

# Pray First, Day 11 - For Return

## 1 Samuel 7:3-5 NKJV

3 Then Samuel spoke to all the house of Israel, saying, "If you return to the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the foreign gods and the Ashtoreths from among you, and prepare your hearts for the Lord, and serve Him only; and He will deliver you from the hand of the Philistines." 4 So the children of Israel put away the Baals and the Ashtoreths, and served the Lord only. 5 And Samuel said, "Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you."

According to organizations like Barna Research many people have stopped going to church and practicing their faith. Some have turned away from the pursuit of God and instead have worshipped other things.

Jesus spoke about leaving 99 sheep so that He could rescue the 1 lost sheep. In a similar way, we are invited to join Him on His mission to rescue those who have wandered from the path.

As we pray today, let's pray for those who currently have walked away from God and have turned toward other things. Let's ask God to gather them once again to His presence and fellowship with all the saints.

*Prayer example:*

"Father we pray for those who have been wounded or have wandered. We ask that they would find healing and home back in your presence. We pray that You would go after them and pursue them with Your love and grace. Turn people's hearts back to You. Restore them to fellowship with You and the Church. We pray this in Jesus' name, amen."