



The Shield



June 2023 edition
Praying for the Canadian Military Community

Preamble: Below are themes relevant to the ministry of the Military Christian Fellowship of Canada. It is our prayer that you pick one theme daily and pray over it. There are thirty days in June you can go through the cycle three times. As you pray, identify a person or institution associated with that day's theme.

In addition, will you continue to join with the President of the MCF and others to commit to praying at 10:02 AM ET daily as we ask:

- Lord, please spread Your gospel throughout the military community.
- Lord, please use the MCF as an instrument of your messaging.
- Lord, please use me as one of your harvesters.

PRAY FOR OUR NATION AND ITS LEADERS

Since confederation, leaders and citizens have made mistakes blemishing the plan of God for all his creations to live in harmony. Until Jesus returns, our country will be led by many who do not believe in Him. We need to continue to pray that God's grace extends to our present and future leaders.

Consider praying this: "Father, at one time, many in our nation believed You were the reason for our blessings and that You ruled over this land. We know that is not the case today, and we ask that Your grace and mercy draw our citizens to You. Bless our leadership with the wisdom to lead with justice and mercy."

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY LEADERS

We are blessed with strong, dedicated, and loyal military leaders. Because they are human, some have failed morally, but that does not define our leadership corp. They serve selflessly, and we should be grateful for this. They need our prayers to help battle the conflicting messages of the world.

Consider praying this: "Father, many of our military leaders do not know You as the loving God who wants what is good for them and the rest of us. Evil has permeated our societies and us; we need these warriors to protect and defend the innocent. Father, invite them to know You. Jesus, keep knocking on their lives until they answer. Holy Spirit, soften their hearts to hear the truth. Amen"

PRAY FOR THOSE ON OPERATIONS

Today, around the world, men and women are serving our nation. They do this at the expense of their comfort and time with their family and friends. We should remember them in our prayers and continually ask for God's blessing.

Consider praying this: "Heavenly Father, it is unfortunate that we need the military to help preserve our peace and freedoms. Since our nation began, people have chosen to leave family behind in the fight against evil. Lord, we want them to know You as Saviour and ask that You protect them from harm while inviting them to the absolute peace and freedom You offer. Amen."

PRAY FOR OUR CHAPLAINS AND THE CIVILIAN MINISTERS SERVING OUR MILITARY COMMUNITY

Before Jesus ascended to the Father, He instructed us to take His gospel to all lands. While our military serves at home or on foreign soil, we are fortunate that men and women have accepted the call as chaplains to follow them and bring the gospel with them. We are also blessed that there are places of worship and Church families willing to walk with our men and women.

Consider praying this: "Heavenly Father, bless and protect our civilian Ministers and 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; we pray this in the power and authority of Jesus' name. Amen"

PRAY FOR OUR SERVING MILITARY

Our world has become more angry, aggressive, and evil. Injustice, greed, and cruelty are everywhere. Our military men and women serve in situations that often conflict with their morals. We pray their moral compass points to Jesus and that they can find direction and strength in His Word.

Consider praying this: "Heavenly Father, we praise You in advance for Your hand of protection over our military. They have answered a call to protect and defend their fellow compatriots, so today, we ask that You place a hedge of protection around them. In Jesus' name, Amen."

PRAY FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Military life often results in family separation due to service requirements. It is safe to suggest that there is a growing attack on marriage and families in this world. Indoctrination to particular agendas has become the norm, confusing and hurting families. Parenting has become more challenging because many choices are being taken away from them in our schools. Forcing world choices on families already in uncomfortable situations brought about by military life threatens to destroy relationships. Pray for your family. Pray for the families in your community. Pray for our military families.

Consider praying this: "Lord, may Your love encircle our military families as they endure the separation and hardships that can come with service life. May Your hope go before them, carrying them through the difficulties and stresses they face. May Your wisdom be beside them as they live and work in this unique lifestyle. Lord, keep them safe under the shadow of your Almighty wings. Amen"

DND EMPLOYEES

God invites us to be a light to the world. Fear prevents some from shining their light. It is encouraging to know that many of our civilian co-workers have the light of Jesus in them, and together we can be a force against the darkness.

Consider praying this: "Heavenly Father, as our civilian workforce enters their workplace, we ask that You accompany them and allow them to sense your presence. May they become aware of your comforting proximity. Amen"

RETIRED MILITARY

The reality of our relationship with God is summed up in these words: "If you are not dead, you are not done." Often when our military leaves the Forces, they feel alone and undervalued. The camaraderie, challenges and even difficult time have defined their life while they served. When they retire, this identity slips away, and for some, their sense of worth. Pray they find the truth that they can be part of a family and that there is much they can do in this world that brings glory to God and fellowship to their communities.

Consider praying this: *“Father, we are grateful for the decades of sacrificial service our retired military gave on our behalf. We pray that in the years to come, they will 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 MILITARY WHO, FOR WHATEVER REASON OR CIRCUMSTANCE, HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES HOMELESS

It is difficult to imagine how a military person becomes homeless. It is sad to accept that mental health issues have stolen the life of many of these dedicated, loyal men and women. Pray for them, and where possible, find a way to support the agencies that focus on helping our broken veterans.

Consider praying this: *“Father, it was not your plan that mental health issues would ravage your creation or homeless would exist in this rich world. Would You please help us become compassionate for those in horrible situations? Please tell us how we can help with our resources and time. Protect those men and women on the street until we can bring hope, a home, and companionship back to them. Amen”*

PRAY FOR THE MILITARY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP OF CANADA

The MCF recognizes that they have been invited to participate in God’s mission to take the Word to the world. Our mission focuses on the military community, both serving and retired and their families. Your prayers and notes of encouragement corroborate the mission, and we are grateful for the power of Jesus and the love of His children.

Consider praying this: *“Father, thank You for preparing the mission field unique to our lives and experiences. All glory and honour go to You for empowering your children to do the good work you have prepared for us. Keep us focused on the mission and the message and protect us from the evil ones who want to derail us. Amen”.*

