

# Night of Prayer and Worship

Small Group Leaders Kit

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We are asking each of our small groups to host a Night of Prayer and Worship each month. Each night will consist of a prayer guide, scriptures to pray through, worship, and communion. This kit is designed to give you the tools you need to create each of these components.

### Goal of Night of Prayer and Worship:

To encourage small group members to seek God through prayer and worship and to create an environment that fosters intimacy with God. **We want to facilitate God encounters.**

### Encountering God/Praying in the Spirit

What does it mean to experience God in a tangible way? How does He manifest Himself to us?

His Word:

- Jeremiah 15:16 - Jeremiah devoured God's Word
- Psalm 119:105 - David said the Word was his lamp to guide him
- 2Timothy 3:16-17 - God uses His Word to teach, convict, correct, prepare and equip us

The Word is the gold standard by which every other experience of God is validated. If it is not consistent with the Word of God, it is not from Him. He will never violate His Word.

His Presence:

- Genesis 3:8 - He walked with Adam in the garden
- Psalm 16:5-11 - David experienced God right beside him
- 1Timothy 5:21 - Paul knew he was in God's Presence
- John 16:7 - Jesus "traded up" by sending the Holy Spirit in His place

His Voice:

- Isaiah 30:18-21 - God says He will speak to us. There are many ways He has demonstrated this by speaking audibly, in our thoughts, impressions, visions, dreams, through others and through circumstances. He loves to communicate with us!
- John 16:12-14 - The Holy Spirit will talk with us

His Peace:

- Romans 14:17; John 14:27, 16:44; Philippians 4:7
- Peace is the atmosphere, the recognizable environment of the Holy Spirit.

### Raise the expectation level to experience God.

- **Pray in the power of the Holy Spirit**
  - Jude 1:20 (NLT) But you, dear friends, must build each other up in your most holy faith, pray in the power of the Holy Spirit
- **The Holy Spirit will speak to us the words of the Father; pray what the Spirit tells you to pray. This will be the factor that determines the depth of your encounter with God.**
  - **John 16: 5-15 (NLT)** <sup>5</sup> "But now I am going away to the one who sent me, and not one of you is asking where I am going. <sup>6</sup> Instead, you grieve because of what I've told you. <sup>7</sup> But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you. <sup>8</sup> And when he

comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment. <sup>9</sup> The world's sin is that it refuses to believe in me. <sup>10</sup> Righteousness is available because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more. <sup>11</sup> Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged. <sup>12</sup> "There is so much more I want to tell you, but you can't bear it now. <sup>13</sup> When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but **will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.** <sup>14</sup> He will bring me glory by **telling you whatever he receives from me.** <sup>15</sup> All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, '**The Spirit will tell you whatever he receives from me.**'

- We are a literal dwelling place of the spirit, we host the presence of God always
  - **Ephesians 2: 18-22 (NLT)** <sup>18</sup> Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. <sup>19</sup> So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. <sup>20</sup> Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. <sup>21</sup> We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. <sup>22</sup> Through him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by his Spirit.

## Prayer Model Introduction

There are many different types of prayer models. You may choose one of the ones presented or choose one of your own. You may even find that rotating models works best for your group. Use whatever structure helps the group press into God's Presence and experience Him.

### ACTSL Model

The ACTSL model is an acronym that stands for **A**doration **C**onfession **T**hanksgiving **S**upplication **L**istening. This is a versatile prayer model that can be adapted to any theme you would like to cover. It can be prayed individually and/or corporately. The ACTSL model is a tool to help guide your small group members into the presence of God.

**Adoration** is worshiping God. Beginning our time of prayer by adoring and praising God brings richness to our prayer life. Praise Him for who He is and for all that He has done for you as you express the abundance of your love to God. Worship puts us in a place of humility before Him and our hearts and minds become aligned with His. List scriptures and encourage members to use them as a model for worshiping the God who loves them.

**Confession**, the next component, means agreeing with God about the things that you have done wrong. It's a time to express sorrow about what you have said, thought, or done that is not pleasing to Him. Ask God to forgive you for these things, and then believe that He does so freely. When you confess your sins, you receive God's cleansing and this helps to remove any barrier in your communication with Him (**read 1 John 1:9**). List scriptures and encourage members to use them as inspiration, asking God to reveal any unconfessed sin. As your group grows in trust they will be able to confess to one another. James 5:16

**Thanksgiving** lifts our minds and our hearts and keeps God’s character right in front of us – lover, healer, provider, sustainer, and counselor. As we get our minds off ourselves and onto God and His faithfulness we gain perspective. List scriptures and encourage members to use them as a springboard to express your thankfulness to God.

