



Paris Climate Talks prayer diary

This diary, put together by Tearfund with contributions from A Rocha International and Christian Reformed Church in North America, includes suggested prayers and/or prayer points for each day of the UN climate talks, along with suggested tweets for you to use to encourage others to pray. As the talks progress Tearfund will tweet prayer points reflecting the status of negotiations.

There is a **24/7** prayer room set up for those who would like to commit to pray for 1 hour during the climate talks: <http://www.24-7prayer.com/signup/d7ff49>

The following hashtags are being used around the Paris climate talks which we encourage you to use as you post on Twitter and pray: #pray4cop21; #paris2015

Saturday 28 November

'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.' - Genesis 1:31

Creator God, thank you that there is a process for agreeing action on climate change globally through these UN climate talks (COP). Thank you that many nations are already committed to tackle the issue, with action already taking place from local communities up to national governments. Amen

- Give thanks for action already happening at a national level. For example, the UK's Climate Change Act agreed in 2008
- Give thanks for the promise of \$100bn a year (to be delivered from 2020) made in 2009 at the UN climate talks, to help the poorest and most vulnerable communities adapt to climate change

Tweet: Give thanks that the climate talks are happening and that many nations are already committed to tackling the issue. #pray4cop21

Sunday 29 November

'Love your neighbour as yourself'. Love does no harm to a neighbour'. - Romans 13:9-10

- Thank God that so many people are standing and speaking up for action on this issue, with and alongside their global neighbours.
- Pray today for the many actions - including marches, vigils and petitions - taking place across the world. 50 marches, 2,000 events.
- Pray that decision-makers hear these calls for transforming action and deliver the needed change during the coming two weeks.
- Ask God to open up ways for communities that are most vulnerable to climate change to speak about the action they need to those in power.

Tweet: Thank you God that so many people are speaking up and acting on climate. We pray that those in power hear this and act. Amen #pray4cop21

Monday 30 November

Father God, on this day as many world leaders are expected to attend the negotiations, please will you work in their discussions, whether public or private, to bring consensus and ambition on the commitments needed. We ask that their negotiations will not be characterised by talking with little action, and that all country leaders will be heard, not just those seen to be the most powerful. Amen

Also pray that:

- leaders and decision-makers to hear the call for the action needed
- media attention around the talks would increase the level and ambition of action agreed

Tweet: Pray today for consensus and ambitious commitments from world leaders as they arrive at the talks. #paris2015

Tuesday 1 December

Please pray today for the following to be agreed during the climate talks:

- a legally binding agreement so that nations keep to their commitments
- countries to pledge appropriate emissions reductions to keep global temperature rise below 2°C with ambition to move towards 1.5°C.
- a clear plan to mobilise the 100bn a year committed for climate finance by 2020 that was pledged in 2009.

Tweet: We pray today for agreement on a legally binding climate treaty, including pledges to keep global temp rise below 2°C #paris2015 #pray4cop21

Wednesday 2 December

‘Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. - Proverbs 31:8-9

Please pray today for:

- everyone who has a role communicating the issue of climate change: from those explaining it to friends and family, to public figures including politicians and the media. Pray that they may find the right words and stories to get the message across.
- scientists seeking to present their research around these issues. Pray that they may be able to communicate the detail and any complexities with clarity and without losing any richness in the data.

Tweet: Pray today that those who have a role communicating climate change find the right words to have impact #paris2015

Thursday 3 December

Please pray today for all of the people around the world who are facing the very real threat of having to leave their homes due to the effects of a changing climate. Whether because of salinised soil, rising tides or unbearable drought, millions of people are migrating to escape the effects of climate change. Give thanks to God today for the gift of home: your church, your house, your family and remember those whose homes are no longer safe.

Creator God, thank you for the gift of home. We remember today those for whom home is no longer a place of safety and refuge, but of change and uncertainty. Comfort and protect those who are forced to leave their homes and strengthen those who stay. Amen

Contribution from Kyle Meyaard-Schaap who is the Creation Care Coordinator at the Office of Social Justice for the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Tweet: Give thanks to God for the gift of home remember those whose homes are no longer safe because of climate change.

Friday 4 December

Please pray today for those attending the conference who are seeking to influence decision makers, whether they are part of country delegations or civil society. Pray that they may get access to those they need to speak to, and articulate their message clearly especially when they are delivering it on behalf of others.

Dear Lord, thank you for the many people who are attending the climate talks in Paris. Please inspire and sustain them and help them to seek and follow your will. Amen

Tweet: Pray for those seeking to influence decision makers that they may get access and be able to articulate their message.

