



Tim Hill  
Church of God  
General Overseer



# PRAYING *for* PENTECOST

WEEK OF MAY 27, 2018

## Prayer Focus: *God's Presence*

**Prayer:** *"Words won't do it. Persuasive arguments won't do it. Fancy appeals won't break through. It is not more dazzle that is needed, it is your Presence. Invade nations with an awareness that you are the true and living God. Set whole cities back on their heels with arresting convicting power. Show up in ways that manifest your glory and stop the mouths of skeptics. Make the six-o'clock news. Most of us have never seen 'Great Awakening' glory. Some nations have never had a mighty move of God. Come Lord. Come to our General Assembly! Come to the Church of God. Come into our congregational worship. Renew us with your presence."*

## Daily Prayer Points:

- MONDAY - Forgive us for preaching without power – for preparation to teach or share your word without prayer (Acts 6:3-4).
- TUESDAY - Lord, no more will we make witnessing about memorized words. It must be about your Presence. You have to be the 3rd person in the equation. You have to open the heart for the words to break through (Col. 4:2-4; II Thess. 3:1).
- WEDNESDAY - Lord, some of us attend churches built on the site of great revivals. The fire fell. The city came. And a church was left behind. Do it again, God (Haggai 2:9).
- THURSDAY - Mark our gatherings with your presence (Isa. 60:2).
- FRIDAY - Today, get alone, get away with God. Pray for God's presence in your life. Pray to be a greater instrument of His grace. Pray for church leaders, to walk in the fullness of God's power.

## WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Last year alone, 120 million people were presented the gospel for the first time, ten million each month. Approximately 1.7 billion unreached people listen to Christian radio or watch Christian TV on a monthly basis. Every 14 days another translation of the New Testament is begun in a new language. If we're still here, at least some portion of the Bible will be translated into every language on earth by the year 2020.

## HARVEST NOTES

With population growth, especially among immigrants, America's church-to-population ratio is declining. In 1900, there were 29 churches for every 10,000 people. Today, that number is only 11 churches for every 10,000.

## PRAYER PRINCIPLE

According to my humble judgment, the greatest need of the present-day church is prayer. Prayer should be the vital breath of the church, but right now it is gasping for air. One of the great Bible teachers of the past said that the church goes forward on its knees. Maybe one of the reasons the church is not going forward today is because it's not in a position to go forward – we are not on our knees in prayer.”

J. Vernon McGee

## ACTION IDEA

For a whole day – try to live in the presence of God. No TV. No radio. If you play or listen to anything, make it worship music. Develop a plan that includes conscious praise and thanksgiving throughout the day. Every hour or half-hour, set an alarm and pray, praise, give thanks. Wesley is said to have praised God and prayed for at least 5 minutes at the top of every hour. Read and rehearse Bible verses during the day. Pray without ceasing. Then, as the day ends, journal your thoughts. Record impressions of the day.

## Bible Insights:

*Then he said to Him, “If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. Ex. 33:15.*

*And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; and He brought you out of Egypt with His Presence, with His mighty power. Dt. 4:37.*

*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. Acts 10:38.*

## Consider This:

87% of mission money goes for work among those who are already Christians, who have tasted God's Presence. 12% goes for work among the evangelized, but not yet Christian. Only 1% goes for work among the utterly unevangelized. To reach the unreached peoples and allow them to experience God's presence would not require another dime – if the Church gave priority to that mission. Over 100 times the resources necessary, in fact, enough resources to plant native churches among these peoples, are already in the possession of the Church. It does not have the resolve to change its priorities. Christian churches spend 85% of their resources on their own development – personnel, finance, tools, even prayer. In the US, that number is 95%. All 6400 unreached people groups could be evangelized if American Evangelicals would give only .2% of their income to that cause.



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P. Douglas Small, Coordinator  
[www.churchofgod.org](http://www.churchofgod.org) | [www.praycog.org](http://www.praycog.org)  
855-84-ALIVE

- *Connect on the **Church of God Facebook** page (COGHQ) Monday through Friday for a five-minute prayer time 12:00 noon EST.*
- *Participants can **inform of their participation and offer prayer requests** by calling 1-888-992-6447, or by going online to [www.churchofgod.org/prayingforpentecost](http://www.churchofgod.org/prayingforpentecost).*
- *Connect weekly with the **Saturday Night Fire Prayer Call**, 9PM EST, Call-in number: 641-715-3580; Access Code: 466086#.*
- *Pray for the **77th International General Assembly**, July 30-August 3 in Orlando, FL.*