

DEVOTIONAL

Hollywood Prayer Network

GOD'S HEART FOR HOLLYWOOD

For God So Loved Hollywood – This week we're focusing on understanding and praying for Hollywood, the world's most influential mission field. Christians in Hollywood are on the front lines of ministry and they need prayer and support. So, our prayer is that you will catch the vision of the importance and global impact of Hollywood and choose to pray for the people there as you watch films and TV shows, hear music, and play video games.

"For God so loved HOLLYWOOD that He gave His only son, that WHOEVER in Hollywood would believe in Him, should not be destroyed, but have everlasting life."

Check out the video "[Hollywood Prayer Network on God's Heart for Hollywood](#)"

DAY 1

GOD LOVES CREATIVE PEOPLE

"IMAGINATION IS THE BEGINNING OF
CREATION. YOU IMAGINE WHAT YOU DESIRE,
YOU WILL WHAT YOU IMAGINE, AND AT LAST,
YOU CREATE WHAT YOU WILL."

-GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

New International Version

Genesis 1:1,27

In the beginning God created the heavens
and the earth...So God created man in his
own image, in the image of God he created
him; male and female he created them.

Exodus 31:1-5

Then the Lord said to Moses, "See, I have
chosen Bezalel son of Uri, ... and I have filled
him with the Spirit of God with skill, with
ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts—
to make artistic designs for work in gold,
silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to
work in wood, and to engage in all kinds of
craftsmanship.

DAY 1

PRAY: Lord, I thank You that Your first act was creation. You created the universe and then mankind in Your image, and it was “very good.” You made us creative and You chose Bezalel as the first artist in the Bible. You have also given us creative gifts and the desire to be creative. Help me to celebrate the creative leaders in Hollywood, for You made them and they have given us beauty and powerful stories through entertainment. Amen.

REFLECT: For decades, Christians have boycotted TV shows, films, and studios. They have talked against Hollywood and even stopped their children from pursuing careers there. Why so much animosity toward this industry? God’s first act was creation and He honors creative people throughout the Bible. It’s because the enemy recognizes the impact of TV, films, music, and video games on our culture. Are you allowing the enemy to convince you that Hollywood is evil, or can you embrace God’s love and support of those creative people? What are your feelings? Can you see it as the world’s most influential mission field?

ACT: Evaluate your attitude about the Hollywood entertainment industry. To you, is it a reflection of God’s creativity or is it evil and full of sinners? If you don’t like Hollywood professionals, ask God to change your mind and your heart to reflect His view of them. Pray now for Him to reveal to you the importance of entertainment and then to change your heart.

DAY 2

THE WORLD'S MOST INFLUENTIAL MISSION FIELD

"FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT ARE A PERVASIVELY IMPORTANT PART OF OUR CULTURE, AN EXTREMELY SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE ON THE WAY OUR SOCIETY OPERATES... BUT, FOR BETTER OR WORSE, THE INFLUENCE OF THE CHURCH, WHICH USED TO BE ALL-POWERFUL, HAS BEEN USURPED BY FILM. FILM AND TELEVISION TELL US THE WAY WE CONDUCT OUR LIVES, WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG."

-GEORGE LUCAS

New International Version

Jeremiah 29:4-7

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile...: "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Marry and have sons and daughters... Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

DAY 2

PRAY: Dear Lord, You told the Israelites exactly what they needed to do in exile. And You've also called Christians into Hollywood – a place often considered "exile." Help me understand this mission field and to pray for the Christians there to settle down, plant gardens and have children, so that there will be future generations of Christians in Hollywood. Lord, help them to seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which You have carried them. Please bless it, because if Hollywood prospers then the Christians there, too, will prosper. Amen.

REFLECT: Have you ever considered Hollywood to be a place of exile? It's very hard to live in LA – U.S.'s third most expensive city. The entertainment industry is extremely competitive, with high unemployment and divorce rates. We should pray for the Christians there to resist the enemy's attacks of discouragement, isolation and despair, and for the Lord to give them favor, income, friends, Christian community and work. We need to pray for the peace and prosperity of Hollywood, for both the Christians and those who don't yet know Him!

