**Ten Days of Prayer**

The Glory of Christ and the Transformation of the Nations

1-10 February 2014

After Jesus was raised from the dead, He met with His followers many times during a period of forty days. He did far more than prove that He was alive. He spoke again and again about the Kingdom of God: the advance of God’s kingly love among all the peoples of earth. On the last day He was with them, He told them to stay in Jerusalem and to wait for “the promise of the Father.” Just after Jesus was received into heaven, His followers gathered together in Jerusalem to do exactly what Jesus had told them: to wait for the promise of the Father. But it was not a passive waiting. They waited by praying earnestly for ten days. They sought God zealously with their hearts aligned with “one mind” concerning the promise about the Spirit of God. They prayed persistently through the many other promises about the Kingdom of God that Jesus had spent so much time teaching them.

 As we read their prayers, and as we listen to what poured out from their hearts in the days that followed Pentecost, we get a good idea about how they prayed. Their prayers and statements sprang from the written Word of God. They prayed in fervent, hope-filled passion for God to fulfill His promises regarding His kingdom on earth.

 Christ is again calling His church to unite in prayer. We are compelled to pray because the great troubles that shake our world have no human solution in this world. Even more, we are called to pray because of the wonderful promises that God has purposed to accomplish by Christ’s life and power among the peoples of earth.

 It is time now for God’s people to gather again in persistent, united prayer. What better way to unite in prayer than to consecrate ourselves to seek God for ten days, as Jesus’ first followers did, culminating on the day of Pentecost?

 Following the example of the first followers who “joined together constantly” in prayer (Acts 1.14) during the ten days between the ascent of Jesus and the descent of His Spirit on Pentecost, believers will be organizing ways to pray together night and day beginning Friday, 6 February, through the end of Pentecost Sunday, 15 February, 2009.

 The following prayer guide provides a simple way for you and your church to pray in united hope and faith with Christians all over the world. Each of the ten days provides a basic theme that springs from the experience or words of the first Christians as recorded in the book of Acts. Use these topics as a template, or a beginning point to shape the prayers and requests that are fitting for your community.

 The expressions of hope in this guide will help us pray in two ways. Each day we will first pray for Christ to bring a greater fullness of His life and glory to His church. Next we will lift the greatest needs of our cities and nations before God. He has promised to fill His church with the beauty and life of His Spirit. And He has also promised to bless the world – every city, people and country – with the transforming power of Christ’s kingdom.

**Day One**

**The Transformation of Christ: For the transforming power of Christ’s kingdom**

“...and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God. Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, ‘Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me...’” — Acts 1.3-4

**For His Church**

• For our hearts to blaze with love and loyalty to Christ as King and Lord of all.

• To be moved in hope so that we actively pursue all that He has promised.

• That however God’s people may have been scattered and divided, we would be gathered again by Christ to obey Him.

**For Our World**

• For Christ to position believers in cities where breakthrough of blessing has not yet happened. Pray that they would patiently pursue God’s promise of the blessing of His kingdom in those difficult places.

• For the goodness and glory of Christ’s kingly love to be experienced by the masses in our cities, bringing lasting transformation throughout entire communities.

**Day Two**

**United Prayer: For sustained movements of united prayer**

“These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer...” — Acts 1.14

**For His Church**

• That God’s Spirit would give us a spirit of expectant intercession, compassion and hope to pray persistently for promises of His Kingdom to be fulfilled.

• That God would unite us in prayer with “one mind,” empowering us to pray together with passion for Christ’s glory and compassion for the world.

**For Our World**

• That people throughout our communities would be moved to call out to God for His help as never before.

• That the leaders of our community would look to God for His help in prayer.

• That God would be glorified by the praises of the poor, the young, and the marginalized as He answers their prayers.

**Day Three**

**The Spirit of Christ: For God to pour out His Spirit upon all**

“‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit on all people...’” — Acts 2.17

**For His Church**

• For the Spirit of God to come upon Christians in powerful, life-giving ways.

• For the church to be empowered by His Spirit to be Christ’s witnessing servants in the world.

**For Our World**

• For people throughout our community to be awakened by the Spirit of God to hear His voice and to see His works.

• That once again, God would pour out from heaven that which can be seen and heard by everyone (Acts 2:33).

