



# THE COVERING - PRAYER GUIDE

## QUARTER 1, 2019

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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

### THE MET

**Pray that the MET PHILADELPHIA would be a place where God would be glorified and the Kingdom advanced.** The MET was built in 1908 and over the years served as an opera house, movie theater, sports venue, vocational school, gospel concert hall, and eventually the Church of the Holy Ghost. Though the historic site was slated for demolition, God gave a local pastor a vision to see it restored back in 1995. The newly relaunched MET is the largest performance stage and theatrical auditorium in the city and is being called the crown jewel of North Broad Street's renaissance.

- Pray wisdom and discernment for all those leaders who are making decisions about the MET and guiding its destiny as a place where Kingdom light will be released.
- Pray for Kingdom minded artists and performers to be drawn to this venue and for the presence of God to be manifest.
- Pray that North Broad Streets renaissance to continue and for everyone in the area to be positively affected by this venue - spiritually, financially, and otherwise.

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

### PROMINENT ARTISTS

**Pray for the salvation and sanctification of prominent national artists.** The battle wages on in the national scene for the hearts and minds of artists with platforms that affect millions. It's hard to put yourself in the shoes of someone under this kind of pressure and scrutiny. We need to continue to come around artists as the body of Christ and love them into the Kingdom and then into the fullness of their destinies - praying the father's heart for them. Specific artists to target in prayer:

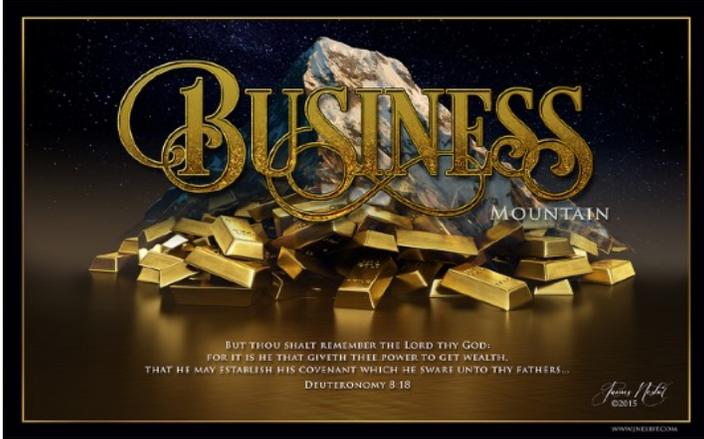
- Pray for Chance The Rapper. He has made bold declarations of faith and recently announced a sabbatical devoted to learning the Word of God. He has a huge national audience as well as a profound influence on fellow artist Kanye West.
- Pray for Justin Bieber. He has been much more vocal about his faith on social media and at concerts. He recently married a Christian fashion model and has stated his intentions to lead his new family with honor and integrity "letting Jesus through his Holy Spirit guide us in everything we do".
- Pray for Lauren Daigle. She came under intense criticism from the church for failing to give a clear response to a question about homosexuality in an interview. Pray that the church would operate in love and that Lauren would gain wisdom on how to navigate these issues.

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

### PHILADELPHIA MURALS

**Pray that murals would testify of the Lord throughout every neighborhood in Philadelphia.** Philadelphia is famous for its murals. With almost 4000 pieces of art painted on buildings, it is called the "Worlds Largest Outdoor Gallery". It has become a tourist attraction as well as a means of community revitalization.

- Pray that the transcendent power of art to bring societal change would be manifest in every neighborhood in Philly.
- Pray that the word of God would be made flesh through new murals that would speak Kingdom truth.
- Pray for Godly artists who release kingdom to be called to this ministry, and for their work to be fully funded. Pray that mural artists would have encounters with the Lord and paint what they have seen in the spirit.
- Pray that any murals that not from God's heart would be painted over and replaced.



## BUSINESS

### MOUNTAIN

#### Redemptive Purpose:

Wealth to establish God's covenant

#### Primary Stronghold:

Greed, mammon, poverty.

