

PRAYER SERVICE AUGUST 24, 2020

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

If My people, who are called by My Name

1 Peter 2 ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **God's special possession**, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now **you are the people of God**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Deuteronomy 26 ¹⁶ The Lord your God commands you this day to follow these decrees and laws; carefully observe them with all your heart and with all your soul. ¹⁷ You have declared this day that the Lord is your God and that you will walk in obedience to Him, that you will keep His decrees, commands and laws—that you will listen to Him. ¹⁸ And the Lord has declared this day that **you are His people, His treasured possession** as He promised, and that you are to keep all His commands.

Ephesians 1 NLT ³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before He made the world, **God loved us and chose us** in Christ to be holy and without fault in His eyes. ⁵ God decided in advance **to adopt us into His own family** by bringing us to Himself **through** Jesus Christ. This is what He wanted to do, and it gave Him great pleasure. ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son.

Will you praise God with me and thank Jesus Christ for His sacrifice for us – for you – for me – for our salvation?

*if My people, who are called by My name, **will humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways . . .***

Psalms 39 ⁴ “Show me, Lord, my life's end and the number of my days; let me know how fleeting my life is. ⁵ You have made my days a mere handbreadth; the span of my years is as nothing before You. Everyone is but a breath, even those who seem secure. ⁶ “Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom; in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth without knowing whose it will finally be. ⁷ “But now, Lord, what do I look for? My hope is in You. ⁸ Save me from all my transgressions; do not make me the scorn of fools. ⁹ I was silent; I would not open my mouth, for You are the one who has done this. ¹⁰ Remove your scourge from me; I am overcome by the blow of Your hand. ¹¹ When You rebuke and discipline anyone for their sin, You consume their wealth like a moth—surely everyone is but a breath.

What does it mean to be humble or to humble oneself?

To recognize we are a person in need – to recognize our finiteness – to acknowledge our dependency on the One who gives life

Humility is the opposite of pride

Pride is to live as though we, with all our thoughts, opinions and beliefs are more important and are always right – Pride is also living as though we have no need for help or guidance.

James and Peter tells us that *“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble”*

Isaiah 66:2 *“These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at My word.”*

Luke 18 ⁹ *To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, **Jesus told this parable:*** ¹⁰ *“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’*

¹³ *“But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’*

¹⁴ *“I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”*

Will you confess with me our need for God and His Word – His leading – His commands – His truth?

Will you confess with me the areas of pride in your life?

Lord I confess _____

Psalms 51 ¹ *Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. ² Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.*

³ *For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight; so You are right in Your verdict and justified when You judge. ⁵ Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. ⁶ Yet You desired faithfulness even in the womb; You taught me wisdom in that secret place.*

⁷ Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones You have crushed rejoice. ⁹ Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity.

¹⁰ Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹ Do not cast me from Your presence or take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹² Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Lord we look to You and only You for all that we need!

Lord we need YOU – Your ear – Your attention

We need Your mercy, Your Words, Your leading, Your healing, Your provisions, and Your protections

Proverbs 3 *⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶ Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.*

⁷ Don't be impressed with your own wisdom. Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil. ⁸ Then you will have healing for your body and strength for your bones.

⁹ Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. ¹⁰ Then He will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

¹¹ My child, don't reject the Lord's discipline, and don't be upset when He corrects you. ¹² For the Lord corrects those He loves, just as a father corrects a child in whom he delights.

Let us remember always that *"...to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace.