



THE COVERING - PRAYER GUIDE

MAY - AUGUST, 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

PHILLY IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Pray that Philadelphia would have an increasingly positive testimony to the nation(s) as a city. In 2026, Philadelphia plans to host the MLB All Star Weekend. Philadelphia is also making a bid to host the World Cup in 2026. Both of these events would bring national/international attention to the city in the arena of arts and entertainment. 2026 also happens to be the 250th anniversary of our nation, and there will already be much focus on Philadelphia for that reason as well.

- Pray for wisdom and discernment for our city officials as they make plans for these events.
- Pray that the doors would be closed on all negative side effects of these types of events such as increases in human trafficking, etc.
- Pray that Philadelphia would operate in excellence in every way, and that the city would be a light to the nations in the area of arts & entertainment.

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

BILL COSBY

Pray for the Bill Cosby's salvation, repentance and testimony. Bill Cosby, a Philly native, has been a long time icon in the comedy and TV industry. Many folks who have seen Cosby as a role model were shocked when he was convicted of aggravated indecent assault. He is currently serving his sentence in Phoenix Correctional Facility (formerly Graterford) where there is a group of people praying that is part of The Covering.

- Pray that Bill would have an encounter with the Lord, that he would be fully repentant, and that he would be restored to right relationship with his Father in heaven.
- Pray for strength and courage for believers around him to minister to him in this time.
- Pray that all those who were hurt by Bill directly or indirectly would find a place of full healing and wholeness.
- Pray that Bill would have a powerful testimony of God turning his life around and using him to advance the Kingdom.

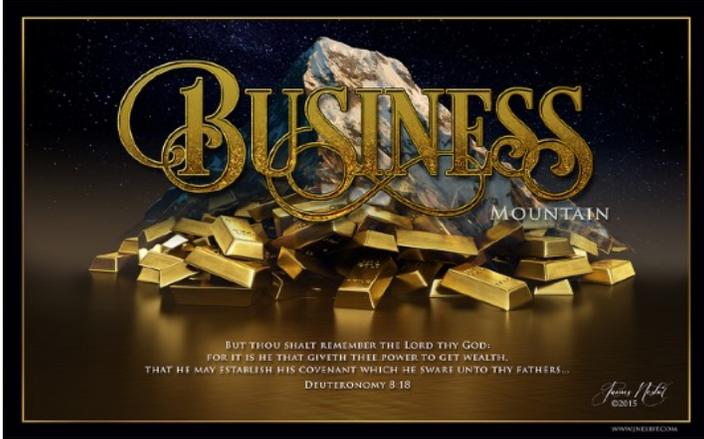
Scriptures: Genesis 1:27, Isaiah 64:8, Psalm 139:13, Romans 11:29, 1 Peter 4:10

ART AT THE AIRPORT

Pray that the artwork at Philadelphia International would glorify God and advance His kingdom. Since its inception in 1998, there have been over 300 exhibits featuring work from local artists at the airport. It is a nationally-recognized, award winning visual arts initiative. Over 30 million people per year travel through PHL from all over the world.

- Pray that God Honoring artists and artwork would have favor in the airport art exhibits.
- Pray that those who curate the exhibits would be drawn to art that uplifts, encourages, and promotes Kingdom values.
- Pray that PHL would be a light to the nations of Earth through these art exhibits.

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.

DEVELOPERS COMMITTED TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Pray developers make a commitment to providing affordable housing and ALL those involved in the building business line up with the purposes of God. Over the last 10+ years, real estate developers in Philadelphia have built high rent housing to meet the need of wealthier residents who have moved into the city; literally flooding the market, and thus causing prices to drop. Meanwhile the lack of affordable housing has raised rent for the bottom quarter of the economy, who are paying the same amount for housing as those in the middle. An additional consequence is increased racial and economic separation.

