

## SESSION 4: 60 Minutes

### What we will cover today:

Part 1: Introduction and first prayer ( Leader tries to start on time and keeps session to 60 minutes)

Part 2: Entering His Gates with Thanksgiving

- Reading: Psalm 9:1-14
- Praise from Psalm 9:1-14
- Hymn Mumbling

Part 3: Confession

- What Hinders Prayer
- Confession of things that hinder prayers

Part 4: Session Application

- Read and meditate on Acts 7:1-60
- Prayers we are told to pray
- Praying from the map: Europe
- Praying for enemies
- Reading: John 14:21
- Personal Requests

Part 5: Summary

Part 6: Benediction

- Ephesian 3:20

#### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Bible
- Pen or Pencil
- Post-It-Note

#### FEATURE FOR THE LABORING SECTION:

- Europe

## PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND FIRST PRAYER

1.

**Leader:** Who will be the “Note” Reader? You butt in and read whenever there’s a line headed by “Note”.

- “Note Reader” is chosen

2.

**Leader:** Let’s praise God for His coming Kingdom by reading 1 verse around this prophecy of millions of gentiles coming into His kingdom.

- Each read one verse around Isaiah 42:1-7

Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.<sup>2</sup> He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.<sup>3</sup> A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth.<sup>4</sup> He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law.<sup>5</sup> Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein:<sup>6</sup> I the LORD have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles;<sup>7</sup> To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.

## PART 2: ENTERING HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

3.

**Leader:** We will spend a few minutes giving praise to God for his works both on our behalf and hindering the works of evil. Who will read Psalm 9:1-14?

- Volunteer reads Psalm 9:1-14

I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.<sup>2</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.<sup>3</sup> When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence.<sup>4</sup> For thou hast maintained my right and my cause; thou satest in the throne judging right.<sup>5</sup> Thou hast rebuked the heathen, thou hast destroyed the wicked, thou hast put out their name for ever and ever.<sup>6</sup> O thou enemy, destructions are come to a perpetual end: and thou hast destroyed cities; their memorial is perished with them.<sup>7</sup> But the LORD shall endure forever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.<sup>8</sup> And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness.<sup>9</sup> The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble.<sup>10</sup> And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.<sup>11</sup> Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings.<sup>12</sup> When he maketh inquisition for blood, he remembereth them: he forgetteth not the cry of the humble.<sup>13</sup> Have mercy upon me, O LORD; consider my trouble

which I suffer of them that hate me, thou that liftest me up from the gates of death:<sup>14</sup> That I may shew forth all thy praise in the gates of the daughter of Zion: I will rejoice in thy salvation.

- Everyone gives praise from Psalm 9 or anything in your heart.

### PART 3: CONFESSION

4.

**Leader:** So we can be stronger in our praying, please read one verse around until all five hindrances to prayer are read. These passages help us avoid those things that block prayer.

- Read the five verses that tell us what hinders prayer (Portfolio of Scripture, Page 6). Each person read a verse around until all are read.

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be nothindered. (1Peter 3:7)

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination. (Proverbs 28:9)

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me. (Psalm 66:18)

Surely God will not hear vanity, neither will the Almighty regard it. (Job 35:13)

Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lust. (James 4:3)

5.

**Leader:** Now we can acknowledge to God and each other any of these verses that apply to us (example not treating our spouse as a fellow heir.

**NOTE:** If you haven't been guilty of things that hinder prayer, rejoice and try to have pity on the rest of us miserable offenders.

- Confession of things that hinder prayer.

6.

**Leader:** Sing a hymn best you can.

- Leader's choice. Everyone sings hymn together.

### PART 4: SESSION APPLICATION

7.

**Leader:** Let us continue by meditating on how God works throughout history given to us by Stephen, the first martyr of the Christian faith.

- Read and meditate on Acts 7:1-60. Each person read three verses around until finished.

8. **Leader:** Let us pray two more of the prayers that we are told to pray, then we will continue laboring for the countries of the world in Europe. Two people please read and pray one of these two prayers in Scripture: Psalm 122:6 and Matthew 5:44 (Portfolio of Scriptures, Told to Pray, Page 2, #12 & #10)

- Someone read Psalm 122:6 then say a short sentence prayer that it says to pray for.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper that love thee. (Psalm 122:6)

- Someone read Matthew 5:44 then say a short sentence prayer that it says to pray for.

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; (Now think of something good to do for them) Matthew 5:44

**NOTE:** You will like knowing all 16 of the prayers that we are “told to pray” and the words to say found in the Portfolio of Scriptures.

9. **Leader:** Now let each person pray for 1 country at a time until 12 European countries are prayed for. Pray by locating the country and ruler and mentioning the politics and prayer. I will begin. “Lord, help the people of \_\_\_\_\_ (name country) and the head ruler \_\_\_\_\_ (name ruler), that they may be saved. That they would lead quiet and peaceable lives in all Godliness and honesty.

