

Message One: To Heal Our Nation Pastor Mike Chapman

These are crazy and turbulent times in our nation. Our nation appears to be as divided as it has ever been.

What will it take to unite our nation? Can our nation be healed and made whole? Honestly, it would take a miracle! But I serve a God of miracles, and I believe in miracles.

## EXAMINE OUR PERSPECTIVE

The 2016 Election did create the divide in our nation. It simply **revealed** it.

The perspective of many – including Christians – is that government can fix it.

We are giving the government a place it does not deserve and power it does not have.

If we as Christians are looking to a man or a woman or a group of men and women as the solution to these turbulent times, **shame on us**!

Colossians 3:1-2, Set your heart on what is in heaven, where Christ rules in the place of power and honor at God's right hand. Think about what is up there, not about what is here on earth.

Psalm 121:1-2, I look up to the mountains— does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth! NLT

We may have a new president, be we have the **<u>God and Savor and</u>** <u>his name is Jesus</u>

## THE MIRACLE WORKING POWER OF PRAYER

The call to prayer is not a simplistic answer to a complex problem.

When we work, we **work**. When we pray, God **works**.

James 5:16, The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. NLT

God calls for humility and repentance from his people.

2 Chronicle 7:14, If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. NIV

Before you look out the window to see what you need to pray for, look in the mirror. (Isaiah 6:5)

## THE MIRACLE WORKING POWER OF LOVE

Jesus calls us to lovers who bring **healing**.

John 13:34-35, I'm giving you a new commandment: Love each other in the same way that I have loved you. Everyone will know that you are my disciples because of your love for each other."

Love is a **<u>decision</u>** not just an <u>**emotion**</u>.

We are called to love the **lost**.

Luke 10:27, Love your neighbor as yourself.

## We are called to love **<u>cross-culturally</u>**.

Luke 27:34-35, A Samaritan, as he was traveling along, came across the man. When the Samaritan saw him, he felt sorry for the man, went to him, and cleaned and bandaged his wounds.

Seek first to understand before seeking to be understood.

We are called to love **<u>other Christians</u>**.

Galatians 3:28, In Christ...there are neither Jews nor Greeks, slaves nor free people, males nor females. You are all the same in Christ Jesus.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, let me sow pardon; where there is doubt, let me sow faith; where there is despair, let me sow hope; where there is darkness, let me sow light; where there is sadness, let me low joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be comforted as to comfort, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in forgiving that we are forgiven, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

- A Prayer of Francis of Assisi -