

Special Preview

# WORDS TO PRAY BY

Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called repairer of broken walls, restorer of streets with dwellings. (Isaiah 58:12)

WANDA ALGER

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Alger Publications Winchester, VA Words to Pray By By Wanda Alger

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Cover design by Jenn David Cover artwork by Danny Hahlbohm

### How to Use This Prayer Concordance

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears uswhatever we ask-we know that we have what we asked of Him. (1 John 5:14-15)

When the Lord gave me the vision for this book, I knew it was to be a timeless resource for years to come. As the Body of Christ, we are in a season of rebuilding our spiritual foundations and discipling the next generation. Ungodly belief systems and doctrines of men have infiltrated the Church. We need to reestablish God's timeless truths that will strengthen our faith and secure our spiritual inheritance for the long haul. A major part of a healthy foundation is knowing God's will and building a strong relationship with Him through prayer.

My inspiration for this book came from my own prayer journal that I started as a teenager. Knowing that God would answer my prayers if I prayed according to His will, I wanted to know what His will was. I wanted to target my prayers the right way and have the faith and confidence that He would answer.

I began to search the various topics that were important to me and wrote down all the verses I could find on those particular topics. Using various concordances that were available at the time, I collected enough scriptures from both Old and New Testaments to feel confident of God's intentions and purposes concerning those specific topics. And then I began to pray.

Not only did my understanding of the Word deepen, I began to see answers to prayer. I saw a direct correlation to my targeted prayers and the breakthroughs that came in my life. My faith grew every time I saw a direct result of praying and applying God's Word. My prayer journal became my personalized concordance – my "go to" - when I needed to know how to pray about something. Whether it was a family disagreement, a financial decision, or a stronghold to overcome, I prayed according to the various scriptures I had already recorded in my journal.

Little did I know how significant this was going to be in establishing a solid biblical foundation for the rest of my life. Not only did it strengthen my own faith in many spiritual matters, but the scriptures began to spill out of me when I started praying for others. Various scriptures would come to mind from my prayer concordance, and I found myself praying with greater assurance and authority in my intercession. Truly, they became my *words to pray by*.

I kept adding to my prayer journal/concordance for the next ten to fifteen years, and even made one for my mother who asked for her own copy. As an intercessor, she saw how rich the resource was and saw many of the results to my answered prayers. Even in my young adult years I somehow knew the journal was a priceless treasure that would be used in the years to come.

Thus, what you hold in your hands is the fruit of those humble beginnings and a start to establishing your own prayer concordance for the days ahead. It is certainly not an exhaustive one, but I have included enough topics to cover some of the most common issues we all face in our journey as believers. I've also included a few blank pages at the end of each topic for you to add additional scriptures the Lord might give you.

After each scripture verse is a short prayer that is based on that verse. These are written as "jump starters," not set-in-stone liturgical readings! Feel free to paraphrase them as the Spirit directs you to pray. This is YOUR prayer journal, not mine. I'm just giving you a head start in building your own style of communication with the Lord. Though I personally use the English Standard Version as my choice for study, I chose the New International Version as the primary source for the scripture references, simply because it is the most common. I also wrote this prayer concordance with some specific priorities in mind:

#### It is FOUNDATIONAL

The topics I have chosen and the scriptures I present are meant to establish a solid biblical foundation. Whether you are a new believer or a mature saint, a strong scriptural foundation is critical at a time when so many voices seek to compromise our faith and water down the gospel. By reading many different scriptures on the same topic, it is easier to see a bigger picture and understand God's heart and ways which are eternal. Though some of the specifics we look for may not be in Scripture, we can find enough of His heart and character throughout the Word so as to determine how He might think and act in a given situation.

#### It is PERSONAL

Part of praying effectively for others is experiencing the power of prayer in our own lives. Faith always starts on a personal level. Thus, I have written all the prayers in first person. They can certainly be changed to third person when needed but allowing the Lord to demonstrate His will in our own lives first will build our faith to pray more effectively for others.

#### It is CONVERSATIONAL

Though there is a place to decree and declare – and I've included several of those in the prayers – the majority of the prayers are written to encourage conversation. After all, prayer is first and foremost, about our relationship with the Lord. We must establish a heart connection before anything else. We don't have to command or demand His will to be done. He longs to answer our prayers simply because we are His sons and daughters.

