TEEN HEALED AT FOURSQUARE CAMP LAST SUMMER

"I SAW THE FIRE OF GOD."

"I GAVE MY CHURCH TO MY WIFE, AND NOW IT’S BETTER."

PASTOR JACK SHARES THE KEY TO CHURCH TRANSFORMATION

"I SAW THE FIRE OF GOD."

"I GAVE MY CHURCH TO MY WIFE, AND NOW IT’S BETTER."

En español a partir de la página 30.

Turn to page 30 for stories in Spanish.
Rethinking the Plan

In the Information Age, there is an incessant hunger for something new. The church has not been left untouched by this perpetual discontent. Whether it’s cultural expression, ministry innovation or community dynamics, people are often looking for the cutting-edge idea that will break through barriers and launch us to new heights of fruitfulness.

So often, these new ideas fall short, and we fall flat. It’s time to stop and rethink the plan.

What if the new thing is the old thing? And what if the old thing doesn’t require a monthly subscription, technological overhaul or a brand-new wardrobe? What if the thing so many of us have been searching for in these days of religious indifference, institutionalized injustice and antagonistic atheism could be received across 2,000 years and implemented right now?

The apostle Paul’s first point of order for the church in one of his letters to Timothy was prayer (1 Tim. 2:1-4). Christ told His dejected disciples that battles are determined on our knees before we can engage with authority (Mark 9). Joshua defeated the Amalekites in the field because Moses was interceding on the hill (Ex. 17).

Prayer is a primary duty of the church.

Our hope is to use the technology of media creativity and distribution to be a signpost to the most basic, powerful, dynamic operation of each believer and each local church. This edition of Foursquare Leader is focused on prayer. Whether you have calloused knees or have been caught napping like the disciples in the garden of Gethsemane, let the words and stories contained in this issue be a catalyst for your prayer life. There is no condemnation, but there is a call.

Foursquare family, let us pray.

“There is no condemnation, but there is a call.”
Inside This Issue

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We bring you the latest news and updates from across the Foursquare family.

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Leadership Health by Chip Crosby Page 28

THE PRAYER ISSUE Pages 11-29
There are many good things the church can be doing, but foundational among these is the call to prayer. Read a stirring call from Pastor Jack Hayford, and check out the incredible ways God is at work in Foursquare churches that are engaging God and their communities in prayer.

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Calling Foursquare to Prayer by Pastor Jack Hayford Page 12
Prayer Profiles Page 16
People are praying—and things are happening.

Supervisor Suggestions Page 26
Your district supervisor recommends his or her favorite prayer resource.

Praying by the Book Page 30
Scriptures that will help guide your prayer life.

Wish You Were Here!
When you need a break from bleak winter weather, just browse our photos of Hawaii’s warm, sunny beaches. Breathe a sigh of relief, and repeat often: “Foursquare Connection 2016 in Hawaii is only three months away.” Trust us—it’s worth the wait. Search #Connection16 and follow @WeAreFoursquare on Instagram.

Get E-Quipped to Pray All Year
Don’t plan to stay single forever, but content with it now? You’ll love Single—For Now by Foursquare Pastor Tammy Sevcov. With relatable stories and biblical advice to empower singles to be effective in ministry just as they are, this book is featured in our most popular Pin!

See it at pinterest.com/wearefoursquare.

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Perfiles de Oración Página 36
Vea cómo la oración está impactando vidas en las iglesias Cuadrangulares.
Recursos de Oración en Español Página 40
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What’s Trending Online

Top Pinned: Single—For Now

Don’t plan to stay single forever, but content with it now? You’ll love Single—For Now by Foursquare Pastor Tammy Sevcov. With relatable stories and biblical advice to empower singles to be effective in ministry just as they are, this book is featured in our most popular Pin!

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Explore photos at @WeAreFoursquare on Instagram.
Repin ideas from pinterest.com/wearefoursquare.
Watch Foursquare videos at vimeo.com/foursquare.

Get E-Quipped to Pray All Year
Have a prayer focus emailed to you every week, get notified of the latest Foursquare Missions International and Foursquare Chaplains International prayer guides, and pray with your Foursquare family worldwide.

Sign up for Foursquare emails at foursquare.org/newsletters.
Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

Female students who plan to go into leadership ministry are encouraged to apply for the 2016 Alabaster House Legacy Scholarships. The scholarship money—$8,000—will be given to five students who plan to attend Life Pacific College (LPC, also called Life Bible College), LPC-Ignite or a Foursquare Emerging Leader Network (ELN) program.

The inspiring winners from 2015 had interests in equipping churches for dealing with addictions, bringing spiritual and physical healing, teaching the Word and bringing people closer to God through music.

Among the five 2015 winners was Francesca Giraldo, 19, who will be in LPC’s worship, arts and media major that is launching this year.

Taylor Pike wants to teach the Word. “I wholeheartedly believe through the education I receive at LPC, I will be trained and thoroughly equipped for every good work God has in store for the rest of my life,” says Taylor.

Female students under 30 years old can apply for scholarships online by visiting foursquare.org/education now through May 1.

Foursquare Helping Refugees

“This one is really on us,” says Ted Vail, Foursquare Disaster Relief (FDR) director of international operations and Foursquare Missions International (FMI) associate director, noting how Foursquare is uniquely positioned in Turkey to be on the front lines of helping those affected by the current Middle East refugee crisis.

The Foursquare Church is the largest Protestant movement in Turkey, the very location where 1.9 million refugees (at press time) from Syria and Iraq have fled. Many more are expected to come. Some will stay in Turkey; others are continuing their exodus to Europe and beyond.

Right now in Turkey, refugees are being met at the border and in cities by local Foursquare pastors, workers and church members. “Foursquare Turkey has been providing hundreds of thousands of meals, clean water, shelter and needed supplies,” says President Glenn Burris Jr. “Pastors and workers in Turkey also have been able to pray with many and express God’s love through Jesus. Some of our European Foursquare works also are looking to reach out as refugees come to their nations.”

But with so many refugees, and their numbers increasing daily, the need is overwhelming.

