

MARKET PLACE LEADER PRAYER SUMMIT

OUTLINE/AGENDA

November 30, 2007

8:00 AM **REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST:** Please check contact info and church affiliation.

8:30 AM **WORSHIP:** “Enter into God’s gates with thanksgiving and into His Courts with praise...” Psalms 100:1

8:45 AM **SELF-INTRODUCTIONS:** Please introduce yourself, stating what you do, and why you are here or something you hope we can accomplish through praying together.

9:00 AM 1. **PURPOSES:**

1.1 To identify our needs and then agree together in prayer for personal, family, professional and community transformation; and

1.2 To agree with other communities in prayer for state, national and world-wide transformation;

1.3 To renew and add members to the Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant (attached); and

1.4 To seek God’s direction for ourselves and our community.

2. CASTING THE VISION:

Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18
After four (4) Marketplace Leader Prayer Summits, where have we been, and where are we going?

2.1 Summit No. 1 (30 September 06): We considered the scriptures and principles that led to the prayer summit movement, in general, and to our conclusion that God is summoning people in leadership, in particu-

lar, to come together to worship God and pray for His will to be done in us and through us.

We noted that “the authorities that exist are appointed by God” (Romans 13.1) and that, in the end of time, Jesus will have put all authorities and power under Himself, and deliver the Kingdom to God the Father so that “God may be all in all”. (I Corinthians 15:24)

Fifty of us prayed together with Howard Boyd, Director of International Renewal Ministries (“IRM”), as our facilitator. We discovered we could pray topically, taking turns, praying short prayers, feeding off of each other’s prayers, and receive a divine energy to pray together for each other and our community. After seven (7) hours, we agreed to meet quarterly, but for only half days, to continue interceding for our community.

We also considered the principles suggesting that each of us have one (1) or two (2) personal prayer partners to agree with us in weekly prayers, in light of the idea of beginning to build walls of prayer around our community, and then to see ourselves and our community as part of a global prayer movement. We introduced and adopted a “Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant”, as we identified with the sins of our community and interceded for God’s forgiveness and blessing.

2.2 Summit No. 2 (26 January 07): Again, about fifty of us considered further God’s call upon leaders, in light of the “special” promise of Jesus’ prayer in John 17:20-21 that the world would really begin to believe in Jesus Christ when we, His people, put down our differences and pray and act in unity.

After our second summit, Director Howard Boyd reported back to IRM President Dennis Fuqua that IRM, which had started the prayer summit movement for pastors and then communities, was so convinced our “leadership summits” were in the center of God’s will that they were recommending internationally that future community summits be held using the same model - leadership driven. Instead of joining us for Summit No. 3, Howard decided to have a leadership prayer summit in his own city on the National

Day of Prayer. Pastor Charles Puryear of Meigs was inspired to schedule a National Day of Prayer service for Meigs. Howard also met with some of us in a follow-up and recommended that, as we continued our prayer summits, we ask God to give us strategic plans. He reported on what other communities have done, as explained in our February 9, 2007 letter in your Attachments. **Before we adjourn today, we will allow you to pray about some of these suggestions for developing a community action plan and invite any of your who are interested, to serve on a committee to consider whether this leadership group wants to go beyond holding prayer summits in any of the ways done in other communities.**

2.3 Summit No. 3 (04 May 07 a/k/a The National Day of Prayer):

Again, about fifty of us gathered. Again, God blessed us with His presence, and we further considered the principles from Nehemiah 1, 2, 3, and 4, and how God was calling us not only to be living stones in the walls of our city, but to be wall-builders, helping to bring together the living stones, the Christians of our city, shoulder to shoulder, by prayer and unity, to evict and exclude Satanic influences, and to uphold our leaders as they seek to govern us, making laws, enforcing laws and teaching our people. We agreed we need to support and encourage local pastors to act as gates at the walls. We also agreed to rally to one another's aid, "at the sound of the trumpet" as prescribed in Nehemiah 4:20. **Today, as various ones of you begin to lead in prayer for the areas in which you are engaged in ministry or work, we will implement that process as we agree with each other in prayer to shore up the breaches in the walls of our community.**

We engaged in private meditation and began to pray for God's will to be done to perfect us in seven (7) areas: self, family, church or ministry, business or professional group, community, nation, and world. We broke into small groups and prayed for one another and the particular areas in which each group was involved, then adjourned and participated at Noon in Thomasville and at 5:00 PM in Meigs in National Day of Prayer public services.

