

I Thessalonians 5:25

Brethren, pray for us!

Today our military and their families are in desperate need of the prayers of every man and woman who calls themselves a follower of Jesus Christ! It doesn't matter one bit what your political views are, or who you would want for President, it doesn't even matter if you believe in this war or not!! Our young men and women are defending not only our freedom, but also those who are unable to defend themselves abroad. Many are suffering immeasurably as we sit back safely at home, and squabble about our politics and ideology. Countless of these young heroes are returning back to the states having left something behind. Perhaps it was a friend, a brother or maybe a limb, an eye or even their mental and emotional well being. Many also are returning to divorce papers, an unfaithful spouse, or perhaps bankruptcy and utter hopelessness. Yet, what is the church doing to help those who are facing these tragedies that are tearing apart our brave and strong? These young heroes are not out there to promote an agenda; we are doing that for them back here. They are simply going out facing the unknown on a daily basis. They watch as those closest to them die in their own arms. Yet, the next day they go out and do it again. Many times it is not the fear of dying or being wounded that weighs upon them, but their families back here in the states; the worries of their wife's car acting up again, a sick child or an unpaid bill.

Consider our Chaplains who are dealing with these young lives that are being lost or mutilated on a daily basis; how they wrestle with the horrors of war, both internally and externally. How they are often called upon to hold several memorial services a day, or to try and rationalize how a loving God could allow so much death and destruction. It was General George Washington that wrote fifty letters saying that chaplains belonged in the military; and thank God that he did. These men and women go into war zones without any weapon, but are armed only with the hope and love of Jesus Christ.

Our politicians are the ones making policies, but it is today's warriors who are called upon to uphold them. As these same politicians vacillate back and forth on their views, which are based more times than not on party lines and popularity polls, then they are in what is right and wrong! Time and time again, I have seen the hearts of believers swayed by the evening news. Yet our hearts need to be ever mindful of these our nation's finest. Regardless of polls and political lines, we must never stop lifting up before our Maker, our military. Church we need to corporately pray a hedge of protection around those on the land, the sea, or in the air. It is our responsibility to pray without ceasing!! Often as we are consumed with our lives and the fine details involved in each of them, these men and women often never know whether they will even have another day. It blessed my heart to see after Korea and Vietnam, ticker tape parades in New York for the heroes of Desert Storm; but we must never forget the soldiers who are over in harm's way today. America has become a nation who likes its wars short, with no casualties; and when the cost seems to extend beyond our comfort zone, we quickly want to cease from it, as if it were some game. I exhort you not to forget to pray for our military, and for their families. To lift up these courageous young and old who are often faced with paying the ultimate sacrifice for your freedoms and mine!!