#### It is PRACTICAL

Part of the challenge in prayer is to be specific and targeted. If we want to know He has heard us and will answer, we have to give Him something to work with. We have to pray in a way that will bring measurable results. The more specific we are with our requests, the more specific He will be in showing us if we've hit the target. Be practical with your prayers and look for ways to apply the Word in tangible ways.

My prayer is that this book will launch you into an amazing journey of discovery with the Word of God. He is the Living Word and loves to speak to His sons and daughters. He delights in showing you His will and revealing the secrets of His heart. I pray you meet Him in the pages to follow.

#### THE COVER DESIGN

When I began to pray about the artwork for the book's cover, the Lord gave me two people to contact. One was Danny Hahlbohm (Inspired Art by Danny Hahlbohm). His prophetic artwork has been seen and celebrated all over the world for many years, inspiring countless people in their walk with the Lord. I felt he was to have a part in illustrating the purpose of this book – and he delivered! Little did I know he had a vision years prior that was to be the inspiration for this commissioned artwork.



"In the vision, the Lord showed me a Bible, then opened the Bible to where I could see the text written inside. Then a certain passage seemed to illuminate before me. As it did, the Bible turned slightly so I was seeing it from a side view. From that perspective I saw thousands of words shoot down into infinity. I asked the Lord what this was, and He told me that the Word of God contains far more than what we hold in our hands. It is not a book, but truly, a living extension of God Himself. It is, indeed, a living entity in itself which has no limits to that which it is." (Danny H.)

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Thank you, Danny, for creating this piece that beautifully reminds us of our ongoing relationship with the Living Word. He continually reveals Himself in new ways and loves to speak to those who search for Him.

The other person I contacted was Jenn David of Creative2. She is a young graphic designer and part of the creative team that helped me create my new website (launched in the fall of 2022). In creating the "mood board" for my website, she seemed to capture my heart

through colors, graphics, and seemingly small details that, when put together, reflected the essence of the message I carry. I knew that she, too, was to have a part to play.

Only the Holy Spirit could merge these two artists together so beautifully for a cover that illustrates a powerful prophetic message of generational heritage. Danny's artwork is the foundation and Jenn's added design elements complete this amazing picture that reveals the power of the Living Word. Indeed, God is doing a work to bring out the best in all of us to establish something extremely powerful – and lasting.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Words for Knowing God's Will Words for Hearing God's Voice Words for Living by the Spirit Words for Waiting Words for Discerning Truth Words for Finances Words for Establishing Joy

#### FAMILY

Words for Our Families Words for Husbands Words for Wives Words for Our Children Words for Prodigals Words for Caregivers Words for Our Properties Words of Protection

#### CHALLENGING TIMES

Words for Relational Conflicts Words for Endurance Words for Overcoming Anxiety Words for Healing Words for Grieving Words for Loneliness Words for Addictions Words for Overcoming Fear Words for Hope Deferred

#### STRATEGIC SPIRITUAL BATTLES

Words for the War on the Mind Words for a God-centered identity Words for Enduring Persecution Words for Those Suffering Abuse Words Concerning Deliverance Words for Justice Against the Wicked Words for Courage and Boldness Words for the Fear of the Lord

#### THE ECCLESIA

Words for the Church Words for Pastors and Spiritual Leaders Words for Unity Words for Spiritual Awakening Words for Reaching the Lost

#### **POSSESSING THE LAND**

Words for Righteous Government Words for Governing Leaders Words for Righteous Laws Words to Secure our Cities Words for Cultural Transformation

#### (From SPIRITUAL GROWTH):

#### WORDS FOR DISCERNING TRUTH

#### 1 Samuel 16:7

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Remind me, Lord, when I judge others based on appearances. Help me to see into the heart and to recognize what You see. May I look with Your eyes and take the time needed to discern rightly. Help me not prematurely judge a situation based merely on my own perceptions. Show me what is true, right, and good, from Your perspective so I can align with Your will and plan.

#### 1 Kings 3:8

So give Your servant a discerning heart to govern Your people and to distinguish between right and wrong. For who is able to govern this great people of Yours?

Give me a discerning heart, Lord, so that I can rightly understand situations and people from a heavenly perspective. Help me to see above and beyond what my own thoughts and ideas perceive. Give me Your heart for others so that I will not only look to my own interests, but to the welfare of those around me.

#### 1 Kings 3:11-12

So God said to him, "Since you have asked for this and not for long life or wealth for yourself, nor have asked for the death of your enemies but for discernment in administering justice, I will do what you have asked. I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you, nor will there ever be."