- Pray the spirit of greed and other hindrances to affordable housing are exposed and replaced by a spirit of generosity among all those involved in building, from developer to union workers.
- Pray the hearts of developers and investors to build affordable housing out of a commitment to the city and its people.
- Pray the grace and favor of the Lord over righteous real estate that becomes a testimony to business people, investors, financial institutions, union bosses and workers, as well as the public.
- Pray that ALL property development in Philadelphia lines up the purposes of God and we become a model for the nation.

Scriptures: Proverbs 24: 3, Jeremiah 22: 13, Amos 5: 11, Hebrews 3: 4, Isaiah 32: 18, Isaiah 58: 12

BUSINESS CORRUPTION

Pray all business related corruption will be exposed and replaced with righteous and just practices. The “cost of doing business” in Philadelphia often requires participating in kick-backs and bending to union demands or suffering the consequences. Unions stifle their competition using strong arm tactics as well as covert conspiracies. Only 17% of shows at the Civic Center choose to return because of union tactics. The only answer for disempowering them is prayer.

- Pray for every hidden thing, every deal behind closed doors, every fraudulent action, and every lie be fully exposed.
- Pray victims of intimidation have the courage to speak up and the guilty are arrested and convicted.
- Pray the fear of the Lord convicts all those involved in corrupt business practices, that their hearts are transformed by the power of Christ and they heed the call of the Lord to salvation and righteousness.
- Pray that Millennial and Gen Z'ers renounce the “Philly shrug” and demand fair and honest business practices.

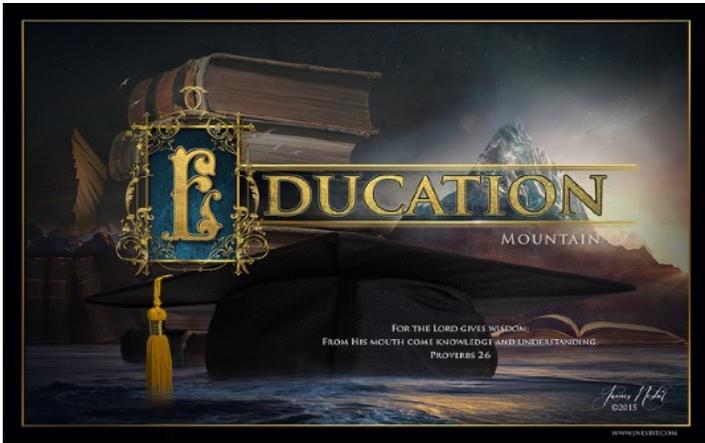
Scriptures: 1 Timothy 6: 10, Micah 6: 8, Ecclesiastes 12: 14, Psalm 7: 9, 1 Corinthians 4: 5, Ezekiel 36: 26

NEW BUSINESS THAT WILL CREATE JOBS

Pray for an increase in jobs that will improve the economic well being of the city and its citizens. It was just recently announced that Jefferson Hospital will be building a new facility in Center City. It's also been announced that the world's first gaming sports complex will be coming to south Philadelphia. Since 2009 Philadelphia has added more than 71,000 jobs and is looking to add many more in the upcoming months and years. Wawa has also been opening stores in the city with several locations opening this year in and around the city.

- Pray for wisdom & integrity for those negotiating on behalf of our city to secure deals with businesses attracted here.
- Pray for favorable outcomes with current deals that will create jobs in our city and help our economy continue to do well.
- Pray for the businesses coming to our city to have a heart for its people, and pray for economic prosperity for those business that implement initiatives to serve the city as evidence of a healthy economy is how it serves the people!

Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 7:14, Jeremiah 29:7, Psalms 112:5, Luke 16:10, Proverbs 21:5



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 PROGRAMS

Pray for the various summer programs offered by educational institutions. University, libraries, clubs, camps, and other organizations are additional educational opportunities for children and young adults in the summer.

- Pray that students traveling to Philadelphia's college and universities will receive the knowledge and wisdom that they are seeking and return as powerful leaders to their communities.
- Pray that God will reveal himself through Christ as all the hidden treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden in Christ.
- Pray for summer reading programs and that the Spirit of God will manifest in our youth and eradicate the fear of reading that is associated with dyslexia in the same way that God dealt with Moses and his speech impediment.

