

Welcome God into Your City



“When God’s presence becomes a tangible reality in a community, the church then becomes a catalyst for growth. God’s presence is more effective than our best church growth methods. When God’s presence is tangible, supernatural ministry results and becomes a magnet for hungry souls and broken people.” Rhonda Hughey

I used to travel from nation to nation on a ship that spread the good news of Jesus. Upon arrival in a new country we would often have a great welcome from the people of that city. In New Zealand we experienced a special dance from the Maori Indians. It was quite impressive, and one I will never forget. At the end of that unique tribal dance, each member of the staff and crew of our ship received a beautiful wreath of flowers around their neck and the Maori greeting of rubbing noses. It was quite a cultural experience for many of us.

In other countries we had special greetings unique to each culture - everything from other cultural dances, gifts, songs, and banners - that were a beautiful welcome for the ship into their unique city. It made all of us on board feel very welcome in that country and city. It made us deeply desire to stay there and interact with the people.

Perhaps God feels the same way.

When He sees His people eagerly pray for His presence, and welcome Him into their city day and night in prayer, He is delighted and wants to invade that city with His presence. When He sees your desperate cry for His presence, He feels like a welcomed and longed-for guest. He wants to make your city His home.

Difficult things are happening in cities all around the world.

Just one tragedy in Houston, Texas through Hurricane Harvey should make us aware of how much we need to pray for our cities. The storm left behind a massive amount of devastation in its wake. It was expected to cost as much as \$100 billion to clean up and repair. Most people did not have insurance.

We need to prepare the way for God’s Kingdom and presence in our cities.

When we pray, even tragedy can turn many to find God as the answer. We need to increase our prayer life, and find others who have a vision for transformation in our city. We can get together regularly with others who want to pray for our city and other cities; God will lead and add others to our prayer meetings. Transformation will occur in our lives as we pray and get God's heart for our cities, and we will become consumed with a hunger for God's presence. The Lord will hear our cry for our city, and God will begin to move in our midst.

Early one morning in a month of 24/7 prayer in Spain, God made His presence known to me in a very special way. There was no rain outside; it was completely dry. As I was having my prayer time early, I suddenly looked out the window and there in the sky surrounding the House of Prayer was a bright rainbow. It was as if God was speaking to me and saying:

“My desire is for citywide, united prayer. Keep praying for I shall surely come with My presence - I have heard your cry.”

It is time that we change our lifestyles and become desperate for God and His ways.

We must be willing to put God and prayer first. It is time that we welcome His Kingdom into our neighborhoods, our cities, and our nations.

“To be desperate means to be without hope in your current condition and to know that in your own power you don't have the necessary resources required to change it. People who are desperate become determined to find help, often taking great risks to meet their desperate need. In the communities where transforming revival has occurred, the people of God were desperate enough to change their lifestyle and their priorities and to commit their time and resources, making everything secondary to the desperate pursuit of God in their midst. They cried out in desperation, and the Lord heard their cry.” Rhonda Hughey

By Debbie Przybylski
Intercessors Arise International
Equipping believers to grow in prayer, intercession, and intimacy with God.
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