

EXCERPTS from ChristianAnswers.Net's on-line suggestions...

...on how to pray about the terrorist tragedy of September 11 and the events that have followed



Though we are faced with difficult situations, start with praise. Focus on God's divine character. Praise God that He is sovereign, that He has ultimate control over all, and that nothing takes Him by surprise (Isaiah 45:5-7).

On behalf of yourself and others, ask God for a passion and love for Christ that **DRIVES OUT FEAR** (1 John 4:18).

Ask God to use these events to bring unprecedented **SPIRITUAL OPENNESS** to people—a hunger for God and His truth. Ask God to reveal Himself in a special way to them. Pray that Christians will quickly respond to each spiritual need.

Ask God to **BLESS THE MINISTRY** that has been thrust upon the church to help those affected by the terrorist attacks and the war. Ask Him to empower them with a powerful witness when they are called upon to act on these issues, or speak about them.

Ask God to focus the minds of public officials and the military on the **NEED FOR PRAYER** and God's wisdom in dealing with the challenging difficulties and decisions before them.

Ask God to stand against Satan's attempts to make people experience unresolved **ANGER OR GUILT** over the loss of loved ones and friends, or a desire to seek revenge. Dear God, we know that you are a God of **JUSTICE**. The people who killed so many in these plane crashes are at this very moment, suffering for their evil. Justice will be served, if not in this life, then in judgment for those who are not covered by the grace of God through Jesus.

Pray that those **ARABS AND MUSLIMS** who are innocent of these attacks will not be blamed or physically harmed.

Thank God that he will use for **GOOD**, what Satan intended for harm. (Gen. 50:20-21) Ultimately, our battle is not against flesh and blood, but against spirits and principalities of wickedness in high places. (Eph. 6:12)

Thank God for the people who will be **DRAWN TO SEEK GOD'S FACE** because of the overwhelming nature of these events leaves them nowhere else to turn. Thank Him for the opportunities He is opening around the world for Christians to help others in His name.

God of faithfulness, we come to You in anguish after the targeted attacks on our nation. We are filled with anxieties and questions. What words of supplication can we bring before You, what prayer, what deeds?

God, we need Your grace to center our minds and settle our hearts.

We need Your hope to sustain our passion for justice and our will to be peacemakers. We need Your wisdom to help us recognize your presence dwelling within us and within every being you have made.

We need your courage to live as children of light, hope and love, putting away all darkness, fear and hatred.

Take from us all longing for vengeance. Fill us with compassion for victims of violence in New York, Washington, Pennsylvania and throughout the world.

Give us a love that is not withheld even from our enemies. Grant that our leaders may act justly.

Be with us in our prayer. Help us to truly believe, not only in Your abiding presence, but also in the power of prayer to move mountains.

Pull us from the grasp of violence. Guide our steps in Your way of peace. Amen.

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Thank God for a vivid REMINDER of your own mortality and vulnerability, asking Him to prepare your heart and spirit for a faithful response when you are faced with tragedy.

In the midst of great tragedy, terror and fear we must be courageous enough to LOVE God and Truth above all other things. Carry the light of love and peace in our hearts for all those who are suffering. Pray for those who live in darkness for their hearts have never known Light, Love or Peace. If we hold HATE in our hearts, then there will be no room for love. Dear Lord, you know that this country needs COMPASSION right now! And that true Christianity holds the only true demonstration of compassion through the Hope that is in you, dear Jesus Christ. Please give each one of us the determination and grace to be lights shining out your love unto the world around us, through our actions, our deeds and prayers.

Ask God to bring REPENTANCE AND REVIVAL to America. Dear Father, we know that America has strayed far from your mandates. There is much sin—great rebellion against you and your laws. We remember Israel long ago. You withdrew your protection from their nation when they became very sinful and rebellious against you Lord. But you promised, “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Chr 7:14). I pray that you will mightily throughout the United States to bring conviction of sin and repentance—a great revival. I confess my own sin in your sight and repent of it. May revival begin with me. From this day forward, I want to live a more holy life—a life in your service, dear God. Please work in me, and in our America.

Father in heaven, hear the prayers of your people this day. Comfort the grieving; comfort your people, heal America. Awaken America to its need of you—awaken OUR hearts to pray and intercede for a REVIVAL of godly sorrow, repentance and new commitment to you. May a revival of righteousness sweep across our land. Bring America back to God, In Christ’s Name, Amen.

There are many people to keep in your prayers at this time, including, but not limited to the following:

the recovering victims of the terrorist attacks, and for the families of all who have been injured or killed

the relief organizations and missions who are charged with helping those in need

the U.S. President, his aides and advisors

the recovery workers

all those who have been charged with protecting lives from further terrorism

the military personnel who have been called to fight terrorism

the children of Afghanistan who are suffering starvation, repression, and danger

the unsaved souls in Afghanistan, as well as the Christians there

the Christian missionaries in Muslim areas around the world who are providing physical and spiritual aid, despite the threat of violence and death

all people who are suffering loss of employment and economic hardships due to these events