- 5. Read slowly and meditatively 1Peter 2:4-10.
  - a. Remind people that they are the church, not the building. Invite them to turn to the person next to them and then using names, thank the Lord that this person is precious to the Lord.
  - b. Pray that each person ("a living stone") will find their place within God's "spiritual house."
  - c. Thank the Lord that you are "a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession."
  - d. Spend some time "declaring the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."
  - e. Pray that as God's spiritual house you will be welcoming, loving, hospitable and used by Him to bless the community.

## Praying Together Resources

(PTR016)

Ideas for praying together around the theme of:

"Honouring God with our Church Buildings"

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## Ideas for praying around the theme of: "Honouring God with our Church Buildings"

The following are ideas to help a church prayer meeting pray around the theme of "Honouring God with our Church Buildings."

- 1. Spend some time giving thanks to the Lord for the church building(s) that you meet in and use during the week.
  - a. Thank the Lord that you have a place to meet in with other believers. It is often easier to complain about the bits that aren't working well in a building, so spend some time thanking the Lord for the parts of the building that are beautiful, work well or bring glory to the Lord.
  - b. Thank the Lord for the people who over the years have cared and maintained the building(s).
  - c. Invite people to write a short note of thanks to someone they know in the church fellowship who spends time looking after the building and keeping it fit for purpose.
  - d. Ask the Lord to show each person a small way that they can contribute to keeping the building(s) in good order.
- 2. It is sometimes good to pray around church buildings and give them a spiritual spring clean! Slowly walk around different parts of the building and:
  - a. Thank the Lord for the ways He has used that part of the building for His purposes and ask Him to continue to bless the ministries that use the space on both Sunday and other days of the week.
  - b. After a short time of listening to the Lord and asking for revelation, ask the Lords' forgiveness for any ways in which that part of the building has not been used for his glory.

- c. Finish by asking the Lord to cleanse the building of anything that will not bring Him glory and to come and fill the building with His presence. Ask Him to set His holy angels around the building and to defend it from all evil.
- 3. Read Haggai 1:3-4: "Then the word of the LORD came through the prophet Haggai: "Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your panelled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"
  - a. Ask the Lord's forgiveness for any parts of the building that are dirty, tatty or in disrepair and so don't bring him honour.
  - b. Ask the Lord to give vision about what He would have done to the building(s) so that it can be used for His kingdom purposes. You may send people to sit in different parts of the church to listen to what the Lord might say about how He wants the building to be developed.
  - c. Ask the Lord to provide the resources needed for building development.
- 4. Gather people together for a pray and clean morning / afternoon / evening. Explain that the condition of our church buildings speaks of whether we honour our Lord or not.
  - a. Put on some worship music and encourage people to worship as they clean.
  - b. Give people some silence and encourage them to pray for increasing holiness in the church family (a spiritual spring clean).
  - c. Finally gather people together and thank them for their efforts and end by sharing the grace together.



