

Solemn Assembly

Based on II Chronicles 6

This prayer experience was developed by Pastor Chad Albertson of LIFEChurch in South Carolina. The prayer service is designed to be a 14 hour experience. Pastor Albertson said that the early morning kick-off gained a good audience. And then, as one might expect, the crowds were thinner during the day. Throughout the day, people dropped in on the gathering. On Friday evening, as the prayer service came to an end, he was delightfully surprised to see people coming directly to the church from work. As they closed the solemn assembly, they did so with a strong representation of their congregation.

Model: Pastor Albertson projected seven prayer segments consisting of two hours each. These prayer times were: 6:00 a.m. (the kick-off), 8:00 a.m., 1000 a.m., Noon, 2:00 p.m., 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Choose your own schedule.

Scripture: Seven Segments were anchored to Scriptural themes from II Chronicles 6. Notice at the beginning of each segment the prayer session returns to II Chronicles 6 and picks up a theme from that passage.

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| 1. II Chronicles 6:1-6 | Consecration and Dedication of the House of Prayer |
| 2. II Chronicles 6:7-12 | Claiming the Generations |
| 3. II Chronicles 6:13-18 | Establishing the Foundations |
| 4. II Chronicles 6:19-24 | Praying Prayers God Hears |
| 5. II Chronicles 6:15-30 | The Power of Intercession |
| 6. II Chronicles 6:31-36 | Considering Outsiders |
| 7. II Chronicles 6:37-42 | Experiencing the Release to Rest |

Praying for the Peace of Jerusalem

Style: Scripture based prayer was offered for at least one-hour in each two-hour segment. Four topics were covered in each of the active prayer hours in 15 minute increments. The next hour was left to individual prayer. Silence. Waiting on God. Soft music played. People sat, walked, lay prostrate or kneeled.

Read the passages. (You may want to prepare handouts for those present in each period.) Then, have the lead person pray with the congregation joining in. Use the Scripture as the basis of the prayers.

A. SEGMENT ONE: Consecration and Dedication of the House of Prayer

Isaiah 56: 7- Even those will I bring to My holy mountain And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

II Chronicles 7:14 - If My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

II Chronicles 7:16 - "For now I have chosen and consecrated this house that My name may be there forever, and My eyes and My heart will be there perpetually.

a. PERIOD 1-A (15 minutes). Building the House of the Lord

II Chronicles 6:1-6 1 Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud; I have built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever." While the whole assembly of Israel was standing there, the king turned around and blessed them. Then he said: "Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his hands has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to my father David. For he said, 'Since the day I brought my people out of Egypt, I have not chosen a city in any tribe of Israel to have a temple built for my Name to be there, nor have I chosen anyone to be the leader over my people Israel. But now I have chosen Jerusalem for my Name to be there, and I have chosen David to rule my people Israel.'

Eph 2:19-22 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

1 Pet 2:4-6 As you come to him, the living Stone-- rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him, 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame."

b. PERIOD 1-B (15 Minutes). Hosting a dwelling place for the Presence of God

John 14:21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

1 Pet 1:15-16 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Isa 33:5-6 The LORD is exalted, for he dwells on high; he will fill Zion with justice and righteousness. He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure.

Isa 12:4-6 In that day you will say: "Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Psalms 34:1-3 I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make its boast in the LORD; the humble shall hear of it and be glad. Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.

John 4:23-24 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

c. PERIOD 1-C (Third 15 minute segment). Establishing Kingdom Authority in the House of the Lord

Isa 22:22-23 I will place on his shoulder the key to the house of David; what he opens no one can shut, and what he shuts no one can open. I will drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will be a seat of honor for the house of his father.

Rev 1:5-6 ...and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father-- to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

d. PERIOD 1-D (Fourth 15 minute segment). God Ordained Leadership

Eph 4:11-13 It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

B. SEGMENT TWO: Claiming the Generations

II Chronicles 6:7-12 "My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel. But the LORD said to my father David, 'Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart. Nevertheless, you are not the one to build the temple, but your son, who is your own flesh and blood-- he is the one who will build the temple for my Name.'"The LORD has kept the promise he made. I have succeeded David my father and now I sit on the throne of Israel, just as the LORD promised, and I have built the temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel. There I have placed the ark, in which is the covenant of the LORD that he made with the people of Israel." Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands.

a. PERIOD 2-A (First 15 minutes). Instilling greater vision into the next generation

Ps 78:4-7 ...We will not hide them from our children, telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; That the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children, 7 That they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments;

Ps 145:4-7 One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your majesty, and on Your wondrous works. Men shall speak of the might of Your awesome acts, and I will declare Your greatness. They shall utter the memory of Your great goodness, and shall sing of Your righteousness.

b. PERIOD 2-B (Second 15 Minutes). Having the Father's heart

Mal 4:5-6 "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers...

c. PERIOD 2-C (Third 15 Minutes). Re-establishing the Covenants of God in our land

Deut 4:23-24 Be careful not to forget the covenant of the LORD your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the LORD your God has forbidden. For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Jeremiah 31:31-33 But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel: After those days, says the Lord, I will put My law within them, and on their hearts will I write it; and I will be their God, and they will be My people.

d. PERIOD 2-D (Fourth 15 Minutes). Standing for Righteousness

Rom 1:16-17 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

C. SEGMENT THREE: Establishing the Foundations (Platform)

II Chronicles 6:13-18 Now he had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide and three cubits high, and had placed it in the center of the outer court. He stood on the platform and then knelt down before the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven. He said: "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth-- you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it-- as it is today. "Now LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never fail to have a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons are careful in all they do to walk before me according to my law, as you have done.' And now, O LORD, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David come true. 18" But will God really dwell on earth with men? The heavens, even the highest heavens, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!

a. PERIOD 3-A (First 15 Minutes). Building platforms of humility

Ps 25:9-10 The humble He guides in justice, and the humble He teaches His way. All the paths of the LORD are mercy and truth, to such as keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Isa 66:1-2 Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist," says the LORD. "But on this one will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word."

b. PERIOD 3-B (Second 15 Minutes). Steadfast pursuit of the ways of the Lord

Deut 28:9-10 The LORD will establish you as his holy people, as he promised you on oath, if you keep the commands of the LORD your God and walk in his ways. Then all the peoples on earth will see that you are called by the name of the LORD, and they will fear you.

Ps 25:4-5 Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.

c. PERIOD 3-C (Third 15 minutes). Remembrance of God's Covenant of Love for His people

2 Chr 6:14 He said: "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth-- you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way.

Rom 8:37-39 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

d. PERIOD 3-D (Fourth 15 Minutes). Pursing the Promises of God

Ps 145:13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

2 Cor 1:20 For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.

D. SEGMENT FOUR: Praying Prayers That God Will Hear!

II Chronicles 6:19-24 Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, O LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence. May your eyes be open toward this temple day and

night, this place of which you said you would put your Name there. May you hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear the supplications of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place; and when you hear, forgive. "When a man wrongs his neighbor and is required to take an oath and he comes and swears the oath before your altar in this temple, then hear from heaven and act. Judge between your servants, repaying the guilty by bringing down on his own head what he has done. Declare the innocent not guilty and so establish his innocence. "When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you and when they turn back and confess your name, praying and making supplication before you in this temple,

a. **PERIOD 4-A (First 15 Minute Period). Prayers of Mercy**

Exod 33:19 And the LORD said, "I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

Ps 25:6 Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.

Ps 51:1 Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your loving kindness; according to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.

b. **PERIOD 4-B (Second 15 Minute Period). Prayers for Grace**

Zech 12:10 "And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication..."

Heb 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

2 Cor 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness..."

c. **PERIOD 4-C (Third 15 Minute Period). Prayers of Supplication**

IKing 8:30 Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive...

Phil 4:19 And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Ps 86:6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; and listen to the cry of my supplications.

d. **PERIOD 4-D (Fourth 15 Minute Period). Prayers for justice**

Ps 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

Ps 103:6 The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.

Zech 7:9-10 "This is what the LORD Almighty says: 'Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion to one another.'

E. **SEGMENT FIVE: The Power of Intercession**

II Chronicles 6:25-30 ... then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to them and their fathers. "When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray toward this place and confess your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them, then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance. "When famine or plague comes to the land, or blight or mildew, locusts or grasshoppers, or when enemies besiege them in any of their cities, whatever disaster or disease may come, and when a prayer or plea is made by any of your people Israel-- each one aware of his afflictions and pains, and spreading out his hands toward this temple, then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Forgive, and deal with each man according to all he does, since you know his heart (for you alone know the hearts of men)...

a. **PERIOD 5-A (15 minutes) Prayers of Repentance**

Joel 2:13 Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.

Isa 30:15 This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength...

