

## 7 7 7 Week of Prayer

**Sunday: 'Hearts Returning' – praying for the Lord to ignite our passion for Him**

### **PONDER**

#### **Revelation 2: 1-7**

*To the angel of the church in Ephesus write:*

*These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand and walks among the seven golden lampstands. <sup>2</sup>I know your deeds, your hard work and your perseverance. I know that you cannot tolerate wicked people, that you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not, and have found them false. <sup>3</sup>You have persevered and have endured hardships for my name, and have not grown weary.*

*<sup>4</sup>Yet I hold this against you: you have forsaken the love you had at first. <sup>5</sup>Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. <sup>6</sup>But you have this in your favour: you hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.*

*<sup>7</sup>Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.*

#### **Psalm 86:12**

*"I will praise You, Lord my God, with all my heart, I will glorify Your name for ever."*

#### **Mark 12:30**

*"Love the Lord Your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength."*

#### **Ephesians 5:18-20**

*"Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

#### **Colossians 3:16-17**

*"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."*

#### **Hebrews 10:19-22**

*Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings*

## PRAISE

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You  
We turn to You  
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You  
We long for You

When we see You  
We find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears  
Are washed away, washed away

Hosanna, Hosanna  
You are the God who saves us  
Worthy of all our praises  
Hosanna, Hosanna  
Come have Your way among us  
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You  
We turn to You  
In Your kingdom broken lives are made new  
You make all things new

When we see You  
We find strength to face the day  
In Your presence all our fears  
Are washed away, washed away

Hosanna, Hosanna  
You are the God who saves us  
Worthy of all our praises  
Hosanna, Hosanna  
Come have Your way among us  
We welcome You here, Lord Jesus

## PRAY

- Give thanks for the calling, freedom, and privilege we have as individuals, and as a body together, to enter the Most Holy Place.
- Give thanks for the huge team of people that contribute in some way to our Sunday worship: from welcome teams, to media teams, musicians and singers, leaders, preachers...
- Pray that all involved in preparing and leading our services would be dependent on the Spirit of God - that we wouldn't depend on our ability but on Him.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would so work in all our lives, so that we're loving the Lord not just with our mind and strength, but also our heart and soul ("love the Lord Your God with all your patience and prayer and intelligence and energy" – Peterson).
- Pray that there would be a wonderful sense in our worship that "the Lord is here" - that the already-present Holy Spirit would fill and more fully overtake our hearts giving us a fresh awareness of the Lord's holiness and grace.
- Pray that the Holy Spirit would turn our singing into adoration, our theology into doxology, our listening into living and loving.
- Pray for those whose hearts have grown cold, losing the love for the Lord they had at first, in many cases displacing their love for the Lord with other loves. Pray that the Lord would lead them to repentance.
- Pray that as we gather for worship, we wouldn't gather as selfish consumers looking to be pleased, but as true worshipers, longing to be consumed with God's glory and grace.
- Pray that Jesus would become greater in our lives, and other things would "grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." Why not use the song '*Turn your eyes upon Jesus*' as a prayer of response.