ACT: Commit today to pray for the Christians who have been sent to Hollywood. Make a list of 5 people – friends, family, or celebrities – and pray for each of them every day this week. Pray for favor, work, and for them to make an eternal difference in the world's most influential mission field. Your prayers can change lives, give hope, and open doors for people in Hollywood needing to experience the unconditional love of God.

DAY 3

JESUS WAS THE BEST STORYTELLER

"THERE IS NO GREATER AGONY THAN
BEARING AN UNTOLD STORY."

-MAYA ANGELOU

New International Version

Matthew 13:34-35

Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. So was fulfilled what was spoken through the prophet: "I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter things hidden since the creation of the world."

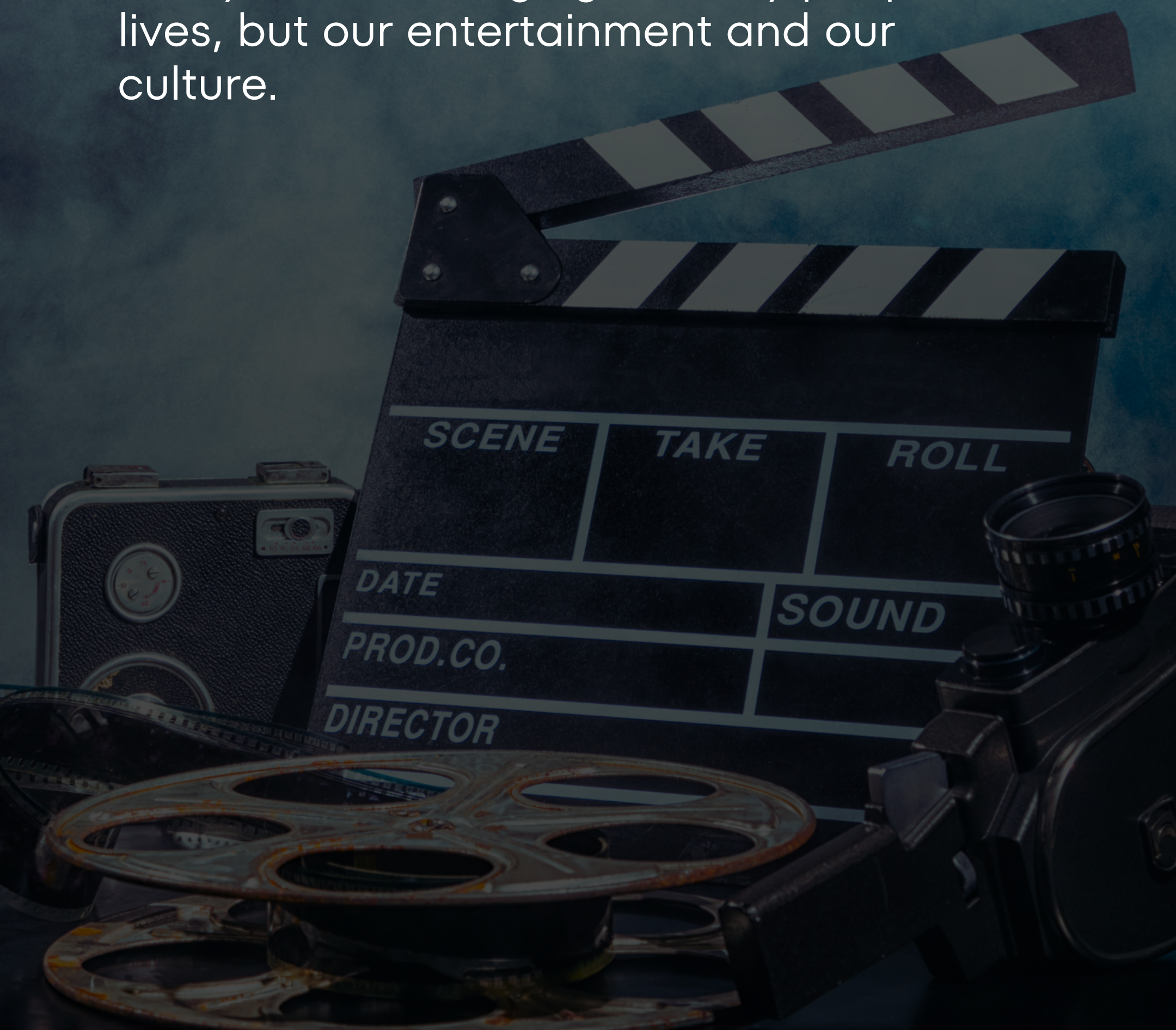
DAY 3

PRAY: Dear Jesus, thank You for Your example of speaking to the crowds through parables, so we can see the importance of storytelling. You fulfilled prophecies that said You would speak in parables and utter things hidden from man's heart since the creation of the world. You know exactly what we need to understand Your gospel. Thank You for speaking to us through paintings, stories, music, and parables so we can grow more Christ-like. Amen.