Scriptures: Proverbs 22:6, Isaiah 41:10, 2 Timothy 1:7, Exodus 4:10, Colossians 2:3

TEACHER TRAINING/HIRING

Pray for educators to be raised up. There are more than 110,000 empty teaching positions across the country (double that of 2015), and enrollment in teaching programs have dropped 38 percent between 2008 and 2015. More than 100,000 classrooms have teachers without proper credentials. Because Philadelphia is a teacher city, it important to pray for educators.

- Pray for qualified and credentialed professionals to enter into teaching programs.
- Pray that universities properly screen and train teacher candidates for longitudinal success in the urban classroom.
- Pray that a shepherding anointing would manifest in teachers. Students will know and respond to the voice of their teachers and that students will feel as though they belong to their teachers.

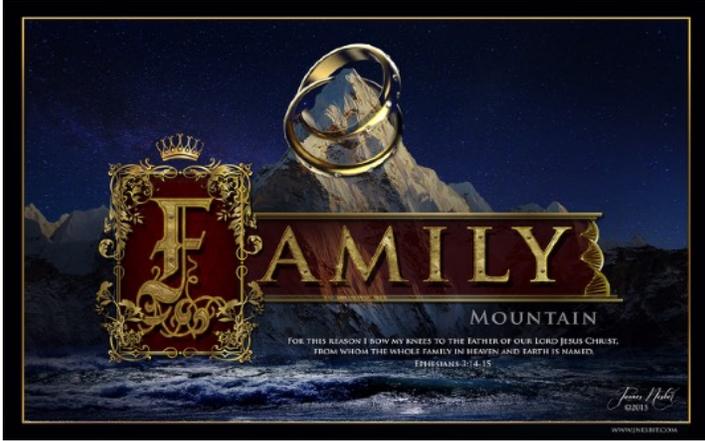
Scriptures: Isaiah 30:20, Hebrews 5:12, Psalm 23, John 10:1-5, Ecclesiastes 7:8

BUILDING CONDITIONS

Pray for adequate school funding. In Philadelphia, property taxes do not generate enough funding. Unused school buildings (such as the original school board building and West Philadelphia High) are converted to tax-abated luxury apartments while existing schools still have poor building conditions. Many have suggested ending the 10-year tax abatement to help alleviate the issue of funding Philadelphia schools.

- Pray that wisdom will be given to contractors to safely modify and restore school buildings without health risks to staff and students.
- Pray for the proper reallocation of financial resources to fund school districts properly.
- 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.

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:1-5, James 1:5, James 3:17, Philipians 4:19, Proverbs 1:7



FAMILY MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

To demonstrate the unconditional love of God

Primary Stronghold:

Rejection (real or perceived)

GENTRIFICATION AND CULTURAL DISPLACEMENT

Pray the Church of Philadelphia seizes gentrification as an opportunity to impact their neighborhoods for the Kingdom of God.

"Philadelphia lost more than 23,000 affordable [housing] units in 14-years, and the trend continues, causing a loss of history and culture and changing the character of the neighborhood." Black neighborhoods are hardest hit, causing a housing crisis and perpetuating racial division.

- Pray City Council and the Planning Commission revisit long range planning and create incentives for developers to preserve the history and culture of buildings and neighborhoods.
- Pray agendas of greed and corruption are exposed and dealt with justly.
- Pray for greater unity among civic groups working for affordable housing and historical preservation as well as other issues.
- Pray churches will innovate meaningful ways to honor our history and culture while advocating compassionate solutions.

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 32: 7, Amos 8: 4-7, Jeremiah 29: 4-7, Genesis 23: 4, Isaiah 58: 9-12

CHILDREN OF PRISONERS

Pray there will be greater attention to the needs of the children of prisoners so they are able to prosper, grow in health and avoid the pipeline from school to prison. More than 10,000 children/teens in Philadelphia, or at least two or three children in every classroom have a parent in prison. Research shows that can be more traumatic than the death of a parent and sets children up for a variety of physical ailments as well as 2X the rate of substance abuse, promiscuity, and suicidal behavior and is especially a problem for the Black community where incarceration is 9 times higher than Whites or Latinos and children are 6 times more likely to end up in prison.

