

# KINGDOM COME PRAYER

An invitation from Alpha to pray for  
the Church and the world.



# WELCOME TO KINGDOM COME PRAYER

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2020. What a year. In many ways, we are grieving what is lost—the loss of health, the loss of jobs, the loss of loved ones. We also grieve the pain of deep divisions within our country. As we lament what is happening in our world, we are reminded of our dependency upon God.

Our God is a God of compassion, and it is through the Church that we see his kindness revealed. The physical buildings may have been temporarily closed, but the Church remains open! It was never about a building anyway. The Church is living stones—it's you, it's me, it's us! Through the activated faith of the body of Christ, we see a demonstration of the gospel.

Kingdom Come Prayer is about Jesus saving our broken world and the Church partnering with him through our prayers. As we gather to pray over these three days, God is depositing in us something stronger than the immediacy of what we see—he is giving us his heart! Let's come together, in whatever ways we can, and invite God's kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

[alphausa.org/kingdomcome](https://alphausa.org/kingdomcome)



# COME HOLY SPIRIT

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"On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: *'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.'*" (Acts 1:4, NIV)

In our fast food, 2-day shipping, infinite app culture, we rarely have to wait. But two things happen when we wait before the Lord. First, we acknowledge that we cannot go forward without him.

## **We need his presence.**

Second, when we wait, we sit with our true selves. This can be uncomfortable; we may see our heart and not like what we see. But in this real moment, when we pray "Come Holy Spirit," and present our true self, God chooses to connect with us, and we can receive his love. We receive his grace. His Holy Spirit comes upon us, and we can rest in his presence. What joy!

Right now, we invite you to take a few deep breaths to slow yourself down. Pray out loud the ancient prayer, "Come Holy Spirit!" and wait. Sit in silence for five minutes and welcome his presence—you with him and he with you.

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*Lord, thank you for your presence. Fill me again today with your Holy Spirit. Thank you that you meet me right where I am. Thank you for your love, grace, forgiveness, and salvation. I receive you in my life! In Jesus' name, Amen.*







# PRAISE THE LORD

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"We are hearing the sound of God's people singing."  
-Tim Hughes

In the United Kingdom, 69 different churches united in singing, "The Blessing" over the whole nation. The idea that God is lifting his Church to sing a song of blessing over the world is a beautiful demonstration of diversified unity. Let's take a moment to join in the sound of his people worshipping Jesus.

*"The Lord bless you  
and keep you;  
the Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn his face toward you  
and give you peace." (Numbers 6:24-26, NIV)*

## The UK Blessing

**Promises (feat. Joe L Barnes & Naomi Raine)**

**So Will I (100 Billion X) (Cross Worship feat. Osby Berry)**

**Take Me to the King (Tamela Mann)**

**ESPANOL: I Am Not Alone (Kari Jobe)**

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*Thank you, Lord, that you call us a people close to your heart. It is humbling and awesome that we can know you so intimately. There is no other god like you that would draw so close to his people. Praise the name of Jesus.*

