



Becoming a House of Prayer

My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations. Mk 11:17

Update May 2024

“Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again, he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.” (James 5:17,18)

So, how did General Conference go? Did we have a “splash party” of the Holy Spirit. I wouldn’t say that, but perhaps we saw a cloud the size of man’s hand. If you remember the story of Elijah praying for rain to end the drought in Israel, he had to do some serious supplicating before the clouds burst forth. After Israel turned back from worshiping Baal to worshiping God, the Bible says that he *“climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees” (1Ki.18:42)*. That was his posture of earnest prayer....something like the posture a woman would take giving birth in those days. As he prayed, he asked his servant to go and see whether any clouds were gathering over the sea and then report back to him. Elijah had to press into God in prayer like that 7 times before the servant returned with the news that he saw a cloud, but it was only the size of man’s hand. Elijah knew that was a sign from God that a great rainstorm was on its way.



The Lord has been teaching me about learning to not only pray, but to supplicate in prayer. The HELPS Word Studies says that this word means “heart-felt petition, arising out of deep personal need”. Philippians 4:6 tells us, *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.”* When the disciples could not cast out a demon, Jesus said, *“But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” (Matt.17:21)*. And when we pray to our limit and don’t know how to pray any more, we are told to keep praying because *“the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.” (Rom.8:26)*. So, I’m not discouraged. I think I see signs of a small cloud on the horizon, so let’s keep pressing into God like Elijah did and watch for an outpouring of the Spirit like they experienced on the Day of Pentecost.

An Increase in Prayer at General Conference

There certainly was a major increase in prayer leading up to General Conference during our daily, monthly and intercessor’s prayer meetings. Then there was an uptick in emphasis on prayer at General Conference as well. There was a Prayer Room in the main hallway where people were free to drop in at any time during the day to pray. In it, Joy McEwen and Caroline Kellington developed 7 prayer stations that walked us through our theme Scripture passage, Psalm 51, and areas of ministry of the FMCIC. Each pastor and delegate were scheduled to pray for at least 15 minutes in the prayer room for the conference, and 3 early morning prayer meetings were held there. The day before GC, the National Prayer Team met in this room

on retreat. It was the first time the NPT has met in person since starting 8 years ago! We got to know each other better, hear what God has put on each other's heart regarding prayer, and to pray together. At the end of it we went throughout the general assembly hall and prayed over it and all that would be taking place there. We saw some others walking through the place in prayer as well. The NPT conducted a workshop to a packed room on, "How to Help Your Church Grow its Prayer Life", with a few of you giving testimonies. We created a brochure about the prayer resources available that was given to all pastors and delegates in attendance. Here is a link to share it with anyone you think might benefit from it:

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:US:da4fbe72-2841-4a3c-a593-01e0745d69a8>. Saturday night's worship time included the ordaining of Jervis Djoko into the FMCIC, a message from Bishop Cliff on prayer and an invitation for people to come forward for prayer, which a huge number responded to! Praise be to God for His continued work in our lives!

National Prayer Meeting – Prayer Points for Wednesday, May 29, 2024

1. For our new Bishop Linda Adams, as she and her husband settle into their new home and acclimatize themselves to our Canadian culture and church.
2. That the Lord will pour out His Spirit upon Bishop Linda to give her the strength, wisdom, and love to shepherd the FMCIC to follow Jesus in all His will and ways.
3. That Bishop Linda, the National Leadership Team and the BOA will have the wisdom and discernment to know what God is revealing to them about the state of the FMCIC and what its priorities need to be in the days ahead.
4. That the leadership of the FMCIC will develop a unity in the Spirit that will enable them to lead us as a family of churches into a fruitful unity.
5. That the right person will be appointed to be our new Director of Church Leadership.
6. That the FMCIC General Conferences around the world will be led of God as to whether to change our Article of Religion on "Eternal Destiny", as proposed by the Canadian General Conference.

Praying for rain,

Ken Roth (National Prayer Team Lead)

ZOOM Links and Passcodes for Prayer Meetings

Daily "Prayer for Revival at Noon Eastern":

Monday to Saturday 12 noon EST; 11am CST; 10am MST; 9am PST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88532841873?pwd=SEtnSWdSK3FTTC9JUzFlaEpvTHI6Zz09>

Passcode: **105833**; Meeting ID: **885 3284 1873**; Dial by your location +1 204 272 7920; +1 438 809 7799; +1 587 328 1099; +1 647 374 4685; +1 647 558 0588; +1 778 907 2071; +1 780 666 0144 Canada

Monthly "National Prayer Meeting":

Last Wednesday of each month

Ontario & Canada West*: 7 PM EST; 6 PM CST; 5 PM MST; 4 PM PST

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81605123945?pwd=UUxBNm5FdEdNS3IPamowakdjNE5rdz09>

Passcode: **515693** Meeting ID: **816 0512 3945**; Dial by your location +1 438 809 7799; +1 587 328 1099; +1 647 374 4685; +1 647 558 0588; +1 778 907 2071; +1 204 272 7920 Canada

Quebec/French-speaking : à 19h00 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/859874336>

Code secret: **0** N° de réunion : **859-874-336** Par téléphone : 438-809-7799

***Please note: the Canada West National Prayer Meeting is now amalgamated with the Ontario one.**