

# 30 Ways to Pray for People in Authority

(navpress.com)

Scriptures quoted are from the NIV Bible

1. **That they would be God fearing and recognize that they are accountable to Him for each decision and act** (Proverbs 9:10) – *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”*
2. **That they be granted wisdom, knowledge, and understanding** (James 1:5) – *“If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.”*
3. **That they be presented with the gospel and a loving Christian witness** (Romans 10:14) – *“How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?”*
4. **That if unsaved, they be drawn to a saving encounter with Christ; if born again, they be strengthened and encouraged in their faith** (I Timothy 2:1-4) – *“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—<sup>2</sup> for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. <sup>3</sup> This is good, and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.”*; (Ephesians 1:17-23) – *“<sup>17</sup> I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit<sup>[a]</sup> of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup> I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”*
5. **That they recognize their own inadequacy and pray and seek the will of God** (Proverbs 3:5-8) – *“<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;<sup>6</sup> in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>7</sup> Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and shun evil.<sup>8</sup> This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.”*; (Luke 11:9-13) – *“<sup>9</sup> ‘So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Which of you fathers, if your son asks for<sup>[a]</sup> a fish, will give him a*

snake instead? <sup>12</sup> Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

6. **That they will be convicted of sin, transgression, and iniquity** (Psalm 51:17) – “<sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is<sup>[a]</sup> a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.” (John 8:9) – “<sup>9</sup> At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there.”
7. **That they heed their conscience, confess their sins, and repent** (Proverbs 28:13) – “<sup>13</sup> Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.” (James 4:8) – “<sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”
8. **That they read the Bible and attend prayer meetings and Bible studies** (Psalm 119:11) – “<sup>11</sup> I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.” (Colossians 3:2) – “<sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”
9. **That they value and regard the 10 Commandments and the teachings of Christ** (Psalm 19:7-11) - <sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the LORD are trustworthy, making wise the simple. “<sup>8</sup> The precepts of the LORD are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light to the eyes. <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the LORD are firm, and all of them are righteous. <sup>10</sup> They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup> By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward.” (John 8:31-32) – “<sup>31</sup> To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’ ”
10. **That they will respect and honor their own parents if living** (Ephesians 6:2-3) – “<sup>2</sup> ‘Honor your father and mother’—which is the first commandment with a promise—<sup>3</sup> so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.’ ”<sup>[a]</sup>
11. **That they respect authority and practice accountability** (Romans 13:1-7) – “<sup>13</sup> Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup> Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has

*instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. <sup>4</sup> For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. <sup>6</sup> This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. <sup>7</sup> Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor."*

**12. That they be given godly counsel and God-fearing advisors (Proverbs 24:6) –**

*"<sup>6</sup> Surely you need guidance to wage war, and victory is won through many advisers."*

**13. That they be honest and faithful to spouses and children (Malachi 2:15-16) –** *"<sup>15</sup> Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring.<sup>[a]</sup> So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth. <sup>16</sup> The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect,"<sup>[b]</sup> says the LORD Almighty. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful."*

**14. That they be practicing members of local congregations (Hebrews 10:25) –** *"<sup>25</sup> not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

**15. That they desire purity and avoid debauchery, pornography, perversion, and drunkenness (I Corinthians 6:9-20) –** *"<sup>9</sup> Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>10</sup> nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>11</sup> And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. <sup>12</sup> I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but I will not be mastered by anything. <sup>13</sup> You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup> By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. <sup>15</sup> Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup> Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh."<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>17</sup> But whoever is*

*united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.*<sup>[c].</sup><sup>18</sup> *Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.*<sup>19</sup> *Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;*<sup>20</sup> *you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.*” (Titus 2:12) – <sup>12</sup> *It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age”*

16. **That they be timely, reliable, and dependable** (Matthew 21:28-31) - <sup>28</sup> *“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’*<sup>29</sup> *“‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.*<sup>30</sup> *“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.*<sup>31</sup> *“Which of the two did what his father wanted?” “The first,” they answered. Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you.”*
  
17. **That they be honest in financial, tax, and ethical matters** (I Corinthians 6:10) – <sup>10</sup> *nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.”* (I Timothy 6:6-10) – <sup>6</sup> *But godliness with contentment is great gain.*<sup>7</sup> *For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it.*<sup>8</sup> *But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.*<sup>9</sup> *Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.*<sup>10</sup> *For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.”*
  