- Pray these children know how much God loves them and experience His presence and comfort.
- Pray for protection from guilt, gossip, and prejudice and for stability in their lives.
- Pray for sentencing alternatives for non-violent offenders that will enable parents to remain a part of their children's lives.
- Pray Christians mentor these children, and partner with agencies like Prison Fellowship and Angel Tree to minister to families.

Scriptures: Isaiah 43: 1, Joshua 1: 9, Isaiah 41: 10, Deuteronomy 31: 6, Psalm 34: 4

CONTINUING OPIOID CRISIS

Pray for the mind of the Lord for decision makers regarding safe injection sites. Safe injection sites continue to be an issue with politicians, medical personnel and activists arguing sites would reduce opioid deaths; opponents claim sites will invite more illegal drugs into neighborhoods. There has been a recent substantial increase in HIV as a result of opioid use.

- Pray the wisdom of God would prevail regarding injection sites.
- Pray the issue of safe injection sites mobilizes more citizens to actively engage in community transformation.
- Pray churches will sponsor the training of former addicts to become recovery counselors.
- Continue praying for seizure of drugs, importers, and protection from retaliation for activists.
- Pray against spirits of addiction that continue to fuel this crisis.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 10: 13, Proverbs 14: 12, Psalm 107:19-20, Romans 13: 1-2, Romans 3: 31



Government

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

To rule and legislate with righteousness and justice

Primary Stronghold:

Anti-Christ spirit, pride, corruption

SANCTUARY CITY STATUS

Pray God's original intent for sanctuary cities be restored and that the spirits of lawless chaos and division are displaced by His presence and Glory. Given Philadelphia's founding as a refuge for people persecuted for their religion, it seems appropriate it is a modern-day sanctuary city with the second largest population of undocumented immigrants on the East Coast (Washington Times, March 2019). However, a spirit of lawlessness has taken over what God intended for good as the desire of immigrants for a better life has been exploited for political purposes, jeopardizing citizen safety and overwhelming municipal budgets and social services.

- Pray for revelation about God's vision of brotherly love, original intent for cities of refuge, and strategies to achieve it.
- Pray that the spiritual darkness behind the lawlessness will be exposed, and deposed as the Kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven.
- Pray that eyes are opened to Satan's schemes, and what the enemy meant for evil will be turned for good.
- Pray those in authority are anointed with Godly wisdom to speak words of peace and blessings to heal the land.

Scriptures: Number 35: 11-15, Leviticus 19: 33-34, 1 Peter 2: 13-17, Romans 3: 31, Romans 13: 2, Ephesians 6:12

CORRUPTION

Pray corruption continues to be exposed, and that the public will no longer put up with it. The "Philly shrug" – the willingness of residents to put up with corruption - has contributed to the "culture of influence" that encourages illegal and unethical practices such as steering city-owned land to campaign donors, and other kinds of patronage; continuing bribery, most recently with DA Seth Williams and Sheriff John Green, as well as compromising the roles of business, cultural and media leaders as civic referees. (The Citizen, July 2018)

- Pray the light of truth shine so that all corruption is exposed and that it will no longer be the accepted way of politics in Philadelphia.
- Pray that public cynicism and apathy are replaced by hope for a political climate of righteousness and justice.
- Pray for the wisdom of up and coming leaders and for constructive ways to make things better, such as term limits for City Council and comprehensive revision of legislation and policies that enable unjust activity.
- Pray God's candidates prevail in the midterm and fall elections.

