

TABERNACLE PRAYING...A PRAYER DISCIPLINE

In the Old Testament, God ordained “the Tabernacle” as a place for the people of Israel to have as a sanctuary for the Lord to dwell among them (Exodus 25:8; chapters 25-30). When applying the scarlet thread of the New Testament to their structured approach of coming to God, one discovers a beautiful and strategic prayer journey. Below is an idea that could be used as a prayer meeting structure, even in your personal devotional life.

Spend Time in this Structured Prayer Journey, Walking through the Tabernacle as you Pray...

■**The Brazen Altar>>>> Thank God for the Cross**

Upon entering the courtyard, the priest would first go to the altar to sacrifice a lamb. In the New Testament, we now come to the cross of Jesus Christ and acknowledge all He did for us at Calvary. Spend time thanking Jesus for coming into the world and saving you from your sins by being the Lamb of God.

■**The Laver>>>> Confession of Sin**

The priest would then journey to the laver, where symbolically he would wash his hands as an act of purity and cleansing. This laver was made of bronze, enabling the priest to see himself in light of God’s love and mercy. In the New Testament, 1 John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” Spend time confessing (agreeing with God) your sins before the Lord.

■**The Seven-fold Candlestick>>>> Acknowledge Role of Holy Spirit’s work in your life and in being the Lord of the Harvest**

The priest would journey next into the Holy Place, and would discover the seven fold candlestick. This sign of completion, it had oil that kept the light burning continuously as a symbol of His work (Isaiah 11:2). The Holy Spirit is your “parakletos,” who keeps your light shining to bear witness of Jesus Christ (Matthew 9:37-38). Thank Him.

■**The Shewbread Table>>>> Pray the Word**

The priest would go to the showbread table and partake of some of the 12 loaves of bread, made fresh daily, as a symbol of the 12 tribes of Israel. Jesus said He is the bread of life. Partake of this bread through His written and living word. Pray the scripture.

■**The Incense Altar >>>> Spend time in Praise & Worship**

Before the priest would enter the Holy of Holies, he would bow in praise and thanksgiving at the altar of incense, a symbolic station with incense constantly burning, reminding the people of the ever presence of God in their midst. Spend time singing and praising the Lord as a sinner saved by grace.

■**The Mercy Seat>>>> Petition Your Needs before the Lord**

In the Old Testament, only the high priest could enter the Holy of Holies and come before the Mercy Seat for the people. Today, because of Jesus, the veil has been torn! You are accompanied by the great mediator, Jesus Christ, and are able to come boldly to the throne of grace (Hebrews 4:16). Bring your petitions and intercessions gladly to God.