

**PRAYER FOR CONGRESSIONAL AWARD
GOLD MEDAL CEREMONY
CVC Auditorium
Wednesday, June 21, 2017
Dr. Barry C. Black**

O Lord God, whom no one has seen nor can see, You are our loving creator, who not only designed the heavens with the sun, moon, and stars, but You also made each precious life here.

Thank You for this 2017 Congressional Award Gold Medal Ceremony and for the 373 young Americans we honor today. We praise You for these young people who have invested their talents faithfully in keeping with the highest standards of this great land.

In the days to come, bless and keep each award recipient. Give them hindsight to know where they've been, foresight to know where they're going, and insight to know when they've gone too far.

Give them enough happiness to bring contentment, enough trials to keep them strong, enough success to keep them eager, and enough determination to cherish the gift of each moment. Let Your strength pilot them, Your wisdom instruct them, Your hand protect them, and Your Word direct them.

Challenge them when they are too well pleased with themselves, when their dreams come true simply because they dreamed too little, when they arrived safely simply because sailed too close to the shore. Push back the horizons of their aspirations and dreams, leading them into a future fueled by faith, focus, and fortitude.

We pray this in Your wonderful Name. Amen.