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**BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW**

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

**PRAYER GUIDE**

### **1. Pray for the protection and promotion of religious liberty.**

A broad measure of religious freedom is currently enjoyed in the United States. However, this is not the case everywhere in the world and might not always be the case here. Pray that the human right of religious liberty would be protected and promoted in the United States and worldwide.

Key Passages:

Joshua 24:15 – “And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Matthew 22:21 – “Then he said to them, ‘Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’”

### **2. Pray for our federal, state, and local government leaders.**

Those in positions of authority can protect or erode religious liberty through the policies they support. Pray that our government leaders would make wise policy decisions that protect and promote religious liberty. Pray that our political parties and all three branches of government would be united in their support of religious liberty.

Key Passage:

1 Timothy 2:1-2 – “First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.”

### **3. Pray for judges hearing religious liberty cases.**

Unfortunately, recent court decisions have undermined religious liberty and conscience protections in the United States. Pray that judges would have wisdom and discernment as they preside over cases concerning religious liberty. Pray that they would show no partiality and interpret our nation’s laws as written.

Key Passages:

Deuteronomy 1:17 – “You shall not be partial in judgment. You shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God’s. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.”

Proverbs 24:23 – “These also are sayings of the wise. Partiality in judging is not good.”

### **4. Pray for the church.**

Pray that pastors and church leaders would guide their congregations to stand strong in the faith amid persecution or infringements on their religious liberty. Pray that churches steward their religious liberty well.

Key Passages:

2 Timothy 3:12-14 – “Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it.”

Psalms 37:3 – “Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness.”

## **5. Pray for the next generation of Christians.**

Attacks on religious liberty can be especially intimidating to young believers. Pray that they would seek wise counsel and be disciplined and trained to stand for religious freedom in our nation and around the world. Pray that young Christians would be rooted in a biblical worldview and have the courage to stand for their convictions.

Key Passages:

1 Peter 3:15 – “But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect”

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 – “And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

## **6. Pray for a spirit of gratitude.**

Religious liberty is a gift that shouldn't be taken for granted. Pray that everyone who reaps the benefits of religious liberty would cultivate gratitude for this blessing. Pray that we would teach our children and grandchildren to do the same.

Key Passages:

Psalms 78:4 – “We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.”

James 1:17 – “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

## **7. Pray for organizations fighting to preserve religious liberty.**

The fight to protect religious liberty is ongoing. Thankfully, there are organizations that advocate for religious liberty at home and abroad. Pray that those advancing religious liberty would have endurance. Pray that their efforts to stop religious persecution would be successful.

Key Passages:

1 Corinthians 15:58 – “Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”

Colossians 3:17 – “And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

## **8. Pray for those around the world without religious liberty.**

Millions of people around the world are persecuted for their faith and unable to live according to their religious beliefs. They must worship and practice their faith in secret. Pray that they would be able to worship freely in their homes, towns, and countries. Pray that more societies would recognize religious liberty as a human right.

Key Passages:

1 Thessalonians 5:15 – “See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.”

Hebrews 13:3 – “Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.”

## **9. Pray for the persecuted church.**

Persecution is nothing new to the Christian church. Since the church's inception, there have been those who have sought to destroy it. Unfortunately, this is still true in many places around the world. Pray that persecuted Christians would have faith and endurance in hardship. Pray that they would share the gospel, disciple others, and worship together with boldness and wisdom. Pray that the church would continue growing despite persecution.

Key Passages:

Acts 4:29 – “And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness.”

Hebrews 13:3 – “Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.”

## **10. Pray for persecuted peoples of other faiths.**

Religious persecution is a reality for many faiths, not just Christianity. Pray that the human rights of all people of faith would be respected. Pray that Christians would show compassion to persecuted peoples of other faiths.

Key Passages:

Galatians 6:10 – “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.”

2 Peter 3:9 – “The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”





## **OUR VISION**

Family Research Council's vision is a prevailing culture in which all human life is valued, families flourish, and religious liberty thrives.

## **OUR MISSION**

Family Research Council's mission is to advance faith, family, and freedom in public policy and the culture from a biblical worldview.