



NEW GROUND

3-Day Bible & Prayer Plan

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[6] Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land, I swore to their ancestors to give them.

[7] “Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. [8] Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it.

Then you will be prosperous and successful. [9] Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Note:

We encourage you to read the background, purpose, scriptures, and framework. It will help you to get the most out of the plan.

**GETUPGET
READYGETGOING**

NEW GROUND

Get Up; Get Ready; Get Going

How to use this 3-day Bible & Prayer Plan

Some Context For Prayer

We are living in momentous times. There are conflicting forces demanding attention in society. However, these present amazing opportunities for the spreading of the gospel of Jesus.

The State of the Nation

Our nation is facing multitudes of challenges. The answer to facing many of these challenges is a change of heart and mind. If this happens, it will result in a change in attitude and priorities. Prayer is an important tool that God has given us to engage in two-way dialogue with Jesus, the King of kings. We present our burdens at the throne of God, and in return receive wisdom, guidance and answers.

Prayer is more than a tool, it is a lifestyle, and the fundamental way to dialogue with God and build a deep relationship heart to heart. Having the 'mind of God' (Romans 11:34) releases creativity and understanding. Consequently, we come to know how to be the practical solution to society's problems.

Prayer Strategies to Change the Nation

The Elim Prayer Team have committed to provide tools to help the wider Church pray effectively, and in a way that will 'Get Answers'. We are convinced that Prayer, together with anointed worship releases the Prophetic voice. This will herald in change and lay foundations for revival. Prayer Intercessors of old have been pioneers for change in society. As God's people of old cried out to Him in prayer, He honours this with a sovereign release of the power of the Holy Spirit. As people prayed, hearts changed, holiness became a hallmark, and changed lives turned the nation upside down. This brought Salvation, and manifestation of healing, miracles and deliverance. Society was dramatically impacted by these changed people! Laws changed, the oppressed were set free, and the atmosphere of the nation was radically transformed.

Our Heart Cry for the Church

We say – 'Do it again Lord' - in a new way, with renewed people, and through those who make themselves available to You. We commit ourselves to serve You with a whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Come Holy Spirit as we step out into the New Ground that You show us. Empower us Lord as we Get up, Get ready, and Get going out and about in our communities.

In Prayer we cry out – ‘We open our hearts to You and long for You to move in and through us Lord’.

Remember what God said very clearly to King Solomon at the dedication of the temple (**1 Kings 8:22–54**), which was built on the blueprints given to his father King David:

2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

[14] if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

This scripture is God’s promise to His people and is at the heart of needs for our Nation. The pre-condition is to turn away from wickedness and learn to hear from God. Returning to God is necessary, and we His people need to cry out to God in prayer and choose the way of holiness. We also need to step out in faith. We need to pray and take prophetic guidance onto the streets, acting on what God says as we go.

This familiar scripture reminds us that if we return to God with a whole heart, we can expect God to move in and through us to bring about huge change in our nation. We are in a spiritual battle and need to prepare accordingly. We can no longer afford to drift and just do church privately despite the fact many opposed to Christianity would want us to do so! There is a need to go on the offensive and take the battle to the enemy not in our own strength, but in God’s! This will include learning how to operate with grace, wisdom, and tact.

Ephesians 6:12 NIV

[12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

We need to remember that there are spiritual forces, the demonic realm, that are committed to oppose God and His church. Therefore, the Church needs to get fit, get prepared and get actively involved in taking back the ground that has been lost. God wants us to take New Ground that has been occupied by the forces of darkness for too long.

Does this sound ambitious? Yes, it does! But it is in our birthright to see the demonic realm overwhelmed, because Jesus has already done it! It is for us to appropriate our inheritance in prayer, by faith. We need to be alert and not allow this birthright to be stolen from us.

Colossians 2:15 NIV

[15] And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Hallelujah! Let us be like Joshua and Caleb, who had a different spirit to those that doubted and were afraid. New territory is there for the taking! This leads us to our key passage of scripture for this season of Engage Prayer.

Our Emphasis for 'New Ground'

This passage of scripture has come alive to us; a Rhema word in season, which means a word that signifies the action of utterance.

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[1] After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: [2] "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them---to the Israelites. [3] I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. [4] Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates---all the Hittite country---to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. [5] No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. [6] Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land, I swore to their ancestors to give them. [7] "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. [8] Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. [9] Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

We encourage everyone to meditate and pray about this passage, but particularly **verses 6, 7 and 9**. This is focus for our three days of prayer and hope you will be encouraged and stimulated to be bold and strong in prayer and action as the Holy Spirit leads us all.

