalleled challenges and change. Countless millions around the world are affected – but how we each respond will determine the outcome. It's not just about the pandemic, but it's also about our ways of life, our economies, our future and that of our children. So how should the church respond?

One night king Solomon had a divine encounter, in which God said "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land, or send a plague among my people, if my people, who are called by name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will hear their land" (2 Chronicles 7.13-14).

In the past year or so Australia and parts of the United States have had unprecedented lack of rain, and consequently huge bush fires displacing thousands of people. East African countries have suffered from plagues of locusts described as of "biblical proportions". Parts of China and South Asia have experienced catastrophic and devastating floods. And the plague of "Covid 19" has claimed the lives of over a million people and affected the lives and livelihoods of many millions more. So how should the church respond?

Some parts of the world continue to suffer appallingly because of ongoing conflict and terrorism. Others have had to face up to ongoing discrimination between black and white on the back of the historic slave trade. Meanwhile a more modern slavery scandal has been largely unnoticed. Human trafficking of many thousands of people across borders – regarded as "refugees" or "migrants" - include thousands of children and young people, being sold both for sexual exploitation and for what is termed the "harvesting" of human body parts - a practice that is both sickening and inhumane. Political upheaval also continues in many nations. I've lost count of the number of corruption investigations and trials that are in progress among national leaders in multiple countries. **So how should the church respond?**

I think we need to fall on our knees before God and cry out - "God have mercy upon us".

"But", some may think, "much of this is not church sin." No, but we are part of this world. The apostle Paul said "we are all God's offspring.. and commands all people everywhere to repent" (Acts 17.29-31). Repentance is not an option – it is a command! And if we as God's chosen followers – whether Jewish or Christian – do not set the example, how can the rest of the world be expected to follow suit? God watches and waits for those who are in tune with Him to "stand in the gap".

We can start by repenting of our own personal sin and sins. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1. 8-10). Solomon (a king who was flawed in character, but nevertheless knew what God required) reminded us in Proverbs 6 that there are seven things that God hates – haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who lies and anyone who stirs up conflict in the community.

And then there are the many corporate sins that exist – both current and historic. Sin that is not repented of is not swept under the carpet. Heaven remembers them. King David had to deal with the sin of his predecessor, Saul, when he shed the innocent blood of the Gibeonites (see 2 Samuel 21), and Jesus accused the Jewish leaders of His day of the unrepented sins of history, including the killing of their prophets hundreds of years previously - "and so upon you will come all the righteous blood shed on earth" (see Matthew 23 v. 13 onwards, and particularly v.35-36). That is huge!

And then comes this cry from the heart of Jesus and the courts of heaven "how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing!" Here is the expression of mercy and love and compassion – but He was unable to show it because there was sin in the way in history, and in them His people.

So how are we, His people, going to respond to this in our day? We need to take the promise within 2 Chronicles 7.14 seriously, and realise that God said He would respond when we do what he looks for. Humble ourselves, Pray, Seek His face, and Turn from our wicked ways. When we do that, perhaps then, God can do what He promises – hear our prayer, forgive our sin and heal our land – wherever we are.

But we need to do that representationally, identifying with the sin and with those who have committed that sin or those sins.

As a European I need to confess and repent of so many things. The shedding of innocent blood in particular. Europe is the most blood-stained Continent in the world, and yet it was the Continent that God called the apostle Paul to come and evangelise. Oh, yes we sent our missionaries around the world, but we ourselves have become spiritually destitute. We have largely turned away from God and embraced a secular way of life. In this Continent various "isms" have been birthed and then influenced the rest of the world – existentialism, humanism, secularism, Communism, Nazi-ism, materialism, and so on. And then there are the church divisions that have been both historic and contemporary – are we prepared to own up to them?

As a white British male, there are many sins I need to confess, acknowledge and turn from - to do with racial superiority or colonialism – the list is endless. And for those from other parts of the world there may be reciprocal ingrained attitudes that may have been caused by those corporate sins. There may be tribal, or nationalistic or political hatreds and inbred, generational or family prejudices and resentments, giving rise to ongoing acts or attitudes of revenge.

What happens when we do what God is asking of us? Then He begins to bring forgiveness into marred human relationships and between tribes and nations. When we apologise in public for the sins of our group or nation, something shifts. Those on the receiving end of such apology frequently testify "something broke in my spirit" or "I never before realised I had such antagonism towards you or your nation – but God has revealed it and dealt with it". If that happens at the human level – what has also happened in heaven?

Many of us in the International prayer and Reconciliation movements have numerous stories of what God has done as a result of public acknowledgement of sin coupled with genuine repentance. Tears have flowed, forgiveness has been expressed, relationships healed. Wars have ceased, enemies have been reconciled, land has been healed – literally, and national change has occurred. Politicians and royalty have made public apologies, changed national policies, engaged in

acts of retribution. And if that has happened at national level and in the hearts of ordinary people, we can only conjecture as to how our Father in heaven has felt. For sure, He will know that the sacrifice of His Son on the Cross has not been in vain, but has accomplished all this and much more.

But there is more that God will do. He wants the whole world to know of His love. One of my mentors was the late Dr. J Edwin Orr. He used to ply me with stories of what happened in times of revival or spiritual awakening. He would frequently point out that every revival in history has been preceded by "extraordinary prayer" and "produced an unusual conviction of sin, resulting in repentance, confession, reconciliation and restitution, with great concern for the salvation of sinners near at hand and far away."