2.4 Summit No. 4 (24 August 07): We had over forty leaders, who again enjoyed the presence of God as we joined in praying for each other and our community and nation, but especially for our (1) lawmakers and law enforcers; and (2) educators as leaders in both areas revealed to us the serious needs and challenges they each faced.

At request of local legislators, we began to pray very specifically for leaders in state government to put down personal ambition in order to seek the higher good. We similarly prayed for unity among our local governments.

In response to the needs of our local colleges and schools, we gathered around leaders from both to pray for God's wisdom and grace to meet the escalating needs of our young people facing complex crises and temptations.

Finally, we considered God's call to each of us, as leaders, to seek earnestly to have personal prayer encounters with God, to become holy as Isaiah did when he reported that he "saw the Lord" in Isaiah 6:1-8 and repented. We prayed for the beginning of a "**nuclear fusion**" reaction that would consume our community because "our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:28-29), and noted that like a nuclear reaction, community transformation has to begin with someone or some group of people catching fire. More on the nuclear fusion idea is in your attachments.

2.5 Prayer Summit No.5 (30 November 2007): During this prayer summit, let's all seek God about "where we go from here". Most of you have already been to at least one summit. Some of you have been to all four summits. For others, this is your first time. For your benefit, we will outline procedure.

Procedurally, we will pray short prayers, topical prayers. I may suggest a topic initially.

Later on, because our purpose is to know one another's hearts and come along side each other to transform our community, we will simply allow you to choose your own topics as you lead out in prayer on a topic concerning which you are already active or passionate.

When a person leads out in a topic of prayer, we ask that you keep it short and pointed to one topic only. Then stop. We will wait and allow others to join in prayer on the same topic as they are led. Silence is o.k. We need to listen in silence and then pray as God leads. When I mention that we appear to be finished with one topic and ready to move on to the next, or if, after 30 seconds or more of silence no one has added to a topic, you will be free to lead out in another area, and we will repeat the process.

There is no limit to the number of times you may pray as different topics arise. Nor is there any stigma if you choose to agree silently with others rather than aloud. **However, rather than “talk about” needs to each other, we will “talk to God” about needs in the presence of each other.**

Prayer for Seven-Fold Perfection: We want, by faith, to imagine and visualize God transforming us and everything around us to be what we ought to be, starting with humble, repentant, and thankful hearts. Later, we will move into prayers for family, church, community, state, and nation.

WORSHIP SONG

9:15 AM 3.1 **“THANK YOU” PRAYERS**: “Lord, thank you for...” or “Lord, thank you that...”

3.2 **DECLARE OUR NEED AND ASK GOD’S PRESENCE AND BLESSING**: e.g. “Father, we beg you to pour out your spirit on us...”
e.g. “Father, we need you to guide us how to pray today...”

9:30 AM 4. **BREAK FOR SILENT MEDITATION**: Ask God to show you what kind of individual and group prayer He wants us to pray today, that would lead to personal and community transformation, and what He might want you to do or inspire others to do to transform our community. Let’s each review the Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant (Attachment # 1), as we

prepare our hearts to pray. You have 20 minutes to walk outside or stay seated, but to **talk to God, not each other, and to listen to God, then reconvene at 9:55 AM. Suggested meditations** follow:

4.1 If there is time, read silently the attached excerpt from “Having an Encounter with God” (Attachment #3), asking God to (a) show us how He wants to change each of us, and then (b) let’s each offer ourselves to Him and ask Him to change us as He wants to do.

- 4.2 Let’s imagine and visualize ourselves as being
- (1) perfectly pure in our personal thought life;
 - (2) perfectly unselfish in our family and circle of friends;
 - (3) perfectly holy in our conversation;
 - (4) perfectly kind as a friend, spouse, and parent;
 - (5) perfectly wise as a Christian boss or leader.

4.3 Let’s repent, as needed, and pray that God will conform us to His will in each of those areas, asking forgiveness for our sins via private, silent confession, and prayer.

4.4 Recognizing we are all imperfect people who have agreed to pray together, as we pray, let’s agree that God will answer each other’s prayers, so that all of us will leave transformed into better people.