**Supplication** is praying for your needs and for the needs of others, such as friends, family, your pastor, missionaries, government leaders, and persecuted Christians around the world. God wants us to pour our hearts out before Him. He delights when we trust Him with our deepest needs. He wants us to ask Him (**read James 4:2**). List scriptures and encourage your members trust God with their needs and to remind Him of His promises. You may also consider listing suggestions for them when they are praying for the church.

**Listening** is God sharing His heart with us. All relationships require two-way communication. God waits patiently for us to listen for His voice. He wants us to know His will and direction - His mind. He yearns to show us His deepest nature – His heart. Ask God questions and listen for answers. List scripture that show that God speaks to His people and encourage your members to listen and record what God reveals to them.

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating and implementing prayer models. There is an example ACTLS prayer model available for your use in Appendix C.**

Source: Adapted from: <http://billygraham.org/answer/how-does-one-pray-ive-never-been-taught-how-to-say-a-personal-prayer-or-really-talk-to-god/>

### Acts 1:8 Missions Model

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

*<sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

This model can be used to encourage your members to pray that the gospel of Jesus Christ would reach their: Local Community, State, Continent, and World. This frequently looks like praying for the local church, state conventions, North American mission boards, and international mission boards. You may design the model, however, you like. The goal is to pray using a near to far shift of focus.

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating and implementing prayer models. There is an example Acts 1:8 prayer model available for your use in Appendix C.**

### Acts 1:8 Personal Prayer Model

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

*<sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

The Acts 1:8 personal prayer model is built around the idea that we all have a Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth, areas of relationship or influence that we can pray into. Each individual can decide what these areas represent. For instance, this model can represent areas in a person’s life, such as: Jerusalem = me and my family; Judea = my church, job, extended family (those whom I interact with regularly); Samaria = my community and the ends of the earth = the world.

Have small group members list and record their personal Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and ends of the earth.

Pray into each sphere. This can be done individually or corporately, where members take turns praying into their “Jerusalem”, “Samaria”, etc. If praying corporately, don’t leave one sphere until the Spirit tell you to leave. Embrace silence. We can’t hear God speak unless there is quiet space. Resist the temptation to exclusively pray lists. Our goal is to listen to the Holy Spirit speak to our spirits and tell us what to pray. Many times He will tell us things we never would have thought of, or go to depths we never would have entered. When listening corporately, He ends up telling a story with each member contributing a part. Spirit-led prayer is beautiful, deep and effective. There will be a witness in your spirit that God has spoken through your prayers!

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating and implementing prayer models. There is an example Acts 1:8 prayer model available for your use in Appendix C.**

### 7 Mountains Model

In 1975, God simultaneously gave a message to Bill Bright, founder of Campus Crusade for Christ, and Loren Cunningham, founder of Youth with a Mission. The essence of these messages is encapsulated by the following sentence, ***“If God’s children are going to impact any nation for Jesus Christ, then they will have to affect the seven spheres, or mountains of society, that are the pillars of any society.”*** These seven mountains include: the **marketplace, government, media, arts and entertainment, education, the family and religion.**

The 7 Mountains Prayer Model can be done individually or corporately and serves as a tool to guide you to God’s heart for every area of our society.

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating and implementing prayer models. There is an example 7 Mountains prayer model available for your use in Appendix C.**

Sources: Hillman, Change Agent: Engaging Your Passion To Be The One Who Makes A Difference, (Charisma House, Lake Mary, FL, 2011) p. 7. <http://awakeningamerica.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Seven-Days-Seven-Mountains-Prayer-Guide.pdf>

## Pray the Word Model

One benefit of praying Scripture is that it gives us an accurate lens through which to see Christ. This alone will enrich our conversations with God. It is also the way we hear from God in a two-way conversation. How? Using the Bible as a guide provides fresh language for prayer. As we pray God's Word, we can have confidence God is hearing and answering, because we have greater confidence we are praying within His will (1 John 5:14-15).

The following is an excerpt from an intercession manual written by John Piper:

The fuel of an intercessor is the promises of God. We remind God in prayer of what he has said and call him to be faithful to his word.

Attaching God's promises to people and situations is the very backbone of all faith-filled praying.

God loves to hear his own words prayed back to him! When a small child crawls up on the lap of their father and says, "Daddy when are you going to take us to the zoo like you promised?" the father smiles and assures his child he has not forgotten and is very much looking forward to doing what he promised (when the time is right). In the same way, our heavenly Father delights to hear us remind him of his promises to us. The Bible is in fact a great big prayer manual that should fill and guide our prayers each and every day

Some struggle with how to apply the promises in prayer correctly. Is it right for us to take promises given to the people of Israel or Moses or David, and apply them in prayer to our own situations?