God, You deem discernment to be one of the greatest assets we can have. May I realize the treasure of a discerning heart and seek to grow in using it for good and for the wellbeing of others. Thank You for enlarging my heart to perceive and understand what You are doing so that I can better fulfill Your will for my life. I pray that the wisdom You provide will be a sign to others of how great You truly are.

#### Psalms 111:10

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow His precepts have good understanding. To Him belongs eternal praise.

I desire to walk in the fear of the Lord and the fullness of Your wisdom! Your Word is what brings insight, and Your truth is what brings life and purpose. I submit myself to Your oversight and give You permission to overshadow me with Your holiness and righteousness. All truth flows from this place and I welcome the daily reminder that I answer to You, first and foremost, in all that I do and say.

#### Psalms 119:66

Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust Your commands.

It appears that knowledge and good judgment come as the result of trusting Your commands. Forgive me when I have not trusted You, Lord. I declare now that You can be trusted! I will build my faith by planting Your Word in my heart and obeying what You say. Your ways are higher than mine and I know You will give me right discernment as I follow Your lead.

#### Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.

Forgive me, Lord, when I lean on my own understanding instead of Your Spirit. If I expect You to make my paths straight, I must look to Your guidance and direction instead of my own ideas and preferences. I know that as I trust in You, You will give me the discernment needed to know which way to go.

#### Proverbs 15:14

The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly.

Forgive me, Lord, when I have listened more to my friends and peers than to Your Spirit. Forgive me when I have not sought out godly counsel but looked to my own ways. I do not want to be foolish but wise. I want to have all the information needed so I can make a right decision. Show me where I can go for counsel that will enlarge my understanding and increase my capacity to receive truth.

#### John 7:17-18

Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. Whoever speaks on their own does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him.

You always look to the heart, God! For those who truly want to do Your will, You grant understanding and greater discernment. I want a heart after Yours! I want to please You in all that I do and say. Thank You for sharpening my discernment as a result of following hard after You.

#### <u>John 8:31</u>

To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, "If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Faith in Your Word is what brings truth that sets us free! I will hold fast to Your teachings and Your directives, Lord. Thank You for revealing truth to me as I stand fast on Your Word and do not waver in unbelief. Thank You for increasing my ability to understand as I believe in You.

#### Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Alert me, Holy Spirit, when my thoughts and attitudes align more with the world than with Your truth. Forgive me when I have not known Your Word well enough to stand against the tide of popular opinion. Separate those ideas that come more from my flesh than from the realities of Your Spirit. I want to know Your good, pleasing, and perfect will for my life. Thank You for giving me Your Word that helps me agree with Your plans.

#### 1 Corinthians 2:14

The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

Without Your Holy Spirit, Lord, I have no comprehension of Your will for my life! I cannot journey on my own apart from Your Spirit. Alert me when I begin to operate in unbelief because I'm looking at things through my human eyes and not my spiritual eyes. Give me even greater faith for the truths of Your Spirit which boggle the human mind and challenge our limited understanding.

#### 1 Corinthians 12:10

To another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

Thank You for the gifts of Your Spirit which enable me to understand Your ways. I ask for this gift of distinguishing between spirits so that I can rightly discern the difference between that which is of the human spirit, the Holy Spirit, or a demonic spirit. Grant me the grace to recognize these differences so I can pray more effectively and respond in a way that brings blessing and good fruit.

#### Philippians 1:9-10

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God.

Thank You for the reminder that all discernment of truth flows out of Your perfect love. Fill me with more of this love so that my perceptions will be filtered through Your heart and not my own understanding. Fix my mind on what You deem good, right, and true, so that fruit will abound and You will receive all the glory for the answers.

#### Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any doubleedged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Thank You for Your Word, Lord! Thank You for this blueprint that gives me proper foundations for sound doctrine. Remind me to fill my mind and spirit with Your Word before trying to judge something I don't understand. May Your Word cut like a knife to my own heart so that I can be sharpened in my discernment and recognize what is true.

#### Hebrews 5:14

But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Lord, I want to grow and mature in my ability to rightly discern the truth. I know this comes as I practice on a consistent basis. May I learn to know You and Your words so keenly and so intimately that I will immediately recognize those voices and beliefs that are counter to Your truth. Teach me to separate lies and half-truths from the plumbline of Your Word.

