

We Are The **TEMPLE** of **GOD**

1 Corinthians 3:16

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Part 2 | THE FOUNDATION OF PRAYER

Read Matthew 21:10-16. When Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the Temple, He cleansed it and re-established its foundation of prayer, resulting in miraculous healing power and an excited atmosphere of praise.

1 Corinthians 3:16 states that we are the Temple of the Spirit. What will take place when Christ comes to your Temple/heart?

Be prepared for His entrance into our heart. Isaiah 40:3-5 *Prepare the way for the LORD... Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low; the uneven ground will become smooth, and the rugged land a plain...*

Part 1 — A CLEANSING IS REQUIRED — Let Him not only forgive you of your sin, but allow the Holy Spirit to do a deep cleansing from the motive and bondage of sin. Go beyond the surface (the letter of the Law) and into the heart. Matthew 5:21-30 *...You have heard that it was said to those of old,... But I say to you...*

Part 2 — PRAYER IS THE FOUNDATIONAL ACTIVITY — Just as His House is a house of prayer, so must our “house or Temple: be a house of prayer. Many of us find it difficult to experience a deep and meaningful time of prayer. The reasons may vary from distraction, an unrealistic reliance on feelings, desiring a certain outcome that God may not have promised, etc. However, God desires that we experience a meaningful time of prayer each time we approach Him. Here are a few thoughts to enhance your time of prayer...

1. **Desire** — It begins with a wholehearted desire to meet with God. (2 Kings 13:18-19) Jesus asked three disciples to pray with Him in the garden before the crucifixion but returned and found them sleeping! Matthew 26:40 *“Were you not able to keep watch with Me for one hour?” He asked Peter.*
2. **Determination and priority** — Force a consistent time of intimate prayer into your schedule. To do this we MUST “redeem” or buy back our time. (Ephesians 5:16)

3. **Ability to hear** — A mother can hear her child in a crowd of voices because of her relationship with her child. Can we hear His voice over the clamor of other noises? This requires we have an intimate relationship with Him so that we can hear His still, small voice over the noise of this world. 1 Kings 19:11-13 *...and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.*

4. **Motivation** — Is our prayer time predominantly motivated by need or do we truly desire to be with Him? Notice the benefits of being in His Presence from Psalm 16:11, *You have made known to me the path of life (life direction and purpose); You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand (the fulfillment in life).*

5. **Going deeper**

A. Other Scriptures include Mark 11:22-24; Romans 8:26-27; Philippians 4:6-7; James 5:13-18; 1 John 5:14-15. Scan the QR code to read the passages. Or click this link: <https://clr.cm/v5qK>.



B. Make the Disciple's prayer pattern in Matthew 6:9-13 a life habit. This is the pattern given by Jesus to His disciples and addresses every aspect of life! Scan the code to view the document. Or click this link: <https://clr.cm/Yv4B>.



1 John 5:14-15 *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

Next week: Part 3 — THE POWER OF OUR PRAISE