Basically, the answer is a qualified "YES". Let me show you why this is so. 2 Corinthians sheds some valuable light on this matter: *For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.* 2 Cor 1:20

Not only is Jesus the ultimate fulfillment of all the promises, but he is the key to the promises. We may say that the promises are made ultimately to him and for him and about him. Now look how this applies a few verses later in this book. Remember that the Corinthian congregation was predominantly non-Jewish. But at the end of 2 Corinthians 6, Paul quotes several promises that were made centuries before to the people of Israel (see 2 Cor. 6:16b-18 and compare Lev. 26:12, Exod. 32:27, Isa 52:11). Now note the astonishing truth that Paul says to this church after quoting these Old Testament promises to them: *Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.* 2 Cor 7:1

In Christ, we receive the promises and can call them our own. Because they are in the canon of Scripture, and because they are part of Christ's inheritance through his cross-work, and because we are also heirs of the promises in him (Gal 3:16,29), we too, in fact, have these promises... for every dimension of our lives.

Pray the Word guides are very simple to make. Simply select a theme and select scriptures around that theme. They can be used both individually and corporately.

Source: [http://www.stonecroft.org/elithica/documents/pdf/Praying\\_Scripture.pdf](http://www.stonecroft.org/elithica/documents/pdf/Praying_Scripture.pdf)  
[http://cdn.desiringgod.org/pdf/blog/3183\\_TWYWY\\_3rd%20edition\\_online%20version.pdf](http://cdn.desiringgod.org/pdf/blog/3183_TWYWY_3rd%20edition_online%20version.pdf)

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating and implementing prayer models. There is an example Pray the Word prayer model available for your use in Appendix C.**

## Worship

Worship is ascribing proper worth to God, magnifying His worthiness of praise. It is focusing on and responding to God. Worship invites God's manifest Presence, shifts the atmosphere, and brings us into unity of mind and spirit.

- John 4:23-24 (NASB) - But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.
- James 4:8 (NLT)- Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.
- Psalm 22:3 (KJV) - But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating a time of worship.**

## Communion

In observing Communion we are remembering Christ and all that He has done for us in his life, death and resurrection, stating our faith by "proclaiming His death until He comes" (1 Cor 11:26,) and showing our participation in the body of Christ. His life becomes our life and we become members of each other.

Have your Small Group Leader or Pastor lead Communion

**Please see Appendix B for Tips and Resources on creating a time of communion and Appendix D for a Sample Communion Guide**

## Recap

Each month ask your Small Group leaders questions to recap what happened. The goal is to get in tune with the needs of your group. Evaluate the gifting of your group. Is there someone who needs to be entrusted with something so that they can grow in faith and responsibility?

**Please see Appendix B for a monthly evaluation form you can hand out to your small group leaders. See Appendix A for ideas on solving some of the issues that may be raised during your monthly recap.**

## Appendix A – Possible Pitfalls

- One person's crisis or voice dominated the meeting. There needs to be a balance. The focus is to be on God and hearing His voice. As a leader, proactively ask for others' input.
- Around the World Praying – constantly changing the subject.
- Praying out of our minds instead of seeking the Spirit's Heart
- Lack of focus: Failure to enter into prayer and/or worship

It is likely that some of your group members will have never prayed or worshiped in a setting like this. Praying for an hour, encountering God, praying/worshiping in the Spirit, and Intercession may be new experiences for many of your members. Our goal is to love these members with grace and patience and to facilitate an encounter with God that will not leave them unchanged.

The most powerful thing you can do for your small group is to pray for them. Pray that the Holy Spirit would fill the atmosphere of your meeting place that God would make Himself known, and that your members would develop a passion for seeking His face through prayer and worship. Secondly encourage your members who have questions or who are struggling to attend prayer training (Especially Level 1). If your leaders have not been, encourage them to go as well. This will make them better equipped to answer questions and to intercede for your small group.

## Appendix B – Tips & Resources

### Prayer Night Tips:

- Have Bibles on hand and/or ask your members to bring theirs. Welcome all versions.
- Consider asking an intercessor to be available to pray for people who need prayer.
- If your night focuses on individual prayer consider having a separate area available for people who would like to pray corporately as well.
- Provide an “alone area” or intentionally make time for group decompression. Put a statement at the top of each prayer model encouraging your members to decompress from the pressure of their week. Ex: One by one name the stresses, the anxieties, and the cares that you have been carrying, and lay them at the foot of the Cross. Ask Jesus to take them from you so that you can come to Him in prayer without those weights. Matthew 11:28,30 Many people have said that doing this one thing has helped them enter into God’s Presence more effectively.
- Provide space on the prayer guide or notecards and pens for people to record what God tells them. This is vital. Listening, when we have been used to only talking during prayer, is usually the most challenging part to learn. Emphasize listening and affirming the thoughts and other downloads people get from God. When they hear something from God, ask them: “What do you think that means?” Help them process it.
- If using a model that has a confession component, you may want to provide a shredder, bowl of water or some other way to symbolically represent (when they place their confessions in it) that God has completely cleansed their hearts.

