
Weekly Schedule

- Tues, Jan 19th (Carrollton) Area Prayer @ Sebastian & Lally's res. (7 PM)
- Fri, Jan 22nd (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)
- Sat, Jan 23rd (Rowlett) Prayer Mtg @ Binoy & Valsamma's res (6:30 PM)
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A Special Prayer for the Nations: Haiti

- Haiti is considered the poorest state in the West.
- Haiti is the western third of the island of Hispaniola shared with the Dominican Republic.
- A slave revolt against French rulers in 1804 created the first black republic in the world. Since then Haiti has been in chaos with a troubled history of bloodshed and dictatorships. The US intervened in 1994 to try to establish a fairer government, but all elections since then appear to be corrupt.
- Most people in Haiti live in extreme poverty and more than half are unemployed. In recent years the political turmoil and desperate poverty have led many to emigrate illegally, often risking their lives, to the USA or the Dominican Republic.
- Slaves revolting against the French in 1791 dedicated their country to Satan - as a way to oppose the religion of the people who had oppressed them. Christians today have stood up against the voodooism and Satanism that grips Haiti in the name of Jesus!
- Most of the population live in appalling conditions - living in filthy slums without running water.
- According to the United Nations around 80% of Haitians cannot meet their basic daily needs - which means they fight each day to survive and feed their families. Pray for honest and godly leaders who can address the country's desperate situation.
- Over the 22% of the population are born-again Christians and most of these are the poorest people in Haiti who live in rural areas. This means that discipleship, teaching and training leaders in the church is a huge challenge - as many can barely read.
- The rich Mulatto elite live a completely different life from the majority and do not have any contact with the evangelical churches. Pray that they will hear the gospel and open their hearts to God.*
- The Church of God (COG) has had a ministry in Haiti since 1933.
- There are 1068 COG churches in Haiti with over 250,000 members.
- On Tuesday Jan 12th, a 7.0-magnitude earthquake hit Haiti, destroying much of the capital, Port Au Prince. Many buildings have been destroyed or sustained heavy damages. Many people have been injured and the death toll could be as high as 200,000. Please pray for Haiti, its inhabitants and all those affected by this disaster.
- The largest COG church has 8000 members and was near the palace.
- During the past five years, COG and Operation Compassion has averaged sending more than 10 - 40 ft containers a month with relief goods to Haiti.
- Please continue to keep our brothers and sisters in Haiti in your prayers.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=180



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*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

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"For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet." (Ps 91:11-13)

Welcome

“...for the place on which you are standing is holy ground” (Ex 3: 5)

It gives us immense pleasure in welcoming you all to the house of the Lord for a time of praise and thanksgiving. As we worship the Lord in this place today let us remind ourselves of the holiness of God.

In Exodus 3 we see the call of Moses by God Almighty, Yahweh, the God of the covenant. Even before God could begin talking to him and entrusting him such an enormous task of saving His people, Moses has to come to grips with the holiness of God. The command of God to Moses to take off his shoes is a command of acknowledging the presence of the holy God. The place has been made holy because of God's presence. The ordinary desert shrub assumes a place of highest significance because the Creator God takes his residence in it. The holiness of the place is not because of anything special about the place but because of the Lord God who hallowed the place.

God wants to send Moses on a special mission. This mission demands commitment, faith, willingness, sacrifice, courage, etc from Moses. But all these traits are inconsequential unless Moses begins to acknowledge the holiness of God who condescends to speak to him. God is the God of deliverance but even before that he is a holy God who cannot allow sin and uncleanness to come before him. Even before he could begin talking to Moses, God wants him to let go off his past life of sin. Moses could have been living a different life now away from Egypt, with a wife and children and in laws. But God has not forgotten the circumstances how he got here. He came here as a murderer and has been carrying the guilt of that for the last forty years. The shoes were symbolic of his past life of sin and guilt. He cannot see a holy God unless he confesses and starts afresh in the presence of God.

God may have high plans for your life. You are clinging to the prophecies of the past which stated that you will have an abundant life and you shall be used by God for his purposes. But are you still living in your past? Are you allowing sin to dominate you? Are you conscious that you come before a Holy God who does not tolerate sin in any way? It is time that we begin acknowledging the holiness of God in our corporate worship. The place that we stand is a holy ground. It becomes holy because God saturates the place with his presence. Since we serve a Holy God the place also assumes significance in its holiness.

I entreat you brothers and sisters by the mercies of God that we begin to acknowledge the sacredness of God's presence in our midst. We may never fulfill our mandate if we are not aware of the basics of our Christian calling. It is to worship the Lord God in the beauty of holiness and without that it is hard to please God. God is holy and demands us to worship him in holiness. Let's take off our sandals and shoes- all that so easily entangles us to make holiness difficult.

In Christ Alone,
Pastor Satish Kumar

Sermon Notes