The Unfolding Context

As an Elim Movement God clearly wants us to pioneer with fresh expressions of His love and power. He is inspiring churches and individuals to get out into the community and not just stay in the relative safety of our church buildings. Seemingly, God wants the church to stop being 'hidden' and become visible. He will demonstrate the power of His love, meeting felt needs. In addition, we should be available to declare, and allow the Holy Spirit to demonstrate His supernatural power through us.

A Prophetic Revelation

God has brought this fresh revelation to equip us for the time and season we are currently in. We believe it is still the season to Get Up, Get Ready, Get Going, something we shared in February this year, but with an emphasis on breaking New Ground.

Here is the biblical basis:

The Background

When Moses sent out twelve spies into Canaan in **Numbers 13: v1-v3**. Representatives of each tribe were sent to scout the land that God had promised to give them. It took forty days, and they came back with differing reports. Ten of them were weak and fearful. See **v25-v29**, but two of them were positive. See **v30-v33**. The children of Israel collectively followed the weak report and sadly that generation remained and died out in the desert. It was forty years later that God used the next generation to go across the Jordan to take the promised land. They did it with the two remaining spies that brought a positive report i.e. Joshua and Caleb!

Inter-Generational Partnership

In this biblical picture, the older and younger generations went together. In a general sense, the older guys had experience, strength of character and longstanding knowledge of God. The younger guys had immense energy, creativity and zeal, and were not overly influenced by the mixture of doubts and fears of the previous generation. This resulted in a unification of generations that worked together for the common good. They obeyed God and served together in faith.

We therefore feel that the combined generations will take ground for our nation in the years ahead. Not either/or, but both! What an exciting prospect. The young and old together making a difference and having mutual respect and honour for each other in the mission.

Let's seek God in prayer and pursue God's call together in unity. Together generationally making a difference. Come Holy Spirit.

The Purpose of This Plan

This plan is designed to help us draw close to God in prayer, study of scripture, and flow in greater depths of anointed worship. It is intended to be a tool to stimulate creativity in our prayer lives by helping us complement our natural and spiritual giftings. Our desire is to help us be attuned to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. By listening carefully, God will speak to us, and through us prophetically.

By tuning in to God, we will hear what He is saying about our needy and diverse communities. This year, we believe God is quickening us to get out into our communities and follow a threefold process; Get Up, Get Ready, Get Going, and take **New Ground**. This three-day plan is designed to inform and stimulate prayer for an outward facing season that will bring the light of God's presence into our communities, through us.

What is in each Engage Prayer daily plan?

As in previous plans, each day will follow a similar pattern, building sensitivity and deeper understanding about Jesus' heart for the church and community. We hope that individuals and whole churches will engage in prayer together. Experience has shown that joining together in prayer and study of scripture corporately results in the release of greater understanding in God's intentions, and of our part in them. Prayer opens our hearts to hear God. It is often accompanied by a challenge to soften our hearts to repent or receive healing. But also prepare the **New Ground** for God to move in power. We believe it is essential to take what God says out onto the streets. To hear what He is saying at 'ground level' and respond accordingly.

We do hope that you find this plan useful. It is designed to help us engage with our theme. Be encouraged and strengthened to grow in effective service to God our heavenly Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit. May Jesus be glorified in us as we go out into our communities to walk, pray and act as He directs us.

Key Scripture

We will use these key verses to guide and inform us in how to pray about 'New Ground':

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[6] Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. [7] "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go ...

[9] Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

The Scriptural Framework

Our theme: 'New Ground' is a continuation of February's theme Get up, Get Ready and Get Going. It flows with the scripture expounded by Pastor Chris Cartwright in his New Year message based on **Isaiah 60:1-3**.

Our new theme is based on **Joshua Chapter 1**. We will look at three key verses:

Three Days of Boldness, Strength and Courage

Day 1 - v6 Be strong and courageous – To receive our long-promised inheritance. In the power of the Holy Spirit with fresh fire, strength, and zeal.

Day 2 - v7 Be strong and very courageous, and faithful to the laws of God. Being rooted in His word (the sword of the Spirit and Truth,) and being guided by Him every step of the way.

Day 3 - v9 Be strong and courageous, breaking free from fear and discouragement. Appropriating the promises of God, in His power and with His presence in us wherever He leads us to 'Go!'.

