

The original documents are located in Box 38, “10/2/76 - Remarks for the National Prayer Congress, Dallas, TX” of the President’s Speeches and Statements: Reading Copies at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

54
THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

TAPING: NATIONAL PRAYER CONGRESS, DALLAS TEXAS
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1976

I APPRECIATE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GREET THE NATIONAL PRAYER CONGRESS IN DALLAS.

AN OLD HYMN, I AM SURE YOU KNOW, TELLS OF A "SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER THAT CALLS US FROM A WORLD OF CARE."

AS PRESIDENT, DEALING EVERY DAY WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE NATION AND THE WORLD, I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT PRAYER PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MY LIFE AND MY WORK.

PRAYER HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN INSPIRING SOURCE OF STRENGTH AND PEACE FOR ME, AND IT HAS REMAINED VERY IMPORTANT TO ME AS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF MY PUBLIC SERVICE HAVE GROWN.

THAT STANDARDS OF HONESTY AND DECENCY WHICH PRAYER REINFORCES ARE ESSENTIAL TO REAL SUCCESS IN PUBLIC SERVICE.

THERE IS NO REASON THAT PUBLIC OFFICIALS SHOULD ABANDON
THOSE STANDARDS SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE.

I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT PRIVATE MORALITY AND
PUBLIC SERVICE CAN -- AND MUST -- GO HAND IN HAND.

PRAYER CAN BE A POWERFUL BRIDGE BETWEEN THE TWO.

MY SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS ALWAYS TAUGHT ME THAT
WHATEVER CAREER ONE PURSUES, WHATEVER YOUR STATION IN LIFE,
THERE IS ROOM IN YOUR LIFE, AND TIME IN YOUR LIFE, AND A NEED
IN YOUR LIFE FOR PRAYER.

THAT LESSON IS AS TRUE FOR PRESIDENTS AS IT IS FOR
FARMERS AND LABORERS, BUSINESSMEN AND HOUSEWIVES.

THAT IS THE MESSAGE WHICH THE NATIONAL PRAYER CONGRESS
ILLUSTRATE, AND I AM GLAD TO JOIN YOU IN THIS VERY WORTHWHILE
EFFORT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

END OF TEXT