## Prayer Model Resources

### ACTSL

Note: When one of your members compiles the scripture for this model, they need no more than 3 references for each element. Someone who enjoys scripture research will love taking on this role, or each element could be delegated to a different person.

### Adoration Scripture Treasury

Hebrews 12:28, Psalm 29:1-2, Psalm 148, Exodus 15:1-2, 1 Samuel 2:1-2, 2 Samuel 22: 47-51, 1 Kings 8: 23-24, Psalm 27:4, Psalm 63: 2-5, Psalm 73: 25-26, Psalm 84: 1-2, Psalm 103: 1-5, Revelation 4: 8-11, Revelation 5:8-14, Revelation 7:9-12, Revelation 12: 3-4, Revelation 19: 6-8, Proverbs 5:18-19

### Confession Scripture Treasury

Proverbs 28:13, 2 Chronicles 7:14, James 5:16, 1 John 1:9, Psalm 32:5, Romans 3:23, Psalm 51: 1-5, James 4:17, Romans 10:9, Psalm 32:2-5,

### Thanksgiving Scripture Treasury

Psalm 100:4, Psalm 107: 8-9, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 1 Chronicles 16:8, 1 Chronicles 16:34-35, Psalm 7:17, Psalm 9:1, Psalm 50:23, Jeremiah 33:11, Jonah 2:9, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Ephesians 5:4, 1 Timothy 4, Revelation 11:17, Revelation 7:12

### Supplication Scripture Treasury

Psalm 62:8 John 14:13-14, Numbers 23:19, Philippians 4:6-7, Matthew 6: 9-13, Hebrews 4:16, Philippians 4:19, Psalm 20: 4-5,

### Listening Scripture Treasury

Acts 13: 2-3, 2 Corinthians 12:7-9, John 10:1-5,27, 1 Samuel 3:10, John 10:27, Mark 7:14, John 8:47

### Acts 1:8

The following websites provide information and prayer resources for praying for unreached people groups.

- <http://www.joshuaproject.net/resources/prayer>
- <http://www.operationworld.org/free-prayer-enhancing-resources>
- <http://peoplegroups.org/>

### Pray the Word

A topical bible or scripture handbook can be a useful tool when creating this prayer model. See the following website for a free one: <http://www.biblestudytools.com/concordances/naves-topical-bible/>

For more examples of pray the word models visit: <http://simusa.org/content/spg-chapters>.

### 7 Mountains

<http://www.globalprn.com/wp-content/uploads/A-Watchmans-Guide-to-Praying-Gods-Promises.pdf>

## Worship Tips and Resources

Plan on providing 30 minutes to 1 hour of worship music.

Select songs around a theme that supports the prayer model.

Considering providing a print out of the words to the worship songs or creating a power point of the words and hooking your computer up to the TV via the HDMI cable (unplug from back of DVD player and plug into computer).



The following websites let you search worship song by theme

- <http://www.praisecharts.com/themes/>
- <https://us.songselect.com/>
- <http://worshiptogether.com/>

Have a musician that can play an instrument and lead or....

Create a playlist using iTunes or....

Create a playlist using a service like Grooveshark or Spotify where you can choose worship songs and compile them into a playable list – for free!

- <http://grooveshark.com/>
- <https://www.spotify.com/us/>

## Communion Resources

Have bread and juice on hand.

The following link is a good communion intro: <http://www.worshiphousemedia.com/mini-movies/26083/Communion-In-Remembrance>

The following link is a page with contemporary worship songs for communion: <http://worshipcurrent.com/communion/>

### **Communion Scriptures Treasury**

- Matthew 26:26-29
- Mark 14:22-25
- Luke 22:14-20
- Acts 2:42-46
- 1 Corinthians 10:16-21
- 1 Corinthians 11:17-34
- John 6:47-51
- John 6: 53-58
- John 6: 6-27, 35

Night of Prayer and Worship Recap Form

The following are some of the goals of Night of Prayer and Worship. A no answer does not equate to an unsuccessful night. These questions are designed to create an expectation for what God can do and a measure of recording it.

- Was God’s presence tangible?
- Were hearts softened?
- Was there a meeting with God?
- Did ministry happen?
- Was unity strengthened?
- Did people enter into prayer? Into worship?
- Did prayer emanate from the heart of the Spirit?

What worked?

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What didn’t work?

