



“PRAYING FOR THE WORLD”

Unless otherwise quoted, all scripture is taken from the New King James Version of the Bible.

What an incredible time we are living in to know that God is mobilizing His people for the plan of advancing His purpose in the earth through the mandate of "prayer and sending." Scripture declares that there must be a great in gathering from the nations of the earth before the end. (Matthew 24:14 (VOICE) "And this good news of God's kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world, a testimony to all people and all nations. Then, beloved, the end, the consummation of all things, will come.")

We read in 1 Peter 4:7 (TLB) "But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers." It's interesting that the Lord combines the ending of all things with the measure of ones prayer life. As the body of Christ, we have a responsibility to pray for God's purpose for the nations of the earth. If there was one thing that we are instructed to do, it is to "pray!"

Psalm 2:8 "Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession." Again, the Lord associates the nations becoming the inheritance of the church through the element of prayer.

The release of His harvest is tied into the water level of prayer found within the church.

Matthew 9:37-38 (AMP)

"Then He said to His disciples, the harvest is indeed plentiful, but the laborers are few. So pray to the Lord of the harvest to force out and thrust laborers into His harvest."

In a commentary written by Andrew Murray, he points out that the number of missionaries on the field depends entirely on the extent to which someone obeys that command and "prays out the laborers."

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In Matthew 24:14, Jesus is saying that He cannot return to the planet until every ethnos (ethnic group) has had a witness of the Gospel of the kingdom. Our desire to see the return of Jesus is manifested in our obedience to His mandate to "pray."

There are 7,000 unreached people groups in the earth today of whom 2.9 billion people have never heard the gospel. If Andrew Murray is correct, a main reason for this high percentage of unsaved people groups is that the church has not prayed the laborers into its fields.

So, "how should the church pray for the world?" One of the most important prayers that we can pray is for Jesus to "thrust forth laborers into the harvest field!"

Start today. Begin praying for the people groups within your church, your city, your state, your nation and the nations of the earth!

The Foursquare Church is active in 141 countries. We have over 100 missionaries serving abroad, and send thousands of short-term missionaries overseas each year. Great things are being accomplished for the Kingdom through Foursquare Missions International, but we need your prayers. ([Foursquare.org/missions](https://www.foursquare.org/missions))

- Pray for Our Vision
- Pray that we will be able to present Jesus Christ to every person in every culture and every nation.
- Pray for Our Mission
- Pray that we will succeed in planting healthy, growing churches around the world that will reproduce again and again.
- Pray for Our Work
- Pray for our missionaries as they nurture and train believers into leadership on all levels of church life and provide works of compassion and relief.

Here are some additional prayer points you could add to your daily prayers in praying for the world:

Pray that the Holy Spirit would grip the hearts and open the eyes of influential leaders of nations.

* 2 Corinthians 4:4 (NKJV) "whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."

* Pray for supernatural and extraordinary manifestations of God among the various nations and people groups . . . signs, wonders, miracles, and manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

* Acts 2:19 (NKJV) "I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and fire and vapor of smoke."

* Acts 4:30 (NKJV) "by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus."

* Hebrews 2:4 (NKJV) "God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?"

Pray for open doors for missionaries to go into the unreached people groups with the Gospel of the kingdom.

* Psalm 2:8 "Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession."

* Colossians 4:3 "meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains,"

Pray for the protection and safety of missionaries and other workers, for wisdom, for the anointing with the Holy Spirit in order to do their work, unity among the workers and divine love for the unreached.

* 2 Chronicles 16:9 "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those

whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.”

* Psalm 34:7 "The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them."

* Ephesians 1:17-19 "17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding[a] being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power"

* Zechariah 4:6 "So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of hosts."

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