Among the thousands of refugees fleeing wars and violence, and escaping to Europe, are growing numbers of women and children. Most have left behind everything they knew, often fleeing their homes on foot, as night fell.

The Foursquare Church is the largest Protestant movement in Turkey, the very location where 1.9 million refugees (at press time) from Syria and Iraq have fled. Many more are expected to come. Some will stay in Turkey; others are continuing their exodus to Europe and beyond.

Refugees have been coming into Turkey’s borders.

Watch a Video. Visit 4sq.ca/turkeyvideo to watch a video produced before the refugee crisis hit Turkey’s borders. Use password: 4sqchurch2013.

2016 Calendar

- **March 3–7:** District supervisor meeting
- **March 7–9:** Foursquare cabinet meeting
- **March 9–11:** Foursquare board of directors meeting
- **May 5:** National Day of Prayer
- **May 30–June 2:** Foursquare Connection 2016 in Honolulu
- **June 21–23:** Foursquare board of directors intensive meeting
- **October:** Pastor Appreciation Month
- **Oct. 22–25:** District supervisor meeting
- **Oct. 26–28:** Foursquare board of directors meeting

Your 4 Favorite Resources

The top-visited Leadership Tools on foursquare.org, and how to get them for yourself.

1. **Online Administrative Toolkit.** This is an on-demand compilation of current forms, tools and templates for local Foursquare churches. Get it at 4sq.ca/toolkit.

2. **Holy Spirit Discovery for Kids.** This is an eight-lesson resource for teaching key concepts about the person and work of the Holy Spirit. Get it at 4sq.ca/discoverykids.

3. **Child and Youth Protection Training Series.** Watch the series and download the companion resources. Get it at 4sq.ca/cypps.

4. **Foursquare Certificates.** Download and personalize certificates for baptism, dedication, membership and more. Get it at 4sq.ca/certificates.

Source: Sept. 2015 foursquare.org analytics report
We can all agree prayer is important. But how is prayer within Foursquare making a difference? And how does your prayer life stack up against the national average? Discover how Americans engage in prayer, and take time to reflect on your own prayer life in this special prayer-focused By the Numbers.

—Hillsong United

### 6 Types of Prayer in the Bible

- **of Agreement**
- **of Faith**
- **of Consecration and Dedication**
- **of Praise and Worship**
- **of Intercession**
- **of Binding and Loosing**

### How Pastors Pray

- **12 minutes**: Prayer Requests
- **8 minutes**: Quiet Time
- **7 minutes**: Giving Thanks
- **7 minutes**: Of Praise
- **5 minutes**: Confessing Sin

**Total: 30 Minutes** (Median prayer time per day)

### How Do You Pray?

Fill in the chart below with how you spend your time in prayer, then share it with us by posting it to Instagram with #4Prayer. Bonus points if you tag a fellow Foursquare leader and encourage him or her to share how they pray, too.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minutes</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prayer Requests</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiet Time</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Giving Thanks</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of Praise</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confessing Sin</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Minutes**: 30

### How Many Times Does the Bible Reference...

- **375**: Praise
- **377**: Prayer

### 2016 Days to Pray

- **May 5**: National Day of Prayer
- **May 15**: Global Day of Prayer
- **Sept 28**: See You at the Pole
- **Nov 6**: International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

### Percent of Americans Who Say They Pray Every Day

- **55%**

### District Numbers

- **Central Pacific District**: 589, 1,572, 1,300, 12,541
- **Distrito Hispano del Suroeste**: 308, 827, 638, 3,466
- **Gateway District**: 835, 1,281, 1,231, 14,845
- **Hawaii District**: 295, 1,104, 413, 2,222
- **Heartland District**: 554, 2,053, 431, 3,607
- **MidSouth District**: 755, 1,828, 850, 5,267
- **North Pacific District**: 380, 1,557, 831, 3,237
- **Northeast Atlantic District**: 713, 559, 1,039, 4,826
- **Northwest District**: 1,115, 5,601, 2,096, 9,453
- **Southeast District**: 709, 2,823, 764, 5,453
- **Southern California District**: 1,348, 2,652, 1,566, 12,799
- **Southwest District**: 1,086, 2,569, 1,995, 16,736

Source: Charisma Magazine

Source: Pew Research, 2015

Source: Foursquare Hub Jan. 2015 through Sept. 2015
Scripture is packed with verses about prayer, and there are thousands of books written on the subject. But the most important thing to do about prayer is quite simple: pray. Turn the page for a special call by Pastor Jack Hayford, and read compelling stories of those who’ve already found the power and possibility that come with prayer.

A WORD FROM PASTOR JACK HAYFORD
GAVE UP HIS CHURCH TO HIS WIFE
HEALED AT A FOURSQUARE CAMP
PRAYING TO THE ONE TRUE GOD
CALLED TO NATIVE AMERICANS
SINGING A NEW SONG IN A NEW LANGUAGE
Calling Foursquare to Prayer

Pastor Jack Hayford earnestly calls Foursquare pastors, leaders and church members to a lifestyle of prayer in the face of our nation’s social and moral decay.

America is suffering from an extended spiritual drought. While the social and moral decay of this hour may grieve us, discernment of the larger reason for this blight lies at the door of an all-but-prayerless church.

We share a part of that responsibility because—had we been more conscientious earlier—we would not have allowed the progressive dismantling of weekly, united, extended corporate prayer gatherings.

I am not writing to assign guilt, for I have been too slow a learner myself. But I am writing with an invitation, one spoken from heaven and beginning to resonate in many hearts.

Although the enemy of humankind is rising viciously, knowing he has only a short time, the Holy Spirit of God is present. He is not here to condemn, but to convene the hearts of believers with His promise, wisdom and expectancy.

Continued on page 14

Lending is our calling

Low-Rate Church Loans Available!

At Christian Community Credit Union, we can lend a hand in helping you save money. Remodeling your worship center? Purchasing a church property? Need to refinance? We have a loan package that suits your church’s needs. Get peace of mind knowing you’re working with a financial partner who shares your values and passion for ministry.

