

Celebrate America

A. The problem.

B. The solution ... don't complain – pray.

- 1. Complaining is not effective - Prayer is.**
- 2. How do we pray?**

1 Timothy 2:1-4 (NLT) *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. ² Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. ³ This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth.*

C. Don't just pray.

2 Chronicles 7:14 *Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.*

- 1. Prepare for action (Spiritual boot Camp).**
- 2. Ask God for direction**

James 1:5 (NLT) *If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking.*

- 3. Take action, prayer/ (faith) is not enough.**

James 2:14-17.¹⁴ *What good is it, dear brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but don't show it by your actions? Can that kind of faith save anyone? ¹⁵ Suppose you see a brother or sister who has no food or clothing, ¹⁶ and you say, "Good-bye and have a good day; stay warm and eat well"—but then you don't give that person any food or clothing. What good does that do? ¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.*

D. God's response.

E. Action possibilities:

1. You can't do everything, but you can do something.

Decide to live unoffended! Decide to be nice.

2. See a need - meet a need however you can.

3. Pray for your neighborhood.