

### THE POWER OF A PRAYING CHURCH

**How does the church navigate through today's challenges?**

**1. Develop the ability to see the reality behind conflict.**

- Ephesians 6:12 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities,...*

**2. Understand the power of “mob mentality.”**

- Matthew 21:9-11 *“Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!”*
- Mark 15:11-13 *They shouted back, “Crucify Him!”*
- Rule your own spirit first. Proverbs 16:32 *He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.*

**3. Our spiritual enemy is quick to have us think that prayer is not enough! That more is needed.**

- Without the priority of prayer, actions are eternally meaningless.
- Moses, Aaron and Hur interceding for Joshua in the battle against the Amalakites in Exodus 17:8-16. Israel prevailed when Moses held up his arms and the staff of God!
- Peter was placed in prison to be executed by Herod in Acts 12:5-11, but the fervent prayer of the Church prevailed!

### WHY ARE WE NOT SEEING GREAT RESULTS?

**In many cases, God has to work ON us instead of THROUGH us.**

**1. 2 Chronicles 7:13-15** *...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 will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

- In its immediate context, God was reminding Solomon of the covenant He had made with Israel in Deuteronomy 28 (the

blessings and curses). However, as His people, God is explaining the reasons for calamities and states that His people need to first heal their own land (the church) before He can use us to heal the physical land (America).

**2. Our responsibility**

- Humble ourselves (To bend the knee, to humiliate oneself).
- Pray and seek His Face (To strive after).
- Turn from our wicked ways (Repentance, 2 Corinthians 7:10).

**3. God then promises to...**

- Hear our prayer from Heaven.
- Forgive our sin (singular, turning from His ways to our own way).
- Heal our land, the church.

**4. God is always raising up a prayer army who is able to pray the “power prayer” of Identificational Intercession.**

- Nehemiah 1:6-7 *Both my father's house and I have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against You, and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, nor the ordinances which You commanded Your servant Moses.*

**5. Prayer**

- We humble ourselves and confess the sin of thinking and doing things our way. (Proverbs 14:12) Forgive us of secret, hidden sin and attitudes, divisions, etc.
- Heal the Church from its wickedness so that we may have the authority and power in our society. (Ezekiel 8)

**Philippians 2:14-16**

*Do all things without complaining and disputing (grumbling and arguing), that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life,...*