9:55 AM WORSHIP SONG

10:00 AM 5. **SMALL GROUP INTERCESSIONS:** Please cluster in groups of 3 to 5 and engage in small group prayers. If there are people here with whom you have a common interest, such as being in the same or similar business, profession or ministry, feel free to group with each other, but it is not a necessity, and there may not be such a “natural group” for you. If you don’t have such a group, just pick and join one.

Visualize and pray with each other for each of you to have:

5.1 Perfect Family (your family or the one you would like to have);

5.2 Perfect Business or Professional or Ministry Group (your workplace group to be what God wants it to be);

5.3 Perfect Church or Ministry (your church or ministry and the whole Body of Christ to become what God wants it to be).

WORSHIP SONG

10:30 AM 6. **LARGE (WHOLE) GROUP INTERCESSION:** Let's pray for the needs of our community together. Each of you may lead out in a topical prayer, then we will wait at least 30 seconds for others to join in adding prayers on the same topic, before changing topics. E.g.

“Lord, please forgive us and our community for”

“Lord, please enable us to....”

“Lord, please heal our land and ...”

“Lord, please pour out your spirit on us so that”

11:15 AM 6.2 Please join in Unison Prayer: “Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant” (Attachment #1)

11:30 AM THE LORD'S SUPPER AND GREATER THOMASVILLE PRAYER COVENANT:

Rev. Rick Dobson and Rev. Ellis Fann

11:45 AM CLOSING REMARKS

Next Quarterly Marketplace Leadership Prayer Summits:

(A) Friday, March 7, 2008, from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM with breakfast and lunch fellowship.

(B) Thursday, May 1, 2008, Market Place Leaders lead National Day of Prayer service.

(C) February 9, 2007 letter.

(D) Volunteers to serve as Strategic Planning Committee.

Attachments:

1. Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant
2. February 9, 2007 Report Letter (26 January 07, Summit No. 4)
3. “Having an Encounter with God” – Henry Blackaby
4. Summit No. 4 (24 August 07): “Vision of Nuclear Fusion”
5. CTI Vision Statement (See also www.communitytransformation.co)
6. CTI 2007 Board of Directors
7. Six (6) Foundation Stones of a Prayer Summit
8. Why Are We Here – At a Marketplace Leaders Prayer Summit? (and text of John 17:1-26 reprinted from May 2007 summit materials)
9. List of Online Prayer Ministries and Networks
(See www.prayerlinksministries.com)

Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant

A Solemn Covenant by the Christian Leaders in the Thomasville Area

“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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” 2 Chronicles 7:14

“The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.”

Habakkuk 2:14

“...Every knee shall bow...and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the Glory of God the

Father.” Philippians 2:10-11

Our Father, we come to you in the mighty and holy name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

We affirm our faith in You, Almighty God, and in the foregoing promises from Your Word.

We further affirm our unity in Christ and in our common faith, as expressed in Your Word.

We acknowledge and declare that Jesus Christ is Lord of the Thomasville area, our community, and all the earth.

We thank You, God, for calling us to devote ourselves to the Lord Jesus Christ in brokenness, repentance and obedience.

We come out of a deep sense of desperation over the lukewarm condition in the church and the acceleration of corruption in our society.

We bow before You, to rend our hearts and not our garments.

We repent of religious pride of hypocrisy, of prejudice, of status-quo mediocrity, of busyness and prayerlessness.

We repent of materialism, selfish pursuit, greed, and lusts of all varieties.

We acknowledge that the only hope for the Thomasville area and for our nation and world is a mighty transforming work of Your grace.

We beg You, Father, to touch us and draw us to touch You in faith, so that revival will come as we touch your heart and prevail in believing prayer.

We agree in prayer that our community and all the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the Lord as the waters cover the seas.

We have full hope and confidence that, as we pray and act in Jesus' name, the Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ will be greatly advanced in the Thomasville area and throughout the earth. Thy Kingdom come; Thy Will be done.

We covenant to continue to seek you earnestly and to pray faithfully together for a Biblical spiritual awakening in our personal lives and in the church, and for laborers to advance Christ's Kingdom in our community, our nation, and our world.

We make this petition in Jesus' name and for Jesus' sake, for He is worthy of a Bride without spot or wrinkle, and He is the King over all of His creation.

I, the undersigned, join other Christians in making or renewing the foregoing prayer covenant, this _____ day of _____, 2010.