# WITH ALL YOUR HEART!

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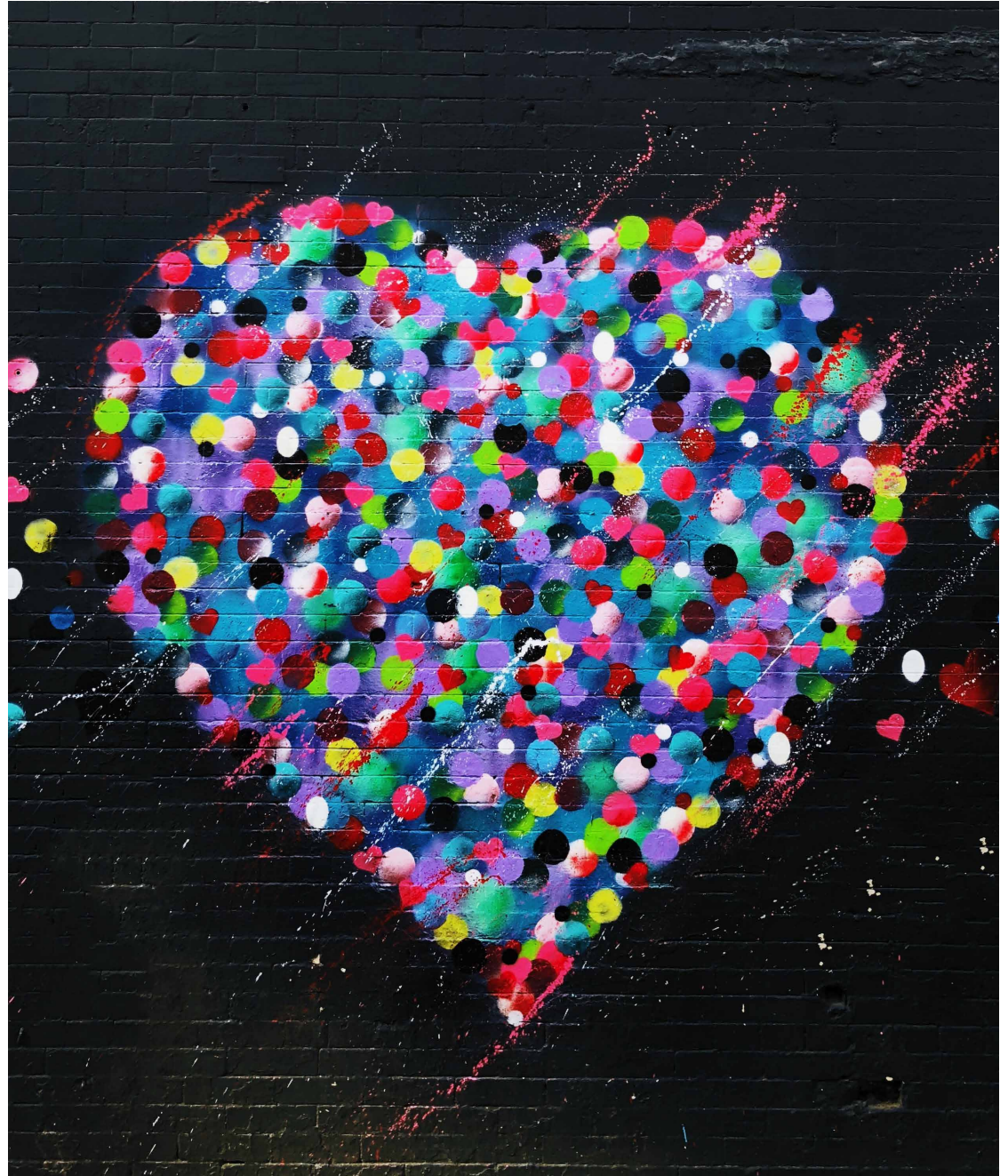
*"But if from there you seek the Lord your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul." (Deuteronomy 4:29, NIV)*

*"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:13, NIV)*

Renée Blanchard runs Alpha at West Shore Free Church in Pennsylvania. She commented, "Spiritual hunger is rising to the surface. It may look like anxiety or avoidance or anger, but it is actually spiritual hunger. We are hungry for the presence of God." Our whole being is continually seeking God. Even our emotions are saying, "We need you," whether we know it or not.

We are promised that when we seek God with all our heart, we will find him!

1. 2020 has been a hard year. Take stock of your emotions. How is your soul saying, "I'm hungry for God"? Invite the Lord into those places where your soul is hungry. What are you longing for?
2. Are there any areas of your heart that do not reflect the kingdom of God? Ask God to lead you to a place of repentance around anything that he stirs within you.





As you wait in silent reflection, ask God to deliver you from any hint of sexual immorality, racism, division, selfish ambition, hatred, fear, or slothfulness. Is there anything else that God is leading you to acknowledge so that you may find his healing forgiveness? Present your whole heart to God so that he may fill it with his presence.

3. Pray for the churches in your city. Pray that God's people would seek Jesus with all their heart and soul. Pray that the challenges of this year (Covid-19, racism, elections, the economy) would prompt people to turn to Jesus for help, guidance, and deliverance. Pray for the leaders of churches to reflect the kingdom of God.

