

HEART FOR THE HOUSE: HOUSE OF PRAYER

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Challenges for the Church:

1. Church online replacing live participation
2. Threat of terrorism
3. Emerging generation of un-churched people
4. Truth being exchanged for lies

2 Timothy 4:3-4 NKJ

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Matthew 21:12-16 NIV

Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. "It is written," he said to them, "My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'" The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant. "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, 'From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise'?"

Four Things Release When a Church Becomes a "House of Prayer":

1. Presence of God

"A lot of Christians are living analog lives with a high definition God!"

Acts 2:1-2 NIV

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

Acts 2:3-4 NIV

They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

2. Passion for God

Four Temperatures People Live in With God:

1. **Cold:** God is irrelevant; church is irrelevant; all that matters is what's happening in their world

2. **Lukewarm:** neither cold nor hot

Revelation 3:15-16 NKJ

"I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth."

3. **Warm:** involved with church – tithes, serves, worships, etc. but no real FIRE for God!

4. **Hot:** IN PASSIONATE PURSUIT OF GOD'S PRESENCE, POWER AND PURPOSE FOR THEIR LIVES!

3. Power of God

Acts 2:41-43 NKJ

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 4:31-33 NKJ

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

4. Purposes of God**Ephesians 1:11-12 MSG**

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.