



# THE COVERING - PRAYER GUIDE

## QUARTER 3, 2018

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## Arts & Entertainment

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To reveal truth and beauty, and to advance the Kingdom of God through creative expression.

### Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry - Exaltation of man or creation

### SUICIDAL SPIRIT

**Pray that the spirit of suicide will be bound in the arts and entertainment industry.** Suicide has always been more prevalent among artists and entertainers than the general population. A recent study found that artists are up to 4 times more likely to commit suicide. Lack of healthy relationships and access to excessive drugs and alcohol are thought to contribute, but ultimately it is the enemy who comes to steal, kill, and destroy that is behind it. Recently, the deaths of fashion designer Kate Spade, and TV personality Anthony Bourdain brought this issue to a focus.

- Pray that the enemy who seeks to steal, kill, and destroy the lives of artists and entertainers would be revealed and bound.
- Pray that Greater Philadelphia artists would find abundant life in Jesus, the only true source of hope and lasting joy.
- Pray that artists and entertainers would seek out and find healthy relationships to anchor them.
- Pray for the power of alcohol and drug addictions to be broken in the lives of artists and entertainers.

*Scriptures: John 10:10, Romans 15:13, 1 Corinthians 10:13-14, James 4:7, 1 John 2:16*

### MEEK MILL

**Pray that the perfect will of God would be done as it concerns Meek Mill.** Philadelphia rap artist turned national star, Robert Williams (aka Meek Mill) has received a lot of national attention from his recent run-ins with the judicial system. The alleged injustices he faced caused many to respond, including rapper JAY-Z, Governor Wolf, and the Eagles & Sixers franchises. Mill has stirred local controversy in the past, but is now finding himself on a national platform.

- Pray that the Lord would arrest Mill's heart and that he would come into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- Pray that Mill's life would be used to shine a light on any corruption or injustice.
- Pray God would be glorified in Mill's life and that he would be a righteous voice for those who don't have a voice.

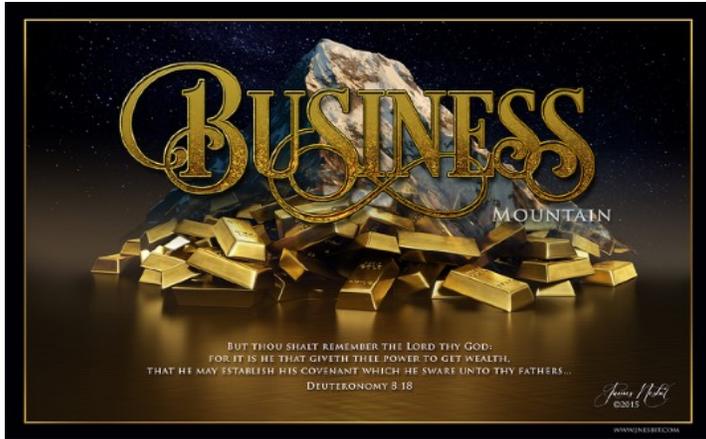
*Scriptures: James 1:17, Matthew 5:14-16, Titus 2:7-8, Proverbs 13:20, Ephesians 6:20*

### SUMMER CONCERTS

**Pray that the summer music and arts performances would glorify God.** Summer months bring a huge influx of artist and entertainers who are on tour to Philadelphia. Major acts from all over the nation will pass through our city to release what they carry at concerts, festivals, etc.

- Pray that doors will be opened to those who release the light, and closed to those who would release darkness.
- Pray that those who attend these concerts and festivals would have unexpected Holy Spirit encounters.
- Pray that artists who stop through our city, even for a day or two, would be impacted with Father's love, and carry it with them to every other city they visit.

*Scriptures: Exodus 25:40, Habakkuk 2:14, 2 Chronicles 2:5-7, Psalm 101:3, Colossians 3:1-2*



## BUSINESS

### MOUNTAIN

#### Redemptive Purpose:

Wealth to establish God's covenant

#### Primary Stronghold:

Greed, mammon, poverty.