“Christian Community Credit Union really came through for us. They were courteous and went the extra mile to help our ministry secure an incredible loan. If you want service with care and integrity, this is the place to go.”

Senior Pastor Rev. Gene Stabe
Agua Dulce Foursquare Church, Agua Dulce, CA

Contact us today!
myCCCU.com/foursquare | 800.347.CCCU (2228), ext. 4815

Christian Community Credit Union is privately insured by American Share Insurance up to $250,000 per account. By members’ choice, the Credit Union is not federally insured or insured by any state government.

Follow us
Above all, I feel a hope, born of prayer rising from my heart and one of love and brotherly commitment to Foursquare pastors, leaders and members. With that hope, I am writing in earnest and crying out for the igniting of an awakening to prayer. Pray with me that we would unite to lead our congregations from our knees. Let us lead people into a lifestyle of intercession as God’s Word directs (1Tim. 2:1-2). Unless we are biblically renewed to this first of all calling of the body of Christ, our first calling as believers will be sacrificed on the altar of sloth, and the spirit of the age will run even more rampant.

Let us affirm that there is nothing old school about the New Testament’s order of the church’s prayer-life. It is an ever-contemporary pattern of biblical spirituality, and nothing—not even the finest programming, productions or tactical strategies—can substitute for it.

**Our Spiritual Foundation**

Prayer is the foundation and fountainhead of spiritual power, breakthrough and revival; prevailing prayer, both at the local and national level, is what we and America need.

Given this situation, my hope is that The Foursquare Church may “rise to this hour” and make it a “restoring of the ancient landmarks” of former victories. That, as a united-and-agreed fellowship, a vast majority of pastors and congregations would unapologetically welcome the Holy Spirit into their midst.

Such well-ordered prayer gatherings will overthrow strongholds of darkness and release rivers of “living water” and revival blessings. Sound-minded, bold and believing prayer is prayer with a “cutting edge,” namely, a lifestyle that penetrates the darkness of spiritual blindness and brings God’s mercy and deliverance.

It is this kind of prayer that shatters the darkness and drives back the kind of spiritual challenge we face with the plague of evil and rebellion in our nation.

**Jesus’ Concern for the Last-Days Church**

Someone recently asked me: “Some people think of the 1950s and 1960s as a golden age for the church in America, but were there drawbacks to the church being socially respectable?”

I answered: “I don’t think of the church being ‘respected’ as a drawback. However, a socially comfortable church has not historically produced a spiritually passionate church.” Jesus’ letters to the church in Revelation contain a similar opening, where Christ spells out His awareness and notice to each congregation and its leaders. His love for them all is never in question, but His concerns wave red-flag warnings to all of us who lead today:

“You who have ears to hear, listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying! Jesus points out that many of these churches are distracted or have neglected their central call, values and mission. The distractions are the same today; congregations are either:

a. resting on their laurels
b. impressed with their own perceived status
c. blinded to their loss of focus on the Word and the Spirit, and
   d. Or by indulging their own carnality, losing clarity and integrity of heart.

The issue is clear. The Holy Spirit is seeking to find—and speak—to those with ears to hear!

Whether you are a Foursquare pastor, leader or church member, I am a bond-servant with you. I invite you to join a multitude of those who are unabashedly attuned to hear, obey and respond as Holy Spirit-filled servants of Christ. This is vital for two crucial reasons:

There is nothing more disabling than to become tone deaf to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

There is nothing more numbing to the soul than to be unresponsive to His call.

In this critical hour, we dare not hedge on the implications of “hearing” the Holy Spirit. We dare not compromise His intentions for our fellowship as Spirit-filled and Spirit-led people.

**Aligning with the Spirit**

I want to honor the wisdom, sought and applied, by which our leaders have brought administrative adjustments that we as a movement have pragmatically applied in recent years.

However, whatever else we have wisely and worthily realigned structurally, our definition of local intercessory alignment has yet to hear “what the Spirit is saying to the churches.”

We are in need of reviewing Jesus’ confrontation of leaders who busied themselves with religious duties but neglected God’s command: “My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations” (Is. 56:7, NIV). Let us abandon all self-excusing passivity indulged when we negate our Lord’s invitation and pray … then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chron. 7:14, ESV). The church is the one agency on Earth with access to this promise. Heaven is waiting: God has indicated His sovereign choice. He is ready to answer with His open hand of unlimited blessing if, under His authoritative directive, we will take our stand and advance in prayer.

Today, we must remember the promise God made to Solomon long ago: “If my people … humble themselves, and pray … then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chron. 7:14, ESV).

However, we must ask ourselves, “Where can God find a people who will align themselves with God’s conditions?”

This cannot be a halfway proposition. His Word of promise is only spoken into action where people welcome His Holy Spirit, and on His terms.

**Pray with me that we would unite to lead our congregations from our knees.**
Healed at a Foursquare Camp

Elicia Hutchinson

High school summer camp was fast approaching at Foursquare camp in Washington, but I really didn’t want to go. What was the point? I knew God wasn’t going to show up anyway. I had meningitis as a baby, so I’ve had cerebral palsy and epilepsy my whole life. My mom prayed for me for years, but it always ended the same—with me still dealing with this disability.

My mom encouraged me to go to camp, though, so I caved and went. On Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, my mom dragged me into a pre-service prayer time and asked the camp speaker, John Hammer, to pray for healing for me. John and my pastor, Shawn Roberts, laid hands on me and began to pray. I looked up and saw that about 50 people had gathered around me—all praying for my healing. It was incredibly powerful and overwhelming. After praying for a little while, John asked if I could do anything I couldn’t before. I started walking around and realized that I could walk flat-footed—something I had not been able to do for my entire life! The pain I had dealt with for years was gone. Everything was going crazy. They were so excited to see God moving, so they kept asking Him to bring more healing to me. After a little while, my mom said that God had told her He wanted my heart before He would heal me further.

I had always struggled with fully giving my life to Jesus. Somewhere, I had held back—not willing to make that commitment. But in that moment, I knew I had to do it. I wanted to do it! So I accepted Jesus as my Savior.