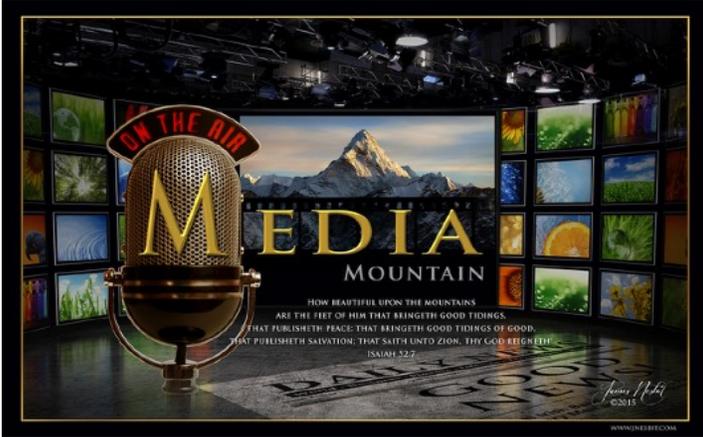
Scriptures: Proverbs 29: 2, Ephesians 5: 11, Hosea 9: 9, Ephesians 4: 22, Ecclesiastes 5: 8, Exodus 18: 21

ELECTION TURNOUT, SECURITY AND INTEGRITY

Pray Christians actively engage in the election process and elections are held without incident. According to the Philadelphia Inquirer (April 2019), there have been hundreds of illegal voters in recent elections, along with fraud among election workers and voter intimidation. As recently as April 2, Councilwoman Quiñones-Sánchez asked the City Commissioners Office to review data related to "highly suspect" 2015 ballots and politicians are already making accusations of voter suppression in anticipation of 2020.

- Pray the proposed platform for fair elections is adopted by candidates for City Commission, the agency that runs elections.
- Pray for election security and integrity, that ballots are accessible, and that poll workers are well trained and supported.
- Pray for champions to continue working for voter ID in Pennsylvania.
- Pray the Body of Christ is convicted to prayerfully seek God and then vote.

Scriptures: Ecclesiastes 1: 15, Proverbs 16: 33, Leviticus 19: 11, Deuteronomy 25: 13-16,



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

MEDIA LITERATE CHRISTIANS

Pray that Christians will grow in their abilities to access, analyze and evaluate information as well as communicate it powerfully. Currently Christians have limited input into the mountains of culture in Philadelphia and the region. By developing a strong “voice” that contributes to a culture of truth-telling, with well articulated ideas, transparency, and responsible discourse, we can change that and “gain a seat at the table” to influence decisions and solve problems for the community.

- Pray Christians will grow in their ability to discern and avoid being influenced by modern propaganda techniques designed to activate strong emotions and discredit them, such as fake news, “clickbait” and disinformation.
- Pray Christians will be intentional about crafting language / messages that will influence the arenas God has called them to and gain them credibility and favor to become Godly influences on the culture.
- Pray Christians will be able to clearly articulate for others how media is being used to shape the values of our culture.
- Pray that Christians recognize/reflect on how wisely they process news to avoid being manipulated by it.

Scriptures: Matthew 13: 14-16, John 17: 14-18, Matthew 10: 16, Proverbs 15: 23, Colossians 2: 8, 1 John 4: 1

MEDIA MENTORS

Pray for Christian media specialists to be raised up in the region who can teach and mentor children and youth. There is an increasing number of leadership and social justice programs in the Philadelphia region available to youth and young adults. Christians who want to impact the culture by participating in these programs need to be able to produce media messages that will engage others meaningfully.

- Pray parents and churches both recognize the need to prepare youth to think well in addition to having Bible knowledge and to communicate effectively through media using public speaking, persuasive discourse, story telling, etc.
- Pray for dedicated communication/media specialists who can cast vision for this and train trainers throughout the region.
- Pray that those who are called to train/mentor youth prepare for and commit to doing it.