Isn't that what we are looking for in this season? Isn't that what God is also looking for? The timing of God's answers is in His hands. We can't insist that He does what He promised. But we can be sure that He will.



Many books have been written telling some of the stories – too many to be listed here! But maybe, if you have time to watch, this dialogue produced some years ago for an American TV channel might help to whet your

appetite. https://youtu.be/acg7ep5 cBM

Let's humble ourselves, pray, seek His face, and turn from our wicked ways. Then perhaps He will turn the hearts of many towards His Son before His Return.

Brian Mills – Interprayer | International Prayer Connect Leadership Team

Global Prayer Initiatives:

02 Trumpet Call to the Nations: Global 9/11 Prayer for America

September 11, 2020 – 1200 UTC, 5 am PT, 7 am CT, 8 am ET USA, 7 pm Jakarta, 3 pm Jerusalem

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

America is in a fight for her life! Under the guise of racial justice protests, Marxist agitators working through Antifa and Black Lives Matter as well as other communist-inspired organizations are trying to burn down U.S. cities and throw the country into revolutionary chaos as they have long planned.

They are being supported and financed by globalist elites wanting to create a socialist New World Order that aspires to control everyone on earth in a totalitarian system of world government. Overt satanism and witchcraft are also involved along with Islamic radicals in this attempted take-down of America, its government and way of life.

The November 3 national election will be the most important one in our national history because it will determine whether the USA will become the willing tool of these forces or continue



to stand for Judeo-Christian values, freedom, and human rights within this country and throughout our world.

How glad we in the American prayer movement were to hear that our Indonesian brothers and sisters in Christ want to rally the global Body of Christ to pray for America during this crucial time. Indonesian and American prayer leaders will co-host a global online prayer call via Youtube called "Trumpet Call to the Nations: Global 9/11 Prayer for America" www.youtube.com/damailahindonesiaku.

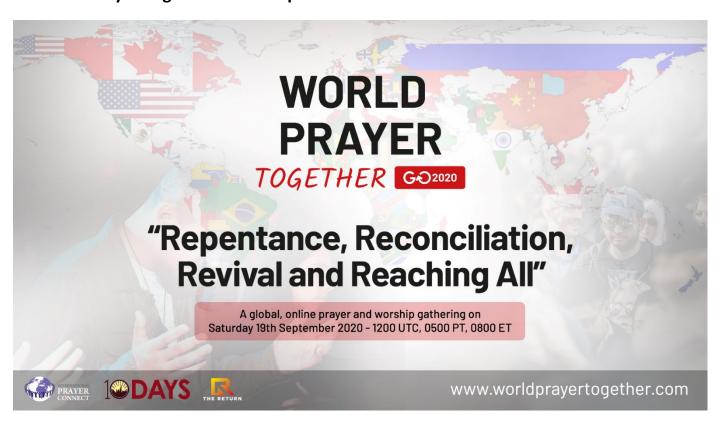
We will start in Jerusalem and be led from there to several American cities for a time of repentance and prayer over the USA. Please join us on September 11th, for this urgent 9/11 time of seeking God's face for the deliverance of America.

We need all hands-on-deck for this crucial initiative. Hope you can join us for this unique opportunity to connect with the Sovereign Lord of the universe and with Him shape the future through united prayer.

Daniel Pandji My Home Indonesia

John Robb International Prayer Council National Prayer Assembly (USA)

03 World Prayer Together - 19th Sep 2020 - 1200 UTC



An Invitation to World Prayer Together Saturday, September 19th, 1200 UTC, 5 am PT, 8 am ET, 3 pm Jerusalem time www.worldprayertogether.com

This month of September will be full of great spiritual potential for our world! Millions of followers of Jesus will be joining in prayer for in various initiatives involving repentance and intercession for our sin-enslaved, conflicted planet. Our Lord Jesus Christ, awesome King of the Universe, is connecting His Body as never before to see the future history of our nations and regions transformed until He comes and reigns. The King is coming!

You are warmly invited to **World Prayer Together** which will be a global online prayer experience of repentance, reconciliation, revival and reaching all with His Gospel. It will launch a special season-- *10 Days of Prayer* www.10days.net (during the "Ten Days of Awe" from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur), September 18-28, as well as a movement of repentance called *The Return* www.thereturn.org, happening on 9/26, which you will also want to put on your calendar.

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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chron 7:14

During **World Prayer Together**, ministry leaders representing 10 world regions will "stand in the gap", identifying and confessing major corporate sins that characterize their regions as those from other regions empathize and pray for revival and mission breakthroughs for each of those regions.

We will be led in worship internationally, celebrate His forgiveness by taking communion together globally, and then, since this is also the Feast of Trumpets (Rosh Hashanah), we will blow shofars or other indigenous instruments all around the world at the same time!

At least this is the plan, barring any technical glitches, but even if there are a few, won't this be an amazing global coming together of His Body? Certainly, the Lord will love our united repentance and praying as we enjoy His presence together across our world.

Details about connecting for the call are on the website www.worldprayertogether.com.

Please pass this invitation on to others in your networks, churches and prayer groups, so they can also join in this magnificent flowing together of His people.

May we see Kingdom breakthroughs for our nations and world during this special season this month!