### MINORITY BUSINESSES

**Pray for the favor of God on minority businesses.** Of the top 10 major metropolitan areas, Philadelphia ranked ninth in the number of minority-owned businesses, with 15.7 percent. When measured by annual revenue, however Philadelphia ranks 24th of the 25 fastest-growing minority business cities. By contrast, Forbes' Diversity Index analysis ranked Philadelphia number three among cities with the most vibrant minority start-up ecosystems.

- Pray for sound business planning, capital investors and strategic networking for existing minority businesses and start-ups.
- Pray community leaders and property owners recognize and support contributions minority businesses make to community growth.
- Pray minority businesses recognize the Lord as their source, and operate in the spirit of wisdom, understanding, counsel, and power.
- Pray the Christian community strategically support minority businesses in their neighborhoods.

*Scriptures: Luke 14: 28-30, Haggai 2: 8, Proverbs 3: 9-10, Psalm 86: 9, John 13: 34-35*

### AFRICAN-AMERICAN OWNED BANKS

**Pray to strengthen Philadelphia's African-American banking community.** According to the FDIC, there were 54 African-American owned banks in 1994. Now, there are fewer than 25. Philadelphia has just one of these. Despite growth in the number of Black-owned businesses, average revenue was less than \$77,000 annually because white-owned banks have limited access to business development loans. According to Philadelphia Business Journal, this lack is hurting Philadelphia.

- Pray increased investments into Philadelphia's only African-American owned bank by other lending institutions.
- Pray an increased investment by churches, small businesses and citizens both within and outside of the African-American community, and pray for strategies that would encourage banks to invest in the Black community.
- Pray revelation of strongholds blocking the intended destiny of Philadelphia as city of African-American prosperity.
- Pray for the start-up of new African-American lending institutions, and that the African-American banking community be a model of biblical principles and become an example to the nation.

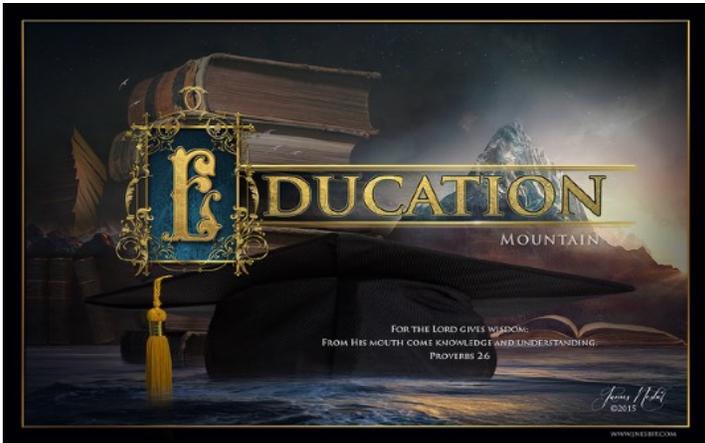
*Scriptures: Luke 19: 15-23, Luke 14: 28-30, Genesis 41: 46-49, 2 Corinthians 9: 8*

### BELIEVERS IN THE MARKETPLACE

**Pray for Daniels and Josephs to be raised to positions of influence and authority in the marketplace .** Proverbs states that when the righteous are in authority the people rejoice. Of the top 100 economies in the world, 69 of them are not countries, but businesses. The market place is a critical leverage point of authority and influence in all societies.

- Pray for understanding of the Kingdom role Daniels and Josephs serve and support for those already functioning in that capacity.
- Pray they have access to high-level officials who are gate keepers of the world's systems and their counsel will be sought.
- Pray they cast vision for the alignment of the market place with ministry, inspire humility and draw secular leaders to Christ.
- Pray young Daniels and Josephs arise with strategies to engage Millennial businesses and business leaders.

*Scriptures: Daniel 1:17-20, Daniel 2: 20, Genesis 41:37-40, Luke 2:52, Matthew 28:18-19, James 4:10, Genesis 12:1-3, 1 Chronicles 11:6*



## EDUCATION

### MOUNTAIN

#### Redemptive Purpose:

To teach the truth of God and His Word

#### Primary Stronghold:

Satan - the father of lies (John 8:44), pride, secular humanism

### SUMMER RECESS

**Pray for rest, love and compassion to manifest during the summer months.** Summer recess is a much-needed break for students, teachers and administration. It is also a time when many children may not be under proper supervision. This coupled with periods of high temperatures sometimes leads to violence in more populated areas. According to a 2010 study of violence from 1999 to 2004 published in the journal "Weather, Climate and Society," hotter temperatures correlated to higher amounts of aggressive crime, especially domestic violence and non-aggravated assaults - attacks involving no weapon and no serious injury.

