

How Christians Should Respond to a Nation in Crisis

January 17, 2021 | Pastor Brian

*"You have shaken our land and split it open. Lord, heal it now, for it is shaken to its depths."
(Psalm 60:2, NLT/TLB)*

How God Brings Healing

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways..." (2 Chronicles 7:14, NIV)

1. ALIGN MYSELF SPIRITUALLY.

"If my people, who are called by my name..."

"Through Christ, God has given us the privilege and authority...to tell [people] everywhere what God has done for them, so that they will believe and obey him, bringing glory to his name." (Romans 1:5, NLT)

"The time has come for the judgment to begin, and it will begin with God's family." (1 Peter 4:17a, GW)

"Examine yourselves to see if your faith is genuine. Test yourselves. Surely you know that Jesus Christ is among you; if not, you have failed the test of genuine faith." (2 Corinthians 13:5, NLT)

2. CONFESS MY ATTITUDE HONESTLY.

"...will humble themselves..."

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." (James 4:6b, NLT)

"People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy." (Proverbs 28:13, NLT)

"You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had." (Philippians 2:5, NLT)

"Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude." (1 Peter 3:8, NLT)

3. PRAY EARNESTLY.

"...and pray..."

"Be earnest and unwearied and steadfast in your prayer [life], being [both] alert and intent in [your praying] with thanksgiving." (Colossians 4:2, AMP)

*"I urge you, first of all, to pray for **all people**. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for [rulers] and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and **pleases God our Savior**," (1 Timothy 2:1–3, NLT)*

*"Pray in the Spirit at all times with all kinds of prayers, asking for everything you need. To do this you must always be ready and never **give up**. **Always pray** for all God's people." (Ephesians 6:18, NCV)*

4. SEEK GOD PREEMINENTLY.

*"...and **seek** my face..."*

"[God] rewards those who earnestly seek him." (Hebrews 11:6, NIV)

*"Seek **the Kingdom of God** above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." (Matthew 6:33, NLT)*

*"We, however, are **citizens of heaven**. We look forward to the Lord Jesus Christ coming from heaven as our Savior." (Philippians 3:20, GW)*

"Live as citizens who reflect the Good News about Christ. Then, whether I come to see you or whether I stay away, I'll hear all about you. I'll hear that you are firmly united in spirit, united in fighting for the faith that the Good News brings." (Philippians 1:27, GW)

5. LIVE CIRCUMSPECTLY.

*"...and **turn from their wicked ways**..."*

*"See then that you walk **circumspectly**, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Ephesians 5:15–16, NKJV)*

"Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples." (John 13:35, NLT)

*"[Love] is not rude..." (1 Corinthians 13:5a, NIV)
"Love has good manners." (Ph)*

*"Show proper respect to **everyone**..." (1 Peter 2:17, NIV)*

*"We who are strong must be **considerate** of those who are sensitive about things like this. We must not just please ourselves." (Romans 15:1, NLT)*

HOW GOD RESPONDS WHEN WE RESPOND

*"...then I will **hear** from heaven, and I will **forgive** their sin and will **heal** their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14, NIV)*