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How can it be adjusted?

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What is one thing we should keep doing, what is one thing we should stop doing (or do differently), and what is one thing we should start doing?

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## Appendix C— Example Prayer Guides

Feel free to use these guides, adapt them to fit your group, or make up your own. The goal is to get your group to a place where these nights can be facilitated without assistance and your group can work together to take ownership. Be the church!

## ACTSL Example:

**God's Presence**

In this prayer guide we are focusing on God Himself. We are going to press into His Presence. The Presence of God is discovered in prayer and it is invited in worship. Jesus' name, Immanuel, means, "God with us." The Holy Spirit is living IN you and He wants to manifest Himself to you. As you love and worship God, the Spirit responds by turning that affection right back toward you and showering you with His love and Presence. King David said that there was ONE THING that he sought above all else in Psalm 27:4: "...to live in the house of the Lord...delighting in the Lord's perfections and meditating in His Temple." David was, above all, a pursuer of His Presence.

We will be "camping" in two Psalms – Psalms 16 and 84 – which are both about discovering and enjoying His Presence. As you meditate on them and pray them back to God, ask the Spirit to make Himself real to you, to overflow you with His love and peace. Look to Him with expectation.

During this time:

Let God release you from service. Lay aside every worry and responsibility. Give yourself permission to pursue God for no other reason than for you and He to have rest and intimacy together. Drink in the Word, not to learn more or to give it out to someone, but to simply enjoy God.

As you visit each of the stations, find the verses in these Psalms that apply to that station. We will get you started here; find more of the verses on your own. Pray each back to God, using the Scripture and even more importantly, your own words. Let your heart and life enter into their meaning.

**ADORATION:**

Your strongest tool for discovering God's Presence is your love and adoration of Him. He draws near, tangibly, in worship. We become like the one we worship. *"Papa, I want you more than life itself. I crave your Presence – to see, hear and know the reality of You – even more than I want your blessings. I love you with every fiber of my being. You alone are worthy to be worshiped and praised."* 16:2: "You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from you." Vs.5: "You alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing." Vs.7: "I will bless the Lord who guides me." Ps.84:1-3: "I long, yes I faint with longing to enter the courts of the Lord, with my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to you, the living God."

**CONFESSION:**

To repent means to change the way we think, to do a 180 degree turn. God's presence is discovered in repentance. Acts 3:19(NASB) says: "Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord." We move away from sin and toward God. Psalm 16:4: "Troubles multiply for those who chase after other gods. I will not take part in their sacrifices of blood or even speak the names of their gods." Are there any idols in your life, any person, thing or circumstance that has taken the place of God? Is there anything that you worship more than God? Confess to Him, repent, and accept His cleansing blood over you. Write down that confession and let God erase it in the shredder. Then know that, "The Lord will withhold no good thing from those who do what is right." Psalm 84:11 Take a few minutes and ask Him to flow His love over you. Receive and enjoy His love.

**THANKSGIVING:**

Read these two Psalms and thank God for all the ways He provides, sustains, cleanses and clings to us. Psalm 16:2: "Every good thing I have comes from you." Vs.6: "the land you have given me is a pleasant land. What a wonderful inheritance!" Vs 11: "You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of Your presence.." 84:5: "What joy for those who can live in your house, always singing your praises." Vs. 10: "A single day in your courts is better than a thousand anywhere else!" *"Papa, thank You for giving me life, both physical and spiritual. Thank you for your love. Thank You for this amazing adventure with you. Thank You that you have given me the joy of Your Presence. Thank You, that You want to give me more of Yourself, right now, and each and every day."*

**SUPPLICATION:**

Take your worries and needs to the Cross. Lay them down at Jesus' feet. Leave them there. Then turn your face to Him and just concentrate on Him. Tell Him the only thing you want, in this moment, is more of Him. Psalm 34:8: "Taste and see that the Lord is good. Oh, the joys of those who take refuge in Him!" Psalm 84:5: "What joy for those whose strength comes from the Lord, who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem (the place of His Presence). When they walk through the Valley of Weeping, it will become a place of refreshing springs." Vs.10: "A single day in Your courts is better than a thousand anywhere else!" Psalm 16:8: "I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for He is right beside me." *"Lord, I want more of you; living water rain down on me. Lord, I need more of You; living breath of life come fill me up."*

**LISTENING:**

We live by, "...every word that comes from the mouth of God." Matthew 4:4. He speaks to us through His Word, in our thoughts, with pictures, dreams, visions, and more. Have you heard Him speak to you tonight? Has He touched you through the scriptures upon which you've been meditating? Have you felt the love, joy and peace of His Presence? Has He put thoughts in your mind? Ask Him questions. Keep listening. Don't be afraid of interruptions! God unleashes His creativity during these times of intimacy by giving you new ideas, inspiration, insights, reminders and more! He is deeply interested in every part of your life, so don't be surprised if in the middle of meditating on Him He gives you the solution to a problem, a reminder of a friend in need, or a picture that inspires you to creativity! Write these things down as He reveals them (we've left a "Notes" section below just for this), and then return to your worship and fellowship with Him. Wait quietly and expectantly for His mind and heart to be revealed to you. He is showering His love on you!!!

