



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC A Call to Pray

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THEME Be Holy

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MESSAGE SUMMARY

Why Pray?

SP warns us that we are living in the last days. Now more than ever, we need to recognise the urgency of these perilous and exciting times. Quoting Matthew 24:12, SP pointed to the increasing lawlessness that is evident in the increasing violence around the world (e.g. multiple terrorist attacks in the past few months), and attacks on the moral fabric of society (e.g. the LGBT agenda against marriage and family).

In response to this, BBTC draws from the example of Nehemiah and operates on a strategy of having both spade and sword ready. That is, we engage in a holistic approach to education, ministry, and advocacy on the issues we face today. Notable examples of BBTC's commitment to these areas include conducting marriage and parenting courses, offering a healing ministry and counselling sessions, and joining hands as the Church of God in nationwide campaigns. These are but a sampling of the consistent efforts BBTC makes to be salt and light to the culture around us.

So why do we pray? Because prayer is the strategy of the Church that undergirds everything else; it is where the fight against the perversion of evil is the fiercest and the strongest. SP explains that it is only by prayer that we can remain firmly rooted in the righteousness of God until the end.

Coming Into the Presence of GOD

Prayer brings us into commune with God, our Heavenly Father. As we enter His presence, we do so not through our own merit but by the blood of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ (Heb 10:19-22). Jesus Himself is our great High Priest who cleanses us with the blood that He shed on the cross, and gives us courage to draw near in full assurance of faith. This manner of gaining entrance into the presence of God is so powerful that we can enter boldly into God's presence.

Having the right to enter the presence of God, bestowed upon us by the sacrificial blood of Jesus, we can and should now enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise (Psalm 100:4-5). To do this accurately and powerfully, however, we need to know who God is and proclaim the names of God. While we may often think of the above as instructions on how to worship God, it should be noted that prayer is also a form of worship and thus bears striking similarities to it.

The Prayer Agenda in BBTC

During this season of prayer, there are five prayer agendas in BBTC.

1. Pray for Israel – Gen 12:1-3
2. Pray for Singapore – 1 Tim 2:1-2
3. Pray for BBTC Leadership – Heb 13:17, 1 Thes 5:12-13
4. Pray for the nations around us
5. Pray for and bless one another – Num 6:24-26

Conclusion

Until we learn how to pray we cannot truly succeed in the things of God. The only way to learn about and grow in prayer is to pray. What are we waiting for? It is time to start praying.

QUESTIONS

1. Why should we pray?

2a. How can we enter the presence of God?

2b. In what manner should we come into His Presence? Why is this important?

3. To rebuild the family wall, SP has outlined a framework that of education, ministry and advocacy. In which area(s) would you like to be more

actively/intentionally involved in? How do you intend to do that?