



50-DAY PRAYER AND FASTING SEASON
19th August – 7th October 2024

FOCUS ON THE FAMILY SPHERE

EPHESIANS 3:14,15

*For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named*

PRAYER GUIDE

Written by Dr. James Magara

WEEKLY PRAYER FOCUS 2024

Week 1	19 th – 25 th August 2024	Men, Husbands, Fathers, Boys
Week 2	26 th August – 1 st September 2024	Women, Wives, Mothers, Girls
Week 3	2 nd – 8 th September 2024	The Extended Family
Week 4	9 th – 15 th September 2024	Church and the Family
Week 5	16 th – 22 nd September 2024	Educational Institutions and the Family
Week 6	23 rd – 29 th September 2024	Celebration, Media and the Family
Week 7	30 th September – 6 th October 2024	Government and the Family

THE OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2024/25 PRAYER SEASON ARE:

1. To pray for the restoration and preservation of divine order in family life in our nation (Psalms 22:27-28)
2. To pray for the protection of the next generation
3. To pray that God will be greatly glorified in the families, clans, and tribes of Uganda.
4. To renew our covenant with God concerning our nation
5. To seek God's enablement to fulfill our roles in God's plan for our generation.

MAIN PRAYER FOCUS OF THE WEEK:

To pray for the Government Sphere as it relates to Family life.

WEEK SEVEN: FOCUS ON THE GOVERNMENT AND THE FAMILY 30th September – 6th October 2024

1 Timothy 2:1-4

*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.** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

The family was the first institution that God created. Civil Government came later after families grew to clans, clans to tribes and tribes to nations. Government plays a multifaceted role in shaping and supporting families through providing a peaceful environment, policy formulation, regulation, and service provision. By promoting security, financial stability, education, healthcare, legal protection, and social support, the government can strengthen families, ensuring they contribute to a stable and healthy society.

There are 5 broad areas of government with divinely instituted boundaries over each:

1. Self-Government
2. Family Government
3. Church Government
4. School/Workplace Government
5. Civil Government

Civil Government is the system of people, laws, and officials that define and control a country. It is delegated authority from God and typically has three arms: the Judiciary, the Legislature (Parliament), and the Executive. Each of this is an aspect of God's governance delegated to man.

Isaiah 33:22

For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us.

- the LORD is our judge: Judiciary
- the LORD is our lawgiver: Legislature
- the LORD is our king: Executive

Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Apostle Paul who lived in oppressive times wrote the Book of Romans:

Romans 13:1-8

¹Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. ³For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. ⁵Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. ⁶For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. ⁷Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor. ⁸Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law.

Similarly, Apostle Peter wrote:

1 Peter 2:13-17

*Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him **to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good.** For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignoranace of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. **Honor the emperor.***

From these texts we deduce several things:

Government is an ordinance (institution) of God.

- Government is appointed by God to represent Him in the public space.
- God has delegated His governmental authority to governments on earth
- Whether they know it or not, Governmental leaders are therefore – viceroys (rulers exercising authority in a colony on behalf of a sovereign).
- Governmental leaders are God’s ministers (this is stated three times in Romans 13)
- Governmental leaders are mandated to serve God and the people they lead.
- We are required to honor leaders.
- We are required to pay taxes.

Governments Have the Mandate to Maintain Law and Order:

- To restrain sin in this fallen world by dealing with evil doers in society
- To be an agent of wrath, terrorizing and punishing wrong doers both internal (police) and external (the army).
- They are mandated to hold the sword (in our day it is the gun).

Governments are mandated to Promote Good in Society - praise and recognize citizens doing good, and promote good role models for societ).

Apostle Paul stated in his letter to Timothy:

1 Timothy 2:1-4

*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.** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

It is good in God’s sight when Governments are functioning properly and providing a safe environment for families to grow and flourish. The Queen of Sheba after a tour of King Solomon’s Kingdom got a revelation of this:

2 Chronicles 9:8

*⁸Blessed be the Lord your God, who **delighted in you, setting you on His throne to be king for the Lord your God! Because your God has loved Israel, to establish them forever,** therefore He made you king over them, **to do justice and righteousness.**”*

She understood that Solomon was a king:

- Was chosen to become king because God delighted in him.

- Sat on God's throne
- Was chosen to be a king on God's behalf
- Was chosen because loved the people of Israel and wanted to establish them through his reign
- Solomon was mandated to practice righteousness and justice

Comparing this with Paul's text in Romans 13; we can conclude that the same principles apply to all leaders. When civil leaders carry this out well, there are beneficial results for families in their jurisdiction.