A New Structure

Taking new ground sometimes needs a fresh approach. This time our bible/prayer plan has been prepared in two parts:

- 1 In Preparation – before you go!**
- 2 In Action – as you go!**

On each of the three days you have opportunity to prepare at home, in small groups, or in church. We are encouraging you to step out in faith and go and do something for the first time, or that you haven't done in a long while.

The Old Testament Text is Joshua 1. The comparable command of Jesus is found in the New Testament:

Mark 16:15 NIV

[15] He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

We encourage you to prepare well, but then step outside into your communities and take 'New Ground' spiritually and physically by direct involvement in community life.

Let's Pray – The harvest is white John 4:35

We commend this plan and encourage you to prayerfully enter in, and fully participate each day if you can. Let's enjoy it, be challenged, changed, motivated into action. Let's step out as He leads. Let's give God quality time during the three days. Let's be purposeful and choose to allow God to stir our hearts to be 'Very Courageous' as we Get Up (Arise); Get Ready (Align) and Get Going (Advance) and move on to **New Ground**. As we do this, please pray that God will give us deeper understanding and experience of His power working in and through us. Let's be determined to follow His will, purpose and places to be Good News!

We hope that this plan will reinforce the need for the Church of Jesus to remain awake, alert and understand that the forces of darkness will try to prevail, but they have already been overcome by Jesus! Hallelujah!

This is a summarization of a keynote prayer from our General Superintendent's New Year message 2023:

*'God, awaken us to the season we are in, and the calling You have placed on us.
This is a new day, where God smiles on us, and His glory and presence rests on us'.
Pastor Chris Cartwright*

There is a spiritual vacuum in our nation which needs to be filled. The gospel message of salvation and hope can fill this vacuum. As an Elim Movement, let's ensure we are in the vanguard of people that fill this vacuum with the presence and power of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Remember, our prayers are amazingly important. If we faithfully persevere in prayer, we will see the answers. The presence of the Lord will be poured out through us into our communities by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We pray that God will advance His kingdom through us, for His glory.

With our love.

The Elim Prayer Team.

Note:

All scripture references are in the NIV version, unless noted otherwise.

DAY 1

Our Inheritance

In Preparation – Before you go!

A Prayer for Strength and Courage

It would be great to begin by praying a prayer asking God to centre our hearts and minds on Him.

Let's Pray

At the start of the day Lord, we choose to open our hearts to you and give You the worship that You deserve.

Thank You for giving us the strength to get up and be motivated to pray.

We thank you for Your sustaining grace, and provision.

You have never left us alone and been there for us all the time.

We are so grateful for Your unfailing love and faithfulness.

Please release Your power within us at the start today.

We realise we cannot serve You effectively in our own strength.

Help us as we choose to live our lives courageously and in a way that brings glory to Your Name. We need more of You Lord.

In Your Name. Amen

A Biblical Foundation

Today we are concentrating on the first verse of the key scripture. Remember, the focus is all of us, young and older people moving together across generations.

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[6] Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

The dictionary meaning of the word **‘Strong’**: having the power to move heavy weights or perform other physically demanding tasks, or able to withstand force, pressure, or wear.

Therefore, being strong and courageous needs a choice and determination, even amid adversity. The word **‘Courageous’** means: not deterred by danger or pain; brave.

We need to remember that Jesus never promised that the walk of discipleship would be easy. Here is what Jesus had to say to His disciples:

John 16:33 NIV

[33] “I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”

Community Focus to Occupy by being Bold and Courageous

The story of God’s people Israel is a real lesson to us. It is an indication of what we need to do today. We can obtain the inheritance of land and territory that God has set before us. The book of Joshua is an Old Testament promise, and still God’s word for us today. The Israelites boldly moved forwards into the land of their inheritance, and so must we. In the words of Jesus:

Mark 16:15 NIV

[15] He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.



And also:

Matthew 28:19-20 NIV

[19] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Salvation is the inheritance Jesus bought for us at great cost. He provided us with eternal life not just when our earthly lifespan concludes, but for the here and now.

WE can claim this inheritance by stepping out and taking back the ground that the enemy of our souls has stolen in our communities. To accomplish this, Gods only strategy is to use us, His people!

Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

People will only be able to see the light of Jesus if we get out and become visible.

We believe a fresh new wave of revelation is sweeping across our nation, and this is causing the church increasingly face outwards and not inwards. The command of Jesus was always ‘Go’ and not ‘Stay’ where you are. It is easier to be kept safe in a sheep-pen and be looked after. However, that won’t be enough to change the world.

