

REFLECTOR

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"Holding Forth the Word of Life"

May 2022

PRAYING FOR AMERICA NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Thursday, May 5, 2022

Theme: Exalt the Lord who has established us Colossians 2:6-7

The basic teaching tool beyond the Bible in the six-hour prayer seminar is the **PRAYER SEMINAR WORKBOOK**. After two decades of using a seventy-nine-page workbook, we reverted to the thirty-page workbook that we now use. The workbook is divided into nine sessions. "Intercession" (focusing the power of God on a person or a circumstance) is one of the five elements of prayer included in **Session Seven** (pages 23-29). This session is entitled "**A-C-T-S: Personal Praying**." After studying the preceding six sessions, [namely, **Session One: What is Prayer?**; **Session Two: Bible Examples of Prayer**; **Session Three: Praying in the Name of Jesus**; **Session Four: The Holy Spirit and Prayer**; **Session Five: The Sin of Prayerlessness**; **Session Six: Getting Ready to Pray**], this study provides help for developing a meaningful daily, regular, personal prayer life. As you intercede, you will become a Lighthouse of Prayer for our nation.

Our files are replete with statements similar to this one from a pastor: "I have found the **Prayer Seminar Workbook** to be one of the richest and most helpful resources to encourage individual and corporate praying. It is based completely on Biblical passages." This truth alone justifies a church setting aside **A DAY IN GOD'S COURTS** for a prayer seminar. By the way, there is no charge for a prayer seminar since The Prayer Seminar [founded as **J. Gordon Henry Ministries** in 1984] has been a faith ministry.

Early in the seminar, we raise questions. Does praying really make a difference? Won't God do it anyway whether we pray or not? **James 5:16-17** addresses the questions: "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." The story of **Elijah** is an example of this principle. At this point in a seminar my admonition is "let the Word explain the Word; the best commentary on the Bible is the Bible." This is the anchor that makes each workbook page timely and relevant to our Christian lives. These studies both challenge and guide, making the content invaluable. **Transforming America through Prayer and the Word is the only avenue out of the mess in which our nation finds itself at this very minute.**



Healing America's Wounded Heart

America resembles Isaiah's description of Israel. Where will you be stricken again, as you continue in your rebellion? The whole head is faint (**Isaiah 1:5**). America stands as a wounded nation. The nation has deep spiritual and emotional wounds that only God can heal. I don't have the space to list the wounds that the nation has but any sensible person knows something is drastically wrong. Actually healing does not come by focusing on the wounds but on the One who can heal those wounds. The following prayer pointers can help you pray for the healing of our nation:

1. Plead for a spirit of repentance throughout America (**Luke 13:1-3**).
2. Ask that people will see that God is the only true **Healer** of the broken heart (**Psalms 147:3**).
3. Plead that the people of this nation will take responsibility for their sins and failures (**1 John 1:9**).
4. Pray that the people of this nation will see that there is only one true refuge, the living God, the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ (**Psalms 46:1**).
5. Ask that a spirit of prayer will fill this nation that the people of this nation will cry out to God in their pain, seeking His salvation and help (**Matthew 7:7**).
6. Plead that believers will bless this nation with their words and actions (**Proverbs 11:11**).

Yours in Calvary love,

J. Gordon Henry



THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

We have staked the whole future of American civilization, not upon the power of government, far from it. We have staked the future of all our political institutions upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves, according to the Ten Commandments of God.

James Madison,
Father of the United States Constitution

DAILY INTERCESSION THE PRAYER SEMINAR

Dr. J. Gordon & Sue Henry (Founders 1984)
Adam & Dianna Nathanson (President 2022
Installed 4/30/2022)

Take Time to Pray

A Study with
J. Gordon Henry



1984 Photo

Most Christians put prayer high on their list of failures and deficiencies. What about your personal altar? Is it broken down and deserted? Take measure of your prayer life. What has happened to the practice of prayer in your life?

No believer's spiritual life will ever rise to stay above the level of his praying. You are what you are on your knees—nothing more. Regular daily contact with your Source of spiritual life, Jesus Christ Himself, is absolutely necessary.

Average Christians fail in their prayer lives because they do not set aside a definite time and place to meet the Lord daily. Would you expect to be healthy if you ate a meal only once a week? Of course not! The same is true of your spiritual life.