REFLECT: Jesus was the best and most powerful storyteller ever. He used parables, props, and referred to cultural issues and politics of the day to get His points across. Even God's prophets were artists and foretold, through stories and performance, that Jesus would come. Today's artists are prophets, for they profess either what's to come or what is happening now in society. And artists have always been upstream of the politicians, for they prophetically reflect our world, while the politicians just respond through legislation. God reminds us that artists, prophets, and storytellers are a crucial part of our society, and Jesus is our role-model. Does that make you look at movies, TV shows and songs in a new light? How do you need to adjust your beliefs about Hollywood to embrace these truths?

DAY 3

ACT: Look for TV programs, current films or songs that are parables. Whether you agree with them or not, can you see how they are either reflecting or commenting on our society and our culture? Even radio talk show hosts often prophetically talk about our world. Choose two of those shows, films, or songs and commit to pray for the writers, directors and producers of those shows. Ask the Lord to touch their hearts and lead them to Him, so that their lives and their work reflects His values, desires, and passions. As you pray, know that you are changing not only people's lives, but our entertainment and our culture.



DAY 4

DON'T HATE THE PEOPLE IN HOLLYWOOD

"TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS OURSELVES
IS SUCH A TRUTH FOR REGULATING
HUMAN SOCIETY, THAT BY THAT ALONE
ONE MIGHT DETERMINE ALL THE CASES
IN SOCIAL MORALITY."

-JOHN LOCKE

New International Version

Leviticus 19:18

Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge
against one of your people, but love your
neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord .

