

A PRAYER GATHERING FOR MISSION AND SURRENDER

-BY Bob Rasmussen @RobertRasmussen

A PRAYER TO BEGIN

[Optional: Light a candle, possibly a single candle with three wicks, to symbolize the presence of the Tri-une God in your midst as you pray.]

We come into your sacred presence, O God, in the authority of Jesus, and none other. We come to You, the Lover of all mankind, both rich and poor, strong and weak, from every tribe, tongue and nation, whether male or female, young or old. We praise You as the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

Draw us by Your mercy into Your holy presence, into Your fellowship as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Renew our minds that we may think thoughts after You. Guide our prayers that we may ask according to Your will. And sanctify our bodies that we may be living sacrifices pleasing to You in all we do during this season of prayer.

We are Your disciples and You have told us to pray for more workers for the harvest. We begin by asking You to add to our number of intercessors, that our voice may resound pleasantly to You. As we come to prayer, we lay aside the concerns of the day. We place at the foot of the cross our worries, and our weakness. We give to You the troubles we carry, the burdens we feel for those we love. We surrender all to You, and desire nothing more or less than the perfect will of God, on earth as it is in heaven.

Inform us.

Hear us.

Answer us.

We acknowledge the miracle of Your presence here in this place, for where two or three are gathered together in Your name, there You are in their midst. Thank You for the gift of Your presence here and now.

TIME OF SHARING:

At this time you may want to have a brief communion service, rejoicing in the presence of Christ among you.

Share some reports on needs and opportunities in missions both locally and globally. You may want to use communications from missionaries known to members of your group. Or share prayer needs from mission organizations you are familiar with.

You may also read Matthew 12:15-21 and then pray through that scripture passage back to the Lord.

MIDPOINT PRAYER:

We pause to remember that time is a valuable resource. No one can add days to their life. We choose to rest in Your timing for our lives. We choose to trust You for the unfolding of Your plan to redeem for Yourself a chosen people, a holy priesthood. It is not for us to know times or seasons, for the restoration is under the authority of the Father. For now, we watch and pray, waiting expectantly to see You work.

Deliver, O Lord.

Heal, O Master.

Save, O God.

Render justice, O King.

Have mercy, O Jesus.

TIME OF SHARING:

[Enjoy a time of silent reflection. Encourage the group to consciously breath in and out, so as to relax in the presence of God.]

Have a time of intercession for missionaries.

Consider showing a video clip of some need, or issue, or place of ministry. Consider praying for a particular country, religious block. Consider praying for your own neighbors, for your city, for a local service ministry. [These things can be altered in different gatherings.]

READ: Isaiah 40:1-9 Theme: The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

A PRAYER TO CLOSE:

[Consider applying an aromatic oil to forehead or wrist of each group member, as a symbol of the sweet fragrance of Christ.]

O God of all comfort, comfort us in our affliction, that we may give that same comfort to those who are also afflicted. Heal us in our brokenness, that we may give Your healing balm to the broken ones around us.

As we leave this place, we desire that the sweet fellowship of Your presence will linger with us as a pleasant aroma. We carry with us the grace of this gathering and their passion to see Your mission fulfilled.

We ask that You once again would speak comfort to Jerusalem. In Your grace, speak comfort also to Gentiles everywhere – in Judea, in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth.

Let warfare be ended.

Cause many to receive the pardon of the cross for all their iniquities.

May they enjoy double grace for all their sins.

May dark valleys be raised into the light.

May haughty mountains be brought low.
May crooked places of deceit be straightened.
May harsh injustices be made smooth.

Yes, employ Your church to make a great highway for the King, and prepare the way of the Lord.

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Though the grass withers and the flower fades,
The word of our God stands forever.
Amen!