

Prayer Points for the Month of July

These prayer points for the month of July begin where the month does, with Independence Day on the Fourth, then follow the summer: vacations, family trips and church mission teams heading out. For individuals, families, prayer meetings and churches, they give thanks for our nation, pray for it and for those who serve it, celebrate the deeper freedom we have in Christ, ask for real rest, and cover mission trips. Each prayer is paired with its verse.

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be encumbered once more by a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:1 (BSB)

Pray the two nation sections in the days around the Fourth, perhaps at a church picnic or a family cookout, and the rest a section a week. When your church gathers to pray, read the verse aloud, pray the prayer together, then name leaders, service members and each person on a mission team your church is sending.

Thanks for our nation

1 A nation whose God is the Lord

LORD, blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD. Thank You for the faith that has shaped so many lives in this country. Keep us from taking Your blessings for granted, and turn many hearts in our land back to You.

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people He has chosen as His inheritance!

Psalms 33:12 (BSB) ·

2 Remembering who gave the good land

LORD our God, when we have eaten and are satisfied, You call us to bless You for the good land You have given. As we gather for cookouts and fireworks, help us thank You first, and keep us from forgetting You in our comfort.

When you eat and are satisfied, you are to bless the LORD your God for the good land that He has given you. Be careful not to forget the LORD your God by failing to keep His commandments and ordinances and statutes, which I am giving you this day.

Deuteronomy 8:10-11 (BSB)

3 Placed here for a purpose

God, You made every nation from one man and set the times and boundaries of their lands, so that people would seek You. Thank You for placing us here, now. Use our freedom so that our neighbors seek You and find You near.

From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands. God intended that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

Acts 17:26-27 (BSB) ·

4 Boundary lines in pleasant places

Lord, the lines have fallen for us in pleasant places. Thank You for safe streets, clean water, open churches and the freedom to read the Bible without fear. Make us grateful and generous, remembering believers who have none of these.

The lines of my boundary have fallen in pleasant places; surely my inheritance is delightful.

Psalms 16:6 (BSB)

Our nation and those who serve it

5 Leaders like the morning light

God of Israel, You said that one who rules with justice and in the fear of God is like the light of morning at sunrise. Give our leaders of every party justice, integrity and reverence for You, so that their leadership refreshes the land.

The God of Israel spoke; the Rock of Israel said to me, 'He who rules the people with justice, who rules in the fear of God, is like the light of the morning at sunrise of a cloudless dawn, the glistening after the rain on the sprouting grass of the earth.'

2 Samuel 23:3-4 (BSB)

6 Honor for everyone

Lord, You call us to treat everyone with high regard, love the brotherhood of believers, fear God and honor those in authority. In a divided season, keep Christians from contempt and mockery. Let us disagree without hatred and speak with respect.

Treat everyone with high regard: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

1 Peter 2:17 (BSB)

7 Peace with our neighbors

Father, as far as it depends on us, help us live at peace with everyone: at the family table, on social media, across the fence and across political lines. Make us peacemakers in a country that needs them.

If it is possible on your part, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:18 (BSB)

8 Those who keep watch

LORD, unless You protect the city, its watchmen stand guard in vain. We pray for our service members, police officers, firefighters and first responders. Protect them, strengthen their families, and keep their hearts close to You.

A song of ascents. Of Solomon. Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain; unless the LORD protects the city, its watchmen stand guard in vain.

Psalms 127:1 (BSB)

Freedom in Christ

9 Free indeed

Lord Jesus, if the Son sets us free, we are free indeed. In a month when we celebrate national freedom, we thank You for the greater freedom You won on the cross: freedom from sin's power, from guilt and from the fear of death.

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

John 8:36 (BSB)

10 No condemnation

Father, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Set free those who still live under shame for what they have done. Let the Spirit of life loosen every chain that sin and death once held.

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set you free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:1-2 (BSB)

11 Freedom used to serve

Lord, we were called to freedom, but not to use it as an opportunity for the flesh. Teach us to spend our freedom serving one another in love, giving our time, our weekends and our resources for the good of others.

For you, brothers, were called to freedom; but do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh. Rather, serve one another in love.

Galatians 5:13 (BSB)

12 Liberty to the captives

Lord Jesus, You came to proclaim liberty to the captives and release the oppressed. We pray for those bound by addiction, those in prison and those trapped in hidden sin. Set them free, and bring Your good news to them through Your people.

"The Spirit of the Lord is on Me, because He has anointed Me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Luke 4:18-19 (BSB)

Summer rest

13 His presence and His rest

LORD, You told Moses that Your Presence would go with him and You would give him rest. Go with us on our travels and vacations, and give us real rest for our souls, not only time off from our jobs.

And the LORD answered, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

Exodus 33:14 (BSB)

14 Green pastures and quiet waters

Good Shepherd, make us lie down in green pastures and lead us beside quiet waters this summer. Restore our souls. Help us slow down long enough to hear You, and guide us in paths of righteousness for the sake of Your name.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of His name.

Psalms 23:2-3 (BSB) ·

15 Strength in quiet confidence

Lord GOD, You told Israel that by repentance and rest they would be saved and their strength would lie in quiet confidence, but they were not willing. Forgive our restless busyness, and make us willing to be still before You.

For the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said: “By repentance and rest you would be saved; your strength would lie in quiet confidence—but you were not willing.”

Isaiah 30:15 (BSB)

16 Shade in the summer heat

LORD, You are our keeper and the shade on our right hand; the sun will not strike us by day. Watch over those who work outdoors in the heat, those traveling on busy roads, and the elderly in homes without cool air.

The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is the shade on your right hand. The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Psalms 121:5-6 (BSB) ·

Mission trips

17 Beautiful feet

Lord, how beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news and proclaim salvation. Bless every mission team our church sends this summer, across town or across the world. Let them carry the gospel with humility and joy.

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Isaiah 52:7 (BSB)

18 Your salvation among all nations

God, be gracious to us, bless us and make Your face shine on us, so that Your ways may be known on earth and Your salvation among all nations. Let our summer trips serve that purpose, not our own adventure.

For the choirmaster. With stringed instruments. A Psalm. A song. May God be gracious to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, Selah that Your ways may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.

Psalms 67:1-2 (BSB)

19 Shrewd and innocent

Lord Jesus, You sent Your disciples out like sheep among wolves and told them to be shrewd as snakes and innocent as doves. Give our teams wisdom, health and cultural humility, and protect them from danger and harm.

Behold, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves; therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

Matthew 10:16 (BSB)

20 Praying for those who go

Lord, Paul asked the believers to join his struggle by praying for him. We pray for our missionaries and short-term teams: for protection, for service that is welcomed, and for a joyful return that refreshes everyone back home.

Now I urge you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. Pray that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there, so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and together with you be refreshed.

Romans 15:30-32 (BSB)

A closing prayer

Father, thank You for the land You have given us and for every freedom we enjoy. Have mercy on our nation, guide our leaders, and protect those who serve. Thank You most of all for Jesus, who sets us free indeed. Teach us to use our freedom to love and serve. Give us rest in Your presence this summer, and send Your gospel to the nations through our teams. In Jesus' name, Amen.