

# *A Day to Pray*

Prayer is communication with, and worship of, God. He not only allows us the privilege of bringing our petitions and praises to Him, but He encourages it.

Forrest Preston will quickly confirm, and I have seen, situations within Life Care when God responded in dramatic fashion to prayer in circumstances that can only be described as miracles. God hears our prayers!

Today is National Day of Prayer, and all across America, citywide prayer breakfasts, worship services and rallies will be conducted. At the corporate offices in Cleveland, a traditional prayer service will be held today, beginning at 9 a.m., as we pray for our nation, our company, our associates and our residents. You are encouraged, in whatever way you may choose, as an individual or in concert with others, to take your petitions and praises to our Heavenly Father today.

Theme for 2015 is *Lord, Hear Our Cry*, emphasizing the need for individuals corporately and individually to place their faith in the unfailing character of their Creator, who is sovereign over all governments, authorities and men and women. The Scripture chosen is 1 Kings 8:28: *Hear the cry and the prayer that Your servant is praying in Your presence this day.*

Dr. Jack Graham, pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas – one of the nation's largest and most dynamic congregations – is the honorary chairman of this year's National Day of Prayer. Here is the prayer he wrote for this occasion:

*Heavenly Father, we come to You in the name that is above every name – Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Our hearts cry out to You. Knowing that You are a prayer-answering, faithful God – the One we trust in times like these – we ask that You renew our spirits, revive our churches and heal our land.*

*We repent of our sins and ask for Your grace and power to save us. Hear our cry, oh God, and pour out Your Spirit upon us that we may walk in obedience to Your Word. We are desperate for Your tender mercies. We are broken and humbled before You. Forgive us, and in the power of Your great love, lift us up to live in Your righteousness.*

*We pray for our beloved nation. May we repent and return to You and be a light to the nations. And we pray for our leaders and ask that You give them wisdom and faith to follow You.*

*Preserve and protect us, for You are our refuge and only hope. Deliver us from all fears except to fear You, and may we courageously stand in the Truth that sets us free.*

*We pray with expectant faith and grateful hearts. In Jesus' name, our Savior.*

To which we can say Amen!

– Beecher Hunter