

21-DAY FAST AND PRAY JANUARY 15, 2019

This second week, we turn our prayers toward the church, to our home church but also Jesus' Church. He said, *"I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it."*

E. M. Bounds wrote this simple admonishment in his book 'The Complete Works of E.M. Bounds on Prayer':

The prophet Isaiah, looking down the centuries with the vision of a seer, thus expresses his purpose to continue in prayer and give God no rest till Christ's kingdom be established among men:

"For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns." - Isaiah 62:1 NKJV

Then the Lord, Himself, by the mouth of this evangelical prophet, declares as follows:

"I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth." - Isaiah 62:6, 7 NKJV

The idea is that these praying ones are those who are the Lord's remembrances, those who remind Him of what He has promised, and who give Him no rest till God's church is established in the earth.

Paul wrote it this way to his Ephesian Church in Ephesians 6:12, 13 NKJV:

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

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1. **Name to the Lord the threats** in your own life, your family, our congregation, our area or in the worldwide move of the Holy Spirit.

"For You have been a shelter for me, a strong tower from the enemy."

-Psalms 61:3 NKJV

2. **Pray for the Lord to enable us**, and the whole Church, to speak with great boldness the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word." - Acts 4:29 NKJV

3. **Pray, "Lord, stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus."**

"Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands." - Acts 14:3 NKJV

4. **Ask the Lord to empower, equip, guide, and defend** us as individuals and as a church. Pray that God would ignite, nurture, and connect new waves of the Holy Spirit in the present and the future.

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning."

- John 15:26, 27 NKJV

5. **Pray, for both leaders and lay people, in all churches**, to become aware of and thirsty for the Father's promise of the Holy Spirit's equipping.

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." - Acts 2:38, 39 NKJV