Jesus always intended that His church go out! If we do this in God’s strength, courage and boldness will rise in us as we step out. We must remember that Faith is like a muscle, it needs exercising, or it will be wasted.

Hebrews 11:6 NIV

[6] And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

The enemy of God is Satan, and he is territorial and doesn’t give up ground easily. However, he and his demonic army is a defeated foe! We must always remember this and not be afraid! Let’s remind ourselves of what the scripture teaches us:

Colossians 2:15 NIV

15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Hallelujah!

A Prophetic Heart Cry!

It is time to recover lost ground within the spiritual fabric our society. The people of all generations are affected by secular forces, which means transformation is needed. We must combat all the challenges in God's strength, reclaim what has been lost, and take New Ground. We are in a battle:

Ephesians 6:12 NIV

[12] For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Our battle is in the spiritual realm but has to be applied in practice. Jesus told us to go, and our response needs to be practical as well as spiritual. If we act, it should positively influence our communities.

As we pray, let's consider some of the areas where God want to use us. If we tune in to Him, we will know the people He wants us to reach in our society. We can begin to take back ground from the enemy of God and His people.

We are Gods 'Prophetic' people. Our voice, lifestyle and actions need to be clear and present, visible and active in society.

Focussing on practical areas:

Today we want to focus on some areas where we can bring the Presence of God. Society needs redeeming everywhere, particularly in community services. Many of these affect families everywhere. We have an opportunity to reverse the trends, have direct involvement and effect positive change, whilst operating with wisdom and tact.

Here are a few suggestions. You may have other ideas:

Education – How? By being elected or co-opted governors, teachers, teaching assistants, special needs helpers, lunch supporters, volunteers, etc. Action?
By Praying, bringing truth and insight, and challenging philosophies and ideologies.
We can bring integrity to a highly influential areas affecting children and young people.
We can find ways to encourage the development of a good conscience to discern right from wrong thought.



Fostering and Adoption – How? By considering becoming carers for vulnerable young people who have had challenging experiences. There is a need to mentor those who need tender loving care, especially who have had bad experiences, and who crave consistent love and stable lifestyle.

Action? By bringing love and mentoring to children and young people whose experiences have brought trauma and hurt both physically, emotionally and mentally.

Prophetic Declaration always involves some kind of action. Sometimes we need to be the answer. Let's not just hear prophetic utterance but do what God says. Actions sometimes speak louder than words. Also, long-term commitment to actions will establish credibility.

To pray for as we Get Up and appropriate our inheritance!

- Strength for the day, with energy in heart, mind, soul and body.
- A zeal rooted in God's purposes, and release of His spiritual gifts.
- A determination to serve God and make Him our priority focus, so we are plugged into God's purposes.
- A burden for our community, and sensitivity to the needs.

A Prayer of Response - a call to appropriate our inheritance.

Jesus has appropriated our inheritance because of His sacrifice on the cross and by His resurrection. This Salvation means that God's inheritance is freely available to all. Step out in faith to move forwards. It means making right choices, and then to acting on them.

Let's Pray

God, will You please stir us afresh today. Help us to have courageous hearts and souls to get up and give You our full attention. Help us as we move into the day, to do so in Your strength and not our own. Fill us afresh with the Holy Spirit's power and let Your light shine in us. As we enter the inheritance You have bought for us at a price. Our desire is to bring Glory to Your Name. Work through us Lord, as we bring the message of hope to those we meet.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

In Action – As you go! For the Streets

A Declaration

In the name and authority of Jesus Christ:

We decree an end to confusion, strife, and disorder in our community. We call all things into Divine order and subject to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. For Education and Young People we declare wisdom and godly counsel shall come forth from our government leaders.

We bless them to receive divine strategies and inspired ideas to get around the obstacles that will enable them to govern the people with righteousness, equity, and justice in Jesus name.*

A Prayer of Faith

Pray as you feel led by the Holy Spirit for known issues that exist in your community.

An Act of Faith

Ask God to show you what to do in faith. This could be to share your testimony in the town centre, lead some worship, give out some tracts, give out food and drink. The challenge is to go boldly and courageously with something creative. This will undoubtedly 'stretch' you, but will also raise your faith levels. The Holy Spirit will connect you with people who need hope and change to their circumstances.

What is God Saying Prophetically?

As you pray and go out into your community ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and ears, and show you things that you may not have noticed before. These things may be keys to spiritual and practical release and transformation in your district.

