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Protection, joy, unity. As we consider how we are to intercede for our country this year, I challenge you to consider these foundational elements in the life of an intercessor. Ask yourself two questions: 1) Are you experiencing joy? 2) Are you experiencing unity with the body of Christ? Your answers may indicate the level of your need to pray for God's protection.

I challenge you to pursue joy and unity with great effort. Like the faithful intercessor who called our office, take joy in the knowledge that your burden to pray is not an isolated task. You are not alone. While Jesus kept His team of disciples encouraged by His presence on earth, He prayed for believers to connect in Spirit-filled fellowship in His physical absence.

That day has come. Let's ask that God's destiny for our country would unfold through the unified prayers of His Church. Take time this year to pray for protection, experience His joy, and pursue unity in the Body.

—David Kubal is president and CEO of Intercessors for America.

The Lord is calling America to awaken from slumber.

Pray that the course of our nation will move towards God's will and desire.

MOM'S DAY OF PRAYER, JAN 16
www.momsdayofprayer.com

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY, JAN 23

Care Net - www.care-net.org | Focus on the Family - www.family.org

Lutherans for Life - www.lutheransforlife.org

38TH MARCH FOR LIFE, JAN 24
www.marchforlife.org

40 DAYS FOR LIFE, MARCH 9-APRIL 17
www.40daysforlife.com



CHURCH PRAY! is a monthly corporate prayer help to local churches published since 1991. This bulletin is posted for free download at "Resources" on our Web site or available as a one-sheet master for use on a copy machine or for quick print services. A monthly First Friday Prayer Letter and mid-week Alert are also available upon request. To subscribe to Church Pray! or inquire about other services, contact: INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA PO Box 915, Purcellville, VA 20134. Tel 540-317-2070; E-mail ifa@ifapray.org
Web sites: www.IFAPray.org www.GetAmericaPraying.com

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

**CHURCH
PRAY!**

*"Then God said,
'Let Us make man in
Our image, according to
Our likeness...'"*

—Genesis 1:26

"FATHER, THE TIME HAS COME..."

BY DAVID KUBAL

"Is there anybody else praying?" This question came from an incredible prayer warrior who called the office recently, admitting that she felt dejected and alone. Telling her about the thousands who intercede for the nation, our staff had the privilege to spend the next 30 minutes encouraging this dear lady in the Lord. When the phone call ended, she knew the assurance of unity and joy.

This is exactly what Jesus prayed for the disciples in John 17. He realized that God's protection is foundational for both unity and joy. His first request for the disciples in verse 11 was, "Holy Father, keep (protect) ... those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are." Protection from what? Protection from discouragement and anything that limits our effectiveness. He continued the prayer in verse 13 by asking that we might experience the full measure of His joy. He knew that the lives of His disciples, His intercessors, would be difficult—even impossible—without our Holy Father's provision of protection, unity, and joy.

It could be easy to understand unity as a result of joy, but in reality the two are mutually dependent. This is found in verse 22, which is often overlooked, but very important. We have a chance at unity because "the glory which [the Father] gave [Jesus]" has been given to us, "that [we] may be one." Experiencing God's glory through each other is critical. Unity and joy are two sides to the same coin, and God's glory is the source of both.

"Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are."

—John 17:11

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**JANUARY 2011
PRAYER FOCUS**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2011
SPIRIT OF WISDOM - Read and reflect upon Ephesians 1:17. Pray that the Lord grant wisdom to our newly elected 112th Congress as they debate and legislate laws to govern our nation in the fear of God and His laws.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2011
REFUGEES AND HOMELESS - Pray for food, clothing, shelter and medical care for all people suffering in ongoing wars and those in the aftermath of war. Pray too for the homeless the unemployed in your area.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 2011
LORDSHIP OF CHRIST - Offer thanksgiving for the fact that the start of the new year is marked by the Sovereignty and Lordship of Jesus Christ. Pray that the Lord grant a greater revelation and understanding of this truth to the families and members of your church and leaders at all levels.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2011
MARCH FOR LIFE - January 22, 2011, will be the 38th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade and the March for Life will be taking place on January 24, 2011. Thank the Lord for the abortion centers that have closed their doors in recent years. Pray for the Lord to intervene in stopping the further practice of abortion in America. Pray for crisis-pregnancy workers and centers in your area.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2011
YOUTH - Pray that the Lord will inspire and direct churches, youth pastors, leaders, and ministries into more effective relational and trans-generational models of ministry, and mentoring in this new year.