



THE COVERING - PRAYER GUIDE

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 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

LOSING THE FAITH

Pray that artists in positions of influence will be strengthened in their faith. There has been an increasing trend of Christians losing or questioning their long-held beliefs. This is not always bad, as it can lead to a stronger, more fully examined faith. However, it can be difficult for other believers to watch leaders or those they have placed on a pedestal in some way go through this, and it can have rippling effects on those who follow them. Being placed on that pedestal can create a lot of excess pressure on those artists and leaders to put on a good face instead of honestly grappling with things. A more recent example of this is well-known worship leader Marty Sampson's (of Hillsong) recent and public questioning of his faith.

- Pray that anyone who is struggling with their faith to find Jesus where they are, and come through this season with a stronger more vibrant faith in Christ than ever.
- Pray that artists and public figures such as Marty Sampson would be strengthened in their faith, protected from the devourer, and filled with grace to walk out their assignments.
- Pray that the body of Christ would stop placing artists and public figures on such a pedestal that their own faith is challenged when these leaders go through times of questioning.

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

POETRY IN HARD PLACES

Pray that poetry and the gospel of Jesus will bring hope in hard places. In neighborhoods like Kensington, poetry groups are providing a creative outlet as well as a safe haven for youth. For the first time ever this year, the Kensington Poetry Team qualified to compete at the Philly Slam League Championships at the Kimmel Center. Luis Marrero's ministry, called Voices In Power, is a safe place for poets and spoken word artists to share their art, build community, and impact their neighborhoods throughout areas North Philly and also Camden.

- Pray that youth in difficult situations and neighborhoods would continue to find creative outlets and healthy communities that will keep them off of the streets and creating positive change.
- Pray that poets and artists in public school or secular environments will find Godly mentorship and know that the Lord is the source of their gifts.
- Pray that ministries like Voice In Power would be well funded and well equipped to minister the hope of Christ in diverse communities.

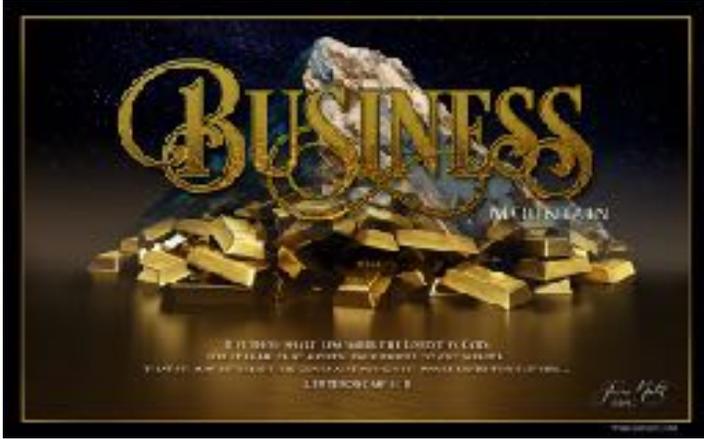
Scriptures: Exodus 25:40, Habakkuk 2:14, 2 Chronicles 2:5-7, Psalm 101:3, Colossians 3:1-2

MURALS & HOMELESSNESS

Pray that Philadelphia will continue to lead the way with its mural program in transforming families and neighborhoods. This is a continuation from a previous prayer point. Philadelphia is known as the "Worlds Largest Outdoor Gallery" with over 4000 pieces of art painted on buildings. It is a tourist attraction as well as a tool for community revitalization. Now these mural programs are being effectively targeted at aiding the homeless, particularly homeless youth.

- Pray that the homeless of our city, particularly any homeless youth would find these programs and engage to the fullest extent possible.
- Pray for wisdom for the organizers of these programs to know how to best reach and minister to the homeless, and for the programs to be funded beyond what they hoped for.
- Pray that the transcendent power of art to bring societal change would be manifest in every neighborhood in Philly.