Press in and fully occupy and influence the Land

Note down whatever God shows you. Keep records, mark locations and special places of revelation. Itemise what God says for future reference, encouragement, testimony, and direction.

Final Declaration

Make a final declaration over your community whilst you are out on the street before you go home:

Numbers 6:24-26 NIV

[24] “The Lord bless you and keep you; [25] the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; [26] the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”



DAY 2

In Spirit And Truth

In Preparation – Before you go!

A Prayer for Strength and Courage

As we get ready today, we encourage you to begin by praying this prayer.

Ask God to centre us on Him and allow His truth to renew our minds and hearts, by His Spirit.

Let's Pray

At the start of the day Lord, we choose to open our hearts to you and give You the worship that You deserve. Thank You for giving us the strength to get up and get ready and motivated to live a life of truth and integrity. Help us to prepare for what is to come during the day.

We thank you for Your sustaining grace, and provision.

You have equipped us and provided us with all the gifts and graces that we need. We choose to dress ourselves with the whole armour, especially carrying the two-edged sword of truth.

Help us to declare truth and deliver it with the power of Your love.

We get ready by having all the right spiritual tools to hand.

Please energise us in Your power today so that we have the stamina and endurance to serve You fully. Help us to be effective and fruitful. We choose Your life in all its fulness so that by Your Spirit, truth will come from our lips, and our actions will bring glory to Your Name. We need more of You Lord.

In Your Name. Amen

A Biblical Foundation

Today we are looking at obedience to God's word of truth and concentrating on the second verse of the key scripture.

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[7] "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

Although simplistic, we suggest that generally older people have gained strength in adversity, pressure and challenges over many years. Younger people also face challenges, but are also fearlessly adventurous, and their strength is in can-do zeal, being courageous trying out new things. Notice in the key verse it says be 'very' courageous, suggesting the need to take risks in faith.

Paul the Apostle reminds us about the importance of faith, and hints at doubt and fear and longing experienced by many of the Israelite spies who were with Moses before the ***Joshua 1 passage:***

Hebrews 11:15-16 NIV

[15] If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. [16] Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

The combined generations across the age ranges looking to take New Ground will need to remember the following words of truth:

Hebrews 11:6 NIV

[6] And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Another aspect of today's key verse is the need to have faithfulness to the truth even under pressure. Spiritual compromise can occur, and truth can get distorted, twisted and watered down. So, if we want to see freedom for our communities, it needs a lifestyle soaked in honesty, truth and integrity:

John 8:31-32 NIV

[31] To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. [32] Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Community Focus to Occupy and bring Transformation

Today's key verse suggests that by pursuing truth of God's laws, we will have success. How do you measure success?

Quote:

'Remember, true success in the kingdom of God is not ultimately determined by one's accomplishments; true success is based on the understanding that we are infinitely loved and cherished by God. Jesus came to vividly illustrate the lengths to which the Father would go to restore our worth as His sons and daughters.'

S.J.Hughes article in from God TV News 15th August 2018

The power of God's love is at work through His people! Success in the Kingdom of God is the evidence of lives changed and transformed by Jesus Christ and His Church. Let's pray that God will give us this kind of success as we break New Ground, Get Up, Get Ready and Get Going in His Kingdom.

There are those in society that want the Church to compromise and water down the gospel message. There are people that demand that we adopt every secular and universal school of thought. This would hinder the truth of the gospel message. We must stand firm in the truth. The second part of our key verse for today says:

Joshua 1:2b

... do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

These words of Jesus give us clear instruction to stay the course and be faithful to the truth:

Matthew 7:13-14 NIV

13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

We need to encourage each other across the generations, to press on to the goal and calling of God. Jesus urged His disciples to carry out His 'Great Commission'. So be determined to Go, together, and break New Ground, and thereby extend the Kingdom of God.

A Prophetic Heart Cry!

The primary emphasis for our time in prayer is the need to break New Ground with strength and courage. It requires vision, mission, values and unity to achieve good results. We mustn't underestimate the importance of maintaining inter-generational unity and co-operation. If we do, we will see the results illustrated by the whole book of Joshua, the taking of New Ground by moving together in unity. The enemy is subtle in the way he operates. That is why it is so important to hold fast to the truth, which is essential to Kingdom success. Achieving territorial advance is the goal.

As we prepare our hearts, pray and seek the face of God, He will bring things to the surface. He will reveal the motives in our hearts. As Joshua and Caleb led the Israelites into the promised land, challenges with their own people emerged.