TO: Thomas County Area Pastors and
Attendees of Marketplace Leadership Prayer Summits

FROM: Doug Silvis, CTI Board Chairman and Prayer Summit Coordinator

RE: Report on January 26, 2007 Marketplace Leadership Prayer Summit;
Next Summit Thursday, May 3, 8:00 a.m. - Noon

DATE: February 9, 2007

As most of you are aware, we have now had two Marketplace Leadership Prayer Summits, one which occurred on September 30, 2006, and the next which occurred on January 26, 2007. In each meeting, the group in attendance elected to initiate or continue a plan of quarterly meetings. It was agreed that the next Marketplace Leadership Prayer Summit is scheduled for Thursday, May 3, 2007, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., to occur on the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 3, 2007. Charles Balfour has again offered to host the summit at Myrtlewood Plantation Clubhouse, and the group gratefully agreed to return there. The summit will be simplified in that there will not be a "breakfast", in order to allow the group to move directly into prayer time from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and then adjourn in time for each attendee to meet invited family, friends and co-workers and participate in the Annual National Day of Prayer activities held at First Baptist Church at Noon.

With respect to “Prayer Summit II” held January 26, 2007:

Invitees / Attendees

We had fifty (50) participants in attendance, forty-five (45) of whom were invited CEOs or COOs of business, industry, government or ministry, and the other five (5) of whom were volunteers serving the summit but also participating. A copy of the list of participants is attached for your easy information.

Approximately as many other persons expressed a desire to come, but due to conflicts were unable to join those in attendance. Hopefully, with advanced notice, each of you can schedule ahead for the National Day of Prayer and treat it as, in fact, at least a “Half Day of Prayer”, from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., including the Leadership Summit and the Public Service.

Prayer Covenant

Each member of the summit participated in, signed and acknowledged the Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant, which was adopted at the first summit. A copy of it is attached for your review.

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Unified Agreement to Build Walls of Our Community vs. Invasion of Sin

In addition to the scriptures noted on the Prayer Covenant, the attendees again considered John 17:20-21, which records the following prayer of Jesus Christ:

20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message;

21 That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me." *NKJV*

There was also a brief discussion of Nehemiah Chapters 3 and 4, and the manner in which those rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem each built their own respective sections of the walls or gates, but remained available to come to the aid of each other: "Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet . . . Our God will fight for us." Nehemiah 4:20

Also noted was Nehemiah 3:21 which showed how the priests (possibly analogous to today's pastors and priests) came together to rebuild "the sheep gate" as the first step in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. Prayers were made and calls are going out to pastors of this and other cities to identify with one another as elders of the city and rebuild the sheep gate of the city in a spiritual sense, just as we are all endeavoring to rebuild, or to build in the first instance, our portions of the spiritual walls around our city so that Satan and the sins which so easily beset us can be excluded. We are praying and believing for the Thomasville, Thomas County, and our region to be transformed into an area that reflects the Kingdom of God, and "agreeing" in prayer with other groups praying for their communities. We are part of a "global" prayer movement believing that as each community rises up to pray and God answers, "the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Glory of the Lord".

Facilitator's Report of Thomasville's Impact on USA

Reverend Howard Boyd of Branson, Missouri, a director of International Renewal Ministries and founder of Prayer Works, Inc., facilitated our first and second summits. He reported that the leaders in Branson, Missouri, and other areas over which he has had influence or with which he has had significant connection, have been encouraged by the initiative taken in the Thomasville area to have a "leadership" prayer summit and are intending to emulate that example by doing so themselves. In fact, the leaders of Branson, Missouri, are planning their first marketplace leadership prayer summit for the National Day of Prayer, to coincide with our third such summit.

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Purpose of Leadership Prayer Summit

The first purpose of each prayer summit is to express to God, in behalf of those we represent as leaders, a unified prayer for Him to move on and transform us and our community to conform to His will and purposes.

The additional hope and prayer of leaders in the community, in coming together in prayer summits that are specifically directed towards people in senior leadership, is to assist such persons to identify with one another as Christian leaders and motivate and encourage each other, through praying together, to go back and permeate the city with prayer throughout the marketplace.

During the three hours of prayer which followed the 8:00 to 8:30 a.m. breakfast time, Reverend Boyd led the group in times of thanksgiving and praise, repentance, and heartfelt expression of our "need" individually and as a community for God to move upon us in order to bring about the transformation we desire and He desires.

Individuals offered such prayers both in the assembly of fifty and in small groups of five, at various times during the morning.