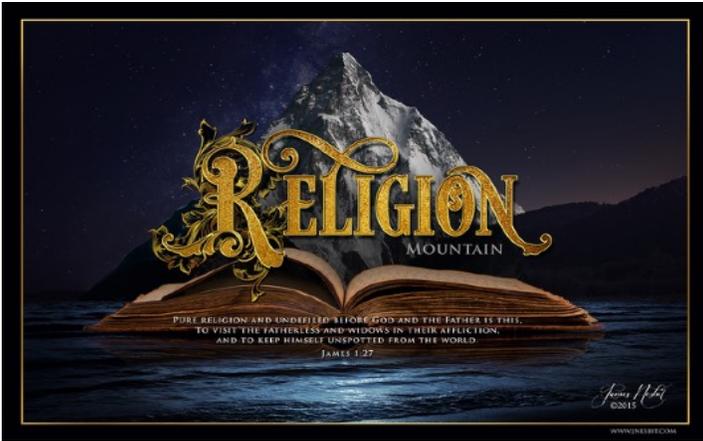
Scriptures: 1 Timothy 4: 12, 2 Chronicles 34: 1-2, Proverbs 22: 6, Isaiah 11: 6, Psalm 144: 12

DOORS OF FAVOR

Pray that doors of favor will open for Christians to be respectfully represented in the mainstream and alternative media throughout the region. With the exception of specifically designated Christian media, the most listened to media “voices” in the region are liberal in their world-view. This needs to change if Christians are going to have an impact on the culture.

- Pray Christians “assigned” by the Lord to interact with regional media will recognize the call and prepare themselves.
- Pray there will be opportunities for Christians to positively impact secular media, representing righteousness, justice and the love of the Lord while upholding Biblical truth.
- Pray these representatives of the Kingdom of God will gain respect, change public perceptions of Christians and open minds to hearing the truth of the gospel.

Scriptures: Psalm 5: 12, Psalm 90: 17, Ephesians 1: 11, Psalm 23: 5-6, 2 Corinthians 9: 8



RELIGION

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry that steals worship from God

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Pray favor, protection and provision, as well as reinforcements, for those ministering in the streets of the city. “Boots on the ground” are those battle ready soldiers in the field of action, moving forward to locate and conquer enemy forces and take back territory to secure victory. Examples are: street evangelists, intercessors who prayer walk sites of violence or other community pressure points, as well as worship and prayer gatherings in public places.

- Pray for the strategic prayer strikes that will be taking place to both address demonic activity and honor previous moves of God as we pray God’s original intent for Philadelphia is restored.
- Pray for the PTOD Jubilee event at Independence Mall, that the worship will bring the glory of heaven to earth, which sets men free from all that hold them in bondage.
- Pray for the National Day of Prayer; One City, One Love; and other open-air prayer events; that both planned and spontaneous praise and worship will break out in the streets of the city.
- Pray for Victory Outreach Center and many other ministries feeding and clothing the hungry and homeless.

Joshua 1: 3,9, Matthew 24: 14, Mark 16: 15-16, Matthew 9: 37-38, Matthew 10: 7-8, 1 Timothy 2: 1, Isaiah 62: 6

CHRISTIANITY UNDER ATTACK

Pray the Body has discernment and wisdom in addressing schemes of the enemy to marginalize the Church. In the last few months, Philadelphia has seen public libraries inviting drag queens to read to children; State Rep. Borowicz reprimanded for a prayer in the House of Representatives mentioning Jesus; Hebrew Israelites harassing passers by in Center City Philadelphia; and other such issues.

- Pray that Christians would never allow their prayers to be scripted by unbelievers but always, only by the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for a holy boldness and righteous indignation to rise up in hearts of believers to thwart the actions of the enemy.
- Pray for those on the frontlines of the battle for the hearts, minds, and souls of the people of our region.
- Pray pastors / leaders truly seek the mind of Christ and the heart of God as to how to address the attacks from the pulpit.