- Pray for physical, mental, emotional and spiritual rest for all stakeholders in education: Students, Teachers, and Administration
- Pray for students to have constructive outlets for both their time and energy during the summer break.
- Pray for brotherly love to be displayed during summer-recess, especially during the days of high heat index.

*Scriptures: Hebrews 4:9-11, Proverbs 16:32, Romans 12:19-21, Leviticus 19:18*

### SUMMER EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

**Pray deep friendships and connections are made between staff and students. Pray children who are brought to camps do not feel abandoned but loved and valued. Pray that Believing staff and students can share the Love and redemption of Jesus with others in a more natural setting. Let it be a time of great harvest.** During the summer, many students return to school properties for summer camps. Some of these programs are specifically designed for the Learning Disabled and for those who need Emotional Support.

- Pray against the Abandonment Spirit and the Orphan Spirit
- Pray students feel valued and loved by their families and teachers
- Pray for emotional, spiritual and physical healing for the students.

*Scriptures: Romans 8:15, James 1:27, Romans 8:19, James 5:15*

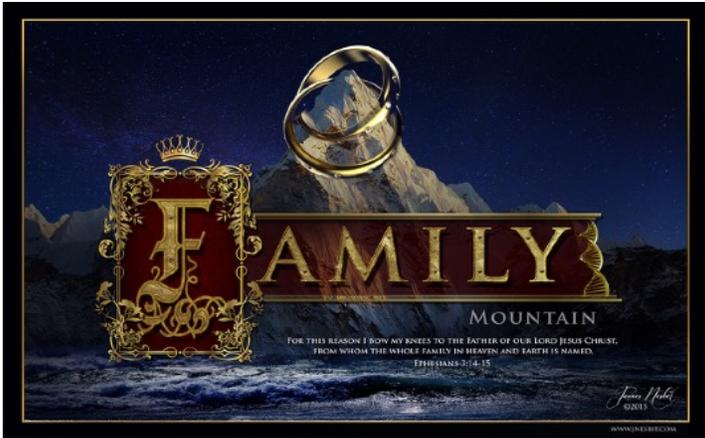
### RETURN TO SCHOOL

**"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." G.K. Chesterton**

Students have become accustomed to teachers not staying at their assigned schools, which fosters disrespect toward incoming teachers and abandonment in the hearts of students.

- Pray that students will accept and respect the newest staff in the school.
- Pray teachers and administration exemplify and teach Godly virtues to the next generation
- Pray Believing educators arise and be a witness to their students.
- Pray Believing students are not ashamed of the Gospel and display faith in Jesus to their peers
- Pray for protection from violence including physical and emotional acts

*Scriptures: Psalm 91, 1 Timothy 4:12-13, Proverbs 1, Romans 13*



## FAMILY

### MOUNTAIN

#### **Redemptive Purpose:**

To demonstrate the unconditional love of God

#### **Primary Stronghold:**

Rejection (real or perceived)

### FOSTER CARE

**Pray for the urgent need for more foster homes (resource parents) and that believers would be at the forefront of meeting the biblical mandate to care for widows and orphans.** A federal judge will rule in July on a suit by Catholic Social Services contending the city violated its religious freedom when it suspended its contract to provide foster care because the agency will not work with same-sex couples. The ruling will determine whether CSS can continue providing foster care, but most significantly, lawyers for CSS are arguing that caring for children in need was “church work” long before it was “city work”. A win would establish case law in support of this. Pray for a court ruling in favor of Catholic Social Services.

- Pray for a deeper revelation regarding God’s plans for caring for children in need and how to align with it.
- Pray for increased commitment by the church to fulfill this need and NOT rely on the government.
- Pray for more Christian families and singles signing up to provide safe and loving environments.

