



FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL
Presiding Bishop Joseph W. Walker, III

Grace and Peace Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship,

We are now one month into the longest government shutdown in U.S. history. What we have learned is that this shutdown is actually a symptom of a great sickness. The real shutdown is in the moral courage of our current political leadership. Politicians have chosen divisiveness and partisanship over the needs of the people of this nation. As a body of concerned spiritual leaders, the Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International feels compelled to respond. This moment demands a clear, prophetic call for compassion, action, and repentance.

We extend our love and prayers to all of the nation's federal employees being impacted by this insidious decision. Approximately 800,000 federal workers have not been paid in a month. Many of those workers are still forced to work because of the importance of what they do. To every family impacted, we are praying for you and your families. We believe that God is still able to supply all of your needs. We encourage you to keep your eyes open and your head high in anticipation of witnessing God move on your behalf. To that end, we have listed a collection of resources and opportunities below that we pray will assist you in the days to come.

<http://www.211.org/services/govshutdown#>

<https://www.cnbc.com/2019/01/16/20-companies-offering-discounts-during-the-government-shutdown.html>

We challenge the Trump administration and our Congressional leadership to place people before politics. We must remember that behind the data of the shutdown are the faces of real people. You serve the nation and are being compensated for it. Now imagine trying to perform a vital function in a federal agency knowing that you will not be compensated, while those who are responsible for the shutdown are still being paid. Furthermore, there are families that are now unable to make ends meet without a paycheck, many of whom were barely making it with a paycheck. Children are being introduced to hardship by the very country they pledge their allegiance to in school. This is indefensible and shameful. We charge you to do what is right before God and the great people of this nation: end this cruelty and reopen the government.



We encourage all Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International churches to be attentive and supportive of our members who are impacted by the shutdown. Seek to find creative ways to provide pastoral care and resource support for all who are struggling at this time. We applaud those churches that have risen to the occasion and are providing additional assistance to their members. We also celebrate those pastors who may be impacted themselves by the shutdown, yet are still ministering to their congregations. We stand with you in solidarity and in prayer.

Let our stance be very clear. Continuing this shutdown is both unnecessary and heartless. It must come to an end so that hardworking people can get back to their normal lives. To President Trump and U.S. Congressional Representatives, you owe this to your constituency. Do the right thing. End this suffering. Reopen the government.

We're asking everyone to join us in declaring these prayer targets individually and corporately during your mid-week services this week and on this Sunday.

Prayer Targets:

1. We pray that multiple avenues of supply would be released to those impacted by the government shutdown.
2. We pray for an immediate breakthrough in negotiations that would bring a sudden end to the government shutdown.
3. We pray that the faith of those affected by the government shutdown would prevail in spite of what it looks like.
4. We pray that all impacted by the government shutdown will recover all back pay.

Live Full,

Bishop Joseph W. Walker, III
International Presiding Bishop
Full Gospel Baptist Church Fellowship International