### MODERN MEDICINE/MEDICAL MARIJUANA FACILITIES

**Pray for our legislators who are making decisions that will have generation implications.** February 2018, Medical Marijuana became legal in Pennsylvania. June of 2018 one of the first marijuana dispensaries opened up in State College, right near Penn State University. Currently, there is a dispensary on Locust St. and there are 23 permits pending for dispensaries and 12 for "growers" in and around the City of Philadelphia.

- Pray for our state and local government. That the Lord would raise up a remnant of God fearing leaders who will take a stand and preserve the upcoming generations. Pray against the stronghold of greed that would cause legislators to compromise in making the right decision for future generations.
- Pray for those patients who are in need of a miracle and are turning to medical marijuana under the direction of hundreds of Doctors who are providing prescriptions. Pray for them to encounter Jesus the healer.
- Pray for our students who attend local schools and university who are in some ways being targeted by these dispensaries.

*Scriptures: 1 Peter 2:24, James 4:10, Psalms 27:4-6, Phil 2:13, James 5:16, Jer. 33:6,*

### LOCAL JOB CREATION

**Pray for the educational and medical industries partnering to bring jobs to Philadelphia.** In late November of 2018 a combination of Educational and Medical organizations formulated PAGE (Philadelphia Anchors for Growth and Equity) the first city wide initiative with Philadelphia's largest employers to figure out how to use their purchasing power to create more jobs in our city.

- Pray for PAGE and its participants to find a way to stimulate the local economy including small businesses. Pray for PAGE to be a blessing to our City!
- Pray for the pioneers of this initiative to remain committed and fulfill its vision and mission as well as its desire to see small businesses in our city have an opportunity to compete against larger scale companies with much more capital.
- Pray for the Lord to give Christian small business owners strategic insight to steward these opportunities in a way that would contribute to Kingdom expansion.

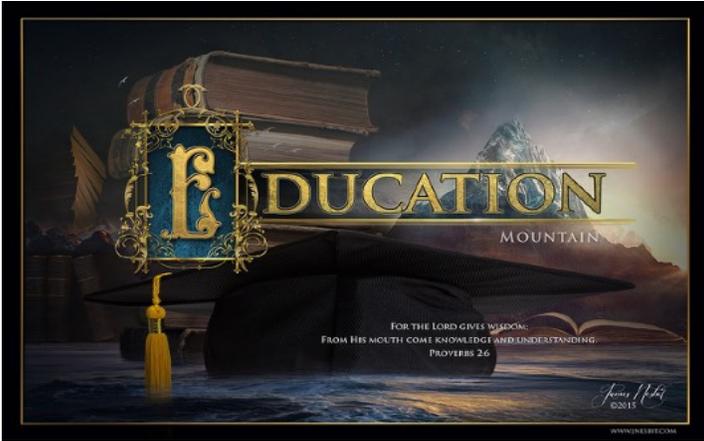
*Scriptures: Gen. 2:15, Luke 16:10, Proverbs 16:6, Psalms 112:5, Jer. 22:13, Proverbs 10:4*

### PHILANTHROPY, MILLENNIALS AND GEN Z

**Pray that Philadelphia philanthropic foundations will increase their investment in children and youth.** Philanthropy began in Philadelphia even before the city was formally founded, primarily as an outgrowth of Christian faith and sense of civic duty of the Quakers. It included providing for the poor, libraries, schools and hospitals and often focused on the development of children into productive citizens who gave back to the community. But according to Philadelphia Magazine, there is a giving crisis in Philadelphia and it is impacting services to all sectors.

- Pray for a resurgence of philanthropy among major businesses to replace foundations that have relocated to other cities.
- Pray that foundations and NGO's include Gen Z/millennials on advisory boards of funding organizations and non-profits.
- Pray for increased education for millennials and Gen Z on the value of charitable giving.
- Pray the Christian business community establish a collaborative network to provide financial support for young artists and entrepreneurs, and for the development of young Christian leaders and articulate thinkers/influencers.