Facilitator's Report to Pastors at Follow-Up Meeting 1/31/07

The following week, on Wednesday, January 31, Howard Boyd met with a group of pastors at the regular CTI prayer meeting and, after a time of prayer, provided the following additional words of encouragement and report:

- I. He encouraged the next prayer summit group to consider doing the following things:
 - a. To identify those who have common interests as catalyst groups for "directed" small group prayers at the next summit, e.g., educators or those involved in ministry to youth; professionals in various specialties; government leaders; those in the medical community; those in manufacturing; pastors; law enforcement.
 - b. Invite community leaders to share their greatest prayer needs with the pastor prayer summit group and gave the following as possible examples:
 1. School superintendent in one city asked prayed for God to supply tutors for fourth graders, and each church ultimately agreed to supply at least one (1).

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2. The sheriff or police chief or medical community might identify security areas in the city for which prayer is needed. In one city,

that has resulted in pastors and other leaders engaging in tours to pray in the jails, the hospital emergency room and other places of high need.

II. He reported on what some other cities had done in response to pastors and marketplace prayer summits:

a. Little Rock, Arkansas, engaged a research team to determine what the people of the city (as distinguished from its pastors) consider to be the greatest areas of need and then sought to address those areas in the order of importance. The research group found that the perception of spiritual leaders as to the needs differed greatly from those perceived by the population. The population responded very positively when the church began to address the needs which they considered to be significant.

b. Boise, Idaho, determined, like dairy farmers who advertise milk rather than their own individual dairies, to advertise the unified church of the city and engage in projects such as raising funds to pay people's parking tickets in front of the courthouse on designated days as a way of demonstrating "God's Grace". Similarly, they agreed to have over 100 churches participate by placing a specific part of their respective budgets into a common pool for city purposes including, but not limited to, the above and a regular full page newspaper ad in which each pastor's picture and church designation is advertised in the form of a large cross with contact information and encouragement that people participate in the church of their choice. They also created radio spots in which, regardless of size of the church, each pastor takes a turn on a rotating basis, with the advertising fees paid by the community church fund.

III. Prayer vs. Action:

Noting that the church as a whole tends to divide between those that are “piestic” and believe “prayer is the answer” to everything and those who are social service minded who want to “do something”, there needs to be a merger of the two resulting in “both occurring”.

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In one city, leaders divided into four (4) catalyst groups: (i) family, (ii) education, (iii) employers and (iv) character development, prayer led them to identify and create initiatives in combining education and character development. The school system identified a “character first” program in all the schools and the churches worked together to put up posters to help to cause discussion community wide of certain character traits on a weekly basis which would also be taught in the school systems. During such times of emphasis, students could bring in the Bible or other resource material and use it during their discussions of “character” and why they were motivated toward certain character traits, thus allowing Bibles in schools in a legitimate way.

Furthermore, he noted that in some cities the leadership of the city as a whole agreed to give “vouchers” to certain churches which were handling specialized areas of ministry that did not raise much revenue but met a particular need such as a poverty program, helping people to find work, ministering to expelled or special needs students, etc.

IV. Other Resources:

Finally, he identified certain resources which he recommended including, but not limited to, the following: (i) The Church of Irresistible Influence by Robert Lewis of Little Rock, Arkansas; (ii) The Extremely Fo-

cused Church by Rick Swanson of Boulder, Colorado; and (iii) the website of www.loveinc.org

V. Interim Prayer Opportunities:

The Pastors and Board of Community Transformation, Inc. continue to meet weekly to pray on Wednesdays from 7:00 a.m. to 7:45 a.m. (followed by breakfast fellowship from 7:45 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.), except for Noon meetings on the first Wednesday of the month. Leadership Prayer Summit attendees are invited to join us to pray.

Sincerely,

Douglas K. Silvis

DKS:dht

Attachments: List of Participants
Greater Thomasville Prayer Covenant

Having an Encounter with God

By Henry Blackaby

The following is edited from a message given at the Midwest Prayer Conference of Harvest Prayer Ministries, in October 2006 at Maryland Community Church in Terre Haute, Indiana.

... "Praying for a Change." Most of those in the Scriptures who had an encounter with God were immediately and forever changed. When we are in the presence of God, He brings about a radical change... Our primary purpose for coming into the house of God ought to be to have an encounter with God... transformational change.

