



**Building Fathers House**  
A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

Sharing

## Elijah Prayer Discipleship School

Becoming an instrument of prayer

[www.buildingfathershouse.org](http://www.buildingfathershouse.org)

*(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)*

### **Workshop no. 15 : “Prayer evangelism” - PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES OF PRAYER EVANGELISM - part two - a clear vision.**

*Ephesians 3:9 And to **make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery**, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:*

**Purpose of this workshop:** To look at the guidelines for prayer evangelism to assist us in our prayer goal.

**Intended Goal:** To understand the believer’s responsibility in evangelism as exercised through the power of prayer - a **clear vision** for prayer.

### **Scripture readings :**

***Ephesians 2:10-22** For we are **his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. **Wherefore remember**, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called **Uncircumcision** by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: **But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ**. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for **to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross**, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and **preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh**. For **through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father**. Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but **fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.***

**2 Peter 1:18-21** *And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye **take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:** Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: **but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.***

**Ephesians 3:9-12** *And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places **might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,** According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.*

**Isaiah 62:1** *For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the **salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.***

**Ezra 1:1-4** *Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and **he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.** Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem. **And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.***

**Matthew 5:44** *But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, **and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;***

**1 Timothy 1:16-19** *Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; **Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:***

**Titus 2:12-15** *Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, **we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;** Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; **Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.** These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee.*

**Matthew 5:14-16** ***Ye are the light of the world.** A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.***

## Food for thought :

In considering *Timothy 2:14* *Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*

It is clear that we have been redeemed to do the good works that God predestined for us to do as in *Ephesians 2: 10* *For we are **his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.***

Let us therefore consider the good works in order to understand the vision for prayer evangelism. Jesus instructed us, that our light must shine so that our good works will be displayed before men. *Matthew 5:16* *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.* This is not good works by which we can boast in, on the contrary it is good works by which we can boast in Christ Jesus. For when the disciples asked Jesus John 6v28 what shall we do that we may work the works of God? He said unto them verse 29 *This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.* It is in walking in the works of faith that we can boast in Christ Jesus. As Peter boasted in Christ Jesus after they gave unto the cripple at gate beautiful what they had, **faith in Christ Jesus**. As they explained when people stared at them, they said *Act 3:13* *The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go. and Act 3:16* *And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, **the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness** in the presence of you all.* Our good works is nothing less than to show our faith in Christ Jesus and in our Father in heaven through our deeds of faith. *James 2:21-22* *Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and **by works was faith made perfect**?* Every altar need a sacrifice of faith, *Romans 12:1-2* *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

Elijah when called upon rebuilt the altar of God, Gideon was called upon to rebuild the altar of God, now in Christ Jesus we have been called to rebuild an altar to the glory of God. A dwelling place for God where His glory, His light can be displayed, Jesus said *Matthew 18:20* *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.* **It is coming together in prayer that we build an altar to the glory of God, causing His light to shine into the darkness and dispelling the darkness.**

When we build **the altar** in the right order, Jesus said that He will be in our midst, but He said a kingdom divided can not stand. The Word is very specific in that we belong unto one house, the household of God. In Ezra the enemy tried to destroy the rebuilding proses, but in unity they overcame. Likewise with us, the goal of prayer evangelism is to build a dwelling place for God in the Spirit (an altar), as we unite in faith in Christ Jesus and the knowledge of Him being the Son of the living God. It is through this unity that God can draw people unto Him and fill them with joy, as said in *Isaiah 56:7* *Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon **mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.*** It is not about an individual church it is about a united household of God, a dwelling place in the Spirit. Building our Fathers House.

## True stories :

**Mozambique, Inhambane Bongu.** *The prayers are not the mere introduction to preaching, but preaching is intended to make people pray.*

In considering *Acts 2:42* *And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in **prayers**.* The preaching of apostle Peter **resulted in the new converts to continue steadfastly in daily prayer**, and likewise resulted in the growth of the early church as The Lord continued to add to the numbers as we read in *Acts 2:47* *Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

**An altar increases the light in the hearts of those who pray as well as in the community. Bringing about a transformation in those praying and in the community.**

The above-mentioned happened in Bongu Mozambique. Pastor Abilo by the grace of God started a church in a very rural area of Inhambane *and wrote prayer into the church constitution.* Since 2007 the members pray **on a daily basis** in the morning and in the evening, and has continued up to date. The result of this prayer of unity of the body of Christ can be clearly seen in the growth of the church and the change in the environment. The Lord continues to add new members. Even through dreams some people (some of them sangomas) came, and is still coming to the church! Sangomas repenting, breaking down their altars of witchcraft resulted in the environment being changed. From sangoma drums echo-ing through-out the night the area has changed to quiet and peaceful, causing an influx of people into the area. This is clearly the result of prayer as we partnership with God in bringing in the harvest!

### **Family prayer changes lives:**

A Christian family in the United States accepted the challenge of praying for their neighbors. As they prayed over eight weeks for five neighboring families, remarkable things happened. A young man from one of these homes approached the husband of the family and asked for help to get out of dealing drugs. A young girl came with questions about Christianity and gave her life to Christ and started to go to church. A Hispanic family with two children asked to have a Bible study and ended up with all four of them trusting Christ. A Buddhist family from across the street asked to go to church with them. God soon began to draw them to Himself and to touch their lives in gracious ways. All this happened because one family prayed faithfully for their neighbors and were available to be used by the Lord.