**WORSHIP SUGGESTIONS:**

We are Hungry - Shane and Shane  
Presence (My Heart's Desire) - Newsboys  
Set a Fire - Will Reagan and United Pursuit  
Draw Near - Jeremy Riddle  
Fall Afresh - Jeremy Riddle  
Holy Spirit - Jesus Culture  
Show Me Your Glory - Third Day  
Only You - David Crowder

## Acts 1:8 Prayer Model for Missions

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

*<sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

When Jesus told his disciples that they would be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea & Samaria and unto the ends of the earth He was speaking of a pattern in which God's people can evangelize the world. **The important thing is to remember that the whole world needs to hear the gospel!**

### Jerusalem

Luke 12:12    Exodus 4:12                      Luke 21:15                      Matthew 10:19                      1 Peter 3:15

Jerusalem was an obvious starting place for the disciples. It was their neighborhood. It was right where they were. And that's where we begin too. What's our task? Our village, hometown or city. Our neighbors, friends, colleagues and our families desperately need to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The shop assistants, bus drivers, mothers and elderly people you see every day are within reach of us.

**Pray** for opportunities to share the gospel with people immediately around you. The Truth can transform the culture we live in. The Holy Spirit will guide you and speak through you as you witness. Just as God promised Moses that He would teach him what to say to Pharaoh, **so He promises to give you the words, as you begin to evangelize your 'Jerusalem'.**

### Judea & Samaria

Colossians 4: 2-6                      Matthew 9: 37-38                      Luke 10:2

But remember that's not all. Jesus' point is that it's simply not enough to look to those immediately around us. **The second part of the pattern of witnessing to the world is the wider area we live in**, perhaps somewhere in our own nation or continent. This was the Judea and Samaria of the early church.

Explore the gifts that God has given you & make them completely available to Him. God's commission always comes with His provision.

**Pray** for the state of Arizona, the United States. Pray for the church to unify. For workers to be sent and for resources to be generously given. Pray for Christians in these areas that they would be salt and light in the darkness.

### Ends of the Earth

Revelation 7:9                      Mark 16:15                      Matthew 28:19-20

Some sources estimate that there are 6,827 people groups consisting of 4.1 billion people who are unreached (less than 2% evangelical Christians). **The goal is huge: to penetrate an**

**unreached people with the gospel and establish there an ongoing, indigenous church which will apply the love and justice of Christ to that culture. That's the task overseas.**

The early church got as far as Europe, Africa and parts of Asia, but still to this day there are billions of people who have never heard the gospel. The task is huge but the workers are few. **There are only three kinds of Christians: zealous goers, zealous senders, and disobedient. Which will you be? - John Piper**

**Pray** for a renewed commitment of the church to missions. Pray for the translation of the Bible into all the languages of the world. Pray for barriers to missionaries to come down and for local churches to grow in wisdom and understanding.

Source: <http://www.historymakers.info/sermons/acts1-8-model-for-missions.html>

### **Worship Suggestions**

Awakening - Chris Tomlin

Until the Whole World Hears – Casting Crowns

For the Sake of the World – Bethel Music

God of this City - Chris Tomlin

Hands and Feet – Audio Adrenaline

The Great Awakening - Leeland

All Over the Earth - Leeland

Take My Life, Freely, Freely, I Love to Tell The Story, - (Baptist Hymnal)

## Acts 1:8 Personal Prayer Model

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

*<sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

Think of Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth as a personal prayer model.

What would be:

- Your personal Jerusalem?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Your personal Judea?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Your Samaria?
  - \_\_\_\_\_
- Your ends of the earth?
  - \_\_\_\_\_

Write these down. Then in each category, ask God for areas that need prayer and also ask God questions and wait for Him to give you answers. He may tell you something from scripture, or He may speak into your thoughts by giving you an idea, a memory, a word or a picture. Or a person or circumstance may give you the word from the Lord. Remember, when He speaks to us, it is always consistent with His Word.

