

# House of Prayer

We are so thankful to God for how HE has been moving in our midst, in this house, and for his spirit here with us.

A year ago, the Lord spoke clearly to our Pastors about this house: New Life. And this is what He said about New Life...

He has called New Life:

- A house of **prayer**
- A house of **miracles**
- A house of **healing**
- A house of **wells of revival**
- A house of **unity of generations**
- A house of the **return of the prodigal**
- A house of the **work of restoration**

The importance of Corporate Prayer Meetings:

- Corporate prayer meetings invite God's presence and power, as the Bible emphasizes the effectiveness of prayer when done in unity.
- These meetings also create an environment where spiritual gifts can be exercised - like prophecy, encouragement, and healing. This encourages active participation and spiritual growth.
- Corporate prayer meetings are vital to a healthy church body because they foster community among believers, build unity, allow believers to pray together for shared needs and support one another spiritually.

## I. What is a house of prayer?

- A. Leviticus 6:12-13: "The fire on the altar must be kept burning, it must not go out. Every morning, the priest is to add firewood and arrange the burnt offering on the fire and burn the fat of the fellowship offerings on it. The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out."
- B. Leviticus 9:24: "And fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces."
- C. Another time when we see fire the came down from God:

1. 2 Chronicles 7:1: "When Solomon had finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. The priests were unable to enter the house of the Lord, because the glory of the Lord had filled it."

D. After Jesus died as the perfect sacrifice, we no longer have to offer animal sacrifices. Today, we are the priest, and our life is the altar.

1. 1 Peter 2:9: "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light."

## **II. How do we keep the fire on the altar personally and corporately?**

A. The first must be maintained daily

1. God's instruction is clear: the fire must burn continually. It is not a one-a-week religious activity, but a daily pursuit.

2. How do we do that?

a) A fresh offering must be laid everyday

(1) Leviticus 6:12

(2) Every day requires a fresh devotion and surrender to the Lord

(3) If you keep your fire burning, you will have something to bring to the corporate prayer meeting

b) The wood must not run out

(1) Leviticus 6:12

(2) We pray because we need/want to stay connected to Him

c) The ashes must be removed

(1) Leviticus 6:10-11

(2) Purify yourselves

B. The fire is a sign of God's acceptance and presence

1. God responds to genuine sacrifice with fire

a) 1 Kings 18:38: "Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench."

2. Fire represents God's consuming nature

a) Hebrews 12:29: "For our 'God is a consuming fire.'"

3. Without fire, our service is religious and powerless

a) 2 Timothy 3:5: "Having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people."

4. Lukewarmness invites divine displeasure

- a) Revelation 3:15-16: “I know your deeds that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm - neither hot nor cold - I am about to spit you out of my mouth.”
- C. The fire is personal before it is public
  - 1. No one else can maintain your fire for you
  - 2. Personal revival precedes corporate revival
    - a) Acts 2:1-4
  - 3. Spiritual mothers and fathers must first burn before lighting others
    - a) Romans 12:11
  - 4. The fire spreads from heart to heart, helping individuals to stoke low fires
- D. Keeping the fire alive in a cold world
  - 1. A voice what quenches the Spirit
    - a) 1 Thessalonians 5:19
  - 2. Surround yourself with other burning believers
    - a) Proverbs 27:17
  - 3. Protect your prayer altar
    - a) Matthew 6:6
    - b) Make a commitment to personal and corporate prayer
  - 4. Be watchful and ready always
    - a) Matthew 25:1-13

### **III. Prayer Points**

- A. We pray...
  - 1. Lord, rekindle the fire on our altar. Holy Spirit, blow on us, on this house. Kindle the embers.
  - 2. Help us to remain spiritually fervent and not grow cold. We can't do it without you!
  - 3. Every strange fire in our lives, in this house, be extinguished in Jesus' name.
  - 4. Let the flame of worship, prayer, and the Word burn daily in us, in this house.
  - 5. Remove the ashes of sin, laziness, and indifference from our lives, from this house.
  - 6. Set our hearts ablaze again with fresh passion and hunger.
  - 7. Lord, let our fire and the fire in this house shine as witness to others. May our altar be a place where those who are cold and lost come and find your presence and comfort.
  - 8. We refuse to be lukewarm; make us a vessel of fire.
  - 9. Let our secret place become a furnace of divine encounters.

**In Jesus' Name, Amen!**