**Daniel 6:7-26** All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree,

that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day. Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him. Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed. Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him. Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den. Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. **I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and steadfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.**

## God's authority :

**John 17:22-23** *And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, **that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.***

**Haggai 1:5-10** *Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes. Thus saith the LORD of hosts; **Consider your ways.** Go up to the mountain, and bring wood, and build the house; and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the LORD. Ye looked for much, and, lo, it came to little; and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. **Why?** saith the LORD of hosts. **Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house.** Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit.*

*Acts 2:46-47 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

*James 2:15-22 If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, And one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead. Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?*

## **Conclusion :**

Consider Paul in his letter to the Ephesians. He explained that he had been given grace to **preach** the unsearchable riches of Christ, being the fulfillment of God's eternal purpose. He had, from the beginning, purposed to reconcile all to Him through Christ Jesus **giving us boldness and access to God our Father.** *Ephesians 3:8-12 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.*

**Prayer is our faith being expressed in our relationship with a living God.** Daniel expressed his faith in God in the presence of all who planned to have him killed. He however knew His God! His relationship with God was more important to him than the threat of death. (Like Paul said, death were is your sting, for he knew to die is but a gain).

Daniel's faith, as he displayed it in his relationship with God, resulted in a decree by king Darius that said **"I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and steadfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end."**

Likewise when we consider Abraham as being justified by works, works not based on the flesh, but works, like Daniel, of considering God and his relationship with God more important than anything else. This relationship he expressed in prayerfully walking in obedience.

Jesus showed us that the victory is in surrendering our lives in obedience to God and to His will. **This however is expressed only through the relationship with God.**

**The early church in Acts 2:42 & 47 used exactly the same principal and guidelines and as they continued in the relationship with God expressed in their prayer life and God added to their numbers.**

**Based on the mentioned, we will do well to preach with the purpose of getting believers everywhere to come into a prayerful relationship with a living God, so that the church of Christ can grow on the foundation that Jesus intended from the beginning. As He explained to Peter, that He will build His church on the knowledge of who He is, the Son of the Living God. Mat 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the *gates of hell shall not prevail against it.* The mentioned revelation did not come by flesh and blood, as Jesus said to Peter, but he, Peter, received it from our heavenly Father in **relationship**.**

The church of Christ must reflect the glory of God, not on the basis of our own understanding but based on the living relationship expressed by the church in prayer.

How do we do it? Isaiah 62:10 can be a guideline inspiring us to become effective in the hands of God, it is a command to go through the gates, to prepare a way for the people. Although there seemed to be various commentaries, on the mentioned verse, it seemed to be like the great commission, a command to us to go, to prepare a way for the unbelievers to come unto God. Isaiah 62:10 give 4 stages to follow the command to reach the lost.

### **Stage 1**

#### **Pass! Pass through the gates!**

This is a command to pass through the gates of our own cities, church, ministry and own fears so that we can get active **in building God's Kingdom together**, as we unite in oneness of faith and in the knowledge of Christ, establishing a dwelling place for God, our Father in the Spirit.

**Consider 1Corinthians 3:3-7** *"for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human? What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth."*

### **Stage 2**

#### **Prepare a way for the people!**

**A clear vision** is given as for the reason to go through the gates. We are called to prepare a way for the people, that Jesus may be revealed to them, so that they can come into relationship with him and follow Him.

Prepare the way!!!!

### **Stage 3**

#### **Gather out the stones!**

Showing us what to do, to remove all things that hinder the people to embrace Christ Jesus as their Bridegroom, eg heresies, false doctrines, false worship, idolatry and superstition, so that the way to

Jesus Christ may be a good way for passengers, a highway: The purpose of sharing the Good News is not to call people to church membership and attendance, but to call them into the fellowship with God and His Son Jesus Christ.

*1John 1:1-3 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, **that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.***

#### **Stage 4**

#### **Lift up a standard for the people!**

A man once said that if he could see the Christians the Bible talk about, he would become a Christian! The standard by which we live must proclaim our Christ-likeness. As we raise up a standard within our own lives, people must be able to follow as Paul said "follow me as I follow Christ". As it is sung "let my walk speak loud and my words be true, let my life-song sing to You!" Placing our trust in God in the name of Jesus Christ as we **pray together** must be the standard by which we live.

#### **HABITATION OF YAHWE (A Song reflecting the mentioned)**

##### **ALTAR for God**

**I will take this flame for YOU  
for this I was born to live here  
the ALTAR close to the heart of God  
Lord totally possess my soul  
come soon My Lord  
I want to be a vessel of your own  
Take my life everything I know is yours  
take my eyes give me YOUR vision  
Let my heart beat from heaven  
Here on your ALTAR here I will stay!**

#### **Questions to be answered :**

1. What is the good works?
2. What does the bible teach us concerning the early church of Acts?
3. What should be the primary focus of our preaching?
4. What is the standard that we must lift up?
5. What is the sacrifice we must lay on the altar?