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



BUSINESS

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

Wealth to establish God's covenant

Primary Stronghold:

Greed, mammon, poverty.

HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY

Pray for the healthcare industry in Philadelphia. With the recent moves like Hahnemann University preparing to close and St. Christopher's hospital selling, there is a growing concern about the care that will be available to the communities these hospitals serve. Additionally, there are a number of settlements and grants being awarded to leading healthcare providers in our city to help the ongoing drug epidemic.

- Pray for the leadership of Philadelphia Academic Health Systems (which is the parent company to both Hahnemann and St. Christopher's Hospitals) and those involved in the ongoing negotiations.
- Pray for the 2,500 employees that are now displaced as a result of the closure set to take place on Sept. 6
- Pray for the raising up of a company of leaders to help with the proper stewardship of grants and settlements being given to healthcare providers and researchers.
- Pray that the research grants aren't spent on building facilities for expanding campuses but for actual research and pray for the researchers conducting studies to improve treatment so lives can be saved.

Scriptures: Ps. 34:17, John 14:26-27, Isa 41:10, Acts 20:35, Prov. 13:11, Ps. 37:30, Phil 4:8

FUNDING FOR GODS VISION IN PHILADELPHIA

Pray for the banks, credit unions, community development financial institutions (CDFI's) in our city to see the value in partnering and funding the local churches and ministries who provide faith-based services and programming throughout the city.

- Pray for those who are responsible for dealing with churches and faith-based non-profits to have a heart for the Lord and to see widespread impact and transformation.
- Pray for Pastor and Leaders to create business plans and have a clear vision that would cause banks to want to partner and fund city-wide efforts.
- Pray for strategic partnerships between those in the business mountain and religion mountain that will result in the work of God advancing.

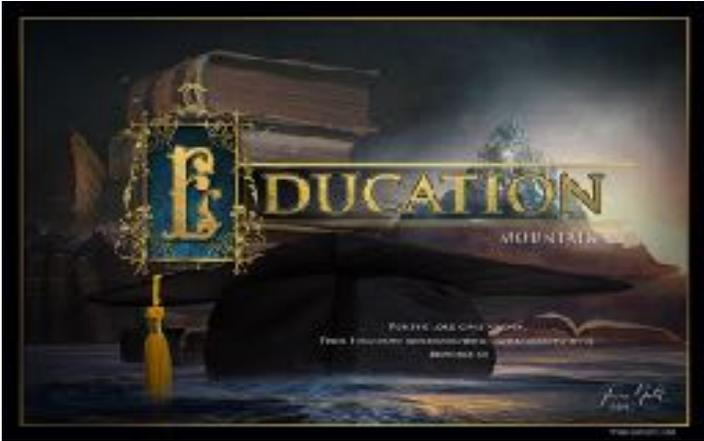
Scriptures: Matt 5:8, Ps. 5:12, Ps. 106:4, Prov. 11:3, Heb. 13:18, Acts 4:34,

BUSINESS INNOVATION

Pray Philadelphia businesses (especially those operated by believers) would lead the way in innovation and invention - locally and across Pennsylvania. Statewide, PA has been lacking in innovation compared with other states, although Pittsburgh and Philadelphia have "made solid gains". Pennsylvania's national share of venture capital has dropped by over 70% in the last 15 years.

- Pray for new patents and new companies to increase significantly.
- Pray for business innovations to create new jobs - specifically in the area of manufacturing, energy and technology.
- Pray for business owners to chart new courses forward through divine wisdom and counsel.
- Pray for wisdom on practical matter (ie. how to reduce costs, increase employment opportunities, mentor employees and deliver services).

Scriptures: Isaiah 11:2, James 1:5, 1 Kings 3:7-12, Genesis 1:1, Luke 2:52



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

TRAUMA/VIOLENCE

Pray against the harmful effects of trauma. Superintendent William Hite recently announced on local news that schools are trained in the event that an active shooting takes place. The district will focus on trauma-informed care for the students.

