

# Pray '22

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## Vision Sunday

- Before we can talk about where God is taking us, we need to once again review where we have been. (Anyone who wasn't here for our 30 year anniversary last year I would encourage going and watching the feature film we premiered that day.)
- In 1991 Pastor and Momma Tava moved here to Fayetteville to start Covenant Love. One day pastor started praying, "God, give us a church that looks like heaven."
- There are multiple elements that make up the scene of heaven when we look at scripture.
  - **All nations gathered together:**
    - After this I looked, and **there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.** They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands." - Revelation 7:9 NIV
  - **Day and night worship:**
    - "Each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under its wings. Day and night they never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty,' who was, and is, and is to come." - Revelation 4:8 NIV
  - **Prayer and Intercession:**
    - Intercession for the saints:
      - "Therefore He is also able to save forever those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them." - Hebrews 7:25 NASB
    - Intercession from the saints:
      - "He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne. And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and

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they were holding golden bowls full of incense, **which are the prayers of God's people.**" - Revelation 5:7-8 NIV

- This passage shows us that day and night prayer and worship go hand in hand through the harp and the golden bowl of incense.
- Where we are thirty years after my father prayed that prayer is that **we are a house for the nations and we are praying church.** We aren't "at zero" in any of these areas, but we believe that God is calling us up higher in all of them. This year God wants us to focus in on day and night prayer and worship.
- Over the years it has been prophesied that we would one day have day and night prayer here on 420 Dunn Rd.
  - The most recent prophecy being from Abner last October when the Lord spoke through him: **"I desire a habitation in this land through twenty-four hour, seven day a week worship and prayer. It must come and it must be so. For from that place will the word of the Lord come, from that place will apostolic prayers be prayed, from that place will the nations of the earth be touched."**
  - Lately, as I have meditated on this prophetic word I felt God begin to speak to me prophetically about installing day and night prayer through a specific passage where we find the three heavenly elements I mentioned earlier of nations, day and night prayer worship and day and night prayer.
- **"Those who join themselves to YAHWEH, to worship Him, those who want to be his servants and love the name of YAHWEH — I will welcome you into my holy mountain and make you joyful in my house of prayer. I will accept every sacrifice and offering that you place on my altar, for my house of worship will be known as a house of prayer for all nations."** - Isaiah 56:6a-7 TPT
- Over the past two years, we, as a community, have been falling deeper in love with Jesus.
  - God has been accomplishing verse six of Isaiah 56 in our hearts.
    - Our worship has been deep.
    - Our prayer has been passionate.
    - Our dedication to his plans has come from a place of servanthood.

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- Because we have been faithful to let Him do this work, and continue to do this work in our hearts He is walking us into the subsequent promise found in verse 7.
- I will welcome you into my holy mountain and make you joyful in my house of prayer. I will accept every sacrifice and offering that you place on my altar, for **my house of worship will be known as a house of prayer for all nations.**” - Isaiah 56:7 TPT
- Over this year, God is going to:
  - **Make us joyful in His house of prayer.**
  - **Accept every sacrifice and offering we offer to Him.**
  - **Take us deeper into the house of prayer for all nations reality.**
- **Make us joyful in His house of prayer.**
  - Because of this we are making more time for corporate prayer meetings.
    - We slowly started toward this last year by softly opening our prayer room, which along side our Saturday night prayer meeting caused us to end the year with eight hours of corporate prayer.
    - We want to double this by the end of 2022 with sixteen hours.
    - Our goal is grow this slowly and build quality over quantity as it pertains to our gatherings.
      - The house of prayer should be marked by JOY.
      - It isn't laborious and difficult to spend time before the Lord.
      - **“You will show me the path of life; in Your presence *is* fullness of joy; at Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.” Psalm 16:11 NKJV**
        - We want to train even more people up who know how to flow in the Spirit, and be led by Jesus.
        - We are also believing for God to bring in skilled musicians and worshippers who will devote themselves to these times of prayer and worship.
- **Accept every sacrifice we offer to Him.**

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- I believe that because this is a year we will increase offered prayer, we are going to see an increase of answered prayer.
  - We are coming into a season where we are going to see incredible physical, financial, mental and emotional miracles.
- **Take us deeper into the house of prayer for all nations reality.**
- When you look at the nations of the earth you see fighting and conquering, war and destruction, racism and prejudice, division and power struggles. How do we grow in being a house for all nations without any of this?
  - BY BEING A HOUSE OF PRAYER!
    - Prayer is the emulsifier of the nations.
      - If you want to mix oil and water together you need an emulsifier.
      - **If you want all nations joined together in unity and connection with one another, you need prayer.**
      - I've never been able to hate someone who I am praying for. I haven't been able to stay angry with them, or remain offended.
- **The result of increasing our prayer is an increase in our ability to be a house for all nations!**
  - There will be a marked difference in our unity as we pray, and we will see an outpouring of the Holy Spirit!
    - On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. **2** Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. **3** Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. **4** And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages,<sup>[b]</sup> as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. **5** At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. **6** When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. **7** They were completely amazed. "How can this be?" they exclaimed. "These people are all from Galilee, **8** and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! **9** Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, **10** Phrygia, Pamphylia,

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Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome **11** (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” - Acts 2:1-11 NLT

- Three thousand people came to the Lord that day from multiple different nations, and:
  - **42** All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer. **43** A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. **44** And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. - Acts 2:42-44 NLT
  - Thousands of people, from multiple different nations, joining with each other in day to day to community was the direct result of a corporate prayer meeting.
  - **Prayer is one of the things they stayed devoted to after this moment!**
  - As the Lord pours out His Spirit in the coming year and years we will, respond the same way.
- This is why we want to double the amount of prayer we are lifting up this year.
  - Right now our hours are:
    - Tuesday from 11:00am to 1:00pm
    - Wednesday from 11:00am to 1:00pm and 4:30pm to 6:30pm
    - Thursday from 11:00am to 1:00pm
    - Saturday from 6:00pm to 7:00pm
  - We want to continue adding new hours in the mornings and afternoons.
    - My prayer is that as the year goes forward we would all devote ourselves to attending one corporate praying meeting a week. (The easiest for many will be the Wednesday set or the Saturday set.)
      - If you can, during the fast, make your way to the prayer room for your lunch hour.

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- This will take sacrifice, but the return on investment will be an outpouring of the Spirit!