

Thank you, Planned Parenthood. God bless you.

by David Barnett

Most of the time, Pastor Mark Driscoll, founding pastor of Mars Hill Church in Seattle, Washington, stays well away from highly-charged political comments, choosing to focus on the spiritual growth of his flock.

As well he should.

However, the Christian life system can't exist in a vacuum, and Pastor Driscoll recently demonstrated he understands this principle. While preaching through a series on the Ten Commandments entitled, "Set Free to Live Free," Driscoll mentioned those politicians that often "wave the Jesus flag to get all the benefits without the obligations that are to ensue." He gave the illustration of a recent rally at the Iowa Capitol where Midge Slater of the Iowa Alliance for Retired Americans prayed to God for continued access to abortion, while two Democratic candidates for governor stood nearby with their heads bowed.

"My guess is, the children would disagree," said Driscoll. "Don't sprinkle a little 'God-talk' amongst a genocide. The Nazis did that."

The following Friday, Driscoll tweeted out an excerpt from his sermon:

How to take God's name in vain: "Thank you, Planned Parenthood. God bless you." #10Commandments <http://t.co/aMOB3xARMe>

– Mark Driscoll (@PastorMark) October 4, 2013

In the prayer, posted online by The Iowa Republican, Slater thanked God for doctors who perform abortions and prayed for their safety. She also prayed that elected officials support “a woman’s right to make her own medical decision” and for continued access to “all forms of birth control.”

“We give thanks and celebrate that abortion is still safe and legal,” Slater said.

The complete story was covered by the Des Moines Register.

Here’s my concern: What is happening to the leadership of our state? How can two candidates for governor stand by while a prayer like this occurs, and not say anything about it? And why wasn’t there a tremendous uproar over this? Where were the Christians – of all political persuasion?

This event and the lack of outrage it created tells me one thing – that the Church, the Body of Christ in Iowa is very anemic. The fact that a pastor in Washington state is more outraged about this prayer than anyone I have been aware of is disappointing.

“So,” you ask, “what needs to change?” My answer is “personal revival and leadership.” Self-governance and Spirit-governance seems to be a lost art. We need individuals from

all across our state and nation to rise up and take their responsibilities seriously and be men and women of courage – love Jesus with such a passion it is a secret to no one.

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National Day of Prayer May 2

Ways To Get Involved



From John Bornschein, Vice Chairman –

As you make plans for the National Day of Prayer, keep in mind there are numerous ways to get involved. It is amazing how fast a day will pass, so try participating in one or more of the following:

- **LIVE WEBCAST, FRC Men's Prayer Time** – On Wednesday, May 1, a prayer gathering of ministry, business and congressional leaders will take place in Washington D.C. and be broadcast LIVE via webcast from the Family Research Building. Speakers include Pastor Greg Laurie, Dr. Kenyn Cureton, Dr. James Dobson, John Bornschein and many others. [CLICK HERE](#) for more >

- **Find an Event** – Thousands of prayer gatherings are taking place across the United States on this 62nd annual National Day of Prayer. Chances are, there is an event right near you. To find out, click here and search by city, state and zip. Be sure to make sure the mile radius is set correctly or it may limit your search too much. Start with state and see where the Lord leads you. [CLICK HERE](#) for more >

- **Watch the National Observance LIVE** – Join Pastor Greg Laurie, Dr. James and Shirley Dobson, Congressman Robert Aderholt, Mrs. Vonette Bright, Mr. Pat Boone, Congressman Frank Wolf, Wintley Phipps, Chaplain Barry Black, The Annie Moses Band, Dr. Dick Eastman, Mr. David Butts, Mr. John Bornschein, and more LIVE from Washington D.C. – Thursday, May 2, 2013. This WEBCAST will be from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon ET, broadcasting LIVE from the Cannon House Office Building on Capitol Hill. The National Day of Prayer Task Force has partnered, once again, with GOD TV to broadcast this special event, which will be available to millions of viewers in more than 200 countries around the world. The program will also be broadcast on DirecTV channel 365 and streamed LIVE on this website. Look for re-broadcast times. [CLICK HERE](#) for more >

- **Make a Commitment to Pray for America** – If you don't know how to pray or maybe you want to learn more about prayer, we suggest several tools to get you started:
 - Download some FREE small group study guides
 - Download the new e-book on prayer, titled The Front Line
 - Pray for the 7 centers of influence in our nation
 - Take the E4 challenge and make the commitment to pray

- **Share Your Thoughts on Prayer With Others** – We have a prayer community of tens of thousands right online.

Since you most likely have a Facebook account, be sure to visit our National Day of Prayer Facebook community and write a short prayer for America – for your community, family, or even your friends. Then invite others to join with you in prayer. [CLICK HERE](#) for more >

- **Listen to the OneCry Prayer Summit online and on the Radio** – On the National Day of Prayer, OneCry will be live on hundreds of radio stations across the nation and around the world, uniting believers in prayer for revival. Listen live from your home, car, mobile device, or online at www.OneCry.com. We will be joined by Francis Chan, Matthew West, Nancy Leigh DeMoss, Nick Hall, U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black, and many others. Be sure to join us from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Eastern on May 2nd. Text NDOP to 59769 to get a reminder on the day of the radio summit.
- **National Prayer Call** – The National Day of Prayer will conclude with a National Prayer Call from 10:00 – 11:30 Eastern on May 2nd. A number of special guests will lead us in prayer and you will have an opportunity to join in a chorus of prayer as well. To participate, simply call 712-432-0075, and enter the PIN: 4961322#

So What's Next?

The National Day of Prayer is a catalyst for the prayer movement. It doesn't end on the first Thursday of May. Rather, it only begins! Make the commitment to pray and be sure to check back with us regularly for new resources, exciting events and great opportunities that are sure to help you grow in your prayer journey.

Starting, after Memorial Day, the National Day of Prayer is launching a national bus tour, so look for details coming soon on Commit2Pray.com – this will include a 5K Run in Camden County, NJ on the 4th of July. Then, this October, be sure to

tune in to the first global PrayerCast featuring the foremost teachers on prayer, LIVE. So mark your calendars for October 18-19 now.

See more at www.NationalDayOfPrayer.org

Source: <http://nationaldayofprayer.org/ways-to-get-involved/>

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