- Pray 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 and staff will remain faithful to all protocols associated with active shooting on school grounds so that the enemy will not consider sending gun violence into schools.

Scriptures: Romans 12:12, Ephesians 1:17, Ephesians 6:12, Psalm 91: 4-6, Isaiah 41:10

BUILDING CONDITIONS

Pray for adequate school funding. The School District of Philadelphia needs an estimated \$170 million to make all “urgent” repairs. Senator Hughes and Representative Fielder proposed that \$85 million would be budgeted from the state toward Philadelphia’s school repairs, but it did not make the budget. This year, the state pledged \$4.3 million to school district for lead paint stabilization/remediation in schools (August 2019) compared to last year’s \$7.6 million.

- 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 district properly.
- Pray for a philanthropist to step up and donate the funds necessary to bring building up to code.
- Pray that teachers will be able to persevere in teaching students whose health has been put at risk due to poor conditions, such as lead poisoning, asthma, etc

Scriptures: Isaiah 61:1-5, James 1:5, James 3:17, Philippians 4:19, Proverbs 1:7, Matthew 18: 10

CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

Pray for churches to knock on the doors of schools and vice versa. According to a recent podcast interview with Deborah Carrera, an assistant superintendent and church pastor, the best way the church could help education is to find ways to get directly involved with local schools, much like Tony Evans’ Adopt-a-School program which has found that these partnerships can not only transform schools, but entire communities.

- Pray that churches would “adopt” the schools in their neighborhoods, whether public, private or charter, contact administration to find out the ways they can provide practical help and student mentoring.
- Pray that church members would commit to making the school their “mission field” and build relationships/trust with students and staff that open their hearts to becoming who God create them to be.
- Pray the Adopt-a-School will be strategically implemented across the region.
- Pray that Christian teachers would receive the revelation of “ecclesia” and understand that they are marketplace ministers and boldly reach out to local churches near their school to request aid or help.

Scriptures: Psalms 133, 2 Corinthians 5:11-21, Mark 10:45, Matthew 25:35-40, Matthew 16:18-19



FAMILY

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

To demonstrate the unconditional love of God

Primary Stronghold:

Rejection (real or perceived)

FATHERLESSNESS

Pray for the hearts of the fathers to be turned back to the children. The increase in youth violence and teen mobs we have experienced recently has drawn our attention back to the issue of fatherlessness. Children who grow up without a father are five times more likely to live in poverty and commit crime; nine times more likely to drop out of schools and 20 times more likely to end up in prison. In fact, literally all of the young shooters in the news of late have come from fatherless homes.

- Pray that God would break the cycles of fatherlessness and rejection of children by fathers.
- Pray that those rejected by their fathers be healed so that they can receive & love their children.
- Declare the Father heart of God over males of all ages, young and old.
- Pray for visible Godly examples of fathers as well as mentors for the next generation of fathers.

Scriptures: Malachi 4:5-6, Isaiah 1:17, James 1:27, Psalm 68:5-6, Ephesians 6:4, John 14:18, John 3:16

HONOR ALL "TRIBES AND TONGUES" IN PHILADELPHIA

Pray that all people groups feel valued and validated.

Designated THE City of Neighborhoods, Philadelphia is the nation's first World Heritage City, marketed for its dynamic neighborhoods and acceptance of people from all backgrounds and cultures. But amidst the hype, issues remain. Gentrification is displacing traditional, settled populations as conflicts emerge regarding race, class dynamics, property values, and more. One analysis found a 26% increase in police complaints about neighbors in such transitional areas.

- Pray the peace of the Lord over all neighborhoods and all who live and work in them as they deal with the challenges of change and gentrification.
- Pray that the histories of all "tribes and tongues" in Philadelphia are brought forth and honored, so walls of division come down and mutual respect is developed.
- Pray for Christians to reach out to bless and build relationship with strangers within and across neighborhoods, as an example of true Brotherly Love, and that as they do hearts and minds will be opened to hearing the truth of the Living Lord.