Worship suggestions:

Grace Like Rain - Todd Agnew  
Arms Open Wide - Hillsong United  
Multiplied - NeedtoBreathe  
Your Great Name – Natalie Grant  
One Thing Remains - Jesus Culture  
Sovereign - Chris Tomlin  
Your Glory - All Sons and Daughters

## 7 Mountains of Influence Prayer Guide

In each sphere of influence listed, first ask the Lord what needs to be repented of in that area. What sins have been committed? Broken covenants? Violated trust or integrity? Self put before others? Identificationaly confess and repent for those sins as you pray into each area.

**Marketplace** - Pray for Christian businessmen that God will use them to influence their professions. Pray for major corporations that they will build on a foundation of high moral & ethical standards.

- Pray they will be filled with knowledge, wisdom, and understanding that comes from God. – Proverbs 11

Deuteronomy 8:6–18

- Thank God for the good things that He has given to us
- Pray God's sons and daughters will observe God's commands
- Pray Gods men and women in the marketplace will remember the LORD their God gives them the ability to produce wealth
- Pray God's sons and daughters will seek the knowledge of God's will, spiritual wisdom, & understanding so they may live lives pleasing to God, bearing fruit in every good work.

**Government** - Pray for heads of your local, state, & national government. Intercede for the judiciary of your nation & the nations of the world. Pray for the military, law enforcement, & other service officials.

- Pray God would mobilize intercessors for those that are in authority (1 Timothy 2:1–6).
- Thank God and ask Him for men and women in the arena of government who, like King Solomon, have great wisdom and knowledge and by their wisdom and favor release blessings on their people (2 Chronicles 1:12).
- Pray God will position people in the sphere of government who love justice and hate injustice so that it will be evident to all people why our nation and others like it are blessed
- Pray God will position righteous people as rulers so His people may thrive and rejoice (Proverbs 29:2).
- Pray government officials will walk in the fear of the Lord and revere God's Word.
- Pray leaders on this mountain will be sensitive to the needs of all people and have great wisdom to know how to meet those needs.
- Pray God will release a spirit of justice and righteousness that will restrain evil in our land.
- Pray people willingly submit to ruling authorities that have been positioned by God (Romans 13:1–6).

**Media** - Ask God to cause all aspects of the media to become a tool in His hands to change the culture for His honor & glory. Pray that the influence of the Internet & social networking will be used by Christians to capture a new generation of young believers. Pray that Christian values & ethics will find their way into all aspects of the media.

- Pray God's people in the arena of media will be aware that the power of life and death are in the tongue, and they will not use their words carelessly but use their tongues to bring forth life (Proverbs 18:21; Matthew 12:37).
- Pray He will make them bold, fearless and unashamed of the gospel (Jeremiah 1:10; Romans 1:16).
- Pray God will put His words in the mouths of those in the sphere of media that they will be able to plant God's kingdom on earth (Isaiah 51:16).

**Arts and entertainment** - Pray for entertainers or athletes you know by name who have a strong Christian testimony. Ask God to expand their influence.

- Pray God will inspire psalmists, who will sing new songs unto the Lord (Isaiah 42:10).
- Pray God would create a hunger throughout society for godly virtues to be exhibited.
- Pray that if there be any virtue and any praise, audiences will be led to think on these things (Philippians 4:3–13).

**Education** - Pray for teachers and educators. Pray for those you know by name. Ask God to send a revival to all campuses.

- Pray God will position godly administrators and teachers, giving them wisdom, favor, and ability to influence.
- Pray teachers, administrators, and parents will become intercessors for their students and that they will pray their students' hearts, minds, and spirits will be opened to knowledge, wisdom, and understanding that comes from God so their minds and purposes are conformed to the mind of Christ and His purposes.

**Family** - Pray for families in general, and particularly the healing of broken relationships in marriages and families, especially among believers and those in Christian ministries.

- Thank God for parents are in relationship with God, enabling them to love their children & teach with wisdom, knowledge & understanding that come from knowing God.
- Pray our children will be (& be known by others as) the children of God (Isa 51:16, Rom 8:14–15).
- Pray broken marriages will be restored.

**Religion** - Pray for the Holy Spirit's anointing on all churches (all denominations). Pray for evangelism & discipleship ministries including foreign missions. Pray for all religions that they will see the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pray that Christians will be bold in their witness.

- Pray the whole body of Christ will be joined and held together; that it will grow and build itself up in love, as each part does its work (Ephesians 4:10–16).
- Pray God will send those who are willing and able to go and preach the Good News to all nations, even the ends of the earth (Matthew 24:14; Romans 10:14–17).
- Pray God will use His servant to build His church so it cannot be destroyed when all hell comes against it (Matthew 16:18).