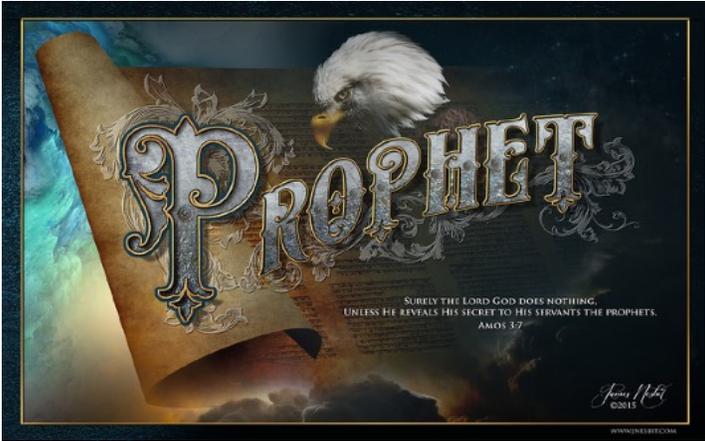
Ephesians 1: 16-17, Colossians 1: 9-10, Acts 4: 23-31, Ephesians 4: 13-15, Matthew 10: 16, Luke 12: 12, Matthew 5: 43-45

PRISON MINISTRY

Pray for both in-prison and church based prison ministries, and that Philadelphia become the model for rehabilitative incarceration that it was intended to be. Philadelphia had the first prison in the nation (1790) as well as the first penitentiary (Eastern State Penitentiary, 1829), which was to be a model of how to rehabilitate prisoners. Currently there are 96,000 people behind bars state-wide (state and federal prison, jail, youth) and 4400 in Philadelphia prisons. The region has numerous prison ministries that go into correctional facilities sharing Jesus and the path to transformation.

- Pray those God has appointed to prison ministry will answer the call, be well prepared, led by the spirit and have favor.
- Pray all aspects of prison administration operates smoothly and that there are resources to meet the spiritual, emotional and practical needs of the prisoners.
- Pray for prison chaplains, that their strength is renewed every morning and they have the words to speak vision, comfort and hope, as well as guidance.
- Pray healing, justice, mercy and favor for inmates as they prepare for life after prison.

Isaiah 61: 1-3, Romans 8: 1-3, Hebrews 13: 1-3, Matthew 25: 34-40, Psalm 66: 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.

THE ASIAN CHURCH

Pray that the Lord would raise up the Asian church in Greater Philadelphia in a powerful way. Recent census information shows that the fastest growing ethnic group in Philadelphia is the Asian community, particularly immigrants from India.

- Pray for a powerful move of the Holy Spirit in the Asian church community.
- Declare walls between Asian churches that share a common language are being broken down and relationships built up.
- Pray that the Asian church community will have effective and fruitful strategies to reach the unsaved around them.

Scriptures: Revelation 5:9, Revelation 7:9, Acts 2:1-4, Ephesians 2:14, 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, 1 Corinthians 16:8-9, 2 Corinthians 2:12, 2 Thessalonians 3:1

PHILADELPHIA'S VOICE

Pray for an explosion of the prophetic voice in Philadelphia. Historically, Philadelphia has had a unique role in speaking words of destiny over our nation. Many see Philadelphia as the "spiritual capital" of our nation.

- Pray for the Word of the Lord to be released over our nation from Philadelphia.
- Pray that false prophetic voices (psychics, fortune tellers, etc.) would be silenced through the blood of the Lamb, and that the fear of the Lord would come upon all who practice these things.
- Declare that the fire of the Holy Spirit is purifying the mouths of the true prophets.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 14:39, 2 Thessalonians 3:1, Ezekiel 37:9, Acts 16:16-18, Isaiah 6, Leviticus 19:31, Isaiah 8:18-20

HIGH PRAISE

Pray for the Delaware Valley to be consumed in extravagant praise to the King of kings. God is emphasizing the importance of praise in this season.

- Declare that a Judah (meaning 'praise') company is arising.
- Pray for churches to be bold in taking praise to the streets - especially where darkness is most prevalent.
- Pray that the fire of adoration would fall on every church in the Delaware Valley in a more profound way than ever before.

Scriptures: Genesis 29:35, Exodus 15:20, Hebrews 13:15, Ephesians 5:19, Psalm 150, Psalm 47, John 1:5, John 4:24