Scriptures: Jeremiah 29:7, Romans 12:10, 1 Corinthians 10:33, 1 Peter 2:17, Matthew 22:36-40, Hebrews 13:1, Revelation 7:9

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP

Pray for community commitment to neighborhood cleanup and beautification. Research shows how small changes to urban environments reduce violence, and make people healthier. But as Philadelphia Street Commissioner Williams puts it, there has to be a community-driven government relationship to achieve sustainable solutions. <https://www.citylab.com/life/2018/03/want-to-fight-crime-plant-some-flowers-with-your-neighbor/556271/> https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/city-planners-are-increasingly-aware-of-health-benefits-of-clean-living-landscapes/2014/06/23/c45438ac-f324-11e3-9ebc-2ee6f81ed217_story.html

- Pray neighborhood leaders recognize that a clean environment can help them achieve their goals of reduced crime and better standard of living for all residents.
- Pray residents become engaged in clean up & gain a greater sense of well-being & pride as a result.
- Pray for a restoration of dignity in impoverished neighborhoods. Declare families are awakening to their sense of worth and Father's love for them.

Scriptures: Jeremiah 2:7, Isaiah 24:4-6, Leviticus 25:23-24, Ezekiel 34:18, Psalm 89:11



Government

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

To rule and legislate with righteousness and justice

Primary Stronghold:

Anti-Christ spirit, pride, corruption

RACISM AND SEXISM IN PPD, AND ALL CITY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Pray that the attitudes of racism and sexism be exposed and dealt with. In recent months PPD has seen 72 officers reassigned due to racist social media posts, with 13 being fired. Every-other month, the department is sued over sexual harassment and other civil rights violations. One lawyer claims the city spends millions to resolve these cases. Officers are largely unaware they are being sued. As a result, the culture continues to tolerate harassment, despite executive orders to stop it.

- Pray for revelation and repentance regarding the spiritual root of racism and sexism which is an anti-Christ spirit. Declare a restoration of covenant relationships, brotherly love and honor.
- Pray that all crooked places be made straight as Kingdom strategies for creating a Godly work environment are revealed to and adopted by leadership in city government and PPD.
- Pray for the acting police commissioner, Christine Coulter, and for revelation as to the right person for the job long term.
- Pray police morale remains high and they receive recognition & appreciation for the ways they benefit the city & its people. Declare Father's protection over them especially in these tumultuous times.

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12:13, Colossians 3:13, James 2:4, John 13:34, Mark 12:31

COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO WON'T TOLLERATE CORRUPTION / MANIPULATION

Pray voters will be inspired to fight corruption by voting out all city officials who engage in or support it. This November every elected official with a role in ending corruption is up for re-election and every corrupt city official appointed by an elected official who can be ousted. We can end this corruption by electing officials who refuse to tolerate corruption & will appoint officials of the same mind. So, 2019 can be a referendum on councilmanic prerogative & the corruption that is consented to by too many. Nobody who remains quiet deserves to be re-elected in 2019 or re-appointed in 2020." <https://www.phillyvoice.com/corruption-philadelphia-its-their-prerogative-not-ours/>

- Pray the Spirit of the Fear of the Lord over all city officials who both engage in corruption or tolerate it, as well as over residents who vote them into office.
- Pray God continues to uncover corruption at all levels of government.
- Pray the "political spirit" influencing city leaders is exposed & displaced by the 7 Spirits of God.