When the service started, some of the leaders took me to another room to continue praying. My mom walked in, and Pastor Shawn asked me to cover my good eye—I’ve been blind in one eye since I was a baby. He asked me how many fingers he was holding up. I could see he had two fingers up, so I told him two. He held up five fingers, and I said five. My mom went crazy! I could see!

Then they prayed for my arm, that God would restore the muscles in it. And He did! I can now grip things and lift my arm over my head—both things I couldn’t do before. If anyone has any doubt about if God heals, I am living proof of the power of prayer.

By Elicia Hutchinson, 16, who attends The Father’s House (Granite Falls, Foursquare Church) in Granite Falls, Wash., as told to Shannon Linton, a content strategist in the Los Angeles area.

Yaseer Handall

Accepting the Call to Serve Native Americans

M y wife, Monique, and I were over 2,000 miles apart when we got the call to make a change in our lives. It wasn’t the first time God had spoken to me.

I was saved at a birthday party for Pastor Larry A. Lee of The Gathering Place (San Bernardino 2 Foursquare Church) in San Bernardino, Calif. Pastor Larry asked me if I knew Jesus, and, by day’s end, I had committed my life to God. God cured me of my addiction, and I promised to serve Him for the rest of my life.

I am originally from Mexico, and Monique is Native American. We began serving alongside Pastor Larry and sent missions teams to orphanages in impoverished parts of Mexico before settling in San Bernardino and starting Armonia (San Bernardino North Hispanic Foursquare Church). Just when everything was going well, we received a new calling. At Foursquare Connection 2010 in Atlanta, God told me that it was time to begin ministering to Native American nations.

Monique is Native American. We began ministering to Native American nations. God told me that it was time to begin ministering to Native American nations.

By Yaseer Handall, a Foursquare credentialed minister serving the Native American community in Southern California as a Foursquare Missions International missionary to the U.S., as told to Shant Istamboulian, a freelance writer involved in Sunland Foursquare Church in Sunland, Calif.

We wanted to be sure that it was God’s will, not ours, for us to go. God has used us in remarkable ways with the Native American people. We began by serving on the Navajo reservation and now are helping build a training center on the Soboba Indian Reservation in the foothills of California’s San Jacinto Mountains in Riverside County. Our mission is to equip Native Americans to become pastors and teachers on their own reservations.

We have ministered to tribes in Arizona, Montana, New Mexico and North Dakota, and have been encouraged by the response, always relying on God to show us what to do and what not to do. We continue to rejoice always, pray without ceasing and give thanks in everything. It has been amazing to see the doors that are opened for us everywhere we go.

By Yaseer Handall, a Foursquare credentialed minister serving the Native American community in Southern California as a Foursquare Missions International missionary to the U.S., as told to Shant Istamboulian, a freelance writer involved in Sunland Foursquare Church in Sunland, Calif.

TAMBIÉN EN ESPAÑOL, Vaya a la página 37 para leer la historia de Yaseer Handall en español.
Throughout the United States, thousands of Christians are using biblical principles to meet healthcare costs. How are they accomplishing this?

Christian Healthcare Ministries (CHM) carries out the command of Galatians 6:2: “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” This is the foundation upon which Christian Healthcare Ministries is built. Together, thousands of CHM members support each other in the critical life need of meeting healthcare costs.

CHM members have voluntarily contributed more than $1 billion to assist each other with medical costs. It is not an insurance program; it is a ministry through which Christians help themselves and their fellow Christians.

The mission of CHM is to glorify God, show Christian love, and experience God’s presence as Christians share each other’s medical bills.

CHM’s roles is to make Christians aware of the needs of others and New Testament-inspired help is provided to them from fellow believers using a definable, accountable, dependable framework.

An eligible option under the U.S. Affordable Care Act, CHM members have shared more than $1 billion in members’ medical bills.
About eight years ago, my wife, Tina, and I began talking about what her calling was—not her calling as an extension of me, but just her calling. It was weird to talk about; we do everything together. Then I received a clear, prophetic word during a prayer service we were having: “Listen. You’re Moses; she’s Joshua. You need to hand this thing off.”

The idea of Pastor Tina, however, is a concept we’ve begun to work through in the community. The pastors in our local Adairsville alliance accept Tina because they respect her, and even a couple of the more traditional leaders are starting to call her “pastor.” Though I would have wanted to envision the kind of global, missional community the Living Way Network is becoming, I would never have gotten us here. The things we’re doing now are not my story—they’re Tina’s story. In my new role, I’ve started to do work as a church-planting leader and the entrepreneurial mind behind Living Way’s Community Coffee Shop. I’m a highly relational person; I can get people excited about new things. I also make sure to tell people what Tina’s doing at every opportunity. Church leadership is a man’s world for me, but in Tina’s story, it’s a woman’s world for them.

The Foursquare Church has always clearly articulated embracing women at every level of leadership. But somehow these folks weren’t OK with a woman senior pastor. That was shocking to me, and disappointing and discouraging. In the Deep South, other church traditions are adamantly no women, and that influence is pervasive. The idea of Pastor Tina, however, is a concept we’ve begun to work through in the community. The pastors in our local Adairsville alliance accept Tina because they respect her, and even a couple of the more traditional leaders are starting to call her “pastor.” Though I would have wanted to envision the kind of global, missional community the Living Way Network is becoming, I would never have gotten us here. The things we’re doing now are not my story—they’re Tina’s story. In my new role, I’ve started to do work as a church-planting leader and the entrepreneurial mind behind Living Way’s Community Coffee Shop. I’m a highly relational person; I can get people excited about new things. I also make sure to tell people what Tina’s doing at every opportunity.

Being the leader of a missional church is exhausting. The ideas we’ve begun to work through in the community. The pastors in our local Adairsville alliance accept Tina because they respect her, and even a couple of the more traditional leaders are starting to call her “pastor.” Though I would have wanted to envision the kind of global, missional community the Living Way Network is becoming, I would never have gotten us here. The things we’re doing now are not my story—they’re Tina’s story. In my new role, I’ve started to do work as a church-planting leader and the entrepreneurial mind behind Living Way’s Community Coffee Shop. I’m a highly relational person; I can get people excited about new things. I also make sure to tell people what Tina’s doing at every opportunity.