18. **That they seek pastoral care and counsel when needed** (Hebrews 13:7) – <sup>7</sup> *Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.”*
  
19. **That they seek out and nurture godly friendships** (Psalms 1:1-3) – <sup>1</sup> *Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers,*<sup>2</sup> *but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.*<sup>3</sup> *That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.”*
  
20. **That they have thankful and teachable spirits** (Romans 1:21) – <sup>21</sup> *For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.”*

21. **That they be generous and have compassionate hearts for the poor and needy** (Psalm 112:9) – “<sup>9</sup> *They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever; their horn<sup>[a]</sup> will be lifted high in honor.*”
22. **That they redeem their time and know priorities** (Ephesians 5:15-17) – “<sup>15</sup> *Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.*”
23. **That they desire honesty, integrity, and loyalty** (Psalm 26) – “<sup>1</sup> *Vindicate me, LORD, for I have led a blameless life; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered. <sup>2</sup> Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind; <sup>3</sup> for I have always been mindful of your unfailing love and have lived in reliance on your faithfulness. <sup>4</sup> I do not sit with the deceitful, nor do I associate with hypocrites. <sup>5</sup> I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked. <sup>6</sup> I wash my hands in innocence, and go about your altar, LORD, <sup>7</sup> proclaiming aloud your praise and telling of all your wonderful deeds. <sup>8</sup> LORD, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells. <sup>9</sup> Do not take away my soul along with sinners, my life with those who are bloodthirsty, <sup>10</sup> in whose hands are wicked schemes, whose right hands are full of bribes. <sup>11</sup> I lead a blameless life; deliver me and be merciful to me. <sup>12</sup> My feet stand on level ground; in the great congregation I will praise the LORD.” (Proverbs 11:3) – “<sup>3</sup> *The integrity of the upright guides them, but the unfaithful are destroyed by their duplicity.*”*
24. **That they have courage to resist manipulation, pressure, and the fear of man** (Proverbs 29:25) – “<sup>25</sup> *Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD is kept safe.*” (2 Timothy 1:7) – “<sup>7</sup> *For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.*”
25. **That they be shielded from occultism, New Age cults, false religions, and secret societies** (Isaiah 1:29) – “<sup>29</sup> *You will be ashamed because of the sacred oaks in which you have delighted; you will be disgraced because of the gardens that you have chosen.*” (Isaiah 2:6) – “<sup>6</sup> *You, LORD, have abandoned your people, the descendants of Jacob. They are full of superstitions from the East; they practice divination like the Philistines and embrace pagan customs.*”
26. **That they be presented with biblical worldviews and principles** (Ephesian 3:10) – “<sup>10</sup> *His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms,*”
27. **That they endeavor to restore the sanctity of life, families, divine order, and morality in our nation** (Ephesians 5:22-6:4) – “<sup>22</sup> *Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. <sup>23</sup> For the husband is the head of the wife which he is the*

Savior. <sup>24</sup> Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything. <sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her <sup>26</sup> to make her holy, cleansing<sup>[a]</sup> her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup> and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. <sup>28</sup> In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup> After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— <sup>30</sup> for we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.”<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>32</sup> This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup> However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. <sup>2</sup> “Honor your father and mother”—which is the first commandment with a promise— <sup>3</sup> “so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth.”<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>4</sup> Fathers,<sup>[d]</sup> do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.”

28. **That they would work to reverse the trends of humanism in our nation** (I Chronicles 12:32) – “<sup>32</sup> from Issachar, men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do—200 chiefs, with all their relatives under their command;” (Isaiah 59:19) – “<sup>19</sup> From the west, people will fear the name of the LORD, and from the rising of the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the LORD drives along.<sup>[a]</sup>”
29. **That they desire humility and meekness and be willing to serve and cooperate** (John 13:14) – “<sup>14</sup> Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet.” (Titus 3:1-2) – “Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, <sup>2</sup> to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and always to be gentle toward everyone.”
30. **That they be prepared to give account to Almighty God** (Hebrews 9:27) – “<sup>27</sup> Just as people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment,”