*Scriptures: James 1: 27 NLT, Deuteronomy 27: 19, Psalm 146: 9, Isaiah 1: 17, Psalm 82: 3*

### OPIOID CRISIS

**Pray for those trapped in substance abuse issues, especially opioids (John 8:34-36).** The opioid crisis continues to be the number one health and human issue in Philadelphia with the highest per capita death rate of any large city and an increase of 34% during 2017, compared to a national increase of 21%. Recent analysis shows new hotspots emerging in South Philadelphia, Northeast Philadelphia and West Philadelphia. For these reasons we will continue praying about this issue.

- Pray those pouring drugs into the city and manufacturing them here will be caught.
- Pray community activists and aid workers are protected from retaliation from drug dealers.
- Pray strength and protection from relapse for those coming out of rehab.
- Pray for more effective drug treatment programs to be raised up in Philadelphia and the expansion of Teen Challenge, Victory International Home and other Christian programs and facilities.

*Scriptures: Matthew 10: 26, Psalm 91, Proverbs 18: 10, Hebrews 4:15-16, 1 Corinthians 10: 13-14*

### HOUSING

**Pray for the turn around of the Philadelphia housing crisis.** Whether it is housing for the homeless, for addicts displaced by the removal of heroin camps in Kensington, or the eviction epidemic; housing is an issue in Philadelphia. Housing costs rose 22% between 2016 -2017 which is a challenge for the 47 % of city residents who live in rental properties and have not had an increase in income to match.

- Pray for more programs like Pathways to Housing that provide homes for people who are chronically homeless / addicted to opioids.
- Pray for an additional 2000 beds needed to provide housing for the homeless.
- Pray wisdom for City Council as they consider incentives for developers to create more affordable housing.
- Pray wisdom for the City Hall task force assigned to find a solution for the eviction epidemic.

*Scriptures: Proverbs 19: 17, Isaiah 32: 18, Isaiah 58: 7, Acts 17: 26, Leviticus 25: 35-37*



## Government

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To rule and legislate with righteousness and justice

### Primary Stronghold:

Anti-Christ spirit, pride, corruption

### MIDTERM ELECTIONS

**Pray that God's candidates are chosen in elections free of contention and voter fraud.** Some have declared this midterm election will be the most important in our nation's history, with one pundit even calling Pennsylvania "ground zero". Although the election is four months away, we need to be praying for it now in order to see God's purposes come to pass.

- Pray revelation of accurate and non-partisan information that will enable voters to align with God's truth and not parties or personalities, and a campaign/election free of lies or slander.
- Pray for a huge turnout of voters who have discernment and wisdom to elect officials committed to righteousness/justice.
- Pray for physical protection for all candidates and their families as well as the nation itself during this campaign season.
- Pray the Lord removes those who might try to incite violence during campaigns or unjustly change voting outcomes.

*Scriptures: Proverbs 3: 21-23, Isaiah 28: 17, Ephesians 5: 15-17, Psalm 20: 1, Deuteronomy 3: 22, 2 Chronicles 19:2, Psalm 1:1, Exodus 18:21, 2 Samuel 23:3, Mark 12:30*

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

**Pray for a "civic accelerator" that can prepare Christians to engage in the marketplace and participate in government.**

Civic accelerators are organizations that bring like-minded people together for lessons on the ins and outs of running for office and engaging in community building as activists, directors of NGO's or entrepreneurs. There are several that operate in Philadelphia, but none that represent a Christian world-view. If we are to have an impact on government, we must know how.

- Pray that those in Philadelphia whom God has prepared to found a civic accelerator with a Christian world-view step into their assignment and that civic accelerators for volunteers be established.
- Pray Holy Spirit draw those in the region who are called to participate in government and engage in the market place and connect them together.
- Pray the Christian community connects with secular activists who are having a positive impact on the community to build relationship and learn how to mobilize churches and ministries more effectively.