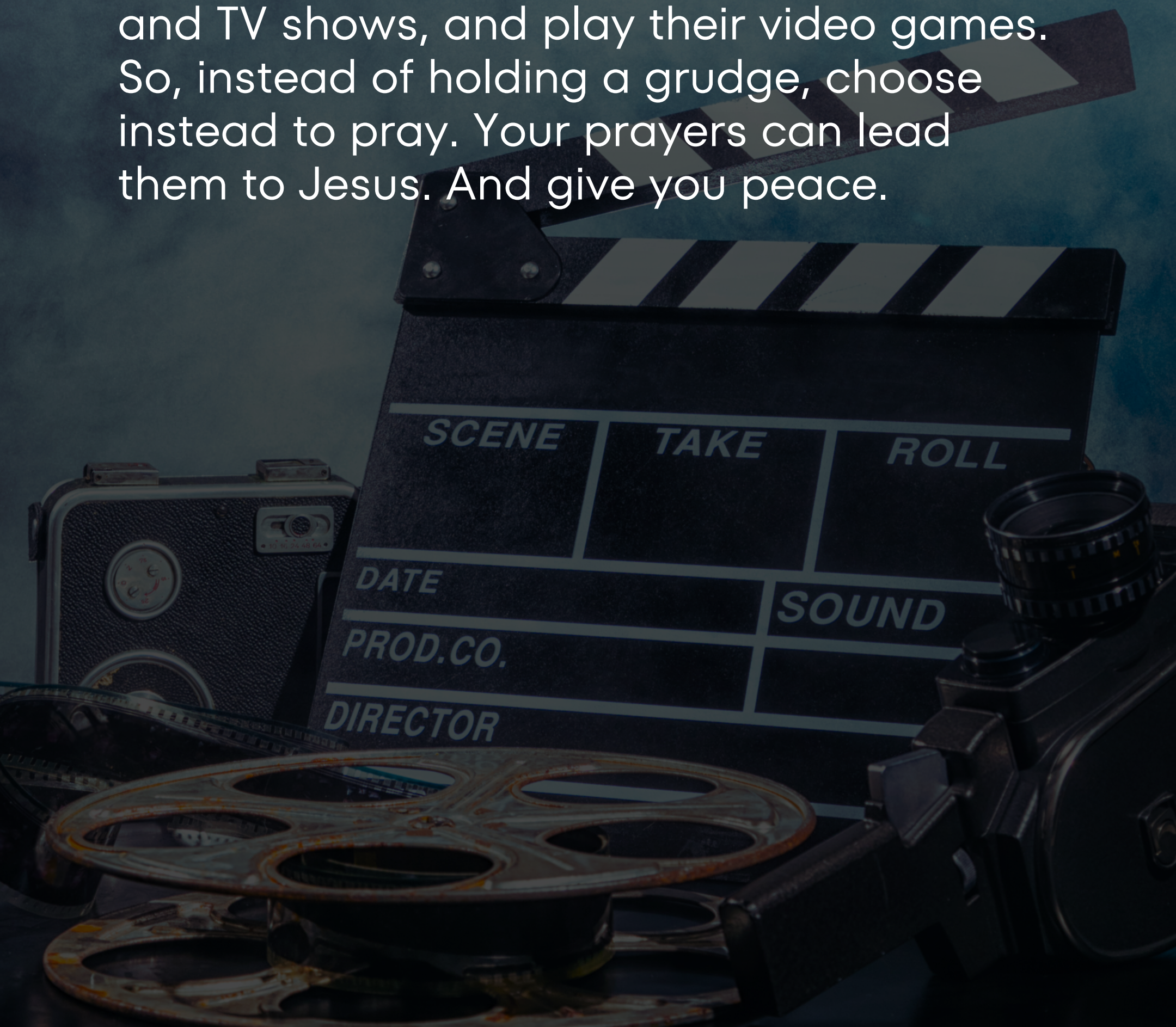
DAY 4

PRAY: Dear Father, help me focus on the needs and brokenness of the creative community in Hollywood. Help me to love these people and to stop the Christians who talk against the creators, actors and executives in entertainment. Help me not to seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone, but to love all my “neighbors” as myself. May we Christians not get angry at Hollywood or hold a grudge against them for what they produce or how they act. Let me love them with Your non-judgmental, unconditional love – for You are the Lord! Amen.

REFLECT: When you see an offensive TV show or a film with bad language or explicit sex, or you read an article about the people in Hollywood, what do you do? Can you remember, Hollywood is full of creative, intelligent people who are leaders and global influential culture-shapers – they just don’t know Jesus! They need your prayers for the Lord to redeem their brokenness so they can experience life-transforming salvation. Your heart needs to break for the people who don’t know God, His hope or His love. You can’t seek revenge or bear grudges, but love these “neighbors” as yourself. How can you change your heart so that you respond to this people group with loving prayer and compassion?

DAY 4

ACT: Make a mental list of the films, TV shows, songs, and video games from Hollywood that have gotten you angry. Also list the people in Hollywood you have talked against after reading a magazine article or hearing the news. Ask the Lord to soften your heart and start praying for these people. Invite the Lord into their lives to bless them and give them His hope. Every time you judge someone in Hollywood, stop yourself and pray for them instead. They are God's creation and are influencing people across the globe who listen to their music, watch their films and TV shows, and play their video games. So, instead of holding a grudge, choose instead to pray. Your prayers can lead them to Jesus. And give you peace.



DAY 5

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN HOLLYWOOD

"I PRAY TO BE A GOOD SERVANT TO GOD, A FATHER, A HUSBAND, A SON, A FRIEND, A BROTHER, AN UNCLE, A GOOD NEIGHBOR, A GOOD LEADER TO THOSE WHO LOOK UP TO ME, A GOOD FOLLOWER TO THOSE WHO ARE SERVING GOD AND DOING THE RIGHT THING."

-MARK WAHLBERG

New International Version

Genesis 28:3

May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples.