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When I stepped into my role as lead pastor in 2011, I told people, “I don’t understand or know how to do everything, but I want to experience it all.” We had cultivated a safe space for risk-taking, so the ground was prepared for us to leap and learn one Sunday.

I had been teaching a series on the baptism with the Holy Spirit. Through the weeks, people had confided feelings of condemnation because they had not received this baptism, or had not released a spiritual language. That was the last thing I wanted—this was about a gift, not guilt.

I know the power of a personal prayer language. Praying in tongues has been a key strategy of the Spirit for the overcoming of intense anxiety attacks in my life. I had learned to rebuke the anxiety and build myself up by praying in the Spirit. I wanted others to experience this great gift.

On this Sunday, after teaching on the purposes of speaking in tongues, I was suddenly aware that the Holy Spirit wanted us to sing in tongues. My regular prayer life left me confident that this was His voice, but still my mind raced with thoughts of fear and concern for those who could have one more chance to feel left out. Not only that, we had never done anything like this. What would the congregation think? How would they respond? It was time to take a risk—better a faith-filled fail than fear-borne regret. I leaned over to Trevor, our worship leader, and told him, “We are supposed to sing in the Spirit.” His look was sufficient to tell me he had the same questions I had, but I watched as he took the leap with me and began singing in the Spirit. I joined him, and the band swiftly followed.

And then it happened. Sweet sounds of worship began bubbling up throughout the congregation. God’s people began singing by God’s Spirit, and Hope Chapel received the blessing of present obedience. The fruit was seen in the testimony of four people who released a spiritual language for the first time as we worshiped.

For some, the fear of “not doing it right” had prevented them for so long from speaking it out. Because that moment was so sweet and sincere, they felt safe to “step out of the boat,” as Peter did, experiencing the miraculous while keeping their eyes on Jesus.

What looked to me like an opportunity to encounter lack was the perfect moment for the Holy Spirit to shine. More of God’s people were equipped to pray and intercede with dynamic power.

I’m convinced that, when we take the time to attune our hearts to the Lord in prayer, we will pick up on these strategic moments of empowerment and transformation that stretch us and release His grace to the people we shepherd.
We preach the healing power of God from our pulpits. But do we practice it? It’s time that we, as pastors, take a step of faith and let God use us to administer His healing touch—and show our church members how they can do it, too.

I have seen many marvelous healings in over 25 years of pastoral ministry. And, as an adjunct professor at Life Pacific College (also called LIFE Bible College) for over 15 years, I had the privilege of teaching the subject in numerous classes.

I joyfully watched as my students stepped out in faith and got to see Jesus heal through them. But, stretched out through all those years, the number seemed few and far between. I longed for more.

As I was preaching through the book of Acts last year, I noticed that Jesus gave the church His power and authority. Healing opened the doors for witness. Like Jesus, the early church prayed with authority, commanding disease, demons and even death to submit to the power of the kingdom of God. We need that kind of witness today in our jaded and skeptical world.

The Lord began to show me how to establish a healing ministry in church. First, I was not to wait for a special word, feeling or anointing, but simply to act on my authority as Christ’s ambassador on Earth: “Just do it.”

Second, I needed to take the lead and demonstrate this authority in front of people: “You lead; the people will follow.”

The next Sunday, confronting the scary “what if nothing happens?” feeling, I asked everyone who had any ailment to come forward, and I said that God was going to heal them. All were healed when I commanded their maladies to be gone in Jesus’ name! Bone spurs instantly dissolved; arthritis pain disappeared; a veteran was healed of a debilitating war injury.

My wife, Sandy, and I now can hardly wait to use our rediscovered authority with anyone we meet. We have seen over 60 healings in the past year. Others in our church are actively “experimenting” with their authority too.

Here is just one example: A month before Christmas, Sandy prayed for a checker at Home Depot, asking that her husband’s heart condition would be healed by the time she got off work. The day before Christmas, we felt led to go see her and give her a Christmas card.

When she saw us, she excitedly told Sandy that her husband was healed the moment she prayed. Sandy told her that what Jesus did for them in healing her husband’s body, He wanted to do in her heart. The checker then accepted the Lord. What a Christmas present!

God is leading us out into our community with His word and His power. It is amazing to watch all preconceptions about Jesus and His church disappear when God touches and heals. Yes, it was scary at first—but it is so easy now!
Prayer Intervention

T he average time a pastor prays each day is just 30 minutes, according to Ellis Research. Our 12 district supervisors offer helpful resources, thoughtful advice and motivating scripture to help kickstart your prayer life, starting today. Grab a book, pull up a “prayer chair” and see what happens when God shows up.

**RON PINKSTON CENTRAL PACIFIC DISTRICT**

**Resource:** Reading: *A Heart with Deep Desire*, by Eliezer de Zayas (Chariot House).

“I learned that prayer is a daily discipline, which grows as we seek, listen and allow God to speak to us through his Word. Prayer is the conversational aspect of our relationship with God. As His children, we should be able to communicate with him with genuineness and freedom. The benefits of prayer are incalculable. When in prayer, our hearts are aligned to God’s.”

**SAM ROCKWELL GATEWAY DISTRICT**

**Resource:** Devotional: *Continuing in Prayer*. Daily reads from the Westminster Confession of Faith. “I found it a wonderful way to begin the day. As I reflected on the topics of the faith, I was able to relate them to my own life. It was also a wonderful way to reflect on how I was called to live my life as a Christian.”

**FERNANDO CASTILLO HAMMARD DISTRICT**

**Resource:** Devotional: *Morning with a Cup of Java*, by Hal Borland (HarperOne) and *The Power of Your Thoughts*, by Jim Rohn (Harper One). “Learning to use my thoughts to my advantage has been a significant change in my life.”

**DAVID COFFEY MID-SOUTH DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *Unshakable Confidence*, by Ravi Zacharias (IVP Books). “This book helped me understand the importance of prayer in our lives. It shows us that prayer is not a magical incantation but a powerful tool for change.”

