

# A Call to Unity, Love, Strategy, and Authority

## Greater Cincinnati Prayer Canopy - September 2024 Intercession Guide



**We are modifying our prayer guide format for the election season to help us all stay focused on Jesus and his Kingdom in a time of division, instability, and evil. We will meet this challenging environment with the unity, love, strategy and authority that Jesus has given and called us to.**

Let's begin this time of intercession by consecrating ourselves for prayer and getting centered in the presence of Jesus. Repent of all known sin and ask to be filled afresh with the Holy Spirit. Let's renew our faith by declaring that only Jesus is worthy to be our hope, our trust, and our source of strength. Meditate on these verses and be filled with hope, trust, and strength so you can pray in power.

**Matthew 12:21** In his name, the nations will put their hope.

**1 Peter 1:3** We are born again to a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus...

**Psalms 143:8** Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

**Romans 15:13** May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him...

**1 Samuel 30:6** But David found strength in the LORD his God.

**Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through him who gives me strength.

Ready? Now, let the Scriptures below guide you to pray for yourself, your family, your ministry, and our region. Ask the Holy Spirit for revelation and for prayer insights based on these Scriptures.

**Unity:** Laying down our differences, we'll declare the promises and ways of our King together.

**John 17:22-23** I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

**Ephesians 4:3-6** Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Love: We'll love one another and those around us, despite our differences, as we obey Jesus.**

**John 13:34-35** "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

**John 15:9-13** "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

**Strategy: We'll shrewdly wield the spiritual weapons that alone can demolish enemy strongholds.**

**2 Corinthians 10:3-5** For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

**1 John 3:8b** The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

**Authority: We'll walk in the authority Jesus gave us to bind and loose on earth as he does in heaven.**

**Matthew 18:18-20:** "Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." **Luke 10:19** I have given you authority to overcome all the power of the enemy. **John 15:7** If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

### **1. We declare God's Truth over our Region in Unity:**

Jesus is the King of Cincinnati - "I am the Alpha and the Omega" - Revelation 1:8, 21:6, 22:13

Jesus is the only way to be saved - "I am the way and the truth and the life" John 14:6

Jesus has won - "He disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities." Colossians 2:15

The church wins - "I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overcome it." Matthew 16:18

Election note - "Don't put your trust in princes, in human beings who cannot save." Psalm 146:3

He is not an elephant or donkey. "He is the Lion from the tribe of Judah and has triumphed." Rev 5:5

God establishes all leaders. "The authorities that exist have been established by God." Romans 13:1

Jesus told us what to focus on. "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness." Matthew 6:33

**We declare and decree that the only rightful Boss of our region is Jesus of Nazareth.**

**We will proclaim Jesus and his Kingdom with unity, joy, and power in the Holy Spirit.**

## 2. We will love well individually and collectively pursue City Impact Initiatives.

**Jeremiah 29:7** “Seek the peace and the prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile.” On July 12 we commissioned a **City Impact Team** with prayer by Lucretia Bowman based on John 17:17-21 and John 20:19-21. Please agree with that prayer (redacted): **Lord as this team is released to accomplish your work in our City, may your Spirit of truth guide them. May peace be their guardrails with each other and those they encounter. May they serve, equip, and bring flourishing for all in our region. May you bless and keep them and every believer’s effort in this work. Amen.**

### Specifically pray for the 50+ causal networks we’ve identified in our region.

That’s 50+ causes where Christian ministries and volunteers are meeting the needs of the city in diverse ways such as foster care, pregnancy care, food banks, job banks, businesses hiring felons, preschools, prison ministries, coffee shops, medical clinics, hospital chaplains, pro sports chaplains, educators, youth ministries, hospice ministries, international student ministries, care for immigrants and returning citizens. These are powerful ways the Body of Christ is blessing our city. **Pray that each network would grow in collaboration, care and effectiveness. Ask for more laborers for the harvest.**

## 3. Seeking awakening: demolishing strongholds through strategic prayer.

Awakening requires prayer to remove the demonic strongholds that impair Kingdom strategies. \*

\*Thanks to Harry Brown for the draw, bind, break, open prayer strategy, see [www.newgenerations.org](http://www.newgenerations.org)

- Pray that the Father would **DRAW** people to Jesus and make them hungry for his Word.