*Scriptures: 1 Timothy 6: 18, Acts 20: 35, Matthew 6: 2, Proverbs 22: 6, Ecclesiastes 11: 1*



## 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

### SCHOOL VIOLENCE

**Pray against violence in the schools of Greater Philadelphia.** Since 1999, more than 220,000 students have experienced gun violence in their schools. Locally, violence against teachers and administrators by students and parents is increasing.

- Plead the blood of Jesus in the schools to release peace and to break down walls of hostility between all parties. *Ephesian 2:14-18*
- Pray that their conversations would become seasoned with grace. *Ephesians 4:25-32*
- Pray that teachers will not be bystanders in witnessing violence in school and would repent if they themselves are perpetuating guilt, shame, and violence in the schools in ways similar to how the Pharisees brought the adulterous woman to Jesus. *John 8:1-11*
- Raise up teachers that can respond to violence in schools the way Jesus did with the adulterous woman.

### TRAUMA

**Pray against the harmful effects of trauma.** A majority of students in school districts have experienced trauma, which affects students' ability to learn from their teachers.

Student Grief Groups: More than 100 schools offer grief groups to support students who have experienced trauma and violence.

- Prayer for the spirit of wisdom and revelation to encounter the students in their grief groups. Ask Holy Spirit to give transformative power to the discussions and activities that are conducted in the grief groups. Protect students from receiving words and thoughts that would trigger foolish and risky behaviors
- Pray against the spirit of deaf and dumbness plaguing students that would cause them to mentally and emotionally disconnect from learning.
- Pray that teachers would fast and pray and find the power to overcome this spirit and to be prepared to receive students and provide them with wise counsel.

### BUILDING CONDITIONS

**Pray for improvement in building conditions and adequate funds to do so.** In September 2011, ceilings collapsed at Academy at Palumbo. In December, teachers began signing a petition about building conditions, requiring 3000 signatures of unionized teachers for the petition to go public. Many have suggested ending the 10-year tax abatement to help alleviate the issue of funding Philadelphia schools.

- Pray for the proper reallocation of financial resources (not necessarily from the tax abatement), to fund school districts properly.
- Pray against all attempts, earthly and spiritual to siphon off funds from the schools.
- Pray that the Spirit of the Lord will fall on Christian organizations and contractors that will carry the burden of school building conditions and offer their services to the district. (Isaiah 61:1-5)



## FAMILY

### MOUNTAIN

#### **Redemptive Purpose:**

To demonstrate the unconditional love of God

#### **Primary Stronghold:**

Rejection (real or perceived)

### HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Pray for a reduction in the homeless population, particularly among children/ youth.** According to the Office of Homeless Services, Philadelphia averages 15,000 homeless. One recent “night count” found nearly 600 homeless and unaccompanied young people ages 13 to 25, as a result of family displacement, running away from abuse, aging out of foster care or because they were pushed away due to their life style.

- Pray safe, caring people and places for each of these “invisible” children/youth.
- Pray that the resources available for children/youth through the Office of Homeless Services, Philadelphia School District and other organizations are better promoted and utilized.
- Pray for increased funding and support for Covenant House and other organizations providing housing, safe spaces and other services to transition youth out of the street, along with new facilities.
- Pray the Philadelphia School District improve advocacy for homeless children/youth so none fall through the cracks.

*Scriptures: 1 John 3: 17-18, Leviticus 25: 35-36, Deuteronomy 15: 11, Philippians 4: 19*

### HUNGER

**Pray that the spirit of Brotherly Love becomes so alive in the hearts of Philadelphians that they individually and collectively commit to ending hunger in the city.** According to one of many articles, jobs are so few and wages so low that 1/3 to 1/2 of households with children are “food insecure”, an increase of 22% in three years, while the national hunger rate is going down. North, Southwest and West Philadelphia are most affected, and across the city, 22% of the children go without adequate food, which impacts their learning and behavior.

- Pray support for Philabundance and other food distribution organizations.
- Pray for more “pay what you can” food centers, and neighborhood food exchanges.
- Pray the body of Christ will increase their commitment to ending hunger with each church finding a way to help: donate food or money, host a food drive, staff a food pantry, or provide job training for better paying jobs.

