

A PRIMER FOR PRAYERS OF JUSTICE



This primer serves as an aid in the prayerful pursuit of righteousness and justice in our nation.

“God does nothing but by prayer, and everything with it.”
— John Wesley

1 **THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your voice and praise God for his goodness, for how God loves ALL people and shows no partiality. Thank God that He is our righteous judge and a lover of justice! (Ps. 7, Ps. 37, Acts 10)

2 **SELF-EXAMINATION**

Ask God to reveal to you any blindspots or unknown biases you have carried. Take time to ask and wait on God, listening for the Spirit’s voice to bring new awareness and conviction. (Ps. 139:23–24)

3 **REPENTANCE**

Repent over intentional and unintentional ways that you have shown racial resentment, prejudice, or discrimination. Repent over any revealed pride, hard-heartedness, or feelings of superiority/inferiority. (Acts 10, James 4:8)

4 **RECEPTION**

After a time of repentance, ask God to cleanse and purify you from unrighteousness. And wait on God to receive a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit who desires to pour out on all flesh. (1 John 1:7–9, Acts 2)

5 **CIRCLE OF INFLUENCE**

Pray for friends that need encouragement or conviction. Pray and ask God for wisdom and courage to seek new friendships to grow your understanding and appreciation for all God’s people. (Rom. 12:9–21)

6 **LAMENT**

Go to God with any emotion you may feel (sadness, disappointment, anger, despair) over injustice we have seen with the recent killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and others impacted by racial violence. (Eccles. 3, Ps. 34:15–18)

7 **INTERCESSION**

For those who use their power to oppress, lovers of violence, white supremacists, and/or those who subvert justice--commit them to our Righteous Judge asking that their wicked deeds be exposed and stopped. (Ps. 9)

8 **BE THE CHURCH**

Pray for disciples of Jesus Christ to pick up “the basin and towel” and lead by example, demonstrating how Christ followers are to be known by our love. Pray that the church would not be silent but would take a stand for righteousness and be agents of reconciliation. (John 13, 2 Cor. 5)