Here's a workable plan on how to begin and maintain a morning meeting with the Lord. Sink your roots deeply into a DAILY DEVOTIONAL LIFE. Without a QUIET TIME, you will not grow spiritually as you should.

Here are some suggestions for starting your daily time with the Lord:

ESTABLISH IN YOUR MIND THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER

You do what you consider important. You have spent a lifetime developing patterns of behavior that have become habits in your life. In order to establish a prayer time, you will need to develop new habits. As you are in the process of doing this, you will be pulled between old habits and the new ones; that's normal, so expect it. Make up your mind that each day you will find a time to be alone with Christ. Set a specific time to meet the Lord in prayer.

DESIGN A TIME AND A PLACE

Begin each day with God. If you normally get up at 6 a.m., plan to get up at 5:45 a.m. to have minutes for God. THIS IS A MATTER OF DISCIPLINE. If we follow the example of Jesus, it will be a morning hour. You may need to get to bed earlier so you can meet your appointment with God.

Jesus gave His disciples the model prayer, expressing a manner of praying for us to follow. That prayer does not lend itself to any other time than morning praying. You would not ask God for your daily bread, for example, after the day is over. Neither would you need deliverance from temptation when you are about to go to sleep.

A major reason why it should be the first part of your day is that we should bring God in on the beginnings; we should not wait until we have missed up our day and then go to God to put the pieces back together.

The place of prayer should be private. Jesus suggested a place that is quiet, secluded and shut. Designate a place that will be your altar of prayer. Use that place exclusively for your time with God.

Remember, you must in your mind and heart make prayer a priority enough to schedule a time for prayer in your daily life just as you schedule eating and sleeping. You can do it! Ask God to help you: "Lord, I look forward to meeting You the first thing in the morning for a few minutes. When I awaken, I have an appointment with You."

HOW TO USE THE TIME DAILY

Have a Bible and pencil handy. As you read the Word and put the proper information into your mind, you program your day to let Christ be Lord of your life.

Let God speak to you directly through His Word. Read a brief portion and think about what you are reading. Open your heart to God, offering Him the right to teach, to discipline, to direct you as you study.

You will be surprised at what He is ready to do for you.

A Wider Ministry

My category of employment has been bi-vocational (Educator and Christian Pastor/Teacher). Through God's grace and mercy, I served as a Baptist pastor for over 1,400 Sundays. I cannot tell you how many sermons I have preached since my first one in the early fall, 1953. Beyond two Sunday church services, at times there was a radio ministry. I preached many revival meetings as a young preacher. There were weddings and funerals. Since the launching of the *Reflector* in 1954, sixty-eight years ago, there have been articles to write. Each Sunday bulletin included a message from me in *The Pastor's Paragraphs* as well as inspirational and informational articles. Then at some point invitations began to come in from different publications. Articles were published in national Christian publications such as *The Navigator*, *Days of Praise*, *Pray!*, *Bible Pathway Magazine*, and others. The article on this page was first published in the latter in 1983. When I read Paul's "through all means" statement in **1 Corinthians 9:22b**, I became convinced that a writing wider ministry was worth the time and effort. Hence, I wrote and published *The Prayer Seminar Workbook* and eight books flesh out the content of the prayer seminar (*A Christian's Necessary Food*; *Adoration: Prayer As Worship*; *The Enabler*; *Intercession: Prayer as Work*; *The Model Prayer*; *Notes from My Bible*; *Spiritual Warfare*; and the *Upper Room Discourse*), a booklet, *Hey! I'm Saved!*, for new believers and seasoned believers interested in moving to Higher Ground in their spiritual walk.

Notes from My Bible WE PRAY FOR AMERICA

Note 6021. As you spend time with the Lord, raise the shield of prayer over America.

Note 6022. Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer but that which is beyond the will of God.

Note 6023. Thank God for all He has done for the USA.

Note 6024. Pray that His perfect will to be done (governing officials, citizens, geography and weather conditions).

Note 6025. Remember God is able to do all things; nothing is impossible for Him.

ROPEHOLDER/DOORKEEPER REPORT

"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers."

1 Thessalonians 1:2"

February 23—April 20, 2022

Regular	96	\$9,375.00
Nigeria Focus	11	6,120.00
Pakistan	3	250.00
Total	110	\$15,745.00

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THE PRAYER SEMINAR

[Founded as J. Gordon Henry Ministries in 1984]

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