**NOTE:** This time we pray briefly. Later we will spend more time on each country.

- Go around each praying for 1 country at a time. (until 12 are prayed for)

**Albania - Note location**

**Ruler : Pres. Bamir Topi**

**Politics:** Multiparty elections have generally been peaceful and closely contested.

**Prayer:** Prayer works. Thank you LORD for opening Albania to the gospel after years of being closed. This is an answer to many prayers. May the church now see Holy Spirit-filled disciples shun pragmatic world views.

**Population:** 3.1M **Capital:** Tirana **Peoples:** Albanian 91.2% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:** Albanian **Economy:** one of Europe's poorest nations **HDI Rank:** 70th/182 **Public Debt:** 51.9% **Income p/p:** \$4,090 **Religion:** Muslim 62%

**Andorra - Note location**

**Ruler : Co-Prince Joan Enric Vives Sicilia and Co-Prince Nicolas Sarkozy**

**Politics:** Parliamentary elections

**Prayer:** We ask that the 90% of Andorrans affiliated with the Catholic Church will walk in the light, be born again & walk in the Spirit. Powerfully establish Biblical Christianity, driving out materialism.

**Population:** 18.9M **Capital:** Luanda **Peoples:** Bantu 97.6% **Literacy:** 67% **Off. Lang:** Portuguese **Economy:** oil exporter **HDI Rank:** 143rd/182 **Public Debt:** 15.5% **Income p/p:** \$5,054 **Religion:** Christian 94%

**Austria - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Heinz Fischer**

**Politics:** Currently ruled by a centre-left party , but far-right anti-immigration parties remain influential.

**Prayer:** Multiply evangelical/charismatic congregations in this formerly Catholic, quickly sliding into a post-Christian state. Release the grip churches have had on traditionalism & formalism.

**Population:** 8.3M **Capital:** Vienna **Peoples:** Germanic 91% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:** German **Economy:** tourist, agricultural and industrial **HDI Rank:** 14th/182 **Public Debt:** 62.6% **Income p/p:** \$50,039 **Religion:** Christian 83%

**Belarus - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Alexander Lukashenko**

**Politics:** Political leadership still clings to the autocratic Communist past and has proved intransigent to Western diplomatic overtures.

**Prayer:** Your people in this functionally Communist, Christian-persecuting, Chernobyl-affected land need patient, overcoming faith, unity, & much growth & equipping of new leaders as a Church emerges.

**Population:** 9.5M **Capital:** Minsk **Peoples:** Slavic 98% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:** Belarusian & Russian **Economy:** agricultural and industrial **HDI Rank:** 68th/182 **Public Debt:** 1.4% **Income p/p:** \$6,235 **Religion:** Christian 70%

**Belgium - Note location****Ruler : King Albert II**

**Politics:** Distrust, weariness and apathy characterize Belgians' attitudes toward the federal government.

**Prayer:** Belgium straddles the divide between the Latin & Germanic worlds & is rapidly embracing postmodern, nonreligious worldviews. May this slide result in a newly energized revival of Spirit-filled churches.

**Population:** 10.6M **Capital:** Brussels **Peoples:** European 93% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:** Flemish, French & German **Economy:** Strong economy **HDI Rank:** 14th/182 **Public Debt:** 89.6% **Income p/p:** \$47,289 **Religion:** Christian 63%

**Bosnia - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Nobojsa Radmanovic**

**Politics:** Real powers lies with NATO, trying to orchestrate a transition to a feasible post-war arrangement.

**Prayer:** Only you can heal the wounds left by the many conflicts over the years, including the latest in 1992-1995. "Only evangelicals are effectively bridging the ethnic fault lines," is an amazing testimony to the universal truth of the gospel. Spread this bridging across the land.

**Population:** 3.7M **Capital:** Sarajevo **Peoples:** Slavic 94% **Literacy:** 95% **Off. Lang:** Bosnian **Economy:** Foreign aid is important as is rebuilding the infrastructure **HDI Rank:** 76th/182 **Public Debt:** 40% **Income p/p:** \$4,625 **Religion:** Muslim 54% Christian 41%

**Bulgaria - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Georgi Parvanov**

**Politics:** Multiparty democracy instituted in 1990.

**Prayer:** The Orthodox Church in Bulgaria needs renewed, oh Giver of Life. Thank you for making Bulgaria relatively open over the past several years & continuing to unify your Church in this troubled land.