**GABE BARREIRO NORTH PACIFIC DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *The Cost of Discipleship*, by Nikos Kazantzakis (HarperOne). “This book challenged me to look at my relationship with God and how I was living my life.”

**BILL GROSS SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *Fresh Prayers*, by Pete Rain (TFM Publishing). “This book has helped me to develop a daily prayer routine and to pray in new and different ways.”

**PETER BONANNO NORTHEAST ATLANTIC DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *The Practice of the Presence of God*, by Brother Lawrence (Whitaker House). “This book has helped me to understand the importance of prayer in our lives.”

**DENNIS EASTER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *Prayer Chair: Identifying a Prayer Chair*, by Mary Kate Morse (IVP Books). “This book has helped me understand the importance of having a dedicated space for prayer.”

**JUAN M. VALLEJO SOUTHWESTERN HISPANIC DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *Encuentre recursos de oración*, by Mary Kate Morse (IVP Books). “This book has helped me to find resources for prayer.”

**KENNETH KELLY SOUTHERN DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *Prayer Is Invading the Impossible*, by Jack Hayford (Bridge-Logos). “This book has helped me understand the power of prayer.”

**KIMBERLY DIRNANN SOUTHWEST DISTRICT**

**Resource:** *A Guidebook to Prayer*, by Mary Kate Morse (IVP Books). “This book has helped me understand the importance of prayer in our lives.”

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Praying According to God’s Word

Whether you’re interceding for a church member’s physical healing, or asking for provision or direction for your ministry, praying in line with the Word of God is crucial.

1 John 5:14-15 says: “Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.” Isaiah prophesied: “Put Me in remembrance; let us contend together; state your case, that you may be acquitted” (Isa. 43:26).

As you engage in prayer and conversation with the Lord, the following verses can be a guide and encouragement concerning God’s heart and will for various areas. After all, Jesus Himself stated, “And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive” (Matt. 21:22).

**PHYSICAL HEALING**

Exodus 23:25 So you shall serve the Lord your God, and He will bless your bread and your water. And I will take sickness away from the midst of you.

Exodus 15:26 I am the Lord who heals you.

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

Psalm 103:2-3 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases.

Isaiah 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

**EMOTIONAL STRENGTH**

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

Psalm 23:1-4 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Galatians 6:9 And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Matthew 5:4 Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Psalm 32:11 Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous; and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**CALLING/DIRECTION**

Proverbs 16:6 A man’s heart plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps.

1 Samuel 23:2 (also 1 Samuel 30:8) David inquired of the Lord.

John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

Jeremiah 29:12-13 Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

**PROVISION**

Malachi 3:10 “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts, “if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.”

Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

**INTERCEDING FOR SALVATION**

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh: For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

Hosea 2:6 Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, and wall her in, so that she cannot find her paths [toward destruction].

Matthew 9:37-38 Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.”

Acts 17:26-27 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

All scripture is from the New King James Version of the Bible.

DOWNLOAD IT. Know someone who would find these scriptures helpful? Download a copy at 4sq.ca/prayerscripture.
La Cuestión de la Oración

Páginas 31-42

Hay muchas cosas buenas que la iglesia puede estar haciendo, pero fundamental entre ellas está el llamado a la oración. Lea un emotivo llamado del Pastor Jack Hayford, y de un vistazo a las maneras increíbles en las que Dios está trabajando en las iglesias Cuadrangulares que están involucrando a Dios y a sus comunidades en la oración.

EN ESTA EDICIÓN

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Llamando a la Cuadrangular a la Oración por el Pastor Jack Hayford Página 32
Perfiles de Oración—Vea cómo la oración está impactando vidas en las iglesias Cuadrangulares Página 36
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La Iglesia Cuadrangular es miembro de la Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability.
Ellos están sufriendo una prolongada sequía espiritual. Mientras que la decadencia social y moral de esta hora pudiera entristecernos, el discernimiento de la razón principal de esta desgracia yace a la puerta de una iglesia que es todo menos una iglesia de oración.

Compartimos una parte de esa responsabilidad porque—de haber estado más conscientes de esto antes—no hubiéramos permitido el desmantelamiento progresivo de reuniones de oración extendidas, semanales, unidas y colectivas. No estoy escribiendo para asignar culpabilidad, porque yo mismo he sido un aprendiz demasiado lento. Pero escribo con una invitación, como alguien que habla de parte del cielo y que comienza a resonar en muchos corazones.

Aunque el enemigo de la humanidad se está levantando brutalmente, sabiendo que le queda poco tiempo, el Espíritu Santo de Dios está presente. No está aquí para condenar, sino para convocar a los corazones de los creyentes con Su promesa, sabiduría y esperanza.

La oración es el fundamento y la fuente de poder espiritual, avance y avivamiento; la oración que prevalece, tanto a nivel local como nacional, es lo que nosotros y los Estados Unidos necesitamos. Dada esta situación, mi esperanza es que la Iglesia Cuadrangular pueda "levantarse en esta hora" y convertirla en una "restauración de los antiguos puntos emblemáticos" de victorias de antaño. Que, como una comunidad unida y decidido compañerismo, una gran mayoría de pastores y congregaciones den la bienvenida, sin disculpase, al Espíritu Santo en medio de ellos.

Tales reuniones de oración bien ordenadas derribarán fortalezas de las tinieblas y liberarán ríos de "agua viva" y bendiciones de avivamiento. La oración sólida, audaz y de fe es oración de "vanguardia", específicamente, un estilo de vida que penetra la oscuridad de la ceguera espiritual y trae la misericordia y la liberación de parte de Dios. Este es el tipo de oración que quebranta la oscuridad y hace retroceder la clase de desafío espiritual que enfrentamos con la plaga de maldad y rebelión en nuestra nación.
LA PREOCUPACIÓN DE JESÚS POR LA IGLESIA DE LOS ÚLTIMOS DÍAS

Algunas personas piensan de los años 1950 y 1960s como la época dorada de la iglesia en Estados Unidos, pero ¿existieron inconvenientes en el hecho de que la iglesia fuera socialmente respetable?