Isaiah's Encounter with God

In Isaiah chapter six we see a remarkable encounter Isaiah had with God... Suddenly Isaiah was in the presence of the holiness of God. Some people talk about being in the presence of the holiness of God, and we sing about the holiness of God, and yet somehow we're not experiencing the holiness of God. If we got into the presence of the holiness of God I would guess that a

number of us would have to respond with Isaiah: *"Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips"* (Isa. 6:5).

The presence and holiness of God always expose the specific need in your life that is keeping you from a deeper encounter with God...Something had to come from the altar of God and that is a life-transforming moment. Coals from off the altar touched his lips, and an amazing thing happened. When his lips were cleansed, his ears were opened...Isaiah heard God saying, *"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"*

Could that encounter happen to you? Do you suppose God has someone to whom He wants to send you...He has been trying to find someone who will hear Him say, *"Who will go for Us?"* ...Are you ready?

Praying for a Change in Our Nation

Are you "Praying for a Change??"...One person with passionate praying can turn a nation around! Why then is the nation not being turned around if we keep saying that we're praying? ...We don't need more praying as much as a qualitatively different relationship with God...Do you want to be the kind of person God could call on to pray because He knows the quality relationship you have to Him and that through your praying huge changes would take place in the nation and around the world?...What kind of changes need to be made in your life so that God could work profoundly through your life?

Moses' Prayer Life

...Moses stood between the sinning people and God, and pled for them, even asking God to take his name out of the book of life but to spare theirs. According to the Scriptures, the prayer life of Moses changed the heart of God.

...In Romans 8:26 Paul says one weakness we have is we do not know what to pray for as we ought..."Lord, I don't know what to pray as I ought!" What should I pray for my president? What should I pray for the upcoming elections? Our nation is being shattered. How then shall I pray? ...Will you passionately pray consistently until you know that God has heard and answered?

...Your prayer life and mine and your church's prayer life and mine can determine the course of history....

...An incredible breakdown has occurred in family life, in ethics in high places and in other unprecedented ways...God's people no longer believe that when they pray, God can and will powerfully affect the nation.

...Deuteronomy 9:8: *"You provoked the Lord to wrath...."*...Do you know what happens when the people of God no longer have an intimate relationship with God? It provokes Him to anger, because God knows what is at stake eternally when His people do not function in a relationship to Him.

...If you are a spiritual leader of any kind, and if you are a parent you are one, remember God's people can provoke Him to anger where He would destroy us.

What is on the Heart of God?

...When was the last time you felt it was significant to know what was on the heart of God? What's on the heart of God for your children? What's on the heart of God for your church?...He warned the church in Revelation 2, *"You have left your first love."* He was telling them that they no longer loved Him enough to gather together to pray...He would remove their candlestick.

...You cannot understand John 3:16 unless you understand the heart of God concerning one word in that verse, and that's the word "perish."

...John 3:16: *"...God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*...Second Peter 3:9 says, *"The Lord is...not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."*

God Raising Up People for Himself

...I (Henry Blackaby) have been granted the privilege by God to work with about 170 top Christian Chief Executive Officers (CEO's) of the Fortune 100 and Fortune 500 companies of America. These are most committed people. But these top executives have never been disciplined in...the ways of God...They have asked: "Would you help us to understand what Matthew 6:33 means to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and watch God add everything else?...Would you establish for us a spiritual leadership institute for developing spiritual statesmen for the corporate leadership of America?"

The Challenge:

...1 Samuel 2:35...*I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever."*...How would we know if God is raising us up and how would we know what it is like to be raised up for Him? Are we willing to be His faithful priests?

...Billy Graham says, "The greatest untouched resource in America today is prayer."... God's people are the only ones who can fill that role.

...God's promises were to "Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." How many generations does God want to touch when He touches one? He touched at least three.

Passionate, Persistent, Prolonged Prayer

...Prayer needs to be in the presence of God where He graciously tells you what is on His heart and what's on His mind.

...Little prayers will not do it. Passionate, persistent, prolonged prayer will.

...In Luke 18 Jesus said that we ought always to pray and never to quit.

...Surely in an hour like this, in the condition of our nation, and with elections coming up, and with the terrorists threatening to do harm to us, certainly God has something on His heart and on His mind that He wants some of His children to know so that when they go to pray, they pray from the heart of God and from the mind of God.

...He looks for someone who will come before Him in prayer so He can lay His heart over theirs in prayer.

...Once you know the truth of God, what you do next is what you believe about God. There is much at stake. What will you do?

