

A PRAYER ROOM FOCUSED ON CRIME, CORRUPTION AND VIOLENCE



There are usually several 'prayer stations' in an interactive prayer room, where people can spend time in prayer during their hour of prayer (or whatever length of time they will spend in the prayer room). As far as possible, these prayer stations should cover all types of prayers, such as personal requests, intercession, meditation, contemplation, worship, thanksgiving and confession. When you set up an interactive prayer room, provide clear instructions at each prayer station to guide visitors on how to pray. A good starting point is personal confession, cleansing, forgiveness and personal commitment to walk according to God's ways.

The following 7 prayer stations can be used in a prayer room focusing on the theme of crime, corruption and violence:

Station 1 – Thanksgiving and cleansing

1. Bring an offering of praise and thanksgiving before God as you prepare your heart for intercessory prayer (Psalm 100:4).
2. Present yourself before the Throne as an instrument of righteousness (Romans 6:13).
3. Allow the Holy Spirit to search your heart and confess personal sin (Psalm 51, 139:23).
4. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you, and confess also on behalf of all people of the country the following:
 - Abortion (abortion is murder of the innocent and it opens a spiritual door for violence and bloodshed in a society).
 - Violent crime causing bloodshed (armed robberies, murder, etc.).
 - Murder of families, children and the elderly.
 - Divorce (an act of violence) (Malachi 2:16).
 - Sexual violence (rape, assault, sexual harassment, prostitution) and incest in families.
 - Domestic violence (verbal, physical and emotional abuse).
 - Corruption of moral values which can lead to violence (Genesis 6:12-13).
5. Confess on behalf of all citizens of the country, the following factors contributing to crime, violence and corruption:
Greed, anger, sexual lust, lust for power, alcoholism, drug-abuse, gambling (the lottery, etc.), stealing and fraud. (Gambling is idolatry and it opens a spiritual door for corruption and crime in a society) (Isaiah 65:11- 12).
6. Pray for the Blood of Jesus to cleanse the sins of the people of the country and speak forgiveness (Hebrews 12:24).

Practical tip for stations 2, 3 and 4: you can use newspaper clippings, articles printed from the internet and photos of institutions or people where these issues are prevalent.

The following prayer points are guidelines for prayer at these three stations:

- Appeal to the Judge of all the earth (Genesis 18:25) to intervene and break the cycle of violence, hatred and revenge.
- Pray for the Lord Jesus Christ to deliver the country from criminals, and violent and corrupt people, and pray for their salvation (2 Samuel 22:3, 49; Isaiah 59:1-16; Proverbs 29:26; Micah 7:2-7).
- Pray for the Lord Jesus Christ to redeem the lives of victims of violence, crime and corruption, and to comfort them (Psalm 72:14; Habakkuk 1:2; Ezekiel 34:16).
- Pray for the spirit of fear to be broken and be replaced with the fear of the Lord (Jeremiah 51:46; 2 Chronicles 19:7).
- Pray for the human and demonic networks of violence, crime and corruption to be broken and exposed (Proverbs 3:31, 16:29; James 3:15-16).

Station 2 – Focus area for corruption

The corrupted ways of mankind grieved the heart of God, and He decided to intervene through the flood. Jesus prophesied that before His return to earth it will be *‘as in the days of Noah’* once more (Luke 17:26).

Station 3 – Focus area for crime

Jesus also warned us that when lawlessness increases, *‘the love of many will grow cold’* (Matthew 24:12). However, He gave Himself for us *‘that He might redeem us from every lawless deed’* (Titus 2:14).

Station 4 – Focus area for violence

During the time of Noah, mankind had filled the earth with violence (Genesis 6:5-13).

Station 5 – Prayers for the Church to shine the Light of Christ

1. Pray that believers will separate themselves from anything and anyone that contributes to violence, crime and corruption, and that they will walk in holiness (Psalm 17:4; Jeremiah 22:3, 13-17; Ezekiel 22:26; 1 Peter 1:15-16).
2. Pray for a spirit of prayer and repentance to be poured out on the Church, so that the country will turn back to the Living God (Jonah 3:8).
3. Pray for faithfulness in marriages and families (Malachi 2:16; Hebrews 13:4).
4. Pray for the voice of God to be heard from the Church concerning justice (Psalm 72:2; Proverbs 2:6-9).
5. Pray for every believer in every sphere of society to walk in righteousness and justice (Ezekiel 18:5-9; Micah 6:8; Colossians 3:5-17; Matthew 5:16).
6. Pray for the Church to wait faithfully on the Lord Jesus, and to pray until He restores justice (Hosea 12:6; Luke 18:3-7).
7. Pray for God’s Kingdom to be established and His will to be done in the nation.