Responde: "No pienso de la iglesia siendo ‘respetable’ como un inconveniente. Sin embargo, una iglesia socialmente cómoda no ha producido históricamente una iglesia espiritualmente apasionada".

Las cartas de Jesús a la iglesia en Apocalipsis contienen una introducción similar, donde Cristo plantea su conocimiento y advertencia a cada congregación y sus líderes. Su amor por todos ellos nunca está en duda, pero sus preocupaciones ondean banderas rojas de advertencia para todos los que lideramos hoy:

1. quienes han descuidado su llamado valores y misión central. Las distracciones son las mismas hoy; las congregaciones están:
   a. descansando en sus laureles, o
   b. impresionadas con la percepción de su propio estatus, o
   c. cegadas a su pérdida de enfoque en la Palabra y el Espíritu, o
   d. satisfaciendo su propia camalidad y perdiendo claridad e integridad de corazón.

El mensaje es claro: El Espíritu Santo está buscando hablar y hablar—a los que tienen oídos para oír.

Sí, usted es un pastor, líder o miembro de una Iglesia Cuadrangular, soy un servidor con usted. Invito a unirme a una multitud de los que están sintetizados sin vergüenza para escuchar, obedecer y responder como siervos de Cristo llenos del Espíritu Santo. Esto es vital por dos razones cruciales:

1. No hay nada más habituado que ensordernos a la voz del Espíritu Santo.
2. No hay nada que enmudece al alma que no responder a Su llamado.

En esta hora crítica, no podemos atrevernos a eludir las implicaciones de ‘escuchar’ al Espíritu Santo. No nos podemos atrever a comprometer sus intenciones para nuestra comunidad de fe como gente llena y guiada por el Espíritu Santo.

LA PREGUNTA CLAVE

La pregunta en este momento de la historia resuena de los labios del Señor: “Cuando venga el Hijo del Hombre, ¿encontrará fe en la tierra?“(Lucas 18:8, NVI). Específicamente, la fe que responde al llamado a levantarse en oración.

Al igual que con cualquier nación, la batalla por el corazón de Estados Unidos sólo se ganará con las armas de la guerra espiritual. Estas armas—empuñadas por gente reunida de forma sistemática en reuniones de oración para conducir intercesión sólida y bíblicamente ordenada—son necesarias para restaurar a La Iglesia Cuadrangular en Estados Unidos.

Así es, si el pueblo de Dios no se reúne de común acuerdo, de rodillas, ¿quién más va a ‘derribar argumentos y toda altivez que se levante contra el conocimiento de Dios, llevando cautivo todo pensamiento a la obediencia a Cristo?’ (2 Corintios 10:5, Reina Valera 1960)

La pregunta en este momento de la historia resuena de los labios del Señor: “Cuando venga el Hijo del Hombre, ¿encontrará fe en la tierra?”

EN ESTA HORA CRÍTICA, NO PODEMOS ATREVERNOS A ELUDIR LAS IMPLICACIONES DE ‘ESCUCHAR’ AL ESPIRITU SANTO.

La iglesia es la única agencia en la tierra con acceso a esta promesa. El cielo está esperando. Dios ha indicado su elección soberana: El está dispuesto a responder con su mano abierta de bendición ilimitada si, bajo su dirección de autoridad, tomamos nuestro lugar y avanzamos en oración.

La promesa de intercesión local aún tiene que escuchar lo que el Espíritu dice a las iglesias.

Necesitamos revisar la confrontación de Jesús a líderes que se ocuparon con obligaciones religiosas, pero descuidaron el mandamiento de Dios: “Porque mi casa será llamada casa de oración para todos los pueblos” (Isaías 56:7, NVI). Abandone su pasividad indulgente de auto justificarnos al negar el enfoque de nuestro Señor sobre la prioridad de la oración.

Ninguna sociedad debe ser vista como más allá de la esperanza de avivamiento, la recuperación de la cordura o el renacimiento de multitudes—si está encajada de congregaciones en todas partes donde la Luz del mundo brilló aún.

Él llamado divino de Dios dirigido a La Iglesia Cuadrangular en Estados Unidos no es diferente al proclamado al cuerpo de Cristo más amplio. Deseamos que intercambien lo interrelacional por lo transitorio, lo ingenioso por lo costoso, lo contemporáneo por lo eterno y la sensibilidad hacia el buscador por la gracia complaciente al hombre.

Nuestro punto de referencia inicial debe partir sobre nuestras rodillas, en nuestro guardarropas y en los altares del arrepentimiento. ¡No se requiere de muebles nuevos, pero sí de una pasión lista y renovada!
La oración abrió la puerta a una vida con propósito.

POR MELISA PRIETO

A los tres años de edad me apareció una fuerte enfermedad en la piel. A medida que fui creciendo, mis padres me llevaron con los mejores médicos de Guatemala y ellos decían: “No hay cura para ella”. A los siete años me empezé a notar que yo no era igual a los demás. Además del dolor y la picazón en mi piel, sufría el rechazo de la gente y mi enfermedad empezó a endurecerse. Mis padres siempre le pedían a Dios por mí. Un día alguien les predicó el evangelio y se entregaron al Señor. Al poco tiempo, a mis catorce años, nos invitaron a una reunión del evangelista Yeye Ávila. Por aquel entonces era más difícil vivir con esa enfermedad. Cuando llegamos a la reunión, el predicador empezó a hablar: “Cristo te sana hoy; recibe a Jesús no solo para la enfermedad en la piel. A medida que fui creciendo, mis padres me llevaron con los mejores médicos de Guatemala y ellos decían: “No hay cura para ella”. A los siete años me empezé a notar que yo no era igual a los demás. 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A medida que fui creciendo, mis padres me lleva...
ace como ocho años mi esposa Tina y yo comenzamos a conversar sobre cuál era su llamado personal—y no su llamado como una extensión mía. Era extraño hablar del tema ya que todo lo hacemos juntos.

En una reunión de oración recibí una clara palabra y profética de parte de Dios que decía: “Escucha, tú eres Moisés y ella es Josué. Necesitas pasarle esto”.

