

REACHING THE WORLD THROUGH PRAYER

God is looking for partners to reach the world through prayer.

KEY POINTS

Of all the places He could have chosen, God picked Solomon's temple for His Presence.

- ❖ When God appeared to Solomon in 2 Chronicles 7:12, it was not the first time. He had also appeared to him just after his coronation, telling him to ask for whatever he wanted (see 2 Chr. 1:8-12).
- ❖ It seemed Solomon had developed a routine of praying because it had been modelled for him by his father David. Twice God surprised Solomon with an appearance. The first time was in a dream and the second appearance was as the first (1 Kings 3:5, 9:2).
- ❖ The word for 'appearance' is the same one used in Abraham's in-person meeting with God the year before Isaac was born. In the original text, the word 'appear' literally means to "make Himself seen."
- ❖ After everything Solomon had done to build the temple, God claimed to have chosen that place Himself (2 Chr. 7:12). Solomon's actions then were not initiated on his own part but were a response to God's initiative.
- ❖ The idea of a temple didn't originate with the Israelites. In fact, its architectural style was common in the ancient Near East. The Bible notes that Solomon hired Hiram of Tyre, a Phoenician king, to provide architects and materials (see 1 Kgs. 5). But God didn't reveal Himself in those temples. He chose Solomon's temple.

God was seeking partners with a made-up mind through which He could delegate His blessings.

- ❖ "If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways..." (2 Chr. 7:14).
- ❖ God's temple community was conditional. First, God was looking for **His** people. For this community to work, the people involved had to believe in the God of the Bible—not other gods or **no** god as was the case with the atheists.
- ❖ Taking it further, God needed to partner with those who were called by His Name. They had to identify as His people. The condition was that God's partners would both believe in Him and follow Him.
- ❖ The people would need to humble themselves by choosing to place their trust in God's ways rather than their own. This comes from a genuine conclusion that God, by definition, knows what's best for us.
- ❖ This realization is what would cause people to pray or commune with God and place a priority on hearing from Him before they act. And having heard from God, they would follow His direction.
- ❖ With the conditions of 2 Chronicles 7:14 fulfilled, God promised to hear from heaven. Here, we get a key insight—the source of all the world's problems is sin.

KEY SCRIPTURES: 2 Chronicles 7:11-16;
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18; Jeremiah 20:7-9
(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

- ❖ Now, the world sinning is one thing. But when God's people are sinning, avenues of blessing for the world are cut off.
- ❖ That's why if the people asked for rain, God didn't say, "Yes, I'll give you rain." Rather, He said, "Yes, I'll forgive your sin." When the sins of God's people are forgiven, the rain falls and blesses both His people and the whole world. He makes His rain to fall "on the just and the unjust" (Matthew 5:45).

It's the covenant between God and His people that will allow us to reach the world through prayer.

- ❖ "Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place" (2 Chr. 7:15).
- ❖ The all-knowing God knew what needed to be in place for Him to use all His power to bless His people. All they had to do was listen to Him and follow His direction. The covenant conditions were met, and the covenant blessings would follow—He would hear their prayers.
- ❖ Solomon, in dedicating the temple, was really only creating what was already reality in the spiritual realm. That's the essence of prophecy and faith: seeing things that are not as though they were (Romans 4:17).
- ❖ Even more profound are the implications of the partnership. Long after Solomon's time, God promised to still be present. "My eyes and my heart will always be there" (2 Chr. 7:6).
- ❖ God ordained from eternity that prayer would get His attention. It's a covenant.
- ❖ In the temple, priests were to keep the incense burning before the presence of the Lord; it was to never go out. In Revelation, we see the prayers of the saints described as incense that went up before the Lord (Rev. 5:8). Prayer gets God's attention!
- ❖ When we have Him watching us, He sees everything. When we have His heart, He **wants** the very best for us in what we're doing. And when prayer is always going, God is always present in a special way.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read 2 Chronicles 7:14. Referring to other scriptures in the Bible, how does one go about fulfilling the conditions that is contained in this verse: humbling themselves, praying, seeking God's face, and turning from their wicked ways? What happens when one does not do so?
2. 2 Chronicles 7:14 continues with God's promises. Discuss at least one example each from the Bible of God hearing, forgiving, or healing someone after they prayed.

PRAYER TIME

Humbly I come before You, Lord, seeking Your face.
Please hear and forgive. Lord, please heal me.

Start-up: What does it mean to partner with somebody for a particular task or goal? What makes a partnership successful/unsuccessful?

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 2026

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms) 💡 (New idea) 🗨️ (Think about)
! (Do this) ❤️ (Speaks to my heart) ➡️ (Must share)

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline

PRAYER FOCUS: F.S. Ministries: Departments, Directors, and participants.

24-hour Prayer: Daily;

Daily Devotions: Monday - Friday @ 6:30 a.m. & 9:00 p.m.;

Departmental Prayer: Every **Thursday** (please check schedule)

Corporate Prayer: Every **Friday @ 7:00 p.m.** (and in person every second Friday @ 9:00 p.m. - 3:00 a.m.).

Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give

For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FS PRAYER HOSTS AND LEADERS' MEETING

There will be a training/information session for all Prayer Leads/Hosts, Co-Hosts, and all who are involved in 24-hr prayer.

Meeting access in through the "Departmental Meetings"

option on the Faith Sanctuary website.

Date: Sunday, January 11th, 2025

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Contact: Bro. Mike Allen

CALLING ALL SONGWRITERS!

If you have written songs or want to begin writing them, then this meeting is for you! Come join us on Sunday, January 18th, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m. in the Faith Conference Center to discuss bringing original music to Faith.

Contact: Pastor Daniel Peel

MEN'S & LADIES' MEETING

On Saturday, January 24th, 2026, there will be a combined Men's & Ladies' Meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

All men and women are encouraged to come out for a wonderful time of growth and fellowship.

Contact: Pastor Lucy Peel

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP

The Right Hand of Fellowship will be extended on Sunday, February 1st, 2026 to anyone who would like to become a member of Faith Sanctuary. If you are interested in becoming a member, please put your name on the sign-up sheet at the Guest Service Host Desk. For more information, contact Pastor Lucy Peel.

OPEN CALL SIGN UP

If you're interested in volunteering with the Praise & Worship, Production, or Communications teams, please attend the sign-up session on Sunday, February 15th, 2026 from 1:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Faith Conference Center.

Contact: Pastor Daniel Peel

FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.

(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.

(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all (Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8; Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24; Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10; Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1; Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16; Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure, holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news" that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy 2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish His righteous, eternal kingdom (John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JANUARY 11, 2026



Feed Canada to Feed the World

Reaching the World Through Prayer

~ 2026 ~

Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

"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 I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

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