*Scriptures: Matthew 25: 35, Isaiah 58: 10, Proverbs 28: 27, Deuteronomy 15: 7*

### TRAUMA

**Pray for an understanding of how trauma is one of the root causes of the socio-economic crisis in Philadelphia and how to effectively deal with it.** A recent Inquirer commentary calls trauma the root of the struggle children face growing up in Philadelphia with its high poverty, persistent violence, racial division and poor educational opportunities. Trauma makes it difficult for children to concentrate and absorb new information or respond appropriately to stress.

- Pray for revelation on traumas impact on the lives of children/youth; strategies that individuals and churches can use to cancel its effects and bring healing at the community level.
- Pray for an interconnected network of organizations committed to dealing with the causes and effects of trauma, under strong leadership and with specific, achievable goals.
- Pray for trauma training programs for area schools and day-care facilities, as well as education for parents and others who can help children/youth heal from and overcome trauma.

*Scriptures: Psalm 23: 1-6, 1 Peter 5: 7, Joel 2: 25, John 14: 26, Psalm 147: 3*





## 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

PUBLIC ACCESS TV AND RADIO (<https://phillycam.org>)

**Pray that PhillyCAM, Philadelphia's public access TV, becomes a vehicle for a broader range of radio and video media initiatives created by the Christian community and including youth and young adults.** The goal of PhillyCAM is to make and share media that promotes creative expression, democratic values and civic participation. In 2017, 15,000 Philadelphians participated in one of the many classes on media production. Currently there are 75+ shows weekly.

- Pray for an increase in the number of Christians with a vision to use public access TV and radio to reach the regional community and beyond with God inspired programming.
- Pray favor for Christian programming with the boards that approve and schedule programs.
- Pray that the quality and subject matter of Christian programming will open doors to main-stream media and a wider audience for the messages they communicate.

*Scriptures: Philippians 4: 8, John 12: 32, Psalm 96: 2, Mark 16: 15, Psalm 90: 7*

COMMUNICATING WITH THE YOUNG ABOUT MEDIA HABITS

**Pray parents and influencers become knowledgeable about the media habits of Gen Z'ers (born after 2001) and how to communicate effectively with them.** "This is the first generation we've ever seen that is being mentored entirely by their peers around the world and not by the generation that came before them ... It is the loneliest generation with the highest suicide rate ... Parents need learn to communicate with them." Main Line Parent Magazine "Research shows parents are still at the core of developing news interest and patterns of consumption ... by example, not by words." [journalistsresource.org](http://journalistsresource.org)

- Pray parents and others in the lives of children have a heart revelation about how media is shaping them and make a commitment to reversing its negative impact.
- Pray prayer strategies, resources, and support are made available for families dealing with negative impact of media.
- Pray God encounters for children and youth to counter messages they hear from social media.
- Pray to bind spirits of death and destruction away from children and youth.
- Pray parents and influencers commit to being positive role models re social and news media.

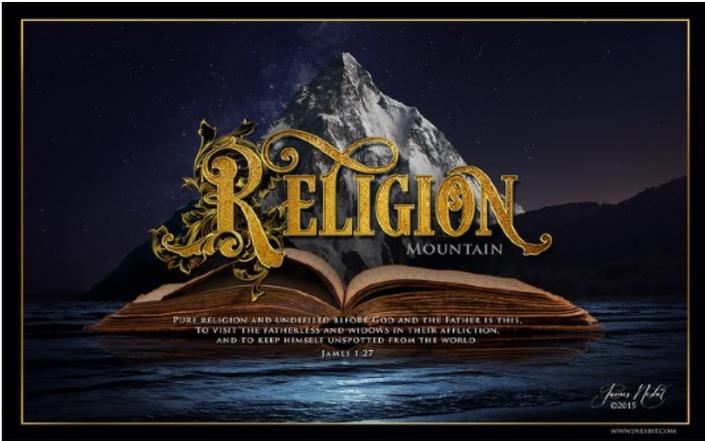
*Scriptures: Psalm 112: 7, 2 Timothy 4: 18, Titus 2: 7-8, 1 Corinthians 11: 1, Proverbs 22: 6*

CHRISTIAN MEDIA COLLABORATIVE

**Pray for the development of a Christian media collaborative in Philadelphia.** Secular media collaboratives have found that by working together, journalists and their news organizations are able to leverage their strengths, resources, expertise and community connections. In Philadelphia this could mean Christians uniting around common ground issues and providing balance and Godly wisdom to the discussion.