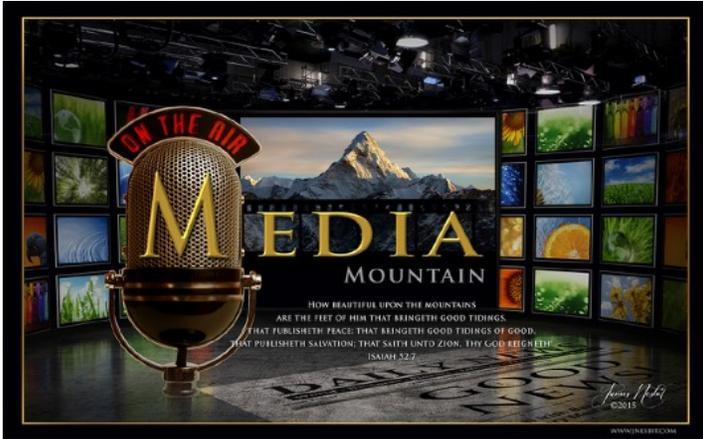
*Scriptures: 2 Timothy 2: 15, 1 Peter 1: 5-10, 1 Peter 4: 10, Deuteronomy 16: 18, Romans 13: 1-5, Exodus 18: 21*

### JUSTICE

**Pray that Godly justice prevails in the many issues facing our city and nation.** Sharp divisions exist on many political issues. The Church is divided as well - the border/immigrant issue, for instance, some support Zechariah 7:9 and Micah 6:8, others site Psalm 74:17 or Ezekiel 47:13. To our finite minds it has to be one or the other, to God it is both and.

- Pray for deep revelation of our region as God would have it and how we can do our part in bringing about transformation, Godly justice and understanding.
- Pray God demonstrate His justice and that we all have eyes to see it.
- Pray "both and" prayers, that compassion and mercy prevails in the midst of upholding the law.
- Deepen our concern about justice issues and our commitment to actively work for change.
- Pray we maintain respect for and relationship with those whose convictions are different from our own, as the enemy of God would use justice issues to divide us.

*Scriptures: Psalm 3:5-6, Amos 5:24, Matthew 5:38-39, Romans 12:19, Isaiah 61:8-9, Luke 6:37, Jeremiah 9:23-24*



## MEDIA MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

To share the good news of the gospel and the Kingdom of God through uncensored, unbiased truth

### Primary Stronghold:

Fear, terror, and manipulation of truth

### “KINGDOM” JOURNALISM

**Pray an example of “kingdom journalism” is raised up in Philadelphia to be a model for the nation.** Philadelphia is known for several “firsts” regarding media. Now we need another one - a new kind of journalism that reaches all people, inspiring us to actively participate in restoring God’s original intent, and become part of God’s solutions to the conditions in our culture. Studies show that “solution journalism” which discusses effective solutions to problems, leads to more favorable attitudes towards the news than when no solution was mentioned. “Transformative Journalism” focuses more on positive news to engage readers. But both forms are often used to manipulate. God has a form of “Kingdom Journalism” that needs to come forth to inspire Godly action among Christians and non-Christians alike. This could be another “first” for Philadelphia.

- Pray for God to raise up Christians journalists with the passion for truth and inspiring others to action.
- Pray for a revelation of what “Kingdom Journalism” looks like so the vision can be shared.
- Pray for a “start up” media such as a radio or TV show in Philadelphia that promotes only positive local news to inspire others to act and government to make additional investments into what’s bearing fruit.
- Pray for greater favor and influence for existing Christian media, that their message be Biblical and that they work together in harmony.

*Scriptures: John 8:32, Proverbs 12: 22’ 23:23, James 2:14,17, Isaiah 32:3, Zechariah 8:16, John 14:6, John 16:13*

### POSITIVE IMAGE OF PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA

**Pray God’s purposes for Philadelphia are reflected in the narrative that will soon be developed.** Numerous articles in various Philadelphia media have reported that change agents are actively looking for a narrative to define / describe Philadelphia because both funding and the ability to attract talent to the region depend on the narratives that people tell themselves about our city. According to Brookings Institute, all Philadelphia lacks to become a “tech hotbed” is a “story”. We want this story to reflect God’s intent and purposes.

- Pray for revelation of God’s truth about Philadelphia through the Spirit of Truth.
- Pray all false narratives of the enemy of God are rejected.
- Pray the language of this narrative captures the hearts and minds of the people so they can embrace God’s purposes.