Rend Your Heart - "Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Joel 2: 12-13

Jonathan Friz, 10 Days of Prayer, www.10days.net
Grant Berry, Reconnecting Ministries, www.Reconnectingministries.org
Jason Hubbard, International Prayer Connect www.ipcprayer.org
John Robb, International Prayer Connect www.ipcprayer.org

04 The Return / 10 Days: 18-28 September 2020

'10 Days' Joins 'The Return' in Calling Christians to Worldwide Prayer, Fasting, Repentance

Thousands To Converge on Washington Mall for 'The Return' on Sept. 26, Flanked by Prayer Inspired by Ancient '10 Days of Awe'' Sep 18-28, 2020

NEW YORK—As political discord and a pandemic threaten societies around the world, prayer movements are gaining momentum and some have united to shape a

global Christian revival with Washington, D.C., at its epicenter.



Thousands of Christians and more than 100 denominations of churches have committed themselves in prayer and collaboration leading up to "The Return: National and Global Day of Prayer and Repentance."

"The Return" (TheReturn.org) is set for 40 days before the presidential election, and on the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower, in the days of America's founding and dedication to God. Surrounding the "The Day of Return" on Sept. 26 at the Washington Mall will be 10 days, known from ancient times as the Days of Awe, to be set as a special time of prayer and repentance on Sept. 18-28.

"10 Days" (10days.net), a movement of prayer, fasting, and repentance in unity based on the 10 Days of Awe, has been invited to collaborate with "The Return" as movement leaders call Americans to turn from sin and humble themselves before God.

"We are in the midst of a multi-faceted crisis right now, a crisis that no human being knows how to solve," said "10 Days" leader Jonathan Friz. "An insoluble problem should lead us to self-reflection. What if instead of blaming one another, we took time to consider how our own actions and self-will have contributed to the current state of political division, racial strife, pestilence? What if instead of placing ourselves on a pedestal as judge, we would humble ourselves before the only Judge, and seek His mercy in a time of national and global calamity?" Echoing Jesus's prayer at the Last Supper that His followers would be unified, "The Return" and "10 Days" are pooling efforts to inspire Christians everywhere to call on the name of the Lord as the only source of hope for their countries.

Ramping up to the September climax, "10 Days" is leading a three-pronged prayer strategy for "The Return" that includes personal intercession for movement leaders, weekly Zoom prayer calls, and a "Consecration Challenge" aimed at mobilizing 120,000 believers in dedicated prayer and fasting.

Grant Berry and Jonathan Friz are working with "The Return" by leading the weekly global prayer intercession. Coordinated events within "The Return" movement will also take place throughout America's cities, towns, houses of worship and homes, as well as in multiple countries around the world, as many believe the nation has been given a critical window of opportunity to repent and return to God.

Visit "The Return" at www.TheReturn.org to register and learn more. Follow "The Return" on social media at Facebook: @ReturnEvent2020; Twitter: @2020_Return; and Instagram: @The_Return2020.

Two brief videos about The Return's reaching out to make it an international effort:

https://youtu.be/vYZ-YtAHlo8 https://youtu.be/u4bXDhLefQc

Download your copy of the 10 Day Prayer Plan!

Please contact Jonathan Friz at 10daysofprayer@gmail.com for more info about how your nation can participate.

Prayers for the World

05 Covid-19 Pandemic Prayer Update – September 2020

Excerpts from our full prayer report looking at Covid-19 Hot Spots, Flattening the Curve, Hopes for a Vaccine and Prayer Points with Links to Resources:

As of 2nd September, the total global figure for people infected by Covid-19 stands at 25.7 million according to <u>Johns Hopkins University</u>. In addition to this, the current death statistic stands above 850,000.



Covid-19 hot spots

The US continues to be the country with the most cases and deaths related to Covid-19 globally with the aforementioned figures currently at over 6,000,000 and 180,000 respectively. Although the rate of infection has reduced over recent days and weeks from the high of 77,000 in a day, the daily case numbers are still slightly above those of the peak of the first spike.

Coronavirus is similarly prevalent elsewhere in the Americas. Peru, Colombia, and Mexico each have over 600,000 cases a piece, whilst Argentina and Chile have more than 400,000 although these numbers may not tell the whole truth as some areas have a significant lack of testing. For example, Mexico has a test rate of just 10,000 tests per 1 million population compared to Spain where there are fewer cases and a test rate of nearly 200,000 tests per 1 million per population. Another issue infecting Latin America is misinformation related to coronavirus cures and preventative treatments. These home remedies spread on social media by influential figures, such as the use of industrial bleach, are unproven and potential harmful self-medications.

India is currently experiencing the highest rate of new coronavirus cases per day reaching its own 24-hour high of 85 thousand on 26th August. Over the month of August, the country amassed nearly 2 million cases; the most reported in a month for any country in the world since the pandemic began. Despite these record statistics, the government continues to lift restrictions in an attempt to boost the economy after lockdown in March saw millions of jobs lost.

It is still not well known how severe the situation is in Africa since there is a <u>major lack in testing</u>. The International Rescue Committee have said that they fear the continent is "fighting the epidemic in the dark" with limited data to work from hampering their response to the pandemic. South Africa continues to hold the most cases with around <u>630,000</u>, <u>followed by Egypt with 100,000</u> but the dramatic positive test result difference of 17% compared to 73% respectively hints at the reality on the continent. Other countries around the world struggling to contain the virus include Indonesia, the Philippines, and Israel, where the numbers of new cases and deaths remain high.

Vaccine update

Over <u>165 vaccines</u> are currently being developed by teams all over the world in the race to find a solution to the pandemic. 36 of these are currently in human trials, and at least 90 are in animal trials, to prove that they work as intended and are safe for wide-spread use.

Read the full report for September with more prayer pointers on our website

Let's Pray...