#### James 4:8

Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

If there is anything that is affecting my ability to discern You, Lord, come and cleanse my heart and mind. Show me if any ungodly belief, offense, misperception, or unresolved sin is keeping me from knowing Your heart and will. Purify my heart of anything that is offensive to You so that I can be rightly focused on Your heart alone.

#### <u>1 John 4:1-3</u>

Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

Jesus, You are the Son of God and yet came to earth in full humanity. Unlike any other spirit that seeks to counterfeit the power of the cross and Your triumph over death, Holy Spirit testifies to this reality that You are fully God and fully human. Help me to recognize the source of any teaching that denies this truth.

#### (From THE ECCLESIA):

#### WORDS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

#### Psalms 35:23-24

Awake, and rise to my defense! Contend for me, my God and Lord. Vindicate me in Your righteousness, Lord my God; do not let them gloat over me.

As we wake up to our great need of You, Lord, we ask You to come and contend for us against our enemies. We have been overrun by threats and intimidation. Do not let our enemies have their way! Vindicate us and defend us so that we may rise up as one and declare the greatness of Your Name.

#### <u>Psalms 80:2b-3</u>

Awaken Your might; come and save us. Restore us, O God; make Your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Lord, we need to be awakened to the promise of salvation and the power of restoration. Come, Holy Spirit, and move mightily on our behalf to awaken a slumbering Church. Shine Your light upon us to separate out the lies from the truth. We cannot do this on our own, so we ask You to come and manifest the might and power of the Kingdom among us.

#### Psalms 119:148-149

My eyes stay open through the watches of the night, that I may meditate on Your promises. Hear my voice in accordance with Your love; preserve my life, Lord, according to Your laws.

Lord, I want to have my eyes wide open to what You are doing on the earth today. Keep me alert in intercession and help me to be a faithful watchman in prayer. As I plant Your Word in my heart, may I see things as You do and interpret rightly the activities of Your Spirit. Grant me even greater grace to stay awake and to call others to watch through the night.

#### Proverbs 6:20-22

My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you.

Father, I pray that You will draw Your people to feed on Your Word and plant Your truth in their hearts and minds. As You awaken us to the power of Your Kingdom, may Your Words come alive in fresh ways and direct us in the transformation to come. Speak to us through Your Words so we can stir the fires of revival and release fresh revelation from Your heart.

#### Isaiah 44:3-4

For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring, and My blessing on your descendants. They will spring up like grass in a meadow, like poplar trees by flowing streams.

Thank You, Holy Spirit, for pouring out upon our children and their children's children! Thank You for blessing our descendants with the power of Your Spirit to bring abundance and life in all they do. We declare that the generations to come will experience the fruit of our prayers and the manifestation of Your promises. May they see the realities of the earth being covered with the knowledge of Your glory.

#### <u>Isaiah 52:1-2</u>

Awake, awake, Zion, clothe yourself with strength! Put on your garments of splendor, Jerusalem, the holy city. The uncircumcised and defiled will not enter you again. Shake off your dust; rise up, sit enthroned, Jerusalem. Free yourself from the chains on your neck, Daughter Zion, now a captive.

To the Church in this hour I say, "Wake up from your slumber and clothe yourself with strength! Shake off the failures of the past and the limitations of the flesh. Shake off the chains that have bound you to doctrines of man and clothe yourself with the Spirit's power! Wake up, Ecclesia, to the destiny that is before you!"

#### <u>Isaiah 64:1-2</u>

Oh, that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before You! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make Your Name known to Your enemies and cause the nations to quake before You!

Lord, we look to that time when all of heaven will manifest Your glory on the earth. We ask for demonstrations of Your power that would touch all of Your creation. May the rocks cry out Your Name and may Your enemies fall to their knees in the light of Your presence and power. Rend the heavens and come down, Lord! Come and shake the earth with Your glory and might!

#### Joel 1:5-6

Wake up, you drunkards, and weep! Wail, all you drinkers of wine; wail because of the new wine, for it has been snatched from your lips. A nation has invaded My land, a mighty army without number; it has the teeth of a lion, the fangs of a lioness.

Holy Spirit, I send forth this declaration to all who are spiritually asleep, "Wake up and see the enemies at your gates! Wake up and see the threats that are before us! Wake up to see the devil crouching at your doors!" Father, I ask that Your Spirit stir the hearts of those who are apathetic to Your ways and alert them to the dangers ahead. May the fear of the Lord fall upon those who have yet to see the battles at hand!