Saturday 5 December

Pray today for the event **A Christian Response to Climate Change** - organised by A Rocha International and Lausanne Creation Care Network, taking place in Paris today.

- Give thanks for those who have the opportunity to engage with these issues for the first time through this event
- Give thanks for the speakers at this event, and many others across the world, who work to

communicate the issue of climate change

Tweet: We're halfway through the talks. Pray for wisdom and energy for the coming days. #paris2015

Sunday 6 December

Lord God, thank you that you are present at all times and in every situation. I ask that you will guide every conversation during the climate talks, whether it seems small and insignificant or vitally important, to bring about good for your earth and your people. We pray in particular for those who are involved in the specific details of agreements, especially that they will have the ability to concentrate even when they are tired. Please help those trying to influence discussions to articulate their concerns and proposals helpfully, and provide access to those decision-makers they most need to speak to. Amen

Tweet: Lord, guide every conversation in Paris and help all involved to articulate their concerns helpfully, and listen carefully. Amen

Monday 7 December

Father God, thank you for the commitment by the richest countries to provide \$100bn a year (by 2020) to help the poorest and most vulnerable countries respond to climate change. We pray that they won't shrink from fulfilling their commitments. Please guide all discussions around this, particularly the negotiations on climate funding and climate adaptation. Amen

Pray also for:

- protection, strength and perseverance for poor communities who are being pushed further into poverty by the changing climate
- the global church to be bold as it speaks out for governments to respond

Tweet: Thank God 4 the climate finance already going to those most vulnerable to climate change. Pray 4 agreement on delivering money promised.

Tuesday 8 December

'Because of climate change, I was not harvesting enough and wasn't able to feed my family. If I had the opportunity to face world leaders today, I would give them the facts, so they would believe that climate change is really affecting us now.' - Nyasa, a farmer in Malawi. Pray today for Nyasa and all other people whose livelihoods and food supply are impacted by climate change.

Tweet: Pray today for people across the world whose livelihoods and food supply are impacted by the changing climate.

Wednesday 9 December

Please pray today for all of the government negotiators that are working hard to reach a robust global agreement on climate change. Countless hours have gone into the preparations for these talks, and there are still several difficult negotiating points to be navigated. These men and women are gifted diplomats, but they will need more than shrewd negotiating skills to achieve a just outcome during the climate talks; they will need the power of the Spirit of God.

Holy God, we pray for all of the negotiators who are poring over text, wrangling over language, and seeking concessions as they build a global agreement on addressing climate change. In the midst of late nights and endless meetings, remind them for whose sake they work. Send your Holy Spirit to empower them, that they might seek the welfare not simply of their respective countries, but of your good creation and those who are left most vulnerable by the effects of climate change.

Contribution from Kyle Meyaard-Schaap who is the Creation Care Coordinator at the Office of Social Justice for the Christian Reformed Church in North America.

Tweet: Pray today for all negotiators working hard to reach a good climate deal. #paris2015

Thursday 10 December

We pray today for A Rocha's work internationally to tackle the effects of climate change; as the impacts are felt on every living thing on land and at sea; migration patterns of birds, insects and other animals; and the timing of plant germination. Pray that all its work - research, forest restoration programmes, advocacy, teaching and community training - will have the impact needed.

Tweet: Pray for ambitious and fair emissions reductions internationally, especially from the richest countries.

Friday 11 December

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' - Psalm 24:1

Father God, we thank you for Tearfund's work through local churches and organisations helping communities adapt and develop sustainably. Please bless this work and give wisdom to help those making decisions direct money, resources and expertise where it is needed most. Amen

Pray also for final negotiations and decisions in the coming hours and days to reach the fair, ambitious and binding conclusions needed. Pray that the voices of the people Tearfund serves are heard in the corridors of power.

Tweet: Pray also for final negotiations and decisions in the coming hours and days to reach the fair, ambitious and binding conclusions needed.

Saturday 12 December

'For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.' - Colossians 1:15-16

- Thank God today once more more His creation. Give thanks that He is in control
- Pray for an outcome from the climate talks that protects the poorest and most vulnerable people across the world
- Visit www.tearfund.org/paris for updates on the outcome of the talks (these will come once talks are finished)

Tweet: Pray for an outcome from the climate talks that protects the poorest and most vulnerable people across the world

Sunday 13 December

And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. - Micah 6:8

As the talks conclude for this year, our journey for more action on this issue is not over. Reflect today on any ways you are acting justly, loving mercy and walking humbly. Give thanks for the movement of Christians across the world who are acting, praying and living differently in response to climate change. Ask God to show you what you should stop, continue or start along this journey.

Tweet: Give thanks for the movement of Christians globally - acting, praying & living differently. Ask God to guide you in your response.