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*Thank you, Lord, for the promise that when we seek you, we will find you! We pray that we would treasure your presence. We pray for the heart and soul of each person searching around the world. We pray that they would find hope in Jesus. We pray that this would be the moment the world says yes to you! In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*



# “COME AND SEE!”

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*“Then, leaving her water jar, the woman went back to the town and said to the people, ‘Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Could this be the Messiah?’ They came out of the town and made their way toward him.” (John 4:28-30, NIV)*

Churches are sharing exciting stories from hosting Alpha online:

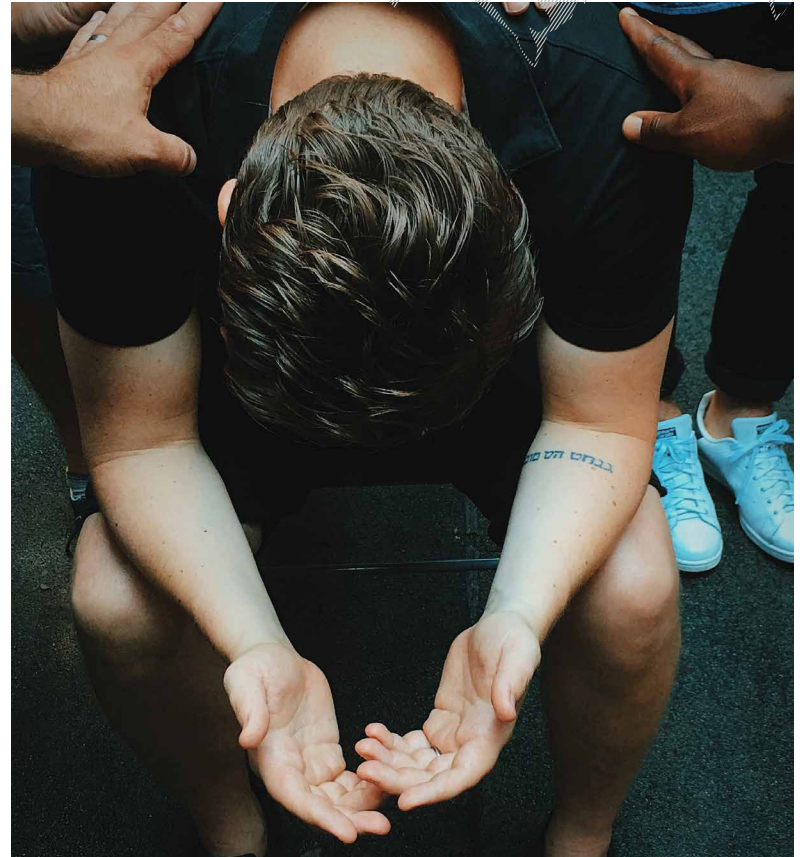
“More people than ever before!”

“Instead of attrition, we see retention and addition!”

We rejoice with the churches who are seeing so many people attend online; however, not all churches are having this same experience.

One church leader remarked: “Right now we are trading our fishing nets for poles, and we are going fishing—going after the one.”

Immediately, I am reminded of the woman at the well. To many, she may have appeared to be the least influential person Jesus could have spoken to in the village. Yet, in Jesus’ eyes, she was significant and deserving of love. Through the compassion of Jesus and the honest testimony of the woman, an entire town was converted! This is a great reminder that God loves all people and is delighted to use all people for his purpose. May we strive to be faithful and compassionate to the people that God has placed before us.







1. Which best describes your church? Are your nets filling up, or has God handed you a pole to fish for the one? Either way, celebrate how God is using your faithful service! Thank him for what he is doing.
2. Ask God for freedom and boldness to share your faith with others. Like the woman who shared her story with the town, pray God would use each unique testimony at your church to invite the whole town to "Come and see."
3. Welcome the Holy Spirit to reveal three people you can show compassion to and invite to the next Alpha at your church.

