

MILITARY

“He appointed military officers over the people and assembled them...and encouraged them with these words: ‘Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the king of Assyria and the vast army with him. With him only is the arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles...” (2 Chronicles 32:6-8)

Let us remember that there are men and women far from their families and the comforts of home today; missing hugs and kisses, birthday parties and baseball games, praying for a safe return to the country and the people they love.

This is the United States military; some are our brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, parents, neighbors, classmates, friends. While we have not met most of those who serve, yet they risk their lives daily for our freedom. Many have made the ultimate sacrifice with their lives.

Please pray for these troops and their families. We may honor them on specific days, but their service makes a difference in our lives every day.

Pray these words or others as you are led.

Almighty God,

Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the men and women who serve our country now and in the past, and for the sacrifices their families make so that we can all enjoy the blessings of freedom. We praise you for calling them to protect us and for giving them the courage and ability to do their jobs well. We pray for courageous and wise leaders and equally courageous and obedient followers.

Guide their choices and their actions, Lord. Help them to see you working in their daily lives, whether in the field, at home, or abroad. Surround them with your mighty angels; protect them in your mercy and cover them with your grace.

Guard their hearts while they are far from loved ones and bless them with moments to cherish when they are together. Hold these families close, Lord. May they look to You for the strength and peace that only You can give.

Thy will be done. In Jesus’ name,

Amen.