Praying for our Media

These prayer pointers, prayer points, and written prayer were originally written by Peter Crumpler as part of the resources produced by and for The Church and Media Network for a special day of prayer for the media on Sunday 20 May 2012. It can, and should, of course be used other times, to ask for God’s wisdom and guidance for those who play such a vital role in shaping public opinion.

To find out more about why praying for the media is so important, and how your church can engage with them in other ways, read Peter’s inspiring guest blog Praying for, and engaging with, the media.

Some pointers on how your church could pray for the media

The media play a key role in our international, national and local networks and communities, so we need to be praying for them regularly, relevantly and with knowledge of the issues they are facing.

- Include the media in your regular prayers for the world, country or local community. Specifically name your key local media when you pray for your area.
- Include them in your prayer diary listings.
- Encourage people who work in or with the media in your church to talk about the pressures they face, and pray about the issues raised.
- Ask the local media to suggest what you might pray for them – they may be surprised to be asked!
- Use newspaper and website headlines and photographs as visual aids for prayer, and pray for the people who produced the reports – sometimes at great risk to themselves.

Prayer points (inspired by the written prayer below)

- Thank our Father for being a God who communicates with his creation – through scripture, through creation, through sending his son – the Living Word – and for the many different ways he speaks to us today.
- Thank God for writers, producers, broadcasters and journalists working in the media – for their abilities, skills and for all who seek after truth.
- Pray a blessing on our media, and ask that it would be characterised by wisdom and integrity.
- Ask God to raise up godly men and women journalists who will champion the powerless and seek truth and justice.
- Pray for yourself, your community, and our nation to be wise consumers of information and opinion.
Written prayers and prayer points

- And ask God to bless the relationship between the church and the media.

Written prayer

A prayer for the media

God who spoke the world into being and communicates with us still today;

We give you thanks for writers, producers, broadcasters and journalists, and all who work in the media. We thank you for their creative skills and technical abilities, and their persistence in seeking after truth.

We ask that they may have wisdom, integrity, insight and judgement in their work.

May they be a voice for the powerless, a challenge to the powerful; bringers of knowledge and clarity to an uncertain and confused world.

Help them to reach for the highest professional standards, especially when budgets are stretched, time is tight, and competition increasing.

May they resist the temptation to follow the consensus, jump to easy conclusions, pander to prejudice or cut corners.

Help us, who read, watch, listen and contribute to the media, to play our part by being wise and discerning, so that truth and beauty will be the hallmarks of our media.

We offer these prayers in the Name of the One who brought the Good News, declared himself as the Truth, and gave Himself for a world in need.

Amen.