Let us continue to declare that the novel coronavirus is defeated by the blood of Jesus.

We pray for divine intervention and for God's name to be glorified even as each nation and government tries its best to flatten the curve, prevent second spikes and finally arrest this epidemic.

We release wisdom, skill, and integrity upon our leaders.

We pray for protection, wisdom and strength, for those working to bring treatment and comfort to the sick and their families.

We pray special grace and help for the vulnerable and lesser-developed nations. We pray for refugees and displaced peoples. We pray against domestic violence and other crimes that have become rampant during lockdowns.

We pray for a safe, effective, and affordable vaccine to be released soonest but without including aborted baby cells in its creation, neglecting proper testing protocols, and without including any digital ID tracing ("health passport") which could bring about totalitarian control.

We continue to release faith, hope, and love over the peoples of the world. May the Church seize this opportune time to manifest Jesus our Lord and Savior to those who are seeking answers and peace.

Join in Online Prayers:

<u>World Prayer Centre, Birmingham, UK – Virtual House</u> of Prayer

iHop Kansas Prayer Room

247 Prayer Coronavirus Prayer Room

Additional Prayer Resources for Coronavirus

God and the Pandemic – Tom Wright
Beyond the Pandemic - Rev Dr Clifford Hill
A coronavirus prayer from Pete Greig
19 Things to Do in response to Coronavirus
Prophecy Today UK's Responses to Coronavirus
PrayerCast Video and Prayer Briefing
CSM Nigeria Article

Lausanne Resources

Operation World EBook on the impact on Mission

WW11 Veteran Gets 180k Praying

On a lighter note... 50 countries affected by Covid 19 sing Amazing Grace in this video

Reporting from John Hopkins University:

https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/data/mortality

Further data on Europe and the world:

https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/geographical-distribution-2019-ncov-cases

06 Lebanon: Ministries in Beirut respond to explosion disaster

On 4 August 2020, a large amount of ammonium nitrate stored at the port of the city of Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, exploded, causing 181 deaths, 6,000 injuries, 10-15 billion US dollar in property damage, and leaving an estimated 300,000 people homeless.

How is the Church faring in the midst of this horrible disaster?



Pierre Houssney of Horizons International says that when the government stepped down, the church stepped up. "Many Lebanese are ashamed of the way their government has failed to respond in any way to the explosion. It was like anarchy. But we could not be prouder of the Church, because churches almost instantly hit the ground."

These churches, who have already been helping Syrian refugees in the country for years, immediately sent out teams to help clean up and distribute medical supplies and humanitarian aid. They also pray with people. "It's incredibly impactful and glorifying to Jesus," says Houssney.

Many other Christian ministries are also answering the challenge.

Arab Baptist Theological Seminary (ABTS), located in the mountains overlooking Beirut, was spared the worst of the emanating shockwaves. Having lost its students due to Covid-19, it had already opened its dormitories to frontline health workers. Now, in cooperation with the 'Our Home, Your Home' ministry, the seminary is welcoming a fraction of the 300,000 Lebanese displaced from their homes.

Resurrection Church of Beirut had many member families suffer damage to their homes. It has organized a furniture drive, and sent volunteers downtown to clean up the mess - for their community, and others. "Now is the time for the wounded church to rise again and be a healing agent of God's restoring presence in a practical and caring way," said pastor Hikmat Kashouh.

Lighthouse Arab World is temporarily shifting its media ministry to facilitate help to those on the street. Near East Organization was able to feed 250 people, aiming to continue this service for as long as needed.

Camille Melki heads up Heart for Lebanon, which began serving Lebanese displaced by the Israeli invasion in 2006, and now ministers to Syrian refugees. Their 60 volunteers have split into 5 teams to secure homes and clear broken glass. "It's a mess. It's a total mess," he said. "But they have to be made safe to be lived in again."

In times of calamity, even the wounded must keep serving. Abbas Sibai, multi-area projects coordinator with World Vision Lebanon, crawled under the fallen wall that had smashed against his back in the blast. He was hospitalized for his injuries, but is still pitching in. World Vision is putting together a fundraising campaign for food, medicine, and housing supplies, as its Beirut warehouse was severely damaged in the explosion.

SAT-7, a Christian satellite television broadcaster based in the Middle East, turned out to be a lifeline in the current storm. In the aftermath of the blast, thousands have been turning to the channel for reassurance and hope. "For those anxious and traumatized, we connect with professional counselors, offering balm for the troubled mind; with the grieving, we weep; with those on the edge of suicide, we pray and share the Hope of the world, Jesus Christ," says Maroun Bou Rached, the executive director of SAT-7 in Lebanon. "As we mourn as a nation, we will be there every hour, every day - standing with our neighbors who are hurting, and those who ask: 'Where is God in all this?' By God's grace, Lebanon will rise from the dust and ashes to breathe again."

The International Prayer Council called on Christians around the world to pray for a well-coordinated relief response, for the rioting and violence to stop and for God's peace and order to prevail, for the healing of the nation as it is deeply wounded, for the church to rise up and fulfill its purpose and be a light in the midst of darkness, and for the economic recovery of Lebanon.

Two Lebanese ministries, Triumphant Mercy Lebanon and Witness as Ministry offered their channels for humanitarian support. They provide meals and medicine to vulnerable displaced people, help with boarding up busted windows and doors, and do street and home cleanups.