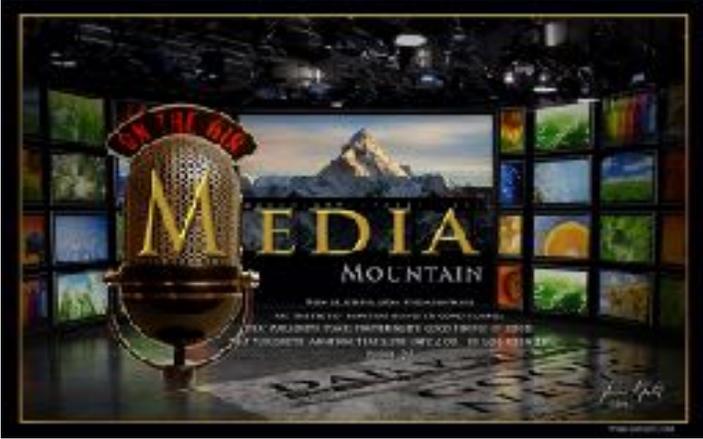
Scriptures: 2 Chronicles 19:2, Psalm 1:1, Exodus 18:21, 2 Samuel 23:3, Mark 12:30

CITY CLEANLINESS

Pray City Hall identifies and implements long-term, sustainable strategies for maintaining a clean city. Another "Philadelphia First" - America's first street cleaning program, established by Benjamin Franklin in the 1750s. By the 1950s, we were consistently ranked the cleanest city in America. Despite the fact that tourists are complaining, residents are leaving and research shows clean streets inspire citizens to invest in beautification, which in turn, plays a part in reducing crime and violence, the issue is ongoing.

- Pray city leaders will prioritize city cleaning as a violence prevention strategy and aggressively pursue its implementation.
- Pray for leadership to establish & maintain cooperative initiatives involving community & church organizations working to clean the city.
- Pray for energetic partnerships between city and local business / industry to fund clean up / beautification initiatives including more public bathrooms and washing stations.

Scriptures: Luke 11:25, Deuteronomy 23:14, Isaiah 1:16a, 2 Corinthians 7:1



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

POSITIVE REPORTING

Pray the media increases its focus on the good that is happening in the region.

Research shows reports on murders and violence improved ratings, so media gives people what they want, BUT, research also shows the human brain is not designed to digest bad news day after day, and, in fact, good news literally improves physical health, unites and inspires people to believe they can make a difference and empowers them to do so.

- Pray that producers of broadcast media will be convicted of the harm they are doing the city by reacting too quickly in reporting unsubstantiated and unbalanced information.
- Pray that good news, stories of redemption & hope, begin to replace negative & fear based news & that the media will see the value of reporting the positive & gain insight into Kingdom ways and values.
- Pray that those who emphasize the positive will, themselves be blessed by God & man & through that come into a saving knowledge of Christ so the good news really becomes the "Good News".

Scriptures: Proverbs 9:10, Isaiah 61, Isaiah 2:2, Isaiah 52, Philippians 4:8-9

HONEST REPORTING

Pray the hearts of all journalists are drawn to reporting what is true and right.

Recently Philadelphia has seen thoughtless reporting, as well as the deliberate mocking of religious leaders in the city. Additionally, hiding facts, under-reporting serious issues, over-using "buzz words" to influence readers, ignoring important stories to maintain focus on pet peeves, and pushing agendas has caused the public to lose trust in the media. https://www.cjr.org/tow_center_reports/mistrust-and-local-news-urban-and-suburban-philly.php

- Pray for reporters who focus, not on crime, but on the community, and involve its members in participatory journalism that motivates dialogue, not division.
- Pray that reporters motives are pure, committed to righteousness & Godly justice.
- Pray God inspired journalists recognize the spiritual roots of both positive & negative events & conditions & are bold enough to write about them.
- Pray the blessings of the Lord on those journalists who seek to walk in truth.