Ezekiel 34:23-31

And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken. "I will make with them a covenant of peace and banish wild beasts from the land, so that they may dwell securely in the wilderness and sleep in the woods. And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit, and the earth shall yield its increase, and they shall be secure in their land. And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke, and deliver them from the hand of those who enslaved them. They shall no more be a prey to the nations, nor shall the beasts of the land devour them. They shall dwell securely, and none shall make them afraid. And I will provide for them renowned plantations so that they shall no more be consumed with hunger in the land, and no longer suffer the reproach of the nations. And they shall know that I am the LORD their God with them, and that they, the house of Israel, are my people, declares the Lord GOD. And you are my sheep, human sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Lord GOD."

Micah 4:1-4

*It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide disputes for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; **but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid,** for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.*

1 Kings 4:24b,25:

*And he had peace on all sides around him. And Judah and Israel lived in safety, from Dan even to Beersheba, **every man under his vine and under his fig tree,** all the days of Solomon.*

Zechariah 3:10:

*In that day, declares the LORD of hosts, **every one of you will invite his neighbor to come under his vine and under his fig tree."***

In addition to a peaceful and safe environment, other benefits that can come from functional civil governments are:

1. Social welfare and financial support
 - Family Assistance Programs:
 - Childcare Support
 - Family Leave Policies:
2. Education and Child Development (like Public Education)
3. Healthcare and Family Well-being
4. Promotion of Family Values And Stability
5. Safeguarding of Parental Rights.

On the other hand, when civil governments fail to fulfill their God-given mandates, families live in fear and danger of the wicked. Second, Prophet Samuel warned the Israelites that the king they were demanding for would be a net taker from them – he would over tax them. Functional governments tax citizens fairly and equitably (every citizen contributes – the tax burden is not unjustly carried by only a few members of society).

1 Samuel 8:10-17

*So Samuel told all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking for a king from him. He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: **he will take your sons** and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen and to run before his chariots. And **he will appoint for himself** commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. **He will take your daughters** to be perfumers and cooks and bakers. **He will take the best of your fields** and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his servants. **He will take the tenth of your grain** and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and to his servants. **He will take your male servants and female servants** and the best of your young men and your donkeys, and put them to his work. **He will take the tenth of your flocks**, and you shall be his slaves. And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the LORD will not answer you in that day."*

Governments get out of divine order when they enact laws that are contrary to God's word. Whenever a government sets itself against the laws of God it is on a collision course with the Rock of Ages; the outcome of that collision is not questionable.

Isaiah 10:1,2

Woe to those who decree iniquitous decrees, and the writers who keep writing oppression, to turn aside the needy from justice and to rob the poor of my people of their right, that widows may be their spoil, and that they may make the fatherless their prey!

Psalms 94:20

*Can a corrupt throne be allied with you - a throne that brings on misery **by its decrees?***

Conclusion

Government plays a versatile role in shaping and supporting families through providing security, policy formulation, and service provision. By promoting peace and security, financial stability, education, healthcare, legal protection, and social support, the government can provide an environment that strengthens families, ensuring they contribute to a stable and healthy society.

Pray this week that our government will fulfill its divine mandate and correct any dysfunctionality.

PROCLAMATIONS ON GOVERNMENT AND FAMILY

Behold, God is raising leaders for our communities who will lead in righteousness and justice. These will be capable men and women who fear God and are not corrupt. They will not pervert justice or show partiality and will hate bribes.

As the Body of Christ awakens from slumber and takes on her role to disciple the nation and its communities, many of these leaders will be sons and daughters of the Kingdom of light. They will be peacemakers who will foster harmony between citizens.

They will be a hiding place from the wind for their communities and a cover from storms. They will be a source of refreshment and renewal as rivers of water in a dry place. They will be a covering from the heat of our times just like the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

They will be servant leaders and will leave their communities become much better than they found them. Through their leadership, they will open up the eyes and ears of citizens and banish ignorance and daftness.

They will have firm hands on the errant in society and workers of evil and iniquity. As a result wisdom and honor will be restored to their true meanings; generosity will abound and foolishness and wickedness will be despised. The fool will no longer be called 'Noble' neither will the crook be called 'Honorable'.

The company of leaders who practice iniquity and ungodliness, and those who utter error against the Lord will diminish. So will the corrupt leaders who keep the hungry unsatisfied, and cause the drink of the thirsty to fail together with those who scheme evil and devise wicked plans to destroy the poor with lying words. Rather the generous and upright will stand and the righteous will flourish in this new season.

AMEN!

Prayer leaders should draw prayer points from the weekly envisioning meetings given every Sunday