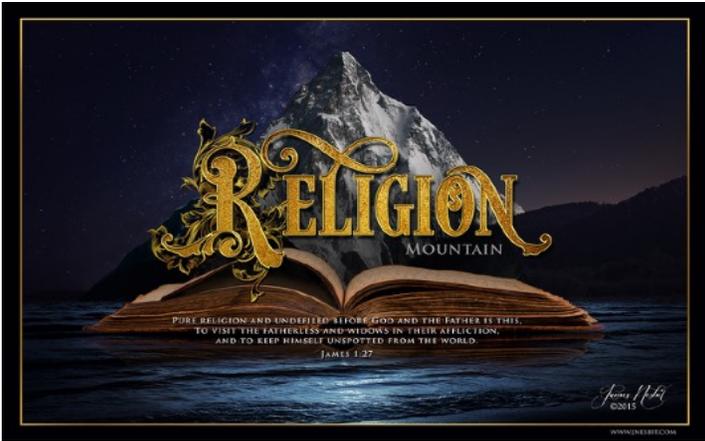
*Scriptures: Habakkuk 2:2, Proverbs 18: 21, Hebrews 11: 10, Isaiah 26: 1, Isaiah 60: 1-2*

### TRUTH

**Pray that truth and unbiased reporting will become the standards for all forms of media in Philadelphia.** Given the increasingly inflammatory language in the press and in social media, we will continue to pray that truth and unbiased reporting become the standards for all forms of media in Philadelphia and across the nation.

- Pray that all deception in media be exposed, expelled, and replaced with truth.
- Pray for the church of Phila. and public to unify to hold the media accountable for reporting absolute truth.
- Pray for strategies to deal with fake news and media manipulation on social media.
- Pray that believers would be discerning and not share fake news stories.

*Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Matthew 6:33, Zechariah 8:16, Psalm 15:1-3; 45:4; 86:11; 99:4, Proverbs 22: 20-21*



## RELIGION

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

### Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry that steals worship from God

### SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE

**Pray that the church of Philadelphia walk the line of representing the agape love of God without compromising laws and virtues of God (Ephesians 4:15).**

- Pray for Holy Spirit wisdom on how to engage with various 'hot button issues', including staying out of media and social media 'traps' regarding such issues (Matthew 10:16).
- Pray for the Church to be fully aligned with the heart of God in loving people, but confronting behaviors that lead to death (Proverbs 16:25).
- Declare that the Church of Greater Philadelphia is abiding in the Word of God and allowing it to flow from us as a sanctifying stream (Luke 6:45).

*Additional Scriptures: John 17:17, Colossians 3:16, 1 John 5:16-17, Titus 3:9, 2 Timothy 2:14-16, 2 Timothy 2:23-24, Joshua 5:13,14*

### FOCUS AND STEADFASTNESS OF THE CHURCH

**Pray that the Church be focused on loving the Lord with all our heart/soul/mind, loving our neighbor as ourselves and standing strong in the Great Commission (Matthew 22:37-40).**

- Declare that God is making the Church in the Delaware Valley steadfast, immovable, victorious and abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58).
- Pray that the Church prioritizes the presence of God and ministering to Him above all other things (Luke 10:41-42).
- Declare that the Church is focused on the mission at hand to reach the community and please the Lord of Hosts (2 Timothy 2:4)

*Additional Scriptures: Acts 17:21, Psalm 1:1-3, Romans 8:5, Hebrews 12:1-2, 1 Peter 5:8, Luke 9:51*

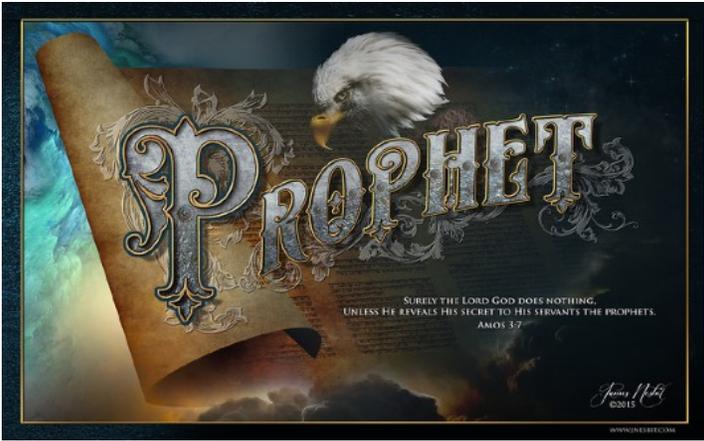
### AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY

**Pray for the American Bible Society to have great grace and favor in the fulfillment of their mission (Habakkuk 2:14).**

ABS is a 200+ year old ministry with a focus on helping people to engage with the Scriptures. They are in the process of establishing an interactive space, called the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center (FLDC), where visitors can come to see the Bible's impact on the founding of our nation. One of their core missions is to see 100 million people daily engaging with the Scriptures in the US.

