

Lifting Our Voices in Prayer: Pentecost Sunday and Other Prayer Points 5'29'20

Prayer points:

1. **Praying for spiritual awakening** (Haggai 2:6-9; Hosea 2:14-16; Acts 1:8).
 - a. Pentecost Sunday is May 31.
 - b. We are praying for the people of God to encounter God in this season and to come out of this time of quarantine on fire for God.
 - c. We pray for our lost neighbors who have had their needs exposed and their false gods dethroned, that they will discover Jesus.
 - d. We don't want to go back to business as usual; we want to go higher up and further into the Lord's purposes (Joshua Rushing).
 - e. We want to go deeper with the Lord.
 - f. Pray for the great promise of the Lord, a great move of the Holy Spirit that will surpass the Azusa Street outpouring of 1906 (prophetic words from 1913 of an outpouring in 100 years).
 - g. **As we enter this season, let's choose to look forward to what the Lord wants to do and to his new normal, rather than returning to old definitions of normal** (Isaiah 43:18-19).
 - i. *"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. 19 See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland" (Isaiah 43:18-19 NIV).*
 - ii. The Lord spoke to us and gave us his word for this year. *"Draw me after you; let us run together" (Song of Solomon 1:4).* We continue to live into this word of the Lord for us in 2020: **pursue deep intimacy and full partnership with Jesus.** Pray that we will come out of this season with greater capacity for deeper intimacy and fuller partnership with the Lord.
 - h. *When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the LORD filled the temple. 2 The priests could not enter the temple of the LORD because the glory of the LORD filled it. 3 When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the LORD above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the LORD, saying, "He is good; his love endures forever." 4 Then the king and all the people offered sacrifices before the LORD (2 Chronicles 7:1-4 NIV). 11 When Solomon had finished the temple of the LORD and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the LORD and in his own palace, 12 the LORD appeared to him at night and said: "I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices. 13 "When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, 14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 15 Now my eyes will be open and my ears*

attentive to the prayers offered in this place. 16 I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there (2 Chronicles 7:11-16 NIV).

- i. We pray: Let glory of the Lord fill the temple, both the temple of our physical bodies and the temple of our corporate gatherings. We ask to be filled with the fullness of God. O God, pour out your Spirit on us, we pray.
2. **Praying for racial reconciliation and against systemic injustice** (Romans 12:15).
- a. *Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep (Romans 12:15 ESV).*
(Recently, George Floyd died needlessly and unjustly in police custody.)
 - b. We grieve over the loss of life and the loss of rights of people in our culture.
 - c. We weep over the pain and suffering in our culture.
 - d. We repent over fear and hatred.
 - e. We repent for racism. Racism is a sin.
 - f. May we stand up for truth, righteousness, and humility (Psalm 45:4).
 - i. *In your majesty ride forth victoriously in behalf of truth, humility and righteousness; let your right hand display awesome deeds. 5 Let your sharp arrows pierce the hearts of the king's enemies; let the nations fall beneath your feet. 6 Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom (Psalm 45:4-6 NIV).*
 - ii. *O God, make the king a godly judge like you and give the king's son the gift of justice too. 2 Help him to give true justice to your people, honorably and equally to all. 3 Then the mountains of influence will be fruitful, and from your righteousness prosperity and peace will flow to all the people. 4 May the poor and humble have an advocate with the king. May he consider the children of the poor and crush the cruel oppressor (Psalms 72:1-4 TPT).*
 - iii. *You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, 27 for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise (Galatians 3:26-29 NIV).*
 - iv. *You make all things new (Revelation 21:5).*
 - v. *So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view [flesh]. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:16-19 NIV).*
 - vi. We declare that you, O Lord, have made each one in your image. We are one before the Lord at the foot of the cross. We are one in Christ. Lord we trust you to move and to do what only you can do O God to bring wholeness and reconciliation to our nation.

3. **Praying for believers to reframe and reflect on the goodness of the Lord** (Psalm 100:5).
 - a. So many believers are caught in the narrative of fear, anxiety, and worry.
 - b. We need to know what to do with our anxiety.
 - c. We need to nurture our souls by reading and meditating on the Scriptures concerning God's goodness, his nearness, and his plans (Philippians 4:4-9; Psalm 107:1-2 NASB77; Psalm 136:1-26).
 - d. We need to reframe what we are thinking and feeling, to take our thoughts and feelings captive, and to learn how to speak to our souls with God's help to align with what is really real.
 - i. God is good.
 - ii. God is with us; he will not leave us nor forsake us (Hebrews 13:5).
 - iii. God can take everything that comes our way and work it for good for those who are called according to his purpose (Romans 8:28-29).
 - iv. God is in control and has a plan for our lives (Jeremiah 29:11-14).
4. **Praying for other churches and businesses that are opening.**
 - a. Pray for God's protection to be a hedge (Job 1:10), a shield (Psalm 3:1-8), and a wall of fire about us (Zechariah 2:5).
 - b. The people of God are blessed to be a blessing, so we want to pray for others to be blessed even as we are blessed (Genesis 12:2-3).
5. **Praying for healing for the sick** (Psalm 107:19-20).
 - a. For those who have been impacted by COVID-19.
 - b. For those who are struggling with other sicknesses, diseases, cancers, and torment.
6. **Praying for the prosperity of our city, state, and nation** (Jeremiah 29:7).
 - a. For the economy to recover.
 - b. For jobs for the unemployed; for full employment for the underemployed.
7. **Praying for those who have suffered loss** (Psalm 31:1-10, 14-19; 1 John 1:7-9; James 5:13-16).
 - a. There have been real losses and there is real grief that needs to be processed with the Lord and with others.
 - b. Some people are minimizing their loss by saying it isn't as bad as COVID-19, or as bad as others, so that they are not processing grief. That is unhealthy and unhelpful.
8. **Praying for leaders and decision makers as they try to plan ahead** (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
 - a. We pray for leaders at the local, state, and federal levels of government.
 - b. We pray for leaders in the different sectors of society.
9. **Praying against spirits of fear, intimidation, and harassment** (2 Timothy 1:7).
 - a. *For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline (2 Timothy 1:7 NIV).*
 - b. *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross (Colossians 2:13-15 NIV).*

10. **Praying that any evil agenda**, whether it be economic, spiritual, or political, that is trying to attach itself to the COVID-19 pandemic or the aftermath of coronavirus. Pray that it would be exposed, defeated, and torn down in the name of Jesus (John 10:10; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6).
- a. We are not ignorant of the enemy schemes.
 - b. One scheme that is appearing regards changing laws or passing laws in the aftermath of COVID-19.
 - i. The enemy wants to pass laws that take away our liberties, religious freedoms to gather, etc.
 - ii. Pray for and welcome only laws of righteousness and justice to come forth from the nations and the UN.
 - iii. Pray that the laws that come after coronavirus will not be manipulated by satan.
 - iv. We come against evil strategies in the name of Jesus.
 - c. There are “experts” and other prognosticators, declaring that everything has changed, that we won’t gather in crowds, that we won’t be able to shake hands or hug others.
 - i. We welcome what the Lord says, and not what others say (Hebrews 10:24-25).