Source: Horizons International, ABTS, CT, Heart for Lebanon, World Vision, SAT-7, IPC, Triumphant Mercy Lebanon

More at: www.joelnews.org

To support the ongoing relief efforts through IPC's verified contacts on the ground in Beirut, see:

Triumphant Mercy Lebanon - https://tm-lebanon.com
Witness as Ministry - https://www.wamcares.org

Here are some prayer concerns that people close to the situation there in Beirut have shared.

Let's pray specifically for:

- 1. For a well-coordinated relief response and that both the local and international NGOs will cooperate and work together in a synergistic manner to provide rapid and effective assistance.
- 2. The healing of the nation as it is deeply wounded and that the church will rise and fulfill its purpose and be a light in the midst of darkness.
- 3. For the rioting and violence to stop and for God's peace and order to prevail.
- 4. That the Islamic agenda will not be able to be implemented.
- 5. For an independent judicial system that is not under political power so that corruption could be judged.
- 6. For the economic situation in Lebanon to be resolved and Lebanon to become prosperous again.
- 7. That the promises of God for Lebanon (being transformed in a moment into a fertile field) will be fulfilled.
- 8. That the many Syrian refugees who are in Lebanon will be able to go back home.

See the PrayerCast Video on Lebanon: https://www.prayercast.com/lebanon.html

07 Belarus protests: Mass rally keeps pressure on Lukashenko

Tens of thousands have again taken to the streets in Belarus, facing off against riot police to protest against President Alexander Lukashenko.

A huge police presence cordoned off areas such as Independence Square in the capital, Minsk, and the interior ministry reported at least 140 arrests. Protesters chanted "disgrace" and "leave" in standoffs with police.

Belarus has been gripped by mass protests since the 9 August election, widely believed to have been rigged. Mr Lukashenko, who has been in power for 26 years, has said he has no intention of stepping down and denies electoral fraud.



What happened on the streets?

It was very tense, with large numbers of riot police facing off against lines of protesters carrying balloons, flowers and red-and-white opposition flags.

Reporting at the height of the protests, the BBC's Steve Rosenberg in Minsk said there were far more police than on the past two Sundays when similar rallies were held. Some protesters lay down on the road to try to prevent riot police from moving, with others chanting "disgrace" and "go away".

Some mocked Mr Lukashenko on his 66th birthday, carrying a cockroach puppet and chanting "happy birthday, you rat". Many streets were blocked off by police to try to prevent people reaching the main protest areas.

One large group of protesters marched towards Mr Lukashenko's residence at the Independence Palace, which was heavily protected by riot police and water cannon vehicles. Armoured personnel carriers were seen moving in the area, although reports later said they were also seen leaving and that the crowds were dispersing largely peacefully. Other smaller protests were reported in towns such as Brest and Grodno.

Journalists continue to face issues reporting the unrest. On Saturday, the authorities withdrew the accreditation of 17 reporters, most of them Belarusian citizens who have been reporting for foreign media outlets. Two journalists with the BBC's Russian service were among those affected. In a statement, the BBC said it condemned "in the strongest possible terms this stifling of independent journalism". On Sunday, Germany said it was summoning the Belarus ambassador over the revocations of accreditation.

Another Sunday. Another big protest - But this one felt different from previous weekends.

Having cordoned off Independence Square in the centre of Minsk, police made a move against some of the protesters. Following scuffles, suddenly there were riot police everywhere: banging their shields on the ground as a warning, and then pushing demonstrators further down the road.

Russian President Vladimir Putin telephoned Mr Lukashenko on his birthday and reportedly invited him to visit Moscow. It appeared to be the latest sign of Kremlin support for a president who has not always been seen positively by Russia. But Mr Putin has said he has formed a police reserve force to intervene in Belarus if necessary, although "it won't be used until the situation gets out of control".

More info and comment: https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-53966004

Pray for democratic and transparent elections to take place soon

Pray that the brutality being meted out by the police and prison staff in Belarus will stop

Pray for those who have disappeared, allegedly taken by the police; pray for their families and loved ones who are experiencing fear and anxiety over their treatment and fate

Pray that Russia does not unwarrantedly interfere in this situation

08 North Korea: Briefing

Things in North Korea seem a bit murkier than usual, not that it is ever very clear what is going on up there. The latest big questions have to do with Kim Jong-un's health. There are knowledgeable friends of mine who are very sure his health is not good and it stands to reason that his life-style is not a healthy one, yet there are mixed signals and confusing reports.

A former aid to former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung insists that the leader has been in a coma since March and that the various reports of his



activities and photos are all fake. Some are saying that he is either sharing power with his sister, Kim Yo-jong, as indicated by the South's National Intelligence Agency, or that she is second in command. However, this is not getting much credence in the South where the government insists that he is still very much in control and active. And, she failed to appear at a recent Politburo meeting. There was serious flooding earlier this month in Unpa County. Kim Jong-un showed up driving his luxury SUV to survey the damage in a photo that it seems would be very difficult to fake. He insisted that food supplies be sent to the stricken county for which people express great gratitude--but it's still difficult there.

While things are unclear at the highest levels, the Covid-19 situation is equally as obscure. As we saw last month, Kim Jong-un stated that there was no Covid-19 in the North until a former defector re-defected to the North from the South bringing in the virus, while the South Korean police insist he was virus-free. Now the authorities have locked down the cities of Samjiyon and Hyesan because a woman crossed the border from China. They have also suspended all trade across the border with China and have halted major building projects all because of the pandemic. The hits on the economy are serious threats to the Leader's position. Prior to the arrival of Typhoon Bavi, Kim Jong-un called for three major crisis meetings about Covid-19, the coming storm and the need to continue restoration work from flooding earlier in the month.

