



The Shield
November 2018 edition
Praying for the Canadian Military Community



Join us throughout the month of November
as we reflect upon and pray for the following:

CANADA

When the prophet Ezekiel denounced God's people for their sins and warned that judgment over Jerusalem was imminent he spoke these words given to him by God, "I looked for someone among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap on behalf of the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found no one" Ezekiel 22:30. We cannot expect our politicians, business leaders, or educators to give God a place of honour in Canada. We can't expect them to stand in the gap for Canada and ask God blessing and protection. As believers, we are to be those who stand in the gap, who lift our country with all its favours and faults before the throne of God and pray that He continues to work in our midst.

Consider using these two passages to formulate your prayer for Canada:

1 Timothy 2:1-2 "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

1 Peter 2:17 "Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honour the emperor."

LEADERS

As Christians, we are to live in a fine balance; standing for the truth while seeking unity amongst ourselves whenever possible, standing firm in the faith while showing grace to those who do not, holding our leaders accountable while praying for their wisdom and well-being.

Consider using these two passages to formulate your prayer for a military and civic leader you identify:

Psalms 2:10-11 "Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling"

Proverbs 11:14 "For lack of guidance a nation falls, but victory is won through many advisers"

OPERATIONS

November is a month of remembrance and reflection. Our nation will exhibit sorrow and pride in our past service and will seek to honour those who have fallen or have been injured for the sake of freedom. Although it may not have been on the lips of commanders sending troops to battle, it was our freedom to seek and honour God that has been at stake all those time we took up arms. For that, we are thankful for the men and women who even today, continue to sacrifice their own freedom around this globe for the sake of our freedom to worship.

Consider using this passage to formulate your prayer as you reflect on our military serving around the world:

Galatians 5:13 "For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love"

Check out this link http://accts.org/newsletters/2018/18_10web.pdf for prayer ideas concerning different militaries serving around the world.

CHAPLAINS

The mission of the chaplain's branch is to support and enhance the effectiveness of the CF through the provision of comprehensive religious and spiritual support, advice, and care. It requires them to not be one of the boys in conflict, but that does mean they don't experience what the boys experienced. Chaplain Seaborn had been part of the D-Day invasion and was injured coming ashore, but his duty was to see to the injured, the dying and the dead. He carried medical supplies, help cart soldiers to medical care, and in the lull of battle, went into a combat zone to administer last rites, mark burial spots, and return to his tent to write letters home to the family of the fallen. Chaplain duties are no less demanding today, and they need someone to ensure their effectiveness. That is where we come in.

Consider praying: *“Father, we pray for our chaplains that you would protect them from sickness and disease. Give them your energy to keep serving faithfully. Help them to find periods of rest and recovery. Give them your wisdom. Help them know the way to go even when the way is not clear. Give them discernment to know good from evil, even when evil is dressed as good. Help them apply your word to even the most confusing situations. We ask in the power and authority of Jesus’ name. Amen”.*

MILITARY FAMILIES

There is no doubt that the sacrifice of our servicing men and women extends to their homes and families. While one spouse is serving another is often left behind keeping the family together. Today family struggles are even greater as so many have been broken by service and toil for a simple life where the love of family can be realized and experienced. In this remembrance month, let's take some time to pray for families of Veterans who are suffering from physical and mental injuries. Pray they find the support needed to help them and pray their spouses and children find the love to stand with them.

Consider praying: *“Father we pray for our military families. We pray for the family member holding down the fort while the other serves. We pray for military parents that they have endurance in patience, kindness, gentleness, self-control, and consistency in discipline. We pray for a community of support to serve and encourage those who are parenting alone during deployments. We pray for marriages that military couples will be on the same team, pulling for one another towards shared goals and dreams rather than seeing themselves as competing with one another. Amen.”*

THE MCF

Since its inception, the mission of the MCF of Canada has been to take the Good News of Jesus Christ to the military community in Canada and abroad. The mission is God's and we have been invited by Him to bring His grace and glory to those who do not know Him. It can be daunting at times, especially when we think about how large our military family is and how many are lost. We trust God has a plan to let all know who He is and so we continue to be obedient to His truths. Prayer encourages and strengthens the MCF and so we ask that you join us and pray for our MCF leaders, our mission, and for those who do not call Jesus, Lord.

Consider praying: *“Loving Lord we desire in this ministry to lift up the lovely name of the Lord Jesus and to glorify our Father in heaven. Bless our ministry we pray and may Your Holy Spirit lead and guide all we say and do - and may we be changed more and more into the image of Jesus as we seek to follow His command - to love as He has loved us. Amen”*