- Pray for fundraising to be completed (currently about 5/6th complete) for the FLDC and for building to start on schedule (Philippians 4:19).
- Pray for the FLDC to be a memorial stone (like in Joshua's day) to the work of the Lord in our nation and for it to be a place where the story of William Penn can be told properly (Joshua 4:4-7).
- Pray for the Father's heavy hand of blessing to be on ABS as they seek to adhere to biblical principles in all they do, while still bringing together diverse streams of the Church and interacting with the community (Isaiah 43:10).

*Additional Scriptures: Zechariah 4:1-10, Psalm 119:13, Romans 1:16-17, 2 Corinthians 9:8, Psalm 77:10-12*



## GENERAL PROPHETIC

The following are prophetic perceptions gleaned from a time of prayer and sharing of several respected leaders in the Greater Philadelphia region. The points below are areas where many were sensing the same thing from the Lord.

### DESTINY

**Pray for the different ethnicities in The Greater Philadelphia area to fulfill their God ordained destinies (Revelation 5:9).** Philadelphia is a beautifully diverse place with many different nations represented. God has a plan for nations to fulfill in order to bring forth the fullness of His purposes. Although Philadelphia is a highly diverse city overall, many individual neighborhoods are highly segregated.

- Pray for All Tribes Philadelphia - a gathering (August 31st and September 1st) lead by First Nations (Native American) believers with the intent of every tribe and tongue coming together in Philadelphia to bless our nation (Revelation 7:9).
- Pray that racial wounds be healed so that the different ethnic groups can bless one another and cause the Body of Christ to be made strong by what every joint supplies. Declare that walls of offense and separation are coming down! (Eph 2:14-18)
- Pray for righteousness and justice to flood our region like a mighty river, and declare perfect love is casting out all fear (Amos 5:24).

*Additional Scriptures: Ephesians 4:3-7, 1 John 4:18, Isaiah 2:2-4, Acts 17:26-27, Acts 10:34-35*

### WISDOM

**Pray that believers across the Delaware Valley would receive specific action steps to implement new vision from the Lord as they walk more closely with Him (Ephesians 1:17).** In this new season, many have received new vision from the Lord. However, wisdom is needed for carrying these plans out effectively.

- Declare that God is releasing His wisdom to those who are asking - liberally and without reproach (James 1:5).
- Pray for the collapsing of old, unhelpful structures and the establishment of new Kingdom structures. Declare the new way breaking forth of streams in the desert (Isaiah 43:18-19).
- Declare we are receiving wisdom and revelation that transcends what we have seen and known in past seasons (1 Corinthians 2:9-10)

*Additional Scriptures: Ephesians 3:20-21, John 14:25-26, Proverbs 29:18, Habakkuk 2:2-3, Deuteronomy 34:9, 2 Chronicles 1:10*

### PURITY

**Pray for the Church in the Delaware Valley to come to a higher place of purity both in devotion to the Lord and in function in ministry (Romans 12:1-2).**

- Pray for leaders in the Church to come to a place of knowing the Father's love in a deeper way than ever before. Declare that all personal ambition and selfishness is being consumed in the fire of love (Song of Solomon 8:6).
- Pray for the apostolic, prophetic and evangelistic functions to be activated, integrated and harmonized in Churches in the Delaware Valley (Ephesians 4:11-13).
- Declare that the manifold wisdom of God is being revealed through a Church that is ever increasing in purity (Ephesians 3:10).

*Additional Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 11:3, Isaiah 4, Ephesians 3:14-19, James 3:16, Matthew 5:8, 1 Timothy 5:22, 1 John 3:3*