As if all of this is not enough trouble in the North, there was <u>a massive gas explosion</u> in the city of Hyesan that levelled many houses, left a number of people dead and injured more. It appeared that little, if anything was being done by the authorities in response.

Finally, we continue to be concerned about the civil rights situation in South Korea where the government continues to crack down on North Korean defector and human rights groups as well as continuing its anti-leaflet campaign. Here is a two part article (Part 1 and Part 2) on Voice of the Martyrs Korea and their efforts to get Bibles

into North Korea. Please pray that the Word of God get into this land that <u>cannot stand for knowledge</u> to enter the country.

Remembering Our Brothers in Prison

We've been praying for six <u>South Korean missionaries held in the North</u>, Kim Jung-wook, Kim Kuk-gi, Choi Chun-gil, Kim Won-ho, Ham Jin-woo and Ko Hyun-chul. We are excited to share that a new effort is underway urging that they be repatriated. You can join the campaign by signing the petition <u>here.</u> There are some young men who are <u>on a pilgrimage</u> to raise awareness of the situation. We continue to pray for <u>Daily NK journalist</u>, <u>Choi Song Min (alias)</u>. <u>Here's information</u> on the pastors and others who have been detained and released. Please remember them in your prayers.

Calling our Nations to Repentance

40 days of worship and prayer from September 1st to October 11th calling Korean Christians to return to their first love and to carry the Gospel into all the world. Please check out the 40 Days website.

The Fourth River Project, Inc. - www.thefourthriver.org
See our Prayer for Korea article below, prepared by our colleagues at NGI

09 Korea: Prayers

As we focus our prayers on the Korean peninsula, we share these prayers that have been collated by our friends at NGI:

Dear God, our Father in Heaven!

1. We Pray for North Korea and its People!

'I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.' Phil 1: 20-21



• The North Korean leadership has been more strict on its sanctions like prohibiting the entrance of foreign books, but we fixate our faithful eyes on the ways of the Lord who works above all circumstances humans can merely perceive.

We pray that every family in North Korea gets to own a Bible.

• According to Release International, an international organization that monitors and reports persecution of Christians worldwide, 250,000 prisoners in 14 prison camps are suffering from disease, hunger, and physical abuse, and about 70,000 of them are estimated to be Christians.

We pray that Christian prisoners there never give up on their faithful walk-on following Jesus.

• It has already been 18 years since UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council) endorsed the resolution to denounce the unjust circumstances of human rights in North Korea, but there has not been any promising news or improvements to the situation there. North Korea has continued to develop nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, participate in ongoing extortion, oppression, and persecution all while allowing the decline of the North Korean people's welfare and food provisions.

We, with deeply sorrowed hearts, pray that God pours just, righteousness, and knowledge of God in North Korea.

As COVID-19 lingers, Jangmadang (North Korea's marketplace) has been temporarily shut down, and the common people's economy has continued to decline, causing growing hunger and poverty. It is not clear how many are suffering from hunger due to North Korea's exclusivity and extreme secretiveness.

And though it seems as though there is nothing we can do to help, we as believers in Christ CAN and MUST PRAY.

2. We Pray for South Korea and its People!

'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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.' 2 Chron 7:14

- God of Ebenezer, who has always protected South Korea by your big guiding hands, we earnestly seek your forgiveness of our complaints and resentment despite your grace.
- Please forgive our leaders who are corrupted and have fallen into sinful ways; we pray that you enlighten them with your wisdom and revelation so they become pathways of your blessings.
- We pray for your forgiveness of all your people who have left your ways and leaned on their own understanding in their lives.
- Please forgive all the churches who have committed a sin of 'forgetting to pray for the nation and its people.'
- We pray that the crisis we are currently facing turns into an opportunity for peaceful reunification, which eventually becomes the pathway of world evangelization.
- Please help NGI's 'Nehemiah One Million Prayer Petition Campaign. (www.pray4nk.org) Raise awareness of it among those who love North Korea and always remember its people in their hearts. Lead more people to commit to this campaign and lift up their prayers to God.
- We pray that each and every one of 5,455 individuals that have signed up for Pray4NK Campaign would continue to remember the people in North Korea, as God always remembers them, and pray for God's big, mighty hands to work in the lives of North Korean people.
- Our beloved prayer warriors, please spread the word about NGI's prayer petition campaign. (www.pray4nk.org) Invite your family members, friends, whoever is around you who can be one in heart and pray for the souls and the difficult lives of the people in North Korea.

10 Afghanistan: Government Releases 100 'Dangerous' Taliban Prisoners

Afghan officials say they have released about another 100 Taliban prisoners as part of a prisoner swap meant to clear the way for the start of peace talks between Kabul and the Taliban.

Afghan officials have described the remaining prisoners as the most dangerous, accusing them of masterminding attacks on embassies, public squares, and government offices, killing thousands of civilians in recent years.



The release of 400 Taliban prisoners was approved last

month at a consultative Loya Jirga in Kabul. Eighty of them were released last month.

The decision came more than five months after Washington and the Taliban made the release of prisoners by both sides a condition for the talks between the militant group and Kabul.

A government official who did not want to be named told RFE/RL on September 1 that the release of the prisoners will be completed in the next few days and that talks between the government and the Taliban will begin in Qatar.

The official said the process could be completed by September 2 and that an Afghan government delegation will immediately travel to the Qatari capital of Doha for negotiations with the militant group.