- Pray for a visionary at the top of the Christian media mountain to initiate discussion of a local collaborative that connects regional media outlets on specific initiatives to advance the Kingdom, share resources and expand the market.
- Pray for clarity on the best practices that would assure success including: specific goals, individual roles of leadership team, effective communication tools, etc.
- Pray for funding and manpower that would be necessary to start and maintain an effective collaborative.

*Scriptures: Psalm 133: 1, Nehemiah 4: 6, Psalm 27: 17, 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7, 1 Ecclesiastes 4: 9*



## RELIGION

MOUNTAIN

### Redemptive Purpose:

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

### Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry that steals worship from God

## ISLAM

**Pray against the growth & spread of Islam especially in our correctional facilities.**

- Pray for those that were raised in Christian homes but have been deceived.
- Pray for blind eyes to be opened and for the salvation of the prisoners, the COs, and the administration.
- Pray for a move of God in our prisons and pray for the Church behind bars, that their light would shine brightly!
- Pray in particular for what God is doing in Graterford prison and let us believe for the inmates to become part of the Covering in Philadelphia.

*Scriptures: Ephesians 4:14, 1 Tim. 2:8 Isaiah 61:1-4 John 14: 9, Proverbs 30: 5-6, John 14: 6, Acts 4: 12*

## CATHOLIC PRIEST SCANDAL

**Pray God's will is done regarding the continued fallout around "predator priests" in the catholic church.**

According to an article in Billy Penn, "more Philadelphia church abuse survivors are coming forth" since the release of the report from the state Attorney General, with the Child and Youth Protection office of the Catholic Archdiocese receiving four times more calls than normal.

- Pray supernatural healing for the victims, as well as follow-up counseling and support.
- Pray for transparency in the Archdiocese, so that it can become a positive example of how to deal with predators and victims of sexual abuse.
- Pray not only for the victims and abusers, but also for the next generation of both. It is said "hurting people, hurt people".
- Pray that the abuse does not get passed along generational lines.
- Pray that those purported to represent God do not turn people away from the true love of God.

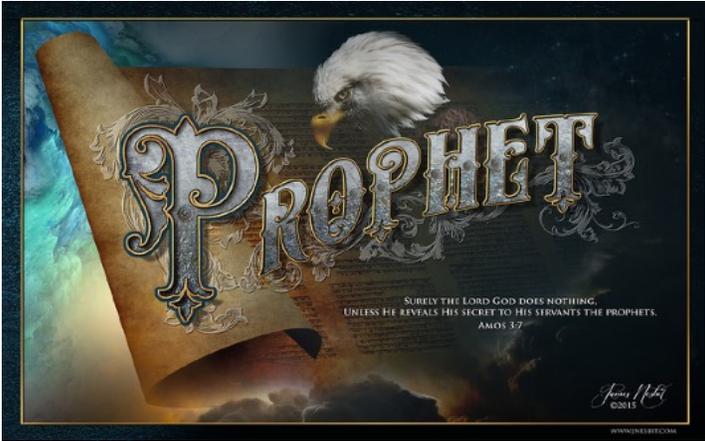
*Scriptures: Daniel 9:16, Malachi 4:6, Mark 9: 42, Isaiah 61: 1-3, Psalm 72: 4, Isaiah 1:17*

## THE NEXT GENERATION

**"There is a generation that knows not the God of their fathers."** The younger millennials (20-28) and generation Zs (today's teens) have fled the traditional church in part because it has failed to deliver on its promise. George Otis, Jr. via The Sentinel Group has compiled an alarming report defining and explaining these emerging generations and their disconnect with God and the church. The youth are absolutely essential to the continuance of the church.