Nos sentamos con el entonces supervisor del Southeast District, Scott Reece, lo que lo convertía en mi autoridad espiritual. Me dijo, “No tenía esto en mente para ti, pero al escucharte, algo dentro de mí dice “así es” y creo que proviene del Espíritu Santo”. Así que autorizó la transición. Aquellos fueron definitivamente tiempos tumultuosos. Algunos miembros del equipo de liderazgo estaban en desacuerdo con tener a una mujer como pastor principal—y no sólo hombres, sino algunas mujeres también.

La Iglesia Cuadrangular siempre ha expresado claramente que abraza el liderazgo de la mujer en todo nivel. Pero de alguna manera estas personas no estaban de acuerdo con tener a una mujer como pastor principal. Me quedé asombrado, decepcionado y desanimado. En el sureste del país otras tradiciones eclesiásticas están rotundamente opuestas a mujeres en el liderazgo y parece que tal influencia es penetrante.

Sin embargo la idea de la Pastora Tina es un concepto que hemos comenzado a trabajar en la comunidad. Los pastores de nuestra alianza local en Adairsville han aceptado a Tina porque la respetan y hasta un par de líderes de los más tradicionales están empezando a llamarla pastor.

Aunque me hubiese encantado ver la clase de comunidad global y misional en que se está convirtiendo la iglesia The Living Way Network, sé que nunca les haría llevar a este punto. Las cosas que estamos haciendo ahora no son mi historia—son la historia de Tina.

En mi nuevo rol he empezado a trabajar como líder de plantación de iglesias y como la mente empresarial detrás de la cafetería comunitaria The Living Way. Soy una persona altamente relacional y puedo hacer que la gente se entusiasme con ideas nuevas.

También me aseguro de comunicarle a la gente lo que Tina está haciendo en cada oportunidad. El liderazgo de la iglesia es por cierto un mundo de hombres; así que, como hombres, tenemos que vocal y públicamente respaldar y afirmar a las mujeres en cada nivel de liderazgo cuando reconocemos el llamado en sus vidas.

Ser líder de una comunidad misional requiere una gran capacidad de valentía. Con ello en mente, mi oración diaria es que Tina sea fuerte y valiente.

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LEA MÁS SOBRE TINA. Lea cómo la Pastora Principal Tina Spellman ha sacudido la tradición para transformar a su comunidad por Internet en 4sq.ca/tinaspellman.

“¿No te lo he ordenado yo? ¡Sé fuerte y valiente! No temas ni te acobardes, porque el Señor tu Dios estará contigo dondequiera que vayas.” JOSUÉ 1:9 (LBLA)
El tiempo promedio que un pastor invierte en oración es tan solo 30 minutos, de acuerdo con Ellis Research. Seis líderes Cuadrangulares ofrecen útiles recursos, valiosos consejos y motivadores pasajes de la Escritura para ayudarle a iniciar su vida de oración.

Consejos para la Oración:

1. Tiempo en oración a solas con Dios: serán muy fácil olvidarnos y no pasar tiempo en oración a solas con Dios. Si no lo ponemos en nuestra agenda, no sólo es una oración para mí, pero una plantilla para una vida de oración más completa.

2. Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.

3. Consejos para la Oración: Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.

4. Escrituras: “Ni tan sólo una hora” por Larry Lea (Grupo Nelson): Cuando encontremos este libro hace varios años, me dio una nueva perspectiva sobre la oración del Padre Nuestro y cómo poder aumentar el tiempo de oración de forma multifacética.

5. Consejos para la Oración: Aunque vivamos una vida de oración sin cesar, es importante apartar un tiempo diario para orar. Si no lo ponemos en nuestra agenda, será muy fácil olvidarnos y no pasar tiempo en oración a solas con Dios.

6. Escritura: “Si se humillare mi pueblo, sobre el cual mi nombre es invocado, convierten de sus malos caminos; y oraren, y buscaran mi rostro, y se oren unos por otros, para que sean sanados. La oración del Señor (Mateo 6:9-13) no sólo es una oración para mí, pero una plantilla para una vida de oración más completa.

7. Consejos para la Oración: Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.


9. Consejos para la Oración: Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.


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13. Consejos para la Oración: Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.


15. Consejos para la Oración: Saber que Dios está en control y no yo: A veces es necesario estar en silencio, dejar que Dios nos guíe y hable. En el silencio, nos entregamos a su control, dejando que Dios nos hable.

El Pastor Eduardo Bogea es el pastor principal de la iglesia El Calvario (Iglesia Cuadrangular Ontario Hispanic) en Rancho Cucamonga, California.

Dime Con Quién Oras
por Eduardo Bogea

¿Puedes imaginar a los pastores de un sector junto a sus iglesias reunidos mensualmente para orar e interceder por su sector?

A principios del 2003, algunos pastores del suroeste de Los Ángeles que se reunían regularmente para convivir y compartir experiencias, sintieron una intensificación de la guerra espiritual en contra de sus congregaciones y de la presión espiritual negativa en sus comunidades que limitaba la libertad espiritual y afectaba su crecimiento.

Estos pastores fueron movidos a unir fuerzas en oración colectiva y comenzar a hacer vigilias mensuales para orar por sus iglesias y comunidades. Cada mes, las Vigilías Del Reino se realizan en una iglesia diferente del sector hasta cubrirlas a todas con oración. Cada vigilia tiene el propósito de bendecir a la iglesia local a través de la unidad de las varias congregaciones reunidas para orar por la familia pastoral, su liderazgo, su congregación y también hacer guerra espiritual contra las fortalezas espirituales que operan en su ciudad para estorbar el avance del Reino.

Imagina el impacto en tu ciudad, en tu sector y en toda la nación. Quiero motivarte hoy a buscar la unidad de tu región a través de la oración con otros pastores y sus congregaciones. Compartan sus cargas y reúnanse para orar y adorar en diferentes iglesias de tu localidad. Invocemos el poder de Dios para ver al fuego del Espíritu Santo arrasar con toda oposición y liberar su gracia salvadora en toda nuestra tierra.

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*According to the American Cancer Society

—Matthew 25:40 NIV
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