I pray for \_\_\_\_\_

and ask God to \_\_\_\_\_

I pray for \_\_\_\_\_

and ask God to \_\_\_\_\_

I pray for \_\_\_\_\_

and ask God to \_\_\_\_\_

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*Lord, thank you for your compassion and kindness. Thank you that you care about "the one." Come Holy Spirit. Fill us today that we may share your good news boldly with those who do not yet know you. In Jesus' name, Amen.*



# CHRIST'S BODY

*"He exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way." (Ephesians 1:20-23, NIV)*

In March, when the coronavirus grew into a global pandemic, it was a strangely unifying moment. "We are in this together!" However, just a few months later, our deep divisions were revealed. In Ephesians, we read that the Church is Christ's body, and when one part of the body suffers, the whole body suffers.

In the midst of our diversity across the global Church, we must keep Jesus Christ at the center. May we all be unified as we reach out with the good news of Jesus. And through our unity—through you and me—he fills everything with his presence!

- Thank God for his global Church. Pray that our churches will be guided and directed by the Lordship of Jesus Christ and not by the broken systems of this world.
- Raniero Cantalamessa, Preacher to the Papal Household, said, "What unites us is infinitely greater than what divides us!" Pray for the Church and bless all the things that unite us—Jesus, prayer, worship, sharing our faith, etc. Pray for God to melt away our unhealthy divisions. Confess the things of this world that have divided us.
- Love is what binds us together in perfect unity. Pray for the love of God to pour out on his Church. More love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.



*Let us pray together in the way that Jesus taught his disciples to pray:*

*"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*

*This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"* (Matthew 6:5-13, NIV)



# PRAYERS FOR ALPHA

Alpha USA's mission is to serve and equip the Church in its mission to help people discover and develop a relationship with Jesus. Please choose a few of these, and consider joining us in prayer for Alpha.

1. **Pray for Alpha Online.** Almost overnight, we developed a new context for Alpha. We are continually learning and adapting to give churches access to the best possible resources. There are many who are attending Alpha online who would have never considered participating in person.
2. **Pray for the Alpha USA team and the ways we work together.** In light of this year's events, there is no "business as usual." Pray that we would stay open, innovative, and adaptable as we discern internally and externally how to best support the Church.
3. **Pray for all the Alphas and Alpha Youths running this fall.** Many churches will be adopting a hybrid approach with in-person and online Alphas. Pray for discernment, encouragement, and a mindset of "Let's try this," even when it doesn't always go as planned. Pray that the fruit is too numerous to count and has an eternal impact.
4. **Pray for God to anoint 100 churches to act as hubs** for other churches learning to run Alpha by the end of 2020. Particularly pray that churches accelerating with Alpha Online could be an encouragement to others.
5. **Pray for the NEW Marriage Course that was released March 2020.** We have seen thousands of marriages around the world be blessed by this new resource. Praise what God is doing and ask for more!
6. **Pray that Alpha would grow dramatically within the racial and ethnic diversity of churches across the country.** God has opened doors with some early adopters who have been generous with their feedback and influential with other churches. Ask the Lord to bless them in their influence.



7. **Pray for the efforts to minister to people in prisons.**  
Pray that volunteers would be allowed to visit prisons again and that Alpha would grow in this challenging season. Pray that God would raise up chaplains and inmates who will lead Alpha for those behind bars.
8. **Pray for all the people who give financially to Alpha USA,** whether that be individual households, foundations, or government grants. Pray for their businesses, well-being, and for God to bless them in their generosity.
9. **Pray that God would draw millions of people to himself.** Come Holy Spirit. Do what only you can do!

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## Kingdom Come Prayer 2021

Mark your calendars for the next Kingdom Come Prayer on February 9-11, 2021.

Over the coming months, we invite you to prayerfully consider hosting a prayer gathering with other churches in your area. As a community, prayer is one of the most powerful things we can do as the body of Christ.

**How has your Kingdom Come Prayer experience been? We want to hear your stories! Email us at [prayer@alphausa.org](mailto:prayer@alphausa.org)**



**“I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of  
the Lord in the land of the living.”  
(Psalm 27:13, NIV)**

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Thank you for praying. You have made a difference in the kingdom of God.



[prayer@alphausa.org](mailto:prayer@alphausa.org) | [alphausa.org/kingdomcome](https://alphausa.org/kingdomcome)