Source: <http://awakeningamerica.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/Seven-Days-Seven-Mountains-Prayer-Guide.pdf>  
<http://www.globalprn.com/wp-content/uploads/A-Watchmans-Guide-to-Praying-Gods-Promises.pdf>

**Worship Suggestions:** Google "missions worship songs"

## Pray the Word - Unity

### Jesus prayed for Unity among His Followers

John 17:11, 20-23

Psalm 133

Praying the Verse – Thank you for the protection we have in the name of Jesus Christ. It is in His name that we pray for greater unity and love in the Church. May that unity be a testimony to the world of your love for them.

### Pray for Unity Based on the Unity of the Body of Christ

Romans 12: 3-8

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

1 Corinthians 12: 24b-27

Ephesians 4:25

Colossians 3:15-17

Praying the Verse – Father thank you for the gifts you have given me and for my place in the Body of Christ. Help me to surrender myself to the body and to use my gifts with the knowledge that I belong to all other members and not to myself. May the peace and the words of Christ flood our hearts and minds and overflow into worship for you, O God.

### Pray for unity based on a Commitment of Love

Romans 12: 9-16

Romans 13:8

Philippians 2:1-2

Colossians 2:2-3

Praying the Verse – Papa, let my love for you and fellowship with the spirit grow into an overflow of love, tenderness, and compassion for my brothers and sisters in Christ.

### Pray for a Commitment to Unity in General

Acts 4: 32-33

1 Corinthians 1:10

2 Corinthians 13:11

Ephesians 4:1-6

Philippians 4:2

1 Peter 3:8-9

Praying the Verse – Father unite us in the name of Jesus Christ. Bring our hearts and minds into alignment with your will so that we may work and a powerful unified body to fulfill your kingdom purposes here on the earth. Create in us gentleness, patience, and peace.

### Pray for Unity as Expressed through Prayer

Matthew 18:18-20

Praying the Verse – Father help us to seek peace and be unified as you are unified with the Son and the Spirit so that we may effectively use our authority here on this earth. We pray for the harmony of the body for the purpose of unleashing power through agreement in our prayers.

### Pray for Unity for the Glory of God

Romans 15:5-7

Praying the Verse – Papa, we pray that we may be unified with our brothers and sisters to lift up one voice in praise to you. May our love of one another bring you all glory.

Heading and Scriptures taken with permission from International Bible Society

**WORSHIP SUGGESTIONS:** (I Googled “unity worship songs” and got this helpful link)

<http://worship-songs-resources.worshiptogether.com/music/Unity%20Songs>

## Appendix D - Sample Communion Guide

Source: Crossroads Church

On the night before he died, Jesus shared a final meal with his disciples. During the meal, Jesus gave to his disciples, for all time, this special way of remembering him: as bread is broken and shared and as juice is poured out. We celebrate The Lord's Supper because Jesus commands us: 'Do this in remembrance of me.'

The bread is broken in pieces and is a sign of Jesus' body that is broken on the cross. The juice is poured and is a sign of Jesus' blood that is shed on the cross. Both bread and juice point to the reality of a greater and deeper salvation: Jesus set us free by dying on the cross in our place. When we celebrate the Lord's Supper, then we remember Jesus' death. However, we also remember his resurrection from the dead. In fact, as our risen Savior, Jesus is the host who invites us to his table. He is the One who serves bread (sign of his body) and juice (sign of his blood).

Invite your group to share what celebrating the Lord's Supper means for them.

Distribute the communion elements. Ask everyone to hold the bread.

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Pray - God we thank You that this bread represents the body of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life. We thank You that Christ lives in us through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, setting us into a family of believers, the body of Christ - Your church. And now we receive this bread as the body of Jesus, broken for us. Amen

"Jesus said, 'Do this in remembrance of me.' Let us eat together." Then eat the bread as a group.

Distribute the communion elements. Ask everyone to hold the juice.

Pray - God we give thanks for this juice, and we ask You to bless it as the symbol of Christ's blood, shed for the remission of our sins. Thank You for the sacrifice of Jesus, Your only Son to die for us, washing us clean and bringing us peace with You.

"The cup of the new covenant is Jesus Christ's blood shed for you. Jesus said, 'Do this in remembrance of me.' Let us drink together." Then drink the juice in a group.

We will celebrate the Lord's Supper until Jesus returns. At the end of history, Jesus will return and then there will again be a meal, this time celebrating "The marriage of the Lamb." (The

Lamb is a name the Bible uses to indicate that Jesus was a perfect sacrificial lamb) (Revelation 19:6-9) We celebrate the Lord's Supper together with other believers. Although we are very different, we all belong together because we are all members of the body of Christ (Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 12:14-21).

Pray - May the blood of Christ purify your conscience from sinful deeds so that you can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Holy Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for your sins. (Heb. 9:14) And may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God, who calls you, is faithful; He will do this. (1 Thess. 5:23-24) We pray and believe in the power and presence of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.