

### A PRAYER GUIDE FOR ISPRACE

#### How to Pray for Israel at War

# INTERCESSION

Before praying, it is essential our hearts are in the right place. Know that in the end it is God who controls all that is in the world and in our lives.

Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. – Ephesians 1:21

He has given us the gift of intercessory prayer to enter His presence.

So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most. – Hebrews 4:16

Feel empowered by the fact that our prayers have the power to change lives around the world.

If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. – John 15:7

# THANKFULNESS

To intercede on Israel's behalf, it is important we remember those Scriptures that show God's focus on Israel. Before you pray, consider the full meaning of these verses so you can be aligned with God's heart for His people.

> For the Lord has chosen Jacob for Himself, Israel for His special treasure. – Psalm 135:4

God's love for Israel reminds us of His role as loving father in our lives.

When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt. – Hosea 11:1

His love of Israel is also unconditional. This is the love He has for us as well.

For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth. The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; but because the Lord loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. – Deuteronomy 7:6-8

# PRAY FOR THE HOSTAGES

Pray for God's protection and peace over those still in captivity and that they would be shielded from their captors' torment and not be afraid.

Pray God gives them courage and hope to endure and that He shows them visions of a better tomorrow.

Pray for God to move in the hearts of the captors. That the jail doors would swing open wide, and that God will show His power and goodness and get the glory for the complete freedom of every hostage.

Pray for peace and restoration for those released and back home with their loved ones.

He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. – Psalm 146:7-8

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. – Isaiah 61:1

### PRAY FOR ISRAELI FAMILIES

The family is an institution ordained by God as the foundation of society, but in Israel, families are broken and hurting.

Pray for the bereaved, for those who have lost loved ones and those whose loved ones are still in captivity.

Pray God will be their comfort and give them a supernatural peace.

Pray God will carry their burdens and comfort them in their sorrow and pain.

Pray for the children being raised in an atmosphere of conflict and the threat of terror.

Pray that the shock and grief would be lifted off of them by God's tender mercy, and they would find themselves at peace in the midst of war.

Pray Israeli families will experience peace rather than anxiety as they turn to God as their refuge.

Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted. – Matthew 5:4

But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted; you consider their grief and take it in hand.

The victims commit themselves to you; you are the helper of the fatherless. Break the arm of the wicked man; call the evildoer to account for his wickedness that would not otherwise be found out. – Psalm 10:14-15

Praise be to the Lord, for he showed me the wonders of his love when I was in a city under siege. In my alarm I said, "I am cut off from your sight!" Yet you heard my cry for mercy when I called to you for help. – Psalm 31:21-22

But I trust in you, Lord; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love. Let me not be put to shame, Lord, for I have cried out to you; – Psalm 31:14-17

> Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. – Philippians 4:6

#### PRAY FOR ISRAELI SOLDIERS

Pray for the Israel Defense Forces and for the 360,000 reservists who have been called into action and that God would encircle each one.

Pray for a supernatural hedge of protection around each soldier.

Pray that God will be their shield, that they will be hidden under His wings, and that He will bring them safely home to their families having done their duty.

Pray God will fill them with courage and will supernaturally direct their steps, and when this is over, each one would have stories of how He led, protected, saved, and gave them the victory.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. – Deuteronomy 31:6

All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish. Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all. For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you. – Isaiah 41:11-13

> But as for me, it is good to be near God. I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge; I will tell of all your deeds. – Psalm 73:28

We pray for their physical protection, and your supernatural working through them to win the war, and to set their hearts on you, their faithful God, for the rest of their lives.

#### PRAY AGAINST ISRAEL'S ENEMIES

Pray that God will fight the battle for Israel as He has done in the past.

Pray the fear of the Lord will fall on Hamas, Hezbollah, and every enemy of Israel.

Pray they become confused, weak, and fearful and begin fighting amongst themselves.

Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. – Romans 12:19-21

### **PRAY FOR THE FARMERS**

Israel's farms have been destroyed or abandoned. Fresh food is scarce in the land and many workers fled back to their native countries to escape the war.

Pray for farmers to have the strength to till the fields and to find workers and volunteers to work the land as their numbers have been greatly reduced.

Pray for the land, for restoration of the damage caused by the war, and against any drought or harsh climate conditions.

Pray more young men will take up farming to ease the burden on their fathers and relieve the hunger of Israelis.

Be sure you know the condition of your flocks, give careful attention to your herds; for riches do not endure forever, and a crown is not secure for all generations. – Proverbs 27:23-24

The threshing places will be full of grain; the pits beside the presses will overflow with wine and olive oil. I will give you back what you lost in the years when swarms of locusts ate your crops. – Joel 2:24-25

Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and forsake not your mother's teaching, for they are a graceful garland for your head and pendants for your neck. – Proverbs 1:8-9

### PRAY FOR OTHERS TO PRAY

Thank you for taking the time to read through this prayer guide and praying for the people of Israel! As Christians, we must pray not just that our own prayers will be answered, but that other Christians will join us in prayer!

Pray other Christians will see the urgency and need that Israel is facing and will join in praying for Israel.

Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. – Matthew 18:19-20

# PRAY FOR LEKET ISRAEL

**Leket Israel** is Israel's National Food Bank. For more than twenty years, its devoted staff, its tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers, and its generous supporters around the world have been faithfully working to feed the most vulnerable people in Israel—desperately poor families, at-risk children, and the elderly.

In times of peace, **Leket Israel** is able to rescue tons of the highest quality food and distribute it to organizations that feed over 270,000 Israelis in need every week. <u>But terrorists' rocket fire has devastated 70% of Israel's most fertile farmland</u>. Businesses, caterers, and restaurants closed. Now, with drastically reduced surplus food available for rescue, **Leket Israel** has begun purchasing hundreds of thousands of hot prepared meals, truckloads of canned and dried food packages, and over 5,000 tons of fresh produce.

Pray for **Leket Israel** to get more dedicated volunteers to continue working tirelessly to feed those suffering in Israel.

Pray the availability of food will increase and the cost of purchasing and preparing meals will decrease so more people can be fed.

Pray for an abundance of donations and funding to flood in for the dire work that is being done, as they have not received any war-based government funding.

Pray for the leaders and volunteers of **Leket Israel** for strength to continue doing the work that God has called them to do.

For more information about Leket Israel or to support their efforts, go to **ChristianFriendsOfLeket.org**.