

Prayer for Government Leaders

Dear Father,

We thank you that you call us to live together under the rule of law and under the leadership of governments of every kind. We look to your word in the Bible that says: I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and *for* all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; I Timothy 2:1-3

We are grateful for this strong word of guidance from a writer in an age when rulers could be good or bad and when the people had little or no say about who ruled or how they ruled. Therefore, give us the grace to pray for the good and the bad leaders alike, those we agree with and those we disagree with, as your Spirit empowers and leads us.

We stand on your promise that you can guide all those in leadership positions as it says in your Word, The king's heart *is* in the hand of the LORD, *as* the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will. Every way of a man *is* right in his own eyes: but the LORD pondereth the hearts.

To do justice and judgment *is* more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice. (Proverbs 21:1-3 KJV)

And so Father we pray for our government leaders that they will have guidable hearts. Help them to have a true sense of service. Fill them with a healthy realization that although they may exercise earthly power, You are ultimately in control of all destiny including theirs.

Fill them with a desire to obey the law of love which transcends all man-made laws. Grant them a desire to serve justice rather than convenience or personal political advantage.

Surround our government leaders with good advisors. We pray the grace of Proverbs 19:20 for them, "Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end. We pray that you will add to their wisdom the gift of patience as it says in Proverbs 19:11 "The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and *it is* his glory to pass over a transgression."

And we pray these men and women will be quick to pray, quick to deliberate and quick to seek advice. Help them to be slow to speak or act on impulse, out of anger, pride, greed or desires to strengthen their own power and control.

We pray that our government leaders will establish domestic peace and prevent evil doers from prospering as it says in your Word, "A wise king scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them." (Proverbs 20:26KJV) "Kings detest wrongdoing, for a throne is established through righteousness." (Proverbs 16:12) "*It is* an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is established by righteousness ." (Proverbs 14:34 KJV) Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin *is* a reproach to any people. Guide our leaders in defending our communities from threats of lawlessness within our borders and from outside of our borders.

But most of all, give our government leaders a deep and abiding faith in you. We claim these promises for them today, "Love and faithfulness keep a king safe; through love his throne is made secure." (Proverbs 20:27 NIV)

"When a man's ways are pleasing to the Lord, he makes even his enemies live at peace with him." (Proverbs 16:7) Give our leaders a strong, trusting relationship with Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd that our leaders might in turn be truly good shepherds of their flock You have entrusted to them.

We pray in the name of Christ the Everlasting King, Amen.