(Full text available at www.heraldofthiscoming.com/Past%20Issues/2007/August)

2. VISION OF NUCLEAR FUSION

2.1 “Where there is no vision, the people perish.” Proverbs 29:18

First, I want to share with you a vision God gave me over a year ago while praying for our community. It was very simple. I saw a nuclear reaction, the kind in which everything solid is sucked into the consuming fire in the center and is immediately transformed into nuclear white light. It involved nuclear fusion, which I knew fueled hydrogen bombs, but later learned is the type of nuclear reaction that fuels stars. It points to the way a nuclear reaction could start with any one of us or all of us, but would draw in and consume and ultimately transform everyone around us, like the song that says “Let me lose myself and find it Lord, in Thee. Let myself be lost, my friends see only Thee.”

It takes nuclear fission to prime the pump and ignite nuclear fusion. Let's consider what needs to happen in us and our community to make us the catalyst for nuclear fusion. What will it take to ignite us? With this in mind, consider the following

scriptures:

The Nature of God is Nuclear Fusion:

- 2.2 “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for “our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29 What is more of an all-consuming fire than nuclear fusion?

The Presence of God Initiates Transformation:

- 2.3 What would it take to make us become so white hot as to start a spiritual nuclear reaction that would consume our community? Consider Isaiah 6:1-8: “...I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His *robe* filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim;...And one cried to another and said: Holy, holy, holy is The LORD of hosts; The whole earth *is* full of His glory! And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The LORD of hosts. Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal *which* he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sins purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, Here *am* I! Send me.”

God Commands Us to Change:

- 2.4 “[P]resent your bodies, as living sacrifices, Holy and acceptable to God, as your spiritual worship; and “[B]e not conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, that you may prove and accomplish the perfectly approved will of God.” Romans 12:1-2

God Offers Corporate Healing If We Truly Repent and Pray:

2.5 “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 (God) will hear from Heaven, for-give their sins and heal their land.” II Chronicles 7:14

Community Transformation **–Vision Statement–**

Vision: To transform our communities with the life changing gospel of Jesus Christ by joining together to bring God to our communities in very practical ways.

Mission: To win the lost, make disciples of Jesus Christ and bring positive change to the spiritual climate of our community, promoting and facilitating cooperation among churches, ministries, and associations.

Values:

God’s Word - our only standard for conduct and rule.

Prayer - the indispensable foundation for all that we do.

Visible Unity - partnership with each other as God leads us in like-minded efforts united under the banner of Jesus Christ.

Community Focused - working together to influence all people in our community to accept Christ and embrace a “kingdom” lifestyle with Jesus Christ as King.

Innovation - we are open to “new wineskins”:

creative methods;
proactive approaches;
contemporary application of Biblical truth to changing community conditions; and openness to risk.

Excellence - our commitment to excellence in all areas should honor God and inspire people.

Goals:

To reach the lost and make disciples of Jesus Christ.

To change the spiritual climate in our community from indifference, competition or hostility, to principles of God’s word such as openness, cooperation and obedience.

To unite the Christian community visibly under the banner of Christ so that the world will know we are true Christians by our love and cooperation toward one another.

Strategy:

Pray together

Sponsor or encourage citywide and small group prayer meetings, walks, and vigils;

Identify a network of prayer groups that can respond to community-wide prayer needs.

Focus on building relationships with one another:

Speak well of one another;

Be available to each other in times of crises;

Pray for one another.

Unity in our commitment to our community;

Sponsor cooperative evangelistic crusades and other outreach events;

Where possible, stand together as one voice in our community.

Otherwise move as God leads

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Adopted by Pastors.doc

COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION, INC.

2007 Board of Directors*

On the next page.

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*Members are pastors or ministry leaders who demonstrate a faithful commitment to the vision of Community Transformation, promoting the partnership of local pastors and their congregations, seeking together to pray, love, lead and disciple our community into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord. All pastors of congregations who claim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are invited to share the vision, pray and partner together, as God leads. All current Board members are or have been pastors.



Spirit-led, Worship-fed, Corporate Prayer

Six Foundation Stones

The following six statements provide a foundation for our perspective on Prayer Summits.

- We deeply desire to see a move of God initiated and sustained in as many communities as possible.
- We are convinced that a significant, sustained prayer movement is essential for this to take place. This prayer movement will greatly impact our relationship with God and with one another and our ability to fulfill our Scriptural responsibilities.
- We believe that this prayer movement will lead to and launch other Spirit-directed, united, strategic activities.