**Day Four**

**The Peace of Christ: For relationships to be transformed.**

“All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need...They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people...” — Acts 2.44-47

**For His Church**

• For divisions and hostilities to be healed among churches.

• For God’s people to turn away from greed and worldly desires and to become generous as never before.

• For love, joy and gladness to fill the hearts of God’s people.

• For churches to enjoy deserved, renewed favor in every community.

**For Our World**

• For God to heal broken relationships in homes and neighborhoods.

• For God to subdue terrorism and to bring resolution to wars.

• For the great inequities which leave many in poverty to be changed so that no one stays hungry.

• For God to bring outbreaks of Christ’s peace all over the world through the changed lives of His people.

**Day Five**

**The Coming Generation: For God’s purpose for families and children**

“For the promise is for you and your children...” — Acts 2.39

**For His Church**

• For marriages and homes to be strengthened by Christ.

• For children and youth to follow Christ early in life, and to love Him with extreme devotion.

**For Our World**

• For the 130 million children who lack access to education worldwide.

• For the many children orphaned or afflicted by wars and the HIV/AIDS epidemic. By 2014 an estimated 25 million children on the earth will have lost one or both parents to AIDS.

• For God to raise up the coming generation to fulfill His promises by the power and Spirit of God.

**Day Six**

**The Call of God: For the nations to hear of the voice of God**

“...and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.” — Acts 2.39

**For His Church**

• For Christians to be filled with the Spirit in order to communicate the word of God boldly and wisely.

• For the word of God to be proclaimed to people of every language, tribe and nation (Acts 1.8).

**For Our World**

• That the world would hear of the “mighty deeds of God” in the words of their own language and the ways of their own culture (Acts 2.11).

• For the Bible to be translated for the 3,000 people groups without even one verse in their language.

• For Christ to be followed among the thousands of un-reached people groups who lack vital, growing, multiplying churches.

• That God would call to Himself many (2.39) who would call on Him to be saved (2.21).

**Day Seven**

**For the Glory of Jesus: In the faithful courage of His people**

 “...rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.” — Acts 5.41

**For His Church**

• For those who are opposed for the name of Jesus, that they would display the gentle, bold character of Jesus ( ***Acts 4:13 (NIV)***
13 When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.)

• For Christians who suffer for Christ’s name to be strong in joy and faith.

• For God to be glorified by His great deeds in places where He has been opposed (Acts 4.21).

**For Our World**

• For our leaders and governments to be blessed.

• That some government leaders who are opposing Christ (4.25-27) would be blessed with wisdom to be found not “fighting against God” (Acts 5.39).

**Day Eight**

**The Healing of Christ: For Christ to bring substantial healing**

“Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” — Acts 4.30

**For His Church**

• That God would move among the sick to bring miraculous healing (Acts 5.14-16).

• For Christians to act with persistent compassion to work for the eradication of diseases.

• For Christians to be engaged in providing basic health care where needs are great.

**For Our World**

• For the end of HIV/AIDS in our generation. At this time 250,000 young people are infected every month.

• For basic health care to those most needy: Over 30,000 children die daily worldwide from preventable diseases.

**Day Nine**

**The Blessing of Christ: For God to bring about promised blessing among all peoples**

“He said to Abraham, ‘Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.’” — Acts 3.25

**For His Church**

• For Christ to bless His people by turning them from patterns of sin (3.26).

• For “times of refreshing” to be experienced by believers, compelling them to seek after the presence of the Lord throughout their communities (3.19-20).

**For Our World**

• That Christ would bless our countries with prosperity and abundant life.

• That the peace of the saving presence of God would be experienced by every people group.

**Day Ten**

**The Hope of Christ: For the fulfillment of all God’s promises**

“...and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you — even Jesus. He must remain in heaven until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.” — Acts 3.20-21

**For His Church**

• For Christians to live with expectancy that promises of transformation will be fulfilled in their lifetimes.

• For churches to work together in unity as God continues to fulfill His promises to change lives, cities and nations.

**For Our World**

• For the righteousness and justice of God to transform the ways of commerce and politics.

• For the peace of Christ’s kingdom to change the way cities and nations are governed.

• For the joy of Christ’s life to flourish throughout our communities.

**Prayer is the Key**

**Developing praying people**