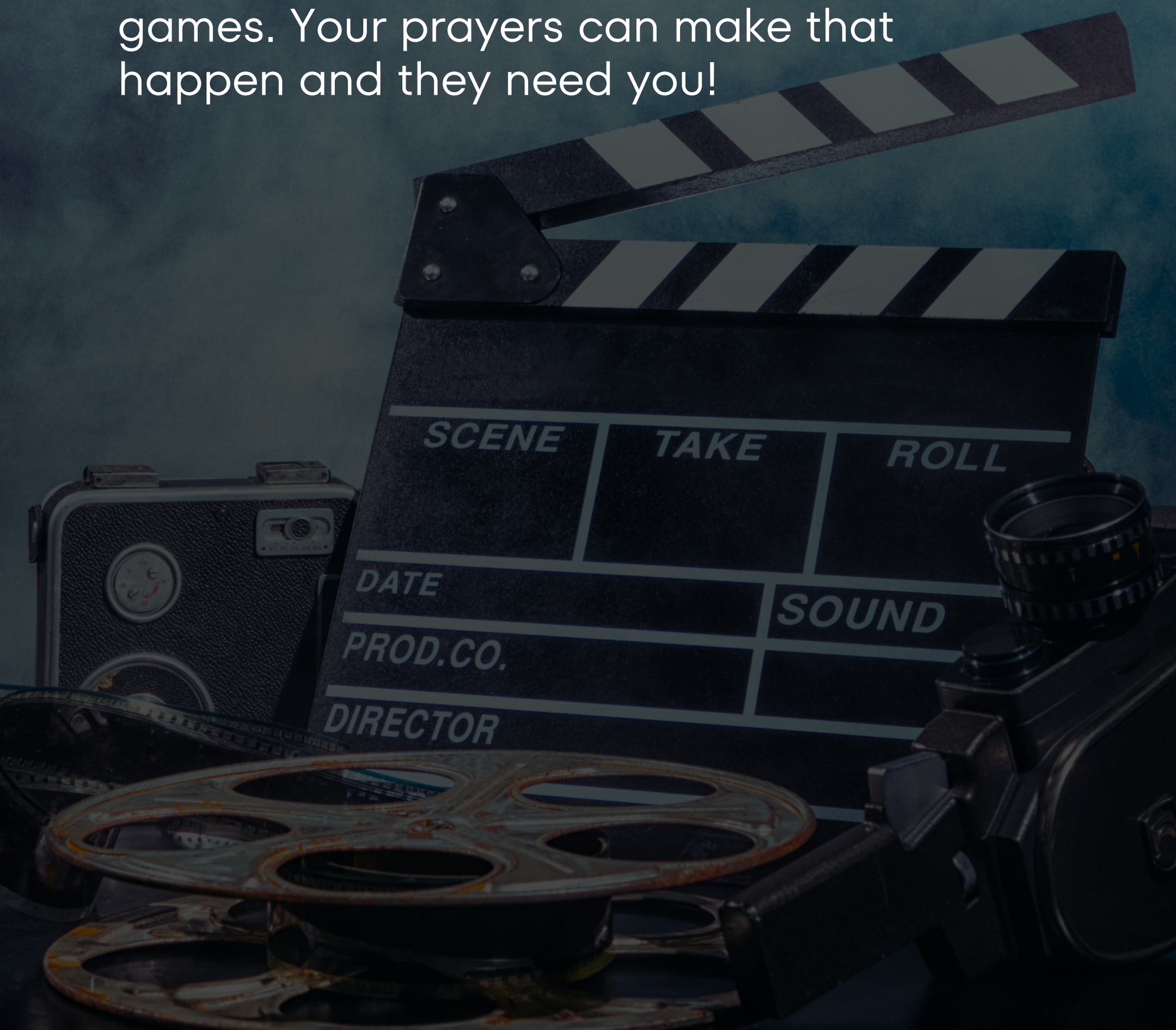
DAY 5

PRAY: Almighty God, please bless the Christians who live and work in Hollywood. May You continue to make them fruitful and increase their numbers until they become a powerful, visible, loving community. Lead the thousands of young creative Christians who arrive in Hollywood every month to find a church and a Christian small group, in order to grow spiritually. Let them develop deep relationships, be discipled and grow strong in their faith, and create projects of truth and beauty. Lord, only You can gather the Christians, and grow them into an eternally influential community of Christ followers and great artists. Amen!

REFLECT: Artists all over the world need strong communities, for they need one another, just as you need your church family, small group, or Bible Study group. Living in a Christian community helps people grow spiritually, get empowered to share their faith, increase in numbers, bear more fruit, and become more prayerful. Christians in Hollywood need a Christian community in order to develop friendships and be in discipleship. Praying for creative professionals is powerful, for God made each of us with the same needs, struggles, and hearts. Wherever we are, Christians need other believers to bear fruit, grow, and thrive!

