



The Shield

October 2021 edition

Praying for the Canadian Military Community



Preamble: Below are themes relevant to the ministry of the Military Christina Fellowship of Canada. We desire that you refer to these themes throughout October, time and time again, and pray for the community that God has invited us to bless.

PRAY FOR OUR COUNTRY

Throughout Scripture, we see God's people turning to Him in times of difficulty to seek assurance and guidance. We are in difficult times now. COVID has affect many physically and well and mentally.

Consider praying: *God, We have become people who are only interested in things that give us temporary pleasure. We no longer fear you, Lord. I ask you to forgive us. Purify this nation. Turn our hearts away from different idols that we have created as a nation and individuals. Help us to walk in ways that honor your Holy name. Amen.*

PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Romans 13:1 reminds us that God has ordained our leaders to rule over us, even those who do not know Jesus as Lord and Saviour. God also holds those leaders accountable to honour him with the authority he gives them. We have been invited us to pray for our leaders and we should do so as often as we can.

Consider praying: *Lord, this nation needs leaders with discerning hearts and wise minds. We come to you asking you to give us wise leaders that will lead this nation in the right direction. Remove wrong people that are corrupt and living against your word from influential positions. Let our leaders be people who honour your holy name for it is only from you that they will get true wisdom. It is in the mighty name of Jesus that we believe and pray, Amen.*

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY LEADERS

Regardless of the media may suggest, our military is lead by many ethical and moral men and women.

Consider praying for:

- **Sound mind** - ask the Holy Spirit to keep their mind clear of negative thoughts.
- **Foresight** - Pray that they seek Your Word and trustworthy and honorable counselors for right decision-making.

- **Humility** - *Pray that our leader will desire humility so they can receive God's favour.*
 - **Compassion** - *For those serving in war zones, death and destruction is often before their eyes. This can skew the perception of our world making their missions seem pointless.*
 - **Righteousness** - *Pray for God to raise up godly leaders and equip them to act according to His Word and will, and that our country's military leaders will make decisions that please God.*
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PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN AND THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

Our understanding of the nature of persecution is based on perspective. If we only see persecution as we think it exists in the Canada or the Western World, our understanding of worldwide persecution will likely be skewed. Churches are being burnt, leaders killed, congregations scattered.

Consider praying:

- *Pray for the wisdom of the persecuted church in the preaching of the gospel and evangelism.*
 - *Pray for boldness for Christians who are persecuted for their faith.*
 - *Pray for secret house churches that are meeting daily throughout the world.*
 - *Pray for Christian brothers and sisters who are imprisoned for the sake of the gospel*
 - *Pray for the power of the gospel to transform oppressive nations throughout the world by name*
 - *Pray that the burden for the persecuted church will be placed on our heart more heavily.*
 - *Pray that we will pray about persecuted believers in the world according to God's will.*
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PRAY FOR OUR SERVING MILITARY

Our military doesn't just need good men and women who can serve. Our military needs good men and women who will pray for them.

Consider praying this scripture: *"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you" Joshua 1:7-9*

PRAY FOR THOSE ON OPERATIONS

The following web link lists the current operations and military exercises involving the Canadian military. <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/list.html>

Will you visit this list daily and identify an operation and pray?

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY FAMILIES

The greatest thing we can do for our military families is to pray for them.

Consider praying for:

- **Spiritual growth** - Having a weak spiritual foundation leaves a military family vulnerable to adverse circumstances. Pray that Christ's power, His love, and His presence would be manifested in their lives
 - **God Provision for Strength** - Ask God for His Word to revive their hearts and refresh their spirits for renewed strength. Pray that God's power would be sufficient to face each day in His strength and confidence.
 - **God's Blessing Upon Their Home** Pray that God would be in the establishment of their home, as well as in the building of the "lives" of the home. Pray that the hearts of each military family would come to revere (respect, honor, and awe) the Lord.
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PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY WHO HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES HOMELESS

It is hard to accept that we have military colleagues who have become homeless living on the streets or in shelters in our cities. There are many reasons why this occurred, and we must be cautious not to point fingers or suggest blame. We can pray for them, and we can join support groups that exist to get them back on their feet.

Consider praying this scripture: *"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake, he became poor so that you through his poverty might become rich." (2 Corinthians 8:9)*

PRAY FOR OUR RETIRED MILITARY

Often, many leave the military with a deep sense of sadness. The fellowship developed within the military family is unique and the bonds created are difficult to leave behind. Many have not known anything but this military family. We can encourage our retired member by reminding them that they continue to have much to offer.

Consider praying this: *"Father, we are grateful for the decades of sacrificial service which our retired military gave on our behalf. We pray that in the years to come, they recognize. You are near them and want to bring them satisfaction and well-being. Remind them they can continue to serve their community, our nation, and our world. We ask that you be with them and bless them in every new endeavour. Amen."*

PRAY FOR OUR CHAPLAINS

Our chaplains serve everywhere our military serves, putting themselves at risk and leaving behind families and friends who care for them. We should that their ministry serves God's purpose and that they can be the witness He calls them to be.

Consider praying this: *“Heavenly Father, bless and protect our Military Chaplains. Fill them with the joy and courage of their vocation as personal ministers of Christ in preaching and nourishing us with the word; It is in the power and authority of Jesus’ name we pray this. Amen”*

PRAY FOR OUR CIVILIAN WORKFORCE

Teamwork is what keeps DND moving, and without military and civilian workplace harmony, our purpose can never be successful. We are thankful for the good relations with our DND workforce and must recognize that unity requires mutual respects and a common desire to complete the mission,

Consider praying this scripture: “Let the favour of the Lord our God be on us; establish for us the work of our hands— establish the work of our hands!” Psalm 90:17, CBS.

PRAY FOR THE MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP OF CANADA

The MCF’s sole purpose is to take the message of the gospel to the military community. They can not do this on their strength. It is with the power and strength granted to them by the Holy Spirit, they can succeed. Pray for the mission they have been invited to partake of and cover them with your prayers as they serve.

Consider praying this scripture: *“May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and everyone else, just as ours does for you. May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all his holy ones.” 1 Thessalonians 3:12-13*