- We believe that quality Prayer Summits are catalysts to initiate and sustain this significant prayer movement.
- Therefore we deeply desire to see as many quality Prayer Summits take place in as many communities as possible.
- However, even if a move of God does not result from our prayer efforts, or it does not happen in the manner or time frame we expect, we believe that the value of a Prayer Summit is not diminished, because we have spent time in His presence doing the 'one thing' He deeply desires of us.

WHY ARE WE HERE
At a Marketplace Leaders Prayer Summit

I. Introduction.

- A. Why are we inviting people who are in leadership positions to a leader's prayer summit? God ordains authority.
1. *Romans 13:1* "...For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God." NKJV
 2. *Psalms 75: 6 - 7* "For promotion comes neither from the east nor from the west nor from the south. But God is the judge: He puts down one, And exalts another."
- B. How do we fit into Jesus Christ's mission? We are called to lead, but also to submit to Jesus Christ, our Supreme Allied Commander, and be used to assist Him via prayer and action until He puts all enemies under His feet and then turns His Kingdom over to His Father so that God may be All in All.

1. *First Corinthians 15:24* "Then the end will come, when He (Jesus) delivers the Kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

2. *Psalm 110:1-3*:
 - 1 The LORD (God the Father) says to my Lord (Jesus Christ), 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.'
 - 2 The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from Zion: you will rule in the midst of your enemies.
 - 3 Your troops will be willing on your day of battle. Arrayed in holy majesty from the womb of the dawn you will receive the dew of your youth."
(or, "your young men (and women) will offer themselves willingly as the dew.")

C. What can we best do to advance the Kingdom of God?

1. Jesus' High Priestly Prayer (*John 17; especially John 17:20-22*).
20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message;

21 That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

2. After reviewing John 17:1-26:

Acknowledge that it is the desire of the God the Father and of His only Son the Lord Jesus Christ that we, and all God's people, be one.

Pray that we would be one and that through our lives the world may know and believe that the Father has sent the Son.

"Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3.

3. If we enter into the unity for which Jesus prayed, the world will see the beautiful church of Jesus Christ and be drawn to it.

D. How will we pray together in unity?

1. Categorically: Generally, we will express praise, thanksgiving, prayers or declarations of faith in categories suggested by our Facilitator. No one will be "called on".
2. Briefly: Pray about the last subject introduced. If you want to change subjects, make a note and wait until all have had opportunity to pray about the subject last introduced. Please refrain from lengthy prayers, being considerate of others desiring to pray.

3. Silently or aloud: Agree silently or lead in prayer aloud.

4. Humbly.

II. As we pray for our city or cities, let us prayerfully consider the following Scriptures:

1. Consider the *Book of Nehemiah*, especially *Chapters 1 - 4* and the call to Nehemiah to motivate the elders and people of Jerusalem. How might these chapters apply to us individually and to the City of Thomasville today, considering that God speaks of us, His people, as being “living stones”?

Chapter 1: Nehemiah’s inspiration and prayer for restoration of the broken down walls of Jerusalem, and to repent on behalf of God’s people for the sins that led to the devastation and exile.

Chapter 2: Nehemiah’s favor with the King, his analysis of the needs of the city, and encouragement to the people to rebuild the walls; converting “rubble” into “walls”. Have we surveyed the ruined walls of our community, and of our world?

Chapter 3: Different leaders accepted responsibility to rebuild their portions of the walls. Where are we called to build?

Chapter 4: Success came when they worked with a weapon in one hand (to fight attackers) and a tool in the other, and when they all agreed to leave their part of the wall to defend others: “Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us.” (Vs. 20) Are we willing to leave our place at the wall to help defend each other when we hear the call?

2. As leaders, we need to consider Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer (*John 17*; especially *John 17:20-21*), and pray for and then lead our community into unity:

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message;

21 That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me." *NKJV* (A copy of *John 17:1 – 26* is attached.)

3. Prayer Points:

- Recognize that it is the desire of God the Father, His only Son our Lord and of the Holy Spirit that we, and all God's people, be one.
- Pray that we would be one and that through our lives the world may know and believe that the Father has sent the Son. "Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." *John 17:3 NKJV*
- Pray that as we enter into the unity for which Jesus prayed that the world will see the beautiful church of Jesus Christ and be drawn to it.