**Population:** 7.5M **Capital:** Sofia **Peoples:** Slavic 85% **Literacy:** 98% **Off. Lang:** Bulgarian **Economy:** minerals & manufacturing **HDI Rank:** 61st/182 **Public Debt:** 14% **Income p/p:** \$6,561 **Religion:** Christian 80%

**Croatia - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Ivo Josipovic****Politics:** The transition from nationalist politics to liberal democracy continues**Prayer:** Bosnians, Croats & Serbs have displayed their hatred for one another throughout history & continue to do so, but this provides an opportunity for your 1&Only eternally reconciling power to save, the gospel of Jesus Christ. Make the Croatian Church flourish!**Population:** 4.4M **Capital:** Zagreb **Peoples:** Slavic 93% **Literacy:** 98% **Off. Lang:** Croatian **Economy:** A resurgent tourist sector **HDI Rank:** 45th/182 **Public Debt:** 43% **Income p/p:** \$15,634 **Religion:** Christian 91%**Cyprus - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Dimitris Christofias****Politics:** The Republic of Cyprus (ROC) is internationally recognized as the legal government of the whole island.**Prayer:** Divided between the Republic of Cyprus & the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, this island needs the unity offered in Christ. Bless the work of the Logos & Bridge Christian bookshops.**Population:**879,000 **Capital:** Lefkosa **Peoples:** % **Literacy:** 96% **Off. Lang:** Greek **Economy:** One-sixth of the world's merchant ships are registered in Cyprus.**HDI Rank:**32nd/182 **Public Debt:** 49% **Income p/p:**\$32,745 **Religion:**Christian 74%**Czech Republic - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Vaclav Klaus****Politics:** Multiparty presidential democracy and EU member since 2004.**Prayer:** Her rapid plunge from 40% atheist in 1991 to 71% non-religious in 2010 has actually worked to cause soul-searching among Czechs. LORD send out faithful preachers to make disciples in the Czech Republic.**Population:**10.4M **Capital:** Prague**Peoples:** Slavic 96%**Literacy:**99% **Off. Lang:** Czech **Economy:** One of the most developed economies in central Europe **HDI Rank:** 36th/182 **Public Debt:** 26.8% **Income p/p:** \$20,760 **Religion:** Non-Religious 71% Christian 26%**Denmark - Note location****Ruler : Queen Margrethe II****Politics:** Stable parliamentary democracy with a constitutional monarchy.**Prayer:** It is confusing, God to see so many (over 80%) remaining members of the Lutheran Church while 50% are agnostic or atheist. Restore the ritualistic & dead Lutheran congregations with the Latter Rain.**Population:** 5.4M **Capital:** Copenhagen **Peoples:** Danish Citizens 92% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:**Danish **Economy:** agr, fishing and light industry **HDI Rank:** 16th/182**Public Debt:** 35.5% **Income p/p:** \$62,097 **Religion:** Christian 85%**Estonia - Note location****Ruler : Pres. Toomas Hendrik Ilves****Politics:** Multiparty democracy by 1991. 2004 entry to the EU and NATO reflects increasing Western orientation.**Prayer:** LORD, a Protestant heritage exists here, but a new, living, personal, deep movement of faith is needed in Estonia, as she continues to successfully transition from Soviet rule to a more Western way.**Population:** 1.3M **Capital:** Tallinn **Peoples:** Finno-Ugric 70% **Literacy:** 99% **Off. Lang:** Estonian **Economy:** One of the most successful of the post-Soviet economies **HDI Rank:** 40th/182 **Public Debt:** 4.8% **Income p/p:** \$17,532 **Religion:** Non-religious 54% Christian 45%

10.

**Leader:** Before we make personal requests we will pray these Bible prayers for our national and personal enemies (Portfolio of Scriptures, Page 7, Section C2).

- Each person pray one Scripture around until the three verses are prayed, meditated on and worshiped.

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and coast lots. (Luke 23:34)

And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep. (Acts 7:60)

At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge. (2 Timothy 4:16)

11.

**Leader:** This is not a command of Christ, but it tells us what will happen when we keep them. Please turn to Scripture. Who will read John 14:21? Then thank the Lord for the three things that will happen when we keep His commandments?

- Volunteer reads John 14:21 and thanks God for the three things that will happen.

12.

**Leader:** Now we each request anything from God that is on your heart and we will all agree with you by saying "Amen."

- Anyone make any request that you desire including personal, church and world.

## **PART 5: SUMMARY**

13.

**Leader:** Now "Note Reader" reviews Notes and Principles

**NOTE 1:** If you weren't quilt y of those things that hinder prayer – that doesn't make you a bad person, but it does if you didn't forgive the rest of us miserable offenders.

**NOTE 2:** You'll like knowing the 16 prayers we're told to pray and the words to say.

**NOTE 3.** Keeping Christ commandments results in The Father loving you, Christ loving you and manifesting himself to you.

## PART 6: BENEDICTION

14.

Leader: Who will bless with our benediction?

- Volunteer reads/prays benediction from Ephesians 3:20 (Portfolio of Scriptures, Page 9 #4).

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. Ephesians 3:20

- All say 'Amen'.