**AUDIENCE OF ONE**

1. **Scriptural base for night and day prayer:**

The concept of night and day prayer is rooted in several Scriptures and Biblical principles:

1. In the Old Testament, the fire on the altar was kept burning.

***The fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not go out. The priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and he shall arrange the burnt offering on it and shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. Fire shall be kept burning on the altar continually; it shall not go out. – Leviticus 6:12-13***

1. The Two Most Important Priestly Tasks:
2. Intercession (through prayers and offerings)
3. Praise and worship, the fire on the altar was a symbol of the continued praise, worship, intercession, and reconciliation done by the priests.
4. God Himself appoints us as watchmen on the walls to pray for the fulfillment of His promises.

***On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all day and all the night they shall never be silent.***

***You who put the Lord in remembrance, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth. – Isaiah 62:6-7***

1. It is God Himself who appoints the watchmen
2. They will stand before Him day and night
3. They will not keep silent or allow Him to rest until all His promises have been fulfilled. The Word holds countless promises for His children and Scripture instructs us to continually pray for the fulfillment of these promises.
4. In Luke 18:7 Go promises that He will do right by us (set right what is wrong- crime, violence, drug abuse, corruption, immorality, injustice, etc) when we call out to Him night and day.

***And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” – Luke 18:7-8***

1. Paul’s letters speak often of night and day intercession for the church and for the advancement of the gospel.
2. To serve God the Father night and day through praise and worship, to grow in intimacy with God and live in His countenance.

***And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!” And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.” – Revelation 4:8-11)***

1. **Benefits of Night and Day Prayer:**
2. A 24-7 prayer watch will be one way a church can fulfill God’s command to be a house of prayer for the nations (Isaiah 56:7). By implementing 24-7 prayer watches, churches are able to take responsibility and stand as watchmen on the walls for the church worldwide, for their own communities, their country and for other nations.
3. Night and Day praise, worship, and intercession bring about a new and deeper dimension with regard to an intercessor’s relationship with God.
4. Night and Day prayer helps us to persevere in prayer, to continue in prayer and to pray continually as the Word commands us to. (Luke 18:1-8)
5. It promotes unity among believers because they focus on the same issues and pray together for them. It also binds churches and denominations together. (Acts 1:14; 2:1)
6. It helps every intercessor and prayer group to understand that they have a responsibility and it strengthens them to know that they are not praying alone, which for most people is an encouragement.
7. History shows that night and day prayer had a huge impact on communities and on the world.
8. **Prayer and Action:**

Prayer is not an end in itself. Prayer brings us into fellowship with God the Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. When we start to fellowship with Jesus, he will reveal His heart to us and take us to people in need. The purpose of prayer is to strengthen us to live The Great Commandment (to love…) and The Great Commission (to go…). We do not pray for the sake of praying. Jesus was in the habit of getting away to be with the Father in prayer. When He came back, He would give instruction on where to go next. He also exhorted His followers to pray because the harvest was ready for harvest (Luke 10:2). He is our example.

1. Prayer must always lead to a missional life style- taking the love and salvation of Jesus to people in need of salvation, comfort, and healing.
2. Prayer must lead to a life of compassion towards all who are in need.
3. Prayer forms the basis for Christians to live in peace, reconciliation, and in love with one another.
4. Prayer brings us into a life of intimacy with Jesus.
5. Through prayer we receive power from God (through the Holy Spirit) to be witnesses of love, salvation, and compassion of Jesus and to take it to the ends of the earth.