

Prayer for God's Presence

Father thank you so much that though once we were far off, yet now we have been brought near by the blood of Christ. Thank you for the free access that we now have to You by Your precious Holy Spirit. Thank you that it is Your express desire and purpose to build us together for a dwelling place for Yourself in the Spirit. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to behold You and embrace Your sufferings, and in so doing, allow Your Holy Spirit to transform us into Your image from glory to glory. Father we declare that it is a great privilege to be fashioned by You to be bearers of Your Holy presence.

Lord we acknowledge that without You we can do nothing, and that we have no goodness apart from You. We declare that the nearness of You is our good, and therefore take every opportunity to draw near to You with a true heart in full assurance of faith, as exhorted in Hebrews (Heb 10:22). We recognise that You are the fountain of life, and that You delight to give life freely to those who thirst. We choose to long for You that out of our hearts may flow rivers of living waters, and that finding our strength in You, You may turn our valleys of adversity and weeping into springs of life.

Father we make intimacy with You our number one desire, and declare that as we do so You will command Your lovingkindness in the daytime, and in the night Your song shall be with us - a prayer to the God of our lives. With the psalmist we say "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God." and cry, "When shall I come and appear before God" (Ps 42:2). We declare that it is our delight to behold You and to seek Your face, and that the joys and pleasures that we find in Your presence far outweigh anything that the world can offer. We also recognise that every good thing that we have received and experienced in our lives has come from You, as You Lord, have caused your face to shine upon us and given us favour.

Father we rededicate our hearts to seek you above all else, and we call forth a passionate cry and longing for Yourself within Your people here in Canberra and abroad. Lord we summon those who You have chosen to embark with us on the Hope journey, to join our weekly Hope webinars, and to attend the Hope conferences in May with Alistair Petrie. Lord we invite You to come and to bring great revelation to our hearts of the immeasurable worth and beauty of Yourself, such that we are forever ruined for anything less. Amen.

Backing Scriptures

Eph 2:13 "you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ" (2:17 "access by one Spirit to the Father")

Father

Eph 2:22 "you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit"

Heb 10:22 "Let us draw near with a true heart"

Ps 73:28 "but as for me the nearness of God is my good"

Ps 16:2 "my goodness is nothing apart from You"

Ps 16:6 "You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup"

Jn 15:5 "... for without Me you can do nothing" (declare)

Ps 36:9 "for with You is the fountain of life" (Jer 2:13 "the fountain of living waters" - given "freely to him who thirsts" (Rev 21:6))

Jn 7:38 ".. out of his heart will flow rivers of living water"

Moses

Ex 33:14 "if Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up"

Ps 26:8 "Lord I have loved the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells"

Ps 27:4 "One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord"

Ps 36:8 "They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house, and You give them .."

Ps 42:2 "My soul thirsts for God for the living God"

"Deep calls unto God ... (Ps 42:7) The Lord will command His lovingkindness in the daytime, And in the night His song shall be with me - a prayer ... " (Ps 42: 8)

Ps 44:3 "For they did not gain possession of the land by their own sword .."

Ps 63:1-8 "O God You are my God..."

Ps 65:4 "Blessed is the man You choose, And cause to approach You, that he may dwell ..."

Ps 73:25-26 "Whom have I in heaven but You, And there is none upon earth that I desire beside You"

Ps 84:1-2 "How lovely is your tabernacle O Lord of hosts! My soul longs yes even faints for the courts of the Lord, my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God"

v6. "as they pass through the Valley of Baca (adversity, weeping) they make it a spring"

v10. "a day in Your courts is better than a thousand"

Ps 91 great promises to those who make the Most High their dwelling place and set their love upon Him eg. safety, protection, deliverance

Ps 132: 4-5 "I will not give sleep to my eyes or slumber to my eyelids, until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob