

## **A call to prayer at tomorrow's services (Saturday 9)**

Dear friends and colleagues,

As we gather over Shabbat, we need to dedicate some time to intercessory prayer for our divided, confused, and grieving country. I urge our non-USA congregations to join in as well, interceding for their own countries as well as the USA.

Political divisions in this country have come to divide believers in Yeshua, along with so many others. Can we recognize this week's events as a wake-up call to reasonable dialogue, to mutual respect despite differences in opinions, and to the consequences of condemning one another's political differences under the guise of spiritual warfare? And of course these events remind us to renounce violence, including the irresponsible language that often incites it.

Abraham Lincoln quoted the words of Yeshua with concern for America in his time: "a house divided cannot stand" (Matt 12:25). Yeshua holds us responsible for our words and our attitudes toward each other, regardless of our differences. We who love the Torah are without excuse, for we are fully aware of the two great commandments Messiah taught us, including, "Love your neighbor as yourself."

In light of Messiah's teachings, please include a simple call to introspection, repentance, and prayer for our country in your time of worship this Shabbat. As the Lord said to Solomon:

When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. (2 Chron 7:13–14)

Our response to current events as followers of Yeshua is to humble ourselves, pray and seek God's face, and lead in turning back to him. May the peace and goodness of Messiah be with all of you and your communities this Shabbat. And may the Lord heal our land.

Shabbat Shalom,

Russ Resnik  
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