The release of the prisoners is the last hurdle to opening peace talks between the internationally backed government in Kabul and the Taliban under a peace deal signed in February between the militants and the United States.

More: https://www.rferl.org/a/afghan-government-releases-100-dangerous-taliban-prisoners/30815295.html?ltflags=mailer

Pray that this release along with reciprocal releases by the Taliban will lead to fruitful peace talks.

Pray that these hardened militants will be supernaturally prevented from taking up arms again.

Pray for all sides to take this situation seriously and for the right people to be appointed to the High Council for National Reconciliation.

Pray for the people of Afghanistan who have suffered for so long, that they will know lasting peace and that their nation will once again prosper.

Prayer News & Events:

11 Lou Engle's Call for a 40-Day Hinge of History Fast for America

September 2nd - October 11th

When there is no hope for a nation, when there is no remedy, God still has a holy prescription, "Blow the trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast..." That was the clarion sound God gave to us to mobilize TheCall DC on September 2nd, 2000. 400,000 people heard that sound and gathered to a vision born out of a prayer I prayed in 1999. That prayer was, "How can I turn America back to God?" September 2nd, 2020 is the 20th anniversary of that historic gathering and we are now at a hinge of history moment far surpassing the urgency of that day 20 years ago. The holy prescription has never been rescinded.



Last night the Lord rekindled the fire of that fast again in me through a dream. In the dream, President Trump and I were having a very heartfelt and intimate conversation. I could feel his vulnerability, almost yearning for me to enter into his moment of aloneness and crisis as he carried America on his heart. With deep emotion, I responded, "I am going to pour out my soul for you and America on a 40 day fast starting September 2nd!"

Recently I had been asking the Lord if I was to once again call a 40 day fast for America. I was hesitant because I've called so many fasts. I felt at that moment, a casual approach to the prophetic brings casualties. When God speaks, how dare one raise up any reasoning against it. What if this fast could be the tipping point moment for the answer to that prayer I prayed 20 years ago. Who knows? As it was in the book of Joel an abandonment to the prophetic is fraught with uncertainties but is this not the risk of faith where heroes arise from the dust of obscurity?

William Wilberforce said, "God has set before me two great objectives - the abolition of the slave trade and the reformation of manners." God has set before me two great objectives - God, end abortion and send such a great communion revival to America that the color line is washed away in the blood.

To that end, I expend my strength and pour out my soul. So I am compelled once again to blow the trumpet and call a fast. I cast my bread on the waters of the hearts of the thousands of those who ran with The Call for the past 20 years. I know there will be those hear the Nazirite fasting sound once again, and risk everything to become the hinge of history. From Sep 2nd - Oct 11th.

Watch the video here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdITNPNrE-o

Please sign up to follow our prophetic history (I will daily share our 35-year story and biblical reasoning that leads to my conviction that this revival and election season is the most important since the days of Abraham Lincoln, the civil war, and the abolition of slavery.)

More at: https://louengle.com/hinge-of-history/

Lou Engle Ministries www.louengle.com



12 Australia: National Solemn Assembly 26-27 Sept

For the Healing of the land

We invite the people of Australia and other Indigenous Elders to join with us in as we seek Gods face according to 2 Chronicles 7:14, and Joel 1:14, 'for the healing of the land'.

"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 I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14



"Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly; Gather the elders And all the inhabitants of the land Into the house of the LORD your God, And cry out to the LORD." Joel 1:14

We have been working towards a National Solemn Assembly for the last ten years. This is the moment we have been waiting for. We are praying for 'times of refreshing' and the 'healing of the land' as the scripture says in Acts 3:19, "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

The 'times of refreshing' from the presence of the Lord that Peter the Apostle is talking about is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that is found in Acts 2:1-21 That is what Australia needs.

We are praying that Australia will get a revelation of the love of God through Jesus Christ. Matthew 18:20 gives us the key, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name there am I in the midst of them."

We thank the National Council of Churches Australia and the National Day of Prayer & Fasting and other groups who are helping to facilitate the National Solemn Assembly on behalf of the First Nation People.

We encourage you to pray together in your churches, in your homes and on the hills as we lift our nation up before God.

Join us as you are able on Zoom between 9AM – 9PM any time on both days at: https://zoom.us/j/776881184

Yours for our Nation
Ps Peter Walker
www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au/Solemn-Assembly



13 IPC Calendar



2020 a year of evangelism across the

https://advance2020.org/

40 Days of Worship & Prayer (Korea) 1 Sept - 11 Oct https://en.40dayworshipandprayer.com/

40-Day Hinge of History Fast for America 2 Sept - 11
Oct

https://louengle.com/hinge-of-history/

SEAPC: Celebrating His Goodness & Crossing Over - 10

Sept 0600 Myanmar

Zoom: 964 8184 5381 / Code: 525200

Global 911 Prayer for America - Sept 11 - 1200 UTC www.youtube.com/damailahindonesiaku

Preparing a Dwelling Place / The Trumpet's Call Sept 17, 2020

www.watchmen.org/

10 Days: 18-28 September 2020

www.10days.net

World Prayer Together Call - Sat 19 Sept - 1200 UTC

www.worldprayertogether.com

Preparing a Dwelling Place Sept 24, 2020

www.watchmen.org/

The Return: 25-26 September 2020

www.thereturn.org

Australia: National Solemn Assembly 26-27 Sept www.nationaldayofprayer.org.au/Solemn-Assembly

