

## **247@NECF PRAYER GUIDE March – April 2015**

### **1. For Personal Holiness and A Return to Our First Love**

- a. The restoration of the nation must first begin with our personal restoration. Pray for personal holiness and a conviction of sin in our personal lives. Let us pray beyond own personal preservation that we may live comfortable lives, but that God's kingdom will come and His will be done.
- b. Pray that the Christians in Malaysia have a readiness in hearts to remain strong in faith given the challenges ahead. Pray that we may fully understand the call of our Lord Jesus Christ to take up our cross and follow Him.

### **2. For The Restoration of Relationships**

- a. Pray for forgiveness from past hurts, in our personal relationships, within our families and in our friendships. Pray for restoration and reconciliation.
- b. Pray for reconciliation following the breakdown of our relationships within the Church so that the work of the Spirit may not be hindered, that others looking on may not be stumbled by our behaviour. Pray that we will not be easily offended but be willing to let go of the pain of gossips, unfair criticisms and false accusations, and forgive those who have hurt us. Pray that in the ministry of the Church, we may put relationships above ministry, love for one another above being right.

### **3. For the Revival of the Church – To be Holy, United and Return to Her First Love**

- a. When we see the deteriorating situation our nation is in, it is a stark reminder that it is a mirror image of what the church is. If we want to see a change in the direction of our nation, and the fulfilment of the Great Commission, then we must first fast and pray for the Church to be holy and refined as the Bride of Christ.
- b. Let us first pray for personal holiness in the lives of our church leaders and pastors. The Church can only move forward if our leaders lead holy lives and are focused on God's kingdom. Pray that God will reveal the sins that have taken place in the church and in the lives of church leaders, that there will be genuine repentance and restoration.
- c. Let us pray that the Church will prepare herself for the growing pressures ahead, work to strengthen the flock with boldness and courage.

### **4. For the Renewal of Communities**

- a. Pray that the Church may have a deeper theological understanding of its role in the renewal of the community and the nation through its influence in upholding justice and human rights, and in the work of being peacemakers in a world filled with strife and hatred. Pray for Christian communities to be a distinctive presence as light and salt in their neighbourhood, suburbs, towns and cities.
- b. Pray that the Church will work together and coordinate their resources in empowering impoverished communities in Sabah and Sarawak, and also the Orang Asli in Peninsular Malaysia.
- c. Let us pray that the Church will always be in the forefront of recovery and rebuilding in times of national crisis just as what we experienced recently in the Kelantan flood.
- d. Freedoms of minorities to be upheld and preserved:-
  - i. That the moderate will rise up and speak up against attempts to radicalize nation, which could lead to a free fall into extremism;
  - ii. That civil society and the Church will continue to speak up for the freedom of religion enshrined in the Federal Constitution to be upheld and defended for all.

5. **For the Alkitab To Remain Unrestricted for Use Even in Peninsular Malaysia.**

- a. The government has said that the decision of the Court of Appeal is only confined to the Herald's case. According to the 10-point Agreement, the government guarantees the use of the Alkitab for personal use in Sabah and Sarawak, and for praise and worship in Church.
- b. Let us pray that Sabahans and Sarawakians to have the right to exercise their personal freedoms when they are in the Peninsular Malaysia to use their Alkitab open in churches and in their homes and without any restriction.

6. **For the Nation's Political and Economic Situation**

- a. Pray for the government to address and reverse the slide in the economy. Pray for stability to return to the top leadership. Pray for the integrity of the national leadership and government to be above reproach. Pray for the next line of leaders that will succeed the current ones. Pray against gutter politics of hate-fuelled rhetoric and fear mongering.
- b. Pray for the judiciary, that honest and honourable judges will act without fear or favour. Pray for the home ministry, police, MACC, army, navy and custom department to execute their duties diligently and honestly in protecting the nation from corruption, criminal activities and threats.
- c. Pray that the nation's wealth to be wisely used. Pray for greater transparency and accountability in its management. Pray action to be taken against corrupt officers.

7. **For Sabah and Sarawak**

- a. Pray for the Sarawak government to work towards a clean and vibrant state. Pray for the Sarawak Church to be revived, that they will be fervent and united in prayer to cover the state and play a key influential role as the state enters into the next phase of preparation towards the elections.
- b. Pray that urgent measures be taken to care for Sabah's poor. Pray that federal funds will be made available quickly to assist the state government to build up the necessary infrastructure needed to further develop the economic status of the people, such as road access, schools, clean water supply and electricity.

8. **For the Parliamentary Sitting From March 9 to April 9, 2015**

- a. This is the first sitting of the year. Important bills are being prepared to be debated and voted on such as Hudud Bill, Anti-Terrorism Bill etc. Pray for wisdom, clarity and honesty, as the MPs debate issues that affect the nation.