Joshua 7:1-10 shows where Achan sinned by hiding forbidden artifacts, lying to Joshua and to God:

Joshua 7:20-21 NIV

[20] Achan replied, "It is true! I have sinned against the Lord, the God of Israel. This is what I have done: [21] When I saw in the plunder a beautiful robe from Babylonia,[a] two hundred shekels[b] of silver and a bar of gold weighing fifty shekels,[c] I coveted them and took them. They are hidden in the ground inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

This resulted in a period of hindrance to their progress as God judged the situation.

This is a good lesson for us. Let's be determined to obey God and stay on track. The scriptures tell us to seek the Lord while He may be found, and that we walk in the light:

1 John 1:7 NIV

[7] But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all[a] sin.

We need integrity of heart and mind, which comes as we follow the truth, which sets us free. Then we make territorial gains and see the Kingdom of God increase. Motives will be tested, so we must walk in truth and humility. The result will be transformation in our communities.

Proverbs 14:34 NIV

[34] Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin condemns any people.

Spiritual preparation leads to practical application.

Focussing on practical areas:

Over the centuries our society in the UK has benefited from God's influence in people's lives. Today, there is evidence of God's influence being dismantled from many aspects of society, affecting our life and work. We have an opportunity to reverse this trend. All of us who are Christians are effectively in 'full time ministry'. We bring His presence into the marketplace through our giftings.

Here are a few suggestions. You may have other ideas:

Governance – How? By being elected or co-opted as a local, parish, or borough councillor. There is a real need for people of integrity and conviction to be involved in politics either as independents or as members of recognised political parties.
Action? By Praying, bringing wisdom and tact, challenging philosophies and ideologies, and bringing honesty and integrity to a highly influential area, by being advocates for communities of people.

Commerce and Business – How? By being employers or employees of local businesses, seeing this as a calling rather than just a job. God wants us to influence our workplaces daily. **Action?** By bringing integrity, honesty and wisdom into business practice, and ensuring that customers and colleagues are treated with respect and honour.

Remember, prophetic declaration always involves some kind of action. As we have said already, let's put into practice what God says to us prophetically.

To pray for as we Get Up and appropriate our inheritance!

- Ensuring we clothe ourselves in the whole armour of God, with all its protection, but especially the sword of the spirit of truth to counteract error and deception. See **Ephesians 6:10-20**.
- For wisdom and tact to fulfil God's purposes as we exercise faith to use spiritual gifts with words of knowledge, wisdom and discerning of spirits. See **1 Corinthians 12:4-11**.
- To take captive our thoughts, allow God to renew them, and focus on God's priorities, being led by the Holy Spirit. See **2 Corinthians 10:3-5**.
- For boldness and a courage, but also a sensitivity, and purposeful attitude to everything God has called us to be and do within our community.
- For greater awareness of God when He alerts us to potential deception, and that He leads us into places where He has provided divine appointments. See **1 Peter 5:8**.

A Prayer of Response - a call to appropriate our inheritance.

As we prepare ourselves, today, let's ask the Lord to bring to His word and truth life in our hearts and minds. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring insight, discernment, wisdom, and responsiveness to act upon divine revelation, and then act on what He tells us to do.

Let's Pray

Lord, please renew our minds with Your truth today. Help us to prepare well, being soaked in Your word. We choose to get ready and give You our full attention. Help us as we step out in faith to find the right people and places so that we can be fruitful.

We prepare to go in Your strength and not our own. Fill us with the Holy Spirit's power and bring inspiration to our steps from the scriptures. Release the gifts and graces we need as we act on Your words of truth and prophetic insights. Help us to bring Glory to Your Name, a message of hope, and words of revelation to those we meet.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

In Action – As you go! For the Streets

A Declaration

In the name and authority of Jesus Christ:

We declare the economic conditions and commerce of our city are healed. We declare there shall be no lack of good paying jobs, affordable housing and provision for the necessities of life, according to **Psalm 23:1.***

A Prayer of Faith

Pray as you feel led by the Holy Spirit for known issues that exist in your community.

An Act of Faith

Ask God to show you what to do in faith. This could be to share your testimony in the town centre, lead some worship, give out some tracts, give out food and drink. The challenge is to go boldly and courageously with something creative. This will undoubtedly 'stretch' you, but will also raise your faith levels. The Holy Spirit will connect you with people who need hope and change to their circumstances.

What is God Saying Prophetically?