#### Matthew 24:42

Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

Keep us alert, Holy Spirit, to the movements and activities of heaven. Remind us to stay awake and watch for what You are doing on the earth. Help us to be ready at any time to welcome Your presence and engage with Your Spirit.

#### Luke 9:32

Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men standing with Him.

Lord, forgive us for falling asleep on our watch and not realizing what You are doing! Help us to shake off the slumber and clear our eyes of sleepiness. May we see the fullness of Your glory and all that You are doing right in front of our eyes. Awaken Your Church to the glories of Your presence.

#### Luke 21:36 (ESV)

But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.

May I be faithful in prayer, Lord, in order to stay awake to Your plans and Your purposes. May I continually fill myself with Your truth so I can recognize what is happening. Thank You for strengthening me in avoiding the traps of the enemy and maintaining my righteousness before You.

#### Acts 2:6-7

When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?"

Holy Spirit, fall upon us with a fresh fire that will alert and awaken a deaf and dumb culture. May they hear the sound of awakening! May they hear You speak to them in supernatural ways! May Your Spirit be released in fresh ways to capture the attention of onlookers and those who have never heard of Your saving grace and power. May we, Your people, be conduits of the sounds of heaven to break the bondages of men!

#### Acts 2:46-47

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Draw Your people together, Lord, to be so hungry for fellowship with the Spirit and with one another, that revival fire would spread from house to house. May we learn a new joy in being a community that is on fire for You. May we model to our city the kind of love and power that can only come when fully surrendered to You. May salvation come and revival spread as we pursue You together each and every day.

#### Acts 3:19

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.

Lord, we need times of refreshing to renew our faith and strengthen our resolve. Show us any areas of our lives that are not clean before You so that we can repent and make things right. We want to be clear of any sin or compromise that would limit the outpouring of Your Spirit. Thank You for this work of Your Spirit to refresh, renew, and revitalize our faith for the days to come.

#### <u>Acts 12:7</u>

Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. "Quick, get up!" he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists.

Holy Spirit, I ask for angelic encounters and supernatural interruptions to wake people up from their sleep! Just as Peter was awoken by an angel, so awaken Your people to that which You are doing. May we partner with heaven in fulfilling Your words and seeing prayers answered. Poke us if You need to! Get our attention so we can break off our chains and walk through the enemy's camp, free from constraints and covered by Your presence. Thank You for waking us up to the freedom ahead!

#### Acts 16:27-30

The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Thank You for supernatural signs to wake us up, Lord! May You continue to shake everything that needs to be shaken in order to wake people from their spiritual slumber and call upon Your Name. Do what You must to open people's eyes to see the power of Your Kingdom and the transformation You want to bring. I declare that many will be awakened to their need for salvation and the power of Your Name to break off every chain of the enemy.

#### Romans 13:11-12

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.

Awaken us, God, to the realities of Your Kingdom that are here and now. Help us to not only see the works of darkness, but expose them and displace them with demonstrations of Your power. May we be Your light bearers and the ones to bring reformation and transformation to our land. For those still sleeping, I say, "WAKE UP! Today is the day of salvation and the manifestation of God's Kingdom on the earth!"

#### Ephesians 5:13-14

But everything exposed by the light becomes visible - and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Holy Spirit, awaken us to the truth and all that brings light. As the darkness comes into the light, may we wake up, rise up, and displace the darkness with Your glory and power. May we shine and reflect Your goodness and power for all the world to see.

#### 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8

So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

Set apart Your people, Lord, to stay on the alert and not fall asleep in the dark. Convict us of our tendency to waste our time and get distracted with lesser thing of the flesh. Remind us of our future so we will remain vigilant in keeping watch and preparing for Your glory to come. Fill us with Your Spirit so we will be motivated by love, fueled with Your faith, and expectant in hope.

#### Revelation 3:2-3

Wake up! Strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have found your deeds unfinished in the sight of my God. Remember, therefore, what you have received and heard; hold it fast, and repent. But if you do not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what time I will come to you.

Wake up Your Church, Lord! May your people look to their foundations to examine what they are standing on. Strengthen our resolve to build upon Your Word and establish truth and righteousness for the generations to come. Wake us up to the cracks and holes in our belief systems that are weakening our faith and causing us to miss Your purposes. May we finish the work You have begun and be faithful in our commission.

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