DAY 5

ACT: Take out a piece of paper and write a prayer that you would like someone to pray for you. Maybe it includes having close Christian friends and family, bearing fruit in all you do, growing deep roots or being impactful in your community, being a part of an active, loving church, etc. After you're done, pray that same prayer for the Christians in Hollywood. They are all God's children with the same desires, hopes and dreams that you have. Also pray that the Christians in Hollywood impact people around the world with their lives and their TV shows, films, music, and games. Your prayers can make that happen and they need you!



DAY 6

THE NON-BELIEVERS IN HOLLYWOOD

"THE UNDERLYING MESSAGE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS THAT IF SOMEBODY CARES ABOUT YOU, IT'S POSSIBLE THAT YOU'LL CARE ABOUT OTHERS. 'YOU ARE SPECIAL, AND SO IS YOUR NEIGHBOR' – THAT PART IS ESSENTIAL: THAT YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY SPECIAL PERSON IN THE WORLD. THE PERSON YOU HAPPEN TO BE WITH AT THE MOMENT IS LOVED, TOO."

-FRED ROGERS

New International Version

1 Thessalonians 5:9-11

For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

DAY 6

PRAY: Dear Jesus, how do I pray for the people in Hollywood who don't know You? I know that You don't want them to suffer wrath, but to receive salvation through You. You died for them, as well as for me, so those who choose You may all live together with You for eternity. Help me to pray for the people who influence me and my children with the entertainment they create. Help me to see the people in Hollywood with Your eyes and Your heart, and to learn how I can be loving, supportive, and compassionate towards them. Amen.

REFLECT: What a struggle it is for human beings to separate our emotions and our limited understanding with the truth of the gospel. God does not appoint wrath, anger, or judgment on anyone, but rather salvation. Jesus died for every one because He wants us all to have eternal life, and that includes Hollywood professionals. Pray for them to be transformed by your loving God. Replace any anger, frustration, or judgment with compassion, patience, and prayer. People in Hollywood are just as worthy of experiencing God's love as we are.

DAY 6

ACT: Commit a few minutes now to one celebrity in Hollywood who is a pre-Christian. Write his or her name on a piece of paper and ask the Lord to break your heart for that person. Pray that they don't suffer wrath, but experience God's hope, joy, peace, kindness, and salvation. Ask God to take away their suffering and to allow them to live in community with believers who can love them with Christ's love. Can you love them from afar, with the pure love of Jesus? Keep praying until you experience breakthrough.



DAY 7

THE GLOBAL AUDIENCE

"WE ARE SO CONFORMIST; NOBODY IS THINKING. WE ARE ALL SUCKING UP STUFF; WE HAVE BEEN TRAINED TO BE CONSUMERS, AND WE ARE ALL CONSUMING FAR TOO MUCH."
-VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

New International Version

Romans 12:2

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.

DAY 7

PRAY: Lord, I want to focus on the Christians around the globe who consume entertainment. Don't let them, or me, conform to the pattern of this world, but let us be transformed by the renewing of our minds. May I be able to test and approve what Your will is, and not be influenced or changed by the media or entertainment I'm watching. I want to enjoy my entertainment, but not let it influence Your good and perfect will for me. I need discernment for what to watch and listen to. Help me enjoy but not be conformed by entertainment. Amen.

REFLECT: How many hours do you spend watching or listening to entertainment? Do you think and talk about it and process what you are consuming as much as you think and talk about what you read or listen to at church or in your quiet times? Most people spend more time consuming media than they spend with their families and God combined. So, what impact is that having on your heart and brain? It's not bad to watch and listen to films, TV shows, music, or video games. It's a matter of how you evaluate and process the messages. What do you like about them and how do they influence you? Ask God to show you how to evaluate your entertainment and how to challenge others around you to do the same.

DAY 7

ACT: What is the TV show, film, or music that has most influenced you? Do you know why? Evaluate what's good and bad about it. Start talking about the entertainment you consume so that you become more discerning. Don't conform to the pattern of this world, but have it inform you, so you can better evaluate God's perfect will for your life. Ask the tough questions about your entertainment consumption, tell someone else what you're thinking, and choose to start a new pattern of processing, evaluating and talking about it to others.