As you pray and go out into your community ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes and ears, and show you things that you may not have noticed before. These things may be keys to spiritual and practical release and transformation in your district.

Press in and fully occupy and influence the Land

Note down whatever God shows you. Keep records, mark locations and special places of revelation. Itemise what God says for future reference, encouragement, testimony, and direction.



Final Declaration

Make a final declaration over your community whilst you are out on the street before you go home:

Numbers 6:24-26 NIV

[24] “The Lord bless you and keep you; [25] the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; [26] the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”



DAY 3

Breaking Free

In Preparation – Before you go!

A Prayer for Strength and Courage

Today, let's begin by praying and asking God to stir us up with energy, zeal, strength and courage to serve Him by stepping into New Ground.

Let's Pray

Lord, we choose to be motivated to serve you in our diverse communities. We give You the time and attention that You deserve. Thank You for giving us Your power and strength. Help us as we direct this energy and zeal to get going and reach the people, places and situations that require Your intervention and influence. We know that You will go before us and be with us! We thank You for the power of Your love. By faith we leap into the unknown and ask You to guide our steps. We are grateful for Your unfailing love, guidance and wisdom. Release Your power in and through us as we cannot be effective without You and need Your strength. We choose to be salt and light in a dark world. Be glorified in all that we do in Your Name. We thank You Jesus.

In Your Name. Amen

A Biblical Foundation

Today we are concentrating on the promises in the third verse of the key scripture from the Old Testament book of Joshua.

Joshua 1:1-9 NIV

[9] Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

For us as Christians, life is full of challenges. Jesus never promised that the walk of discipleship would be easy. Therefore, we need to be resolute and have the determination to persevere. It isn't easy to fulfil the call to go into all the world to preach the gospel message **(Mark 16:15)**.

We are guaranteed to face opposition and unexpected obstacles. However, we are to overcome these. Scripture gives us insight into our inheritance, that we are seated 'in Christ' **(Ephesians 2:6)**. We can be encouraged by this verse:

John 16:33 NIV

[33] "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Challenges may cause our hearts to grow fearful and anxious. Enormous obstacles we face can seem daunting. Pressure and opposition can lead us to feel downhearted and discouraged. However, the scripture above is real encouragement.

We need to ensure our hearts and minds are focussed entirely on Jesus and the finished work of the cross. If God is for us, who can be against us!

Romans 8:31 NIV

[31] What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

And then:

Romans 8:34 NIV

[34] Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

Let's look again at the Bible story of the spies and their reports of doubt and fear. The scripture says that Caleb had a different spirit:

Numbers 14:24 NIV

[24] But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.

To take New Ground we need to be bold and strong, fearless and adventurous. Christians filled with vision and zeal will get the job done. We don't go in our own strength, but in the Lord's strength.

Community Focus of Getting Going free from fear

Breaking New Ground requires strength and courage. The unknown is daunting. Going into something unfamiliar is a challenge. At these times we need to apply the principles of faith and generosity:

Luke 6:38 NIV

[38] Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Every journey requires the first step, and then the next, and so on. Faith is like a muscle, the more you exercise it, the more it gains in strength and power. It is especially so in the Christian discipleship walk. Faith and trust are needed every day of our lives. Breaking New Ground requires great courage.

The challenge is to move forwards even when we don't feel like it, or where there are hurdles. It is so easy to be fearful, but we can all be set free from fear, which comes as we embrace the power of God's love and grace.

1 John 4:18-19 NIV

[18] There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. [19] We love because he first loved us.

We can do it! – That is what Joshua and Caleb said to the people of Israel when they brought a good report back from the spying expedition into the Land of Canaan across the Jordan River. Yes, there were giants. Yes, there were walled cities e.g. Jericho. Yes, there were armies that would oppose them. Nevertheless, there was an abundance of fruit and good produce. Every spy agreed with what this verse says:

Numbers 13:27 NIV

“We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit”.

Caleb spoke very clearly to the majority of the Tribal spy representatives:

Numbers 13:30 NIV

[30] Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”

Why not ask God for the different spirit that Joshua and Caleb had? Let’s reject fear, be bold and strong in the Lord. Let’s also be adventurous and creative, enjoy the challenge and see what God will do as we step out in faith and trust in Him.

Our communities need us. More particularly they need the Lord who is at work in us. God’s transformation work in us changes us as individuals and our churches. The byproduct of this is that transformation can spread to our communities. The book of Acts isn’t a closed book yet! The Church is alive and well, and active! In the words of Jesus:

John 14:12 NIV

[12] Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

A Prophetic Heart Cry!

