

National Day of Prayer

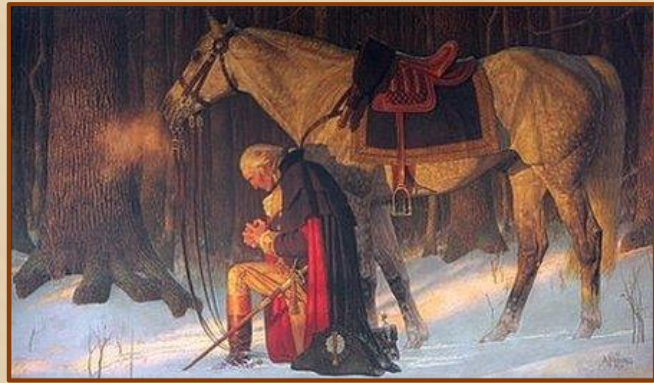
In the early days of the formation of the United States, a stranger once asked how he might identify George Washington among those present in Congress. He was told, "You can easily distinguish him when Congress goes to prayer. Washington is the gentleman who kneels."

Washington had a long-standing reputation as a man of prayer. At Valley Forge, he frequently found rest and relief in prayer.

One day, a farmer approaching the military camp heard an earnest voice. When he drew nearer, he saw Washington on his knees, his cheeks wet with tears. The farmer returned home and said to his wife: "George Washington will succeed! George Washington will succeed! The Americans will secure their independence!"

"What makes you think so, Isaac?" his wife asked.

The farmer replied, "I heard him pray, Hannah, out in the woods today, and the Lord will surely hear his prayer. He will, Hannah; thee may rest assured, He will."



One person, willing to humble himself and pray, can leave a legacy of faith and hope, giving courage to present and future generations.

Today is National Day of Prayer, a time when people across the United States will gather in churches, schools, businesses, homes and public assemblies to pray for our country. Theme of the day is: *One Voice, United in Prayer*. It is an unprecedented opportunity to see the Lord's healing and renewing power made manifest as citizens come before His throne.

Anne Graham Lotz, daughter of Evangelist Billy Graham, is the honorary chairman for this year's event. In her published prayer, she said: "Lord of the universe ... we look to You. In the darkness, You are our Light. In the storm, You are our Anchor. In our weakness, You are our Strength. In our grief, You are our Comfort. In our despair, You are our Hope. In our confusion, You are our Wisdom. In time of terrorism, You are our Shield. In time of war, You are our Peace. In times of uncertainty, You are the Rock on which we stand ... For the glory of Your Name, hear our prayer, forgive our sin, and heal our land.

Following the example of George Washington, let us take our petitions – individually and corporately – to God ... for our nation, for our families, for our communities and for our company.

So that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ (Romans 15:6).