- Pray for the hearts of the fathers (parents) to turn to their sons (children) and the hearts of the sons to their fathers.
- Pray for the church to better utilize social media to speak to these digital generations.
- Pray to be amazed by God in every Christian gathering - "Except you see signs and wonders you shall not believe" - Jesus
- Bind the spirits of sexual and gender identity confusion.
- Pray that in our pursuit to "better" our children with a college education we aren't throwing them to the wolves. Pray for wisdom.
- Pray revelation for church leaders about the urgency of making ministry to children/youth a priority.
- Pray revelation, understanding and wisdom for Christian educators on how to restructure Sunday School curriculum/church experiences so children/youth can discover their God identity and God job.

*Scriptures: Proverbs 22: 6, Ephesians 6: 4, Deut. 8:19. Psalms 9:17 John 4:48*



## 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.

### NEW SEASON

**Pray for Philadelphia's new season.** Many have sensed prophetically that Philadelphia has changed. The Eagles' Super Bowl win was one indication, but even in the natural, the city has been changing over the last 10 years (*Isaiah 43:18-19*).

- Pray for the Church in the Greater Philadelphia area to shift into a new place. Declare we will not be stuck in old ways that are no longer beneficial (*Matthew 15:3-6*)
- Declare a new song is rising in the hearts of the children of God - the new song for the new season! (*Isaiah 42:9-10*)
- Pray for the next generation of leaders (Millennials/Gen Z) to be raised up and set in place in the church. Declare that this new season will be marked by generational synergy and momentum in the Church of Philadelphia (*Malachi 4:5-6*)

*Scriptures: Revelation 21:5, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Colossians 2:8, Psalm 98:1, Revelation 5:9, Psalm 145:4, Isaiah 58:12*

### NEW MANTLE

**Pray Philadelphia embraces the destiny and mantle God has for her.** Philadelphia went from being the capital of the state and nation to being neither. Some have felt this loss of identity is still impacting the city today. Recently, God has been speaking about restoring the mantle of praise for heaviness (*Isaiah 61:3*) and the mantle of the firstborn (*Colossians 1:15*).

- Pray that praise would resound in the streets of Philadelphia and on every street corner (like it did in the time of George Whitfield)! Declare that a praise movement is rising up in Philadelphia that will dispel all heaviness (*Psalm 148: 7-13*)
- Declare that the Delaware Valley is experiencing the joy of moving in Godly destiny and that as more and more come to a place of walking in destiny, it will strengthen the region (*Nehemiah 8:10*)
- Pray that Philadelphia would have eyes to see what role it is to play in God's plan for this nation. Pray that the first capital of the nation would find its redemptive and innovative voice for the glory of God (*Proverbs 29:18*).

*Scripture: Hebrews 13:15, Psalm 109:30, John 10:10, Philippians 4:4-7, Jeremiah 29:11, Psalm 16:11*

### COVENANT RELATIONSHIPS

**Pray for covenant relationships to be strong and fruitful.** Hebrew year 5779 and 2019 both speak of the importance of the fruitfulness of covenant relationships. The enemy will bring testing in these areas, but Father's plan is to bring great blessings and fruit through our covenant relationships (*Genesis 12:3*)

- Pray for individual believers to strengthen their covenant relationship with the Lord. Let all places of idolatry and unholy passions be dealt with (*Mark 12:30*)
- Pray for marriages to be strengthened. Declare that the fruit of these covenant relationships (children) are holy unto the Lord and for His service (*Isaiah 8:18*)
- Pray for covenant partnerships and relationships within the church to be strengthened. Pray for the bond of love to strengthen local churches as well as the Church of Philadelphia (*Colossians 3:14*).

*Scriptures: Exodus 20:3, Galatians 5:16, 2 Timothy 2:22, Matthew 19:4-6, Ephesians 5:33, John 13:34, 1 John 4:20, 1 Corinthians 13, 1 Thessalonians 4:9*