



National Day of Prayer Thursday, May 5, 2011 Church Event Planning Guide

Introduction:

As a pastor or church prayer coordinator, you know that there are few people who truly understand the power and importance of prayer. It's what sustains us, unites the church body and acknowledges our dependence on our loving God.

On Thursday, May 5, believers from across America will join together to celebrate the 60th annual National Day of Prayer. Since 1952, the National Day of Prayer has been a powerful reminder of our need to kneel before God's throne in the public square, regardless of cultural and denominational differences.

Step 1

Learn more about prayer events.

- Sunday Call to Prayer
 - On Sunday, May 5, 2011 believers will unite in prayer in churches across America. In preparation for the National Day of Prayer, we ask that you spend 10 minutes, during services, to recognize the need for personal prayer discipline and stress the urgency to pray on behalf of our nation and its leaders.
- Solemn Assembly
 - Sacred assemblies were times for God's people to confess and repent of their sins. They were times to renew the covenant relationship with the Lord and return to Him in faithful love and obedience. They were times for worship and sacrifice, feasting and fasting. Even with these regular opportunities to renew fellowship with God, His people tended to depart from Him and from obedience to His commands. Spiritual leaders knew that the sacred assembly was a time for corporate repentance in the face of God's righteous judgments (see Joel 1-2). A number of national revivals in

the Old Testament occurred in response to a sacred assembly.
- Claude V. King, Co-Author of "Experiencing God"

- Youth Group Freedom Rally
 - Freedom is an effort to call the teens of America to kick off the yearly celebration on the eve of the National Day of Prayer. In 2011, young people from coast to coast will gather together for a praise, prayer and outreach event on May 5. Freedom culminates in a youth-led observance consisting of worship, intercession and teaching. Visit www.Freedom365.org to learn more.

Step 2

- **Review the Resource Manual (PDF) located within this kit.**
- **Contact your State Coordinator for assistance.**
- **Order your event materials.**

The National Day of Prayer offers a 'Complete Event Kit' to help provide you everything you'll need to plan and host a large or small event. This kit includes a reusable banner and promotional poster, 30 Day Prayer Guides, Event Prayer Guides, Bulletin Inserts and other great hand-outs to remind attendees to pray year-round! [Click here to learn more>>](#)

Visit our interactive leadership map to find contact information for your state coordinator [here>>](#).

Step 3

Post your event. Over 6 million people will view the National Day of Prayer Web site, so be sure to list your event information by adding it to our Event Map. To add your event, choose the "Post New Event" link on the Event Map at www.NationalDayofPrayer.org/Events.

For more information and resources on prayer events for churches, visit www.NationalDayofPrayer.org/Coordinators