Luke 5:32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

b. **PERIOD 5-B (15 minutes) Identification Repentance on behalf of God's people**

Neh 1:6-7 ...let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against you. We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

Jer 14:20 O LORD, we acknowledge our wickedness and the guilt of our fathers; we have indeed sinned against you.

Dan 9:11 *All Israel has transgressed your law and turned away, refusing to obey you.* "Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you.

c. **PERIOD 5-C (15 minutes) Healing for the afflicted**

Mal 4:22 But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.

Luke 6:19 And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.

d. **PERIOD 5-D (15 minutes) Clean Hands and Pure Hearts**

Job 17:9 Nevertheless, the righteous will hold to their ways, and those with clean hands will grow stronger.

Ps 24:3-4 *Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.*

F. SEGMENT SIX: Considering the Outsiders

II Chronicles 6:31-36 ...so that they will fear you and walk in your ways all the time they live in the land you gave our fathers. "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm-- when he comes and prays toward this temple, then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name. "When your people go to war against their enemies, wherever you send them, and when they pray to you toward this city you have chosen and the temple I have built for your Name, then hear from heaven their prayer and their plea, and uphold their cause. "When they sin

against you-- for there is no one who does not sin-- and you become angry with them and give them over to the enemy, who takes them captive to a land far away or near...

a. PERIOD 6-A (15 minutes). Fear of the Lord

Ps 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

Isa 11:2-3 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him-- the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD -- and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears;

Acts 9:31 Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria enjoyed a time of peace. It was strengthened; and encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it grew in numbers, living in the fear of the Lord.

b. PERIOD 6-B (15 minutes). Mercy for the stranger/foreigner

I Kings 8:41-43 "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name -- for men will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm-- when he comes and prays toward this temple, then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

Matt 25:35-40 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

c. PERIOD 6-C (15 minutes). Burden for the salvation of the lost

Ps 51:12-13 Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you.

Isa 30:15 This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, ...

2 Cor 6:2 For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

d. PERIOD 6-D (15 minutes). **Victorious in battle**

Ps 20:5-7 We will shout for joy when you are victorious and will lift up our banners in the name of our God. May the LORD grant all your requests. Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; he answers him from his holy heaven with the saving power of his right hand. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.

Ps 118:15-16 Shouts of joy and victory resound in the tents of the righteous: "The LORD's right hand has done mighty things! The LORD's right hand is lifted high; the LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"

1 Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

G. **SECTION SEVEN: Experiencing the Release to Rest!**

II Chronicles 6:37-42 ... and if they have a change of heart in the land where they are held captive, and repent and plead with you in the land of their captivity and say, 'We have sinned, we have done wrong and acted wickedly'; and if they turn back to you with all their heart and soul in the land of their captivity where they were taken, and pray toward the land you gave their fathers, toward the city you have chosen and toward the temple I have built for your Name; then from heaven, your dwelling place, hear their prayer and their pleas, and uphold their cause and forgive your people, who have sinned against you. "Now, my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. "Now arise, O LORD God, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might. May your priests, O LORD God, be clothed with salvation, may your saints rejoice in your goodness. O LORD God, do not reject your anointed one. Remember the great love promised to David

a. **PERIOD 7-A (15 Minutes). Release from bondages in the lives of God's people**

Ps 6:4 Turn, O LORD, and deliver me; save me because of your unfailing love.

Ps 72:12-13 For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death.

John 8:35-36 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

b. PERIOD 7-B (15 Minutes). Seeking for the manifest presence of God in our midst

Isa 64:1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down...

Exod 33:15-18 Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?" And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

Ps 16:11 You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

c. PERIOD 7-C (15 Minutes). Ministers of righteousness to rise up

1 Sam 2:35 I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his house, and he will minister before my anointed one always.

Joel 2:17-18 Let the priests, who minister before the LORD, weep between the temple porch and the altar. Let them say, 'Spare your people, O LORD. Do not make your inheritance an object of scorn, a byword among the nations. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where is their God?' Then the LORD will be jealous for his land and take pity on his people.

Jer 3:15 Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding.

d. PERIOD 7-D (15 Minutes). Joy of the Lord restored to His people

Ps 21:6-7 Surely you have granted him eternal blessings and made him glad with the joy of your presence, for the king trusts in the LORD; through the unfailing love of the Most High he will not be shaken.

Neh 8:10 Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Neh 12:43 And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had given them great joy. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.

8:00 pm Service: Praying for the peace of Jerusalem

Ps 122:6-9 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May those who love you be secure. 7 May there be peace within your walls and security within your citadels." For the sake of my brothers and friends, I will say, "Peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your prosperity.