

# AN UNPRECEDENTED CALL TO PRAYER



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by [Dave Butts](#)

The World Prayer Assembly in Indonesia, May 14-18, 2012, was a wonderful time of prayer and fellowship with more than 9000 prayer leaders from around the world. I was there representing America's National Prayer Committee, a group I am privileged to serve as Chairman. God touched my heart in so many ways. One of the most significant things has to do with our fall elections. The Lord seemed to press in upon me that we must pray as never before if we are

It seems that a time of intense prayer for 40 days prior to our elections is in order. I have to confess . . . I argued with the Lord about this. I thought, *not another 40 day event!* But He was insistent that this be not another event or prayer gathering such as we have had . . . but something unprecedented in American church history. The testimonies of these amazing praying international Christians prompted much of this. We are talking about 40 days of 24/7 prayer!

To issue such a call to prayer is beyond the parameters of the National Prayer Committee or any one group. It needs to come from a wide-spread array of leaders. Denominational, para-church, seminaries, publishing houses, broadcast ministries, etc., must all be a part of this call to prayer. I'm not proposing a single event or activity for everyone to get behind . . . but a call for everyone to get behind something. I envision a dozen different <sup>40 day</sup> initiatives. I've already had a number come to me over the past few months.

This needs to go beyond what one ministry or denomination can do. My sense that this is a call to prayer for three things:

- The Elections—asking for the Lord's intervention.

- A righteous standard to be raised over the nation.

▪ Revival in the Church.

It seemed to me, first of all, that this call to prayer is essential for America. If we will mobilize and pray, we will see Him work. Without intense day and night prayer, we will not see the hand of God at work to transform our nation. The second thing is that I believe that many of the communities that do 24/7 prayer for 40 days will continue beyond that. We may well see a huge and immediate proliferation of 24/7 prayer across the nation as a result of these 40 days. It would be just like God to use something that we are interested in (the election) to produce something He is interested in (day and night prayer).

A website will soon be launched with further information to help disseminate the word about this vital prayer initiative. You will see information and links to other prayer initiatives that are focusing on this election. We are not endorsing these initiatives, but making you aware of them. Our intent is to stay far away from anything that looks like an endorsement or movement for any particular candidate or party. What we are asking for is the intervention of God on behalf of our nation.

Will you join us? The first thing you can do is go immediately to our new [facebook page](#) and "Like" us. This is so you can receive immediate information about the site and

the initiative as it becomes available. Click here to go to the [facebook page](#). Then help us get the word out!

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PRAYING GOD'S  
PURPOSES IN  
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*40 Days of Prayer  
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