Preparing a Dwelling Place / The Emerging Ecclesia Oct 1, 2020

www.watchmen.org/

Preparing a Dwelling Place / The Sound of Desire Oct 8, 2020

www.watchmen.org/

National Prayer Assembly (USA), Washington, D.C., October 14-15

www.nationalprayerassembly.com

Contend! - 21 Days of Prayer for Global Mission 4-25 Nov 2020

www.globalmmi.net

Movement for African National Initiatives – Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 8-12 March 2021

https://maniafrica.com/category/prayers/

UPRising Events Calendar

UPRISING Chile – November 2020 (Date TBA)

GLOBAL UPRISING Manila, Philippines, Nov 2021 www.unitedprayerrising.com

UPRISING MINDANAO (Mindanao, Philippines)-- dates

- UPRISING BUKIDNON (Northern Mindanao)
- UPRISING CARAGA (Butuan, Bislig, and Surigao)
- UPRISING DIGOS (Davao Del Sur)



- UPRISING CENTRAL

MINDANAO (South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, and General Santos)

FB: United Prayer Rising Mindanao

FB: United Prayer Rising North Mindanao

IG: @uprisingmindanao

Resources

14 'The Return 10 Day Prayer Plan' Download

The Return 10 Day Prayer Plan has been produced by 10Days.net and theReturn.org as part of the 10 Days of Prayer taking place between September 19 and 28th 2020.

HOW TO USE THIS PRAYER PLAN

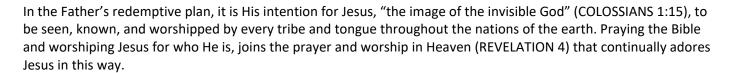
Every day we start with a Prayer of Adoration. Why do we pray this way?

It's been said that "A picture is worth a thousand words." When we are able to "taste and see" God (PSALM 34:8), our hearts are alive because we can both receive love from Him and give love to Him.

receive love from Him and give love to Him.

IN ADORATION WE:

- Praise His character.
- Acknowledge His attributes.
- Describe His beauty.
- Worship Him as Savior.



REPENTANCE is our acknowledgment that we are not where He is, but want to turn from our ways to align with Him.

INTERCESSION is agreement with what God has promised to do.

Why do we anchor our prayer and intercession in the Bible?

- The Bible is God's language, the language of His heart, the language of Heaven.
- The Bible is positive in nature and encouraging to our spirit and renewing to our minds.
- The Bible is faith-filled and has no doubt or unbelief.
- The Bible creates unity in God's people as we pray and worship from it.

MEDITATION focuses on our 'take away

Download your copy of the 10 Day Prayer Plan!



15 Book / EBook: God and the Pandemic – Tom Wright

A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and its Aftermath. Tom Wright is one of the best Theologians of our time and gives biblical insight to the chaos of the pandemic right now.

Tom examines these reactions to the virus and finds them wanting. Instead, he invites you to consider a different way of seeing and responding – a way that draws on the teachings and examples of scripture, and above all on the way of living, thinking and praying revealed to us by Jesus.

Some join in the chorus of blame and condemnation: 'It's the fault of the Chinese, the government, the World Health Organization. . .'

- For Christians looking to understand the coronavirus crisis
- Tom Wright offers a Bible based way to respond to events right now
- You'll find a way to live through and tackle the effects of COVID-19

Available from Amazon as paperback and Kindle / Download / Audio Book By Tom Wright, Paperback, 88 pages.



16 Prayers for the Bibleless - 21 Day Prayer Series

As you read this, God is transforming lives through Bible translation... and not just in foreign lands. Every day, people like you are experiencing God's power as they actively pray for the projects they support. This is your invitation to share in the experience through our 21-day prayer community.



The Story of God

Experience God's Love first-hand through the power of His Word. Each day, you'll receive great ideas for listening to and reflecting upon Scripture.

His Word

Discover creative ways to apply the message of each day's passage as you pray for the Bibleless.

Pray for the Bibleless

Engage with a dedicated community as you faithfully pray for those who still wait to hear of God's love for them.

Start the Seed Company 21 Day Prayer Series

About IPC

17 About International Prayer Connect (IPC)

OUR VISION:

"Compelled by God to seek Christ's glory worldwide for the blessing, healing, and transforming of the nations, International Prayer Connect exists as a coalition of prayer networkers and mobilizers working together to motivate, develop and equip national movements and local churches to fill all nations with prayer for the fulfilment of the Great Commandment and the completion of the Great Commission."



HOW WE OPERATE:

The IPC is not an organization as such. We are a fellowship of people involved in mobilizing prayer throughout the world. We function as an international "network of networks", connecting international, regional, and national prayer ministries and networks. We also arrange or support special prayer initiatives that bring prayer leaders together from time to time to pray for matters of regional and global concern to the Body of Christ. Regional prayer summits have been arranged or supported by the IPC in most regions of the world as well as international prayer initiatives for the United Nations, Hollywood, and other issues.

The IPC is led by an international leadership team, now called the International Prayer Council, is composed of twenty leaders who coordinate regional prayer networks or international prayer initiatives of various kinds. We seek to be catalysts and connectors within the global prayer movement towards the fulfilment of Habakkuk 2:14- that "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

We do not have an official membership but connect with individuals and networks through IPC Connections, a periodical newsletter distributed via e-mail to give prayer information to interested people. Please share this newsletter with prayer coordinators, prayer network leaders, and others who have an interest in the global prayer movement so that they can be informed about different prayer initiatives, existing prayer networks, and how to participate in them.

18 Credits

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