Breaking New Ground. This is the mandate before us in this season. Be encouraged to move forwards inter-generationally. When we move together, we will make a difference in our communities. There is a territorial warfare going on in the heavenlies. Demonic spiritual forces invade society and cause pain and distress. Prayer and Intercession achieve significant advances in the heavenly realms. That brings tangible fruit on the ground, in communities. This is a brilliant scripture to illustrate the finished work of the cross of Jesus:

Colossians 2:15 NIV

[15] And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

As we pray, the principalities and powers are overcome because Jesus has already overcome! We pray and seek God for the strategy, then move forwards in faith into our communities, reclaiming ground and taking New Ground, all in God's strength. Spiritual progress and practical progress go together. The deeper we go with God; the greater will be our reach!

Focussing on practical areas:

Today we look at some practical strategic examples of areas where we can be involved with faith in action. Such action can bring the presence of God to areas that need redeeming. Here are a few suggestions. You may have other ideas:

Health & Wellbeing – How? By engaging with the caring professions in health and well-being. Not just physical, but mental and emotional. We know there is an ever increasing number of people who are affected by anxiety and depression. Our general health services are stretched. They need fresh new expertise and compassion, energy and zeal. Could that be us? Maybe consider Chaplaincy? Or be a trained and employed? Or be volunteers and carers?

Community Safety & Advice – How? By training for the Police Force, or by being a Special Police Constable. Volunteers are also necessary and welcome. Third Sector Charities exist to support communities and cry out for volunteers. Be a Trustee of a Charity, giving and volunteering. All these are ways in which we can activate prayers of faith and become advocates for people, demonstrating the power of the love of God to break New Ground, for the Kingdom.

As we have said in the first two days, prophetic declaration and practical action go side by side. Words are not enough. Sometimes we are the answers to our own prayers. In the world around us people need to see a Jesus with skin on His face. In other words, our presence, together with our actions, will speak louder than words.



To pray for as we Get Up and appropriate our inheritance!

- That the power of the love of God will drive out all fear and anxiety from our hearts so that we are able to move out with boldness and courage.
- For alertness, clarity of sight and hearing, both spiritually and naturally, and in heart, mind, and body.
- For greater awareness of atmospheres and influences around us as we engage with society, and sharpness of spirit to recognise God's hand on people as we go.
- For eyes to see and ears to hear what the Holy Spirit may be alerting us to as we pray and think about the sights and sounds around us.
- Although we are in a battle, we go forwards with compassion and sensitivity. Pray that God's Spirit and Truth will influence our motives, behaviour and speech so that Jesus is seen in us.

A Prayer of Response to go boldly out into our communities

Let's gather our thoughts together on this our last day of three. Launching out into New Ground needs good preparation and considered planning. It needs unity of the generations. It needs hearing God's plan of action. It means mobilising and discipling each other. It requires encouragement and energy. God requires people who submit themselves to Him fully. They will be true to His ways. This will result in God's love driving out all fear, and enabling us to take courageous steps to move forwards in the strength of the Lord.

Let's Pray

Help us as we move with boldness and courage. Thank You for setting us free by the shedding of Your blood and resurrection. Help us to appropriate our freedom and take this as a testimony to a world bound in fear. Go before us Lord and empower us as we go and serve You. Help us to be alert as you release words of wisdom and knowledge to compassionately share with people. Demonstrate Your power through us in deliverance, healings and miracles. Bring Glory to Your Name and help us to take the message of hope to lost generations.

In Jesus Name. Amen.

In Action – As you go! For the Streets

A Declaration

In the name and authority of Jesus Christ:

We decree an end to confusion, strife, and disorder in our community. We call all things We bless our military personnel, police, border patrol, firemen, paramedics and all first responders with safety and protection. We release angels to be dispatched that will carry messages of wisdom and to oversee, guide, protect and preserve life.*

A Prayer of Faith

Pray as you feel led by the Holy Spirit for known issues that exist in your community.

An Act of Faith

Ask God to show you what to do in faith. This could be to share your testimony in the town centre, lead some worship, give out some tracts, give out food and drink. The challenge is to go boldly and courageously with something creative. This will undoubtedly 'stretch' you, but will also raise your faith levels. The Holy Spirit will connect you with people who need hope and change to their circumstances.

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Footnote:

(*) Acknowledgement goes to Norm and Laura Gagnon, California USA for basis of declarations. Taken from Xpect a Miracle Ministries