**John 6:44-45** “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me.”

This teaching of Jesus explains why so many movements of disciple making are flourishing globally. Pray for Discovery Bible Studies where people experience the Father’s teaching for themselves! According to Jesus, that is the key to effective and contagious evangelism and discipleship.

- Pray that Jesus would **BIND** the strong man over every stronghold - materialism, apostasy, racism, abortion, suicide, loneliness, anxiety, fear, greed, death, divisiveness, deception - pray as led.

**Matthew 12:29** “Or again, how can anyone enter a strong man’s house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man? Then he can plunder his house.”

- Pray that Jesus would **BREAK** each stronghold in his divine power and plunder the enemy

- Pray for integrity in leaders and every aspect of the election - ads, finances, policies, vote counting.

- Pray for protection against evil foreign actors seeking to divide us and attack our infrastructure.

**1 Timothy 2:2** “Pray for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.”

- Pray that the Spirit would **OPEN** minds that are blinded by the enemy and unleash revival.

**2 Corinthians 4:4** “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.”

Pray for protection of all students, teachers, and administrators as they return to classes

### To amplify power during this season of prayer, consider a pattern of fasting including:

- no phone until you have worshiped the Lord, fellowshiped with him, read his Word and listened.
- fasting from food, alcohol, sugar, and entertainment on a regular rhythm through the fall.
- consider a 90-day social media fast, and at the very least, abstain from social media arguments.
- pray for godly men and women to be elected, serve a candidate as led, do your research
- but rather than get distracted by polls, news shows and events, let's ask the Spirit about voting!

### 4. May we walk with the authority given by Jesus, in joyful obedience and lifestyles of holiness.

The more holy our lifestyle, the more influence we have as we encounter people. May we exude the fruit of the Spirit and be a non-anxious presence that comes from our Kingdom authority.

**Matthew 10:1** "Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness."

**Romans 8:19** "The creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed."

**Ecclesiastes 10:4** "Calmness can lay great offenses to rest."

### Israel and International

**Psalms 22: 27-28** "The whole earth will acknowledge the Lord and return to him. All the families of the nations will bow down before him. For royal power belongs to the Lord. He rules all the nations."

- Pray for an end to the violence in Israel, for all hostages to be released, and for peace with the Arab world.
- Pray for an end to the war in Ukraine and a lasting peace.
- May God protect believers in the Middle East, Ukraine, Nigeria, North Korea and other areas of persecution.

### Ongoing Prayer Requests:

**For complete funding:** 1) for Matthew 25 Ministries facilities expansion; 2) for Master Provisions' new site funding; 3) for the People's Church rebuild; and 4) for the City Gospel Mission Centennial Vision Plan. Lord, please grant openings to foundations and grant organizations.

### Monthly Canopy Worship and Prayer Gatherings - 630-800 pm or as noted:

**Thursday Sept 26 – Miami Valley Christian Academy – 6830 School St. Newtown 45244**

Thursday October 24 - Heritage Fellowship - 7216 US 42, Florence KY, 41042 - **Note 700-830 PM**

Sunday November 10 - Vineyard Cincinnati - 11340 Century Circle East, Springdale 45246

Sunday December 8 – Christ Hospital – Open Heaven Ministries healing and refreshing for leaders

Thursday January 23 – West Chester Nazarene – 7951 Tylersville Road, 45069

### Connect with praying people and help build praying communities:

**\*\*\*PRAYER AND PROPHETIC LAMENT: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29 - 2PM WASHINGTON PARK**

**Questions? Contact Sherman Bradley [sherm.bradley@gmail.com](mailto:sherm.bradley@gmail.com)**

**Pray for Ohio** First Thursdays 12:30-1:30pm on Zoom: Go to [www.prayforohio.org](http://www.prayforohio.org) where you can sign up. Email [ursula@forcolumbus.org](mailto:ursula@forcolumbus.org) with any questions.

Leave a prayer request [www.gcprayercanopy.net](http://www.gcprayercanopy.net). **One hour a month will change our region!**

**View and share our three-minute canopy video as an easy next step to invite others to pray with us:**

<https://gcprayercanopy.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/PrayerCanopy.mp4>