

# **Prayer Focus**

## November 8-14, 2021

# **Guard the Gates**

Gatekeepers are described in several places in the Bible and serve as those entrusted with security, integrity, watchfulness, and the access point of entry.

In 1 Chronicles we learn that 212 gatekeepers were "appointed by David and Samuel the seer to their trusted office. So they and their children were in charge of the gates of the house of the Lord, the house of the tabernacle, by assignment. The gatekeepers were assigned to the four directions: the east, west, north and south. And their brethren in their villages had to come with them from time to time for seven days. For in this trusted office were four chief gatekeepers; they were Levites. And they had charge over the chambers and treasuries of the house of God. And they lodged all around the house of God because they had the responsibility, and they were in charge of opening it every morning." 1 Chronicles 9:22-27

Gatekeepers were among the first positions that were appointed by Nehemiah once the wall was built and the doors were hung. *"Then it was, when the wall was built and I had hung the doors, when the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed, that I gave the charge of Jerusalem to my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the leader of the citadel, for he was a faithful man and feared God more than many. And I said to them, 'Do not let the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot; and while they stand guard, let them shut and bar the doors; and appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, one at his watch station and another in front of his own house." Nehemiah 7:1-3* 

We are gatekeepers for our own minds and bodies, homes and families, our communities, and ultimately also for the house of the Lord. This is a trusted position. Let us undertake it with utmost sincerity, holy fear, and dedication. *"And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should go and guard the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day."* Nehemiah 13:22

Being a gatekeeper is a responsibility and a place of blessing. "<sup>10</sup>For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. <sup>11</sup>For the Lord God is a sun and shield, the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. <sup>12</sup>Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you." Psalm 84:10-12

#### <u>Pray</u>

- Offer thanksgiving that the Lord has given us a trusted position in His house.
- Ask the Lord to give you wisdom and discernment for guarding the gates of your own home and community.
- Pray that we would be cleansed and purified by the Lord, and that He would enable us to be more disciplined concerning the gates of our mouth, eyes, and heart. "Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips." Psalm 141:3; "Keep (guard) your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life." Proverbs 4.23
- Pray that more would come to know the Lord and enter through Him, the only true gate. "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. <sup>9</sup>I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." John 10:7-10

## **Events**

Prayer Force Website: http://www.prayerforce.live/ Prayer Force Room Sign-Up

Prayer Force Equipping Hour – Every other Tuesday at 1:00pm, Pacific