



Prayer for the Police

Jesus said, 'Could you not keep watch for one hour?'

Paul said, 'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for ... all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour' (1 Tim. 2:1-2).

A one-hour guide to praying for the Police Service

Time	Theme
0 – 5 minutes	<p>Praise and Thanksgiving</p> <p>Thank God for his presence, for hearing our prayers, for sharing his heart with us. Thank God for the work of the police, for their dedication to peace and justice. Thank Him that they are willing to do a job that is often sacrificial and challenging. Ask that even as you are praying, God will pour out his Spirit across our land.</p>
5 – 10 minutes	<p>Reduction in Crime</p> <p>Pray for a dramatic reduction in crime across the country and in your local area. Ask God to reveal any specific types or hotspots of crime that he wants to act on during this time. Pray about crimes that have affected you or people you know. Pray that God would break any strongholds, and bring peace.</p>
10 – 15 minutes	<p>Specific Types of Crime</p> <p>Pray that God will expose and root out violent crime, paedophilia, drugs, pornography, terrorism, domestic violence and child abuse. Ask for his wisdom and insight for those dealing with these types of crime. Pray for continued integrity and fairness in all that the police do. Pray for an end to anti-social behaviour, gang culture, knife & gun crime and youth offending.</p>
15 – 20 minutes	<p>Offenders – Change of Heart</p> <p>Pray for a change of heart in offenders. Pray that they would come to know God's love for them and find purpose in their lives. Pray that God would set them free from habitual and destructive behaviour patterns. And that there would be positive role models to get alongside them. Ask that God would help them turn their lives around.</p>
20 – 25 minutes	<p>Victims of Crime</p> <p>Pray for healing and peace for people who have been victims of, or affected by, crime. Ask God for a new sense of safety and hope. Pray that their experience would turn them towards God and not drive them away from him. Pray that God would help them to forgive those who have hurt them, so that they can be free from bitterness, depression and hopelessness. Pray that God would bring good out of their suffering.</p>
25 – 30 minutes	<p>Justice System</p> <p>Pray for the legal system, that it would truly be founded on God's truth and justice. Ask God to raise up more Christians in the legal system who will bring his light into dark places. Pray that people will feel confident to trust the integrity of the system, and that any breach or failure would be dealt with firmly and appropriately to restore confidence. Pray for wisdom and integrity for judges and magistrates, and all who administer justice.</p>

- 30 – 35 minutes **Leadership**
 Pray for Police and Crime Commissioners, all Chief Officers and all in leadership in your local police. Pray for wisdom in how they use the resources available to them as they face increasing budget constraints. Pray for the strategic decisions that they make in these very challenging times. Pray for health, strength and opportunities to relax.
- 35 – 40 minutes **Relationships with Communities**
 Thank God for the positive relationship that the police have in many communities. Pray for relationships with communities and groups who find it hard to trust the police. Pray that God would bring down barriers and build bridges. Pray that he would create opportunities for relationships to be built and for police and local communities to get alongside each other. Pray that police officers would show compassion, even in very difficult situations. Pray for protection over the police, physically, spiritually, emotionally, mentally as they engage with people who do not respond positively.
- 40 – 45 minutes **Marriage, Family, Work/Life Balance**
 Pray for police officers and staff – for their marriages and families. Pray that they would have opportunities to spend quality time with their families, and that they would be able to manage their work/life balance effectively. Pray for support and healing for those who have experienced traumatic situations in their work and find it hard to deal with them. Pray that there would be spiritual protection over them as they face some of the darkest aspects of human nature. Ask God to give them the qualities they need to be able to do their job and not to become hardened and cynical. Pray that they would find hope and peace in Jesus.
- 45 – 50 minutes **Restoration and Revival**
 Pray that God would work out his plan to bring love and hope into the lives of all who work in the Police Service. Thank him for the chaplaincy schemes throughout the service. Pray that Christians throughout the police would be willing to heed God's call to reach out to those who don't know him. Pray for the Holy Spirit to come in mighty power, bringing revival across our nation.
- 50 – 55 minutes **Christian Police Association**
 Thank God for the work of the Christian Police Association, and pray that all members would be a beacon of his light, responding to his direction. Pray for areas of the country where there is not a Branch of the Association, that Christians might be encouraged to join together and show a united witness.
- 55 – 60 minutes **Thanks and Passing on the Baton**
 Thank God for all that he has done while you have been praying. Pray for the next person or group who may be taking the baton of prayer from you, that God would stir up his passion in their hearts and lead them in a time of powerful intercession. Pray a blessing on them as they humble themselves and are obedient to His will. Pray for energy, focus and enthusiasm as they pray.

Thank you for taking the time to pray for your police and the policing situation in this country. It would be wonderful if you would continue to pray for the Police Service throughout the year and positively engage with the police in some way, if you are not already serving in that way.

You may find it helpful to look at the CPA CoAct website for ideas www.coact.org.uk