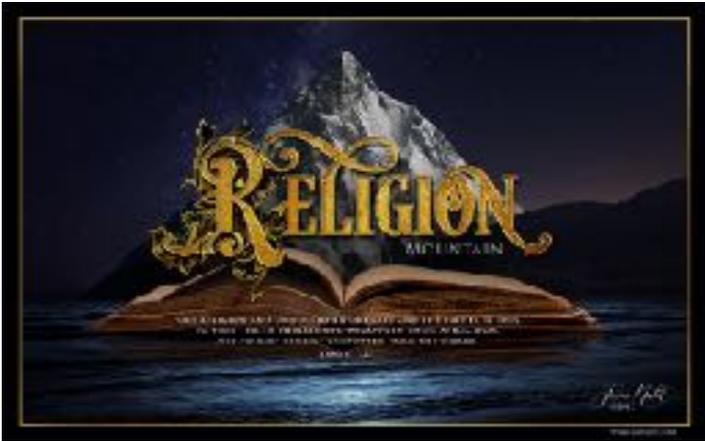
Scriptures: Proverbs 2:1-5, John 8:32, John 16:15, John 8:31-32, Proverbs 6:16-20,

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Pray for a turn around for the Philadelphia Inquirer that will restore it to its original purpose. The Inquirer predicted its demise in five years if restructuring doesn't turn things around. John Norvell, one of its founders said, "The Inquirer will succeed because it will stand for the interests of all the people, rather than for the will of those who set themselves up as the highest classes." Recent prophetic words have indicated that The Inquirer will be used by the Lord to declare His greatness and to inquire, "Who is this King of Glory?".

- Pray that the Inquirer become God's model for secular journalism.
- Pray all anti-God agendas at the Inquirer be revealed and turned around. Declare that the Inquirer will tell of the greatness of the Lord and proclaim His glorious works.
- Pray the decision makers resist the lure for easy turn around & profit and refuse any ungodly fixes.
- Pray the Inquirer takes on the issue of exposing & uprooting corruption as a turn around strategy.

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 8:21, Ecclesiastes 8:1-17, Proverbs 16:3, Philippians 4:8, Psalm 24



RELIGION

MOUNTAIN

Redemptive Purpose:

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

Primary Stronghold:

Idolatry that steals worship from God

CORRUPTION IN THE CHURCH

Pray that Holy Spirit reveals the corruption in all churches and ministries that represent the Church in the Delaware Valley. It may not have hit the news like the predator priests scandals, but stories of serious wrong doings in local churches: leaders interested in building ministries instead of serving God, participation in or tolerance for sexual perversion, extra-marital affairs, misappropriating funds are too common. God has spoken through prophets and current events that He is bringing exposure and righteousness in the House of the Lord.

- Pray that all corruption among church leadership and members is exposed and dealt with biblically and that a restoration process be in place to bring healing to all involved.
- Pray that both church leaders and members are convicted of ways they have participated in or turned a blind eye to the sin of corruption, and that the Spirit of the fear of the Lord move them to repentance and to adopt righteous standards.
- Pray that God removes the curse of violence on our city as a result of these abominations.
- Release God's Love & the 7 Spirits of God over the Church of Philadelphia & the Delaware Valley.

Scriptures: Ezekiel 8:17-18, 1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9, Romans 14:12

STEWARDSHIP OVER THE LAND OF PHILADELPHIA

Pray the Church unites to clean and maintain the land. Pray for the restoration of God's original intent for the city, and the Church's stewardship over the land. Stewardship is not only a spiritual mandate (Genesis 2:15), but time invested in communities demonstrates to residents that they matter and inspires them in the process. There is also evidence that land yields blessings to those who live on it when curses are reversed and blessings released.

- Pray that church leaders and members recognize how important land is to God.
- Pray that God appointed apostolic leaders rise up to collaborate with city government and neighborhood organizations in improving neighborhoods.
- Pray for Movement Day. Movement Day is a one-day gathering of marketplace, ministry and non-profit leaders passionate about coming together to accelerate a gospel movement in Philadelphia to impact the community. On November 8, Christian leaders from our city will gather to share best ideas and practices. philadelphiagospelmovement.org
- Pray for intercessors to be raised up in each neighborhood to systematically pray to reverse the curses that have come on the land through sin and iniquity.

