

## **PRAYER SHIFTS ATMOSPHERES & CHANGES CULTURE — ONE HEART AT A TIME!**

When praying for our communities, let's begin by thanking the Lord who is "guarding the city" right now! Psalm 127:1 says, "Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman keeps awake in vain."

### **1. Pray for Spiritual Awakening in the Churches in your Community.**

Pray the Scriptural prayers found in Eph 1:15-21, 3:14-21; Phil 1:9-11; Col 1:9-12, 4:12; 1 Thes 3:10-13, 5:23; 2 Thes 1:11-12, 2:16-17, 3:1-5; Phil 4-6; and Heb 13:20-21. When you pray these Scriptures, insert the name of churches in your community, asking God to bring the fullness of Jesus' life into each church. Remember the example of Epaphras, a servant of Christ who "wrestled in prayer" for the Christians that lived in three cities – Colosse, Laodicia, and Hierapolis (Col 4:12).

### **2. Pray Against the Spiritual Strongholds of Darkness Over Your Community.**

Ephesians 6:12 teaches of the constant spiritual battle in the heaven lies.. actual strongholds that the enemy has over geographic areas. (see also Dan 10:10-13). Command the "rulers, authorities, powers of this dark world, and the spiritual forces of evil" in the north, south, east, and west of your city to "give up" those people held in spiritual bondage (see Is 43:5,6). Praise the Lord that people will come to Jesus from the four sections of your city. (Lk 13:29)

### **3. Pray For the Leadership and Authorities in Your Community**

The Mayor, the City Council, Police Chief, School Board, etc. Find out who is currently serving, write it down, and pray for them by name. 1 Tim 2:1-4.

### **4. Ask God to Bless Your Community.**

"Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted" – Proverbs 11:11

The greatest blessing God can send is Jesus Christ, who will turn people from their wickedness, and bring them salvation. Acts 3:26.

### **5. Pray for the Welfare of Your Community.**

"...seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Jeremiah 29:7

### **6. Pray for the People of Your Community to Turn to God.**

God causes heart-change, one person at a time. Collectively that can change a community. Remember Nineveh changed (read Jn 3:1-10) and Samaria did, as well. (John 4:39-42).

### **7. Pray for Peace Within Your Community and for the Prosperity of the Community.**

This can start with peace within your own heart and the hearts of each individual, and it will multiply from the inside-out. Psalm 122:6,7

### **8. Pray for Your Community to Support Righteousness and Goodness.**

"When the righteous prosper, the city rejoices; when the wicked perish, there are shouts of joy." Proverbs 11:10

### **9. Pray for Your Community to be a Testimony of Righteousness.**

Matthew 5:14,16

### **10. Pray that Your Community Would Recognize the Time of God's Visitation.**

Luke 19:41-44

Adapted from a devotional found on Give Him 15 from Intercessors of America. These prayer points came from Bowie, Maryland on their website Turn on the Light Bowie.