8. Ask the Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, to make known His manifold wisdom through the Church to the principalities and powers in the nation, as we confess that Jesus Christ is King of kings and Lord of lords (Ephesians 3:10; Philippians 2:10; Revelation 19:16).

Let your light so shine before men that they may see your moral excellence and your praiseworthy, noble, and good deeds, and recognise and honour and praise and glorify your Father Who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16; AMPC). To shine upon and give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct and guide our feet in a straight line into the way of peace. (Luke 1:79; AMPC).

Station 6 – Names of God to call upon (God is...)

Use the names of God to exalt Him and give Him praise. Think about the character of God and what His attributes mean to you. Use sheets of paper to express what you experience. Consider what God has done in your life and match it to a name.

We declare that Jesus has been given the name above all names, and at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord (Philippians 2:10-11).

El-Roi (the God who sees) – Genesis 16:13-14; God of hope – Romans 15:13; the Rock – Deuteronomy 32:4; God of peace – Romans 15:33; Judge and Lawgiver – Isaiah 33:22; *Yahweh-Tsidkenu* (the Lord our righteousness) – Jeremiah 23:6, 33:16; Righteous Father – John 17:25; Sun of Righteousness – Malachi 4:2; *Yahweh-Mekaddishkem* (the Lord Who sanctifies) – Leviticus 20:8; *Yahweh-Shalom* (the-LORD-Is-Peace) – Judges 6:24; holy and true – Revelation 6:10; Holy One – Acts 3:14; the Way, the Truth and the Life – John 14:6; our peace – Ephesians 2:14; God of love and peace – 2 Corinthians 13:11; habitation of justice – Jeremiah 50:7; Prince of Peace – Isaiah 9:6; the Peace Offering – Leviticus 3:1-5; the Just One – Acts 7:52; Branch of righteousness – Jeremiah 23:5; the righteous Judge – 2 Timothy 4:8; Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD – Isaiah 11:2; Spirit of holiness – Romans 1:4; Spirit of truth – John 14:17; the Spirit who creates and lets new life come forth – Psalm 104:30; *Elohim* (the Strong Creator) – Genesis 1:1; Spirit who gives rest – Isaiah 63:14; Exodus 33:14.

Station 7 – Blessings and Proclamations for the community

Use these promises of God found in Scripture and pray them aloud. Thank God for His faithfulness.

Blessings:

- *The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. (Numbers 6:24-26).*
- *I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. (Genesis 12:2-3).*
- *God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. (Psalm 67:1-2).*

- *Let your light so shine before men that they may see your moral excellence and your praiseworthy, noble, and good deeds and recognise and honour and praise and glorify your Father Who is in heaven. (Matthew 5:16; AMPC).*
- *To shine upon and give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to direct and guide our feet in a straight line into the way of peace. (Luke 1:79; AMPC).*

Proclamations:

- *For this purpose, the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8b).*
- We declare that we have been given authority over all the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). We declare that the weapons of our warfare have divine powers to destroy strongholds, arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God (2 Corinthians 10:5-6).
- We declare that Jesus Christ disarmed the principalities and powers on the cross (Colossians 2:13-15). We will stand against evil, clothed in God's armour: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the helmet of salvation and the preparation of the gospel of peace (Ephesians 6:10-18). We will extinguish the fiery darts of the evil one with our shield of faith (Ephesians 6:16). We will take up the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, as we pray and advance into the territory of the enemy (Ephesians 6:17- 18).
- We will overcome because of the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony, and because we do not love our lives to the death (Revelation 12:11).
- *Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD. (Psalm 33:12).*
- Let Your kingdom come; establish Your righteousness and justice (Luke 11:2; Isaiah 9:7).
- God's saving power will be made known in the nation (Psalm 67:2).
- God will remove the veil of sin and ignorance over this nation (Isaiah 25:7).
- God will set His glory in our nation (Ezekiel 39:21).
- Our nation shall join itself to God (Zechariah 2:11).
- Our nation shall entreat the favour of the Lord (Zechariah 8:21).
- Repentance and forgiveness are proclaimed in this nation (Luke 24:47).