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 2:8, Ezekiel 34:2-4, Genesis 2:15, Psalm 2:8, Deuteronomy 26:1, Genesis 3:17-18, Hebrews 12:18-24

THE CURSES OF VIOLENCE AND TEEN MOBS

Pray to break the strongholds behind recent escalation in violence and teen mobs. Ezekiel 8, especially v 17 (regarding abominations that filled the land with violence), are key to understanding the cause behind recent upticks in violence. Operating in the opposite spirit of "abominations" the enemy has planted in our land is crucial to removing the root and its fruit (violence). The following are scriptures to use:

- Reverse idol worship: 2 Samuel 7:22, Nehemiah 9:6, John 17:3, 1 Timothy 1:17
- Reverse broken covenants: Deuteronomy 7:9, Daniel 9:4, Ezekiel 16:60
- Reverse sexual perversion: Romans 12:1, John 3:16, Isaiah 43:18-19
- Reverse witchcraft and the occult: Deuteronomy 18:10, Leviticus 20:6-27
- Reverse moved boundary markers: Psalm 147:14, Psalm 74:17, Jeremiah 1:16
- Reverse the curse of innocent bloodshed: 1 Peter 2:24, John 6:53, 1 John 1:17
- Restore all things: Jeremiah 31:23, Jeremiah 32:44, Isaiah 58:6-12, Isaiah 61:4



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.

WISDOM

Pray for a wisdom movement in the Church of the Delaware Valley. The Lord has been emphasizing the need for wisdom in this hour. We are in a rapidly changing culture both socially and technologically. The people of God should be demonstrating His wisdom in powerful and relevant ways as we build the Church through the wisdom of God. (Proverbs 24:3)

- Declare the cross is God's ultimate display of wisdom and power (1 Corinthians 1:20-25), and that we are being more and more anchored in this reality day by day.
- Pray for believers to have sensitive and listening hearts, which is what positioned Solomon to receive the wisdom of God (1 Kings 3:7-12).
- Pray that all that is being built in Philadelphia would be in plumb with and demonstrate the wisdom of God (Ephesians 3:10).
- Pray that the church be sharp in discerning between the wisdom of the world and the wisdom of God (James 3:13-17).

Scriptures: Zechariah 4:10, Isaiah 11:2, James 1:5, Luke 7:35

GREATER GLORY

Pray for the revealing of God's glory in a greater way than ever before.

Many have felt prophetically that we are in a season of the revealing of a greater glory of the Lord in our midst. As we welcome the King of Glory into every aspect of our city, it is transformed in greater measure (Psalm 24).

- Declare the rising of the ever increasing knowledge of the glory of the Lord in the Greater Philadelphia area (Habakkuk 2:14).
- Declare that Philadelphia's best days are ahead of her as the glory of God is revealed in the City of Brotherly Love (Jeremiah 29:11).
- Pray that all prophetic words and purposes for Philadelphia and the Church of Philadelphia come to a greater level of fulfillment in the next several months (1 Timothy 1:18).

Scriptures: John 14:12, Haggai 2:9, 2 Corinthians 4:6, Romans 8:18

PURIFYING HIS PEOPLE

Pray for the purifying of the Bride of Christ. In this hour, the Lord is cleansing His people in a deeper way than we have known. This is akin to what the prophet Isaiah experienced in Isaiah 6. Although he was already a prophet of the Lord, the Lord cleansed him and equipped him in a profound way for the road ahead.

- Pray all hidden sins and iniquitous patterns be exposed and healed and a fresh wind of repentance blows on the Church (Zechariah 3:1-5).
- Pray for conviction of sins that our culture tells us are normal (Isaiah 6:5).
- Declare that blessings that have been held back because of iniquity are beginning to flow as repentance occurs (Zechariah 3:6).
- Pray for a new radical 'yes' to the Lord to be in the hearts of the Church in the Delaware Valley (Isaiah 6:8).

Scriptures: Number 14:18, James 5:16, Galatians 5:16-26, Acts 3:19, Proverbs 13:3, 2 Corinthians 6:17