THE CALL TO BE A FULL-TIME INTERCESSORY MISSIONARY

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The Lord is calling people to a full-time ministry occupation that I refer to as an intercessory missionary. I define an intercessory missionary as one who does the work of the kingdom from the place of prayer and worship, while embracing a missionary lifestyle and focus. Others may define this term in a different way. At IHOPKC, as a rule, we ask those who embrace this full-time occupation of "intercessory missionary" to commit to fifty hours per week, including being in the prayer room for at least four hours a day, six days a week.

People sometimes ask me what an intercessory missionary is and where it is in the Bible. In principle, this calling and occupation is found throughout the Bible. In this article, I will briefly mention where this calling is found in both the Old Testament and the New Testament—particularly in end-time prophecy—its presence throughout church history, and how it is being embracing today in contemporary ministries.

Though the New Testament gives only a few specific ministry titles and job descriptions, it does present intrinsic values, such as winning the lost, caring for people, helping the poor, and praying. "Apostle" is the title with the clearest job description in the New Testament. We don't find the title of senior pastor, marriage counselor, youth pastor, children's pastor, or outreach pastor, etc. My point is that most of the titles we use in the Church today are not specifically mentioned in the New Testament.

The Bible doesn't give a comprehensive list of ministries that the Spirit has used to meet the specific needs of every culture in the different generations throughout church history. The Church has liberty to name specific ministry focuses in a way that applies to their generation and culture, as long as biblical values are upheld.

The Value of Night-and-Day Prayer in Heaven

Revelation 4–5 describes the worship order around God's throne. Those nearest the throne magnify Him and agree with His purposes in 24/7 worship and intercession. The worthiness of God demands 24/7 worship—this value will be embraced and expressed forever.

The four living creatures . . . <u>do not rest day or night</u>, saying: "Holy, holy, holy..." (Rev. 4:8)

Jesus exhorted us to pray that His will be done *on earth as it is in heaven* (Mt. 6:10). One aspect of God's kingdom being expressed on earth as it is in heaven involves worship. God's desire to be

worshiped on earth as He is in heaven has not changed. The Holy Spirit has not emphasized this globally through history, but is now emphasizing it to some in many nations. The value of the worship around the throne is timeless. The applications of it on earth have differed in each generation and culture.

Intercessory Missionaries in End-time Prophecy

The Holy Spirit will establish the most powerful prayer and worship movement in history. The Scriptures give indications of the significance of prayer in the end times (Lk. 18:7–8; Rev. 5:8; 8:4; 22:17; cf. Isa. 24:14–16; 25:9; 26:8–9; 27:2–5, 13; 30:18–19; 42:10–13; 43:26; 51:11; 52:8; 62:6–7; Jer. 31:7). It is one of the major themes of end-time prophecy; the conflict at the end of the age will be between two global worship movements. The Antichrist will empower a worldwide, state-financed, false worship movement (Rev. 13:4, 8, 12, 15), but the global prayer movement led by Jesus will be far more powerful.

Isaiah prophesied concerning prayer ministries that would continue 24/7 until Jesus returns—this is when Jesus will restore Jerusalem as a praise in the earth. Isaiah was speaking of the watchmenintercessors the Lord Himself would appoint and set in place who will not keep silent day or night.

On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have appointed watchmen [intercessors]; <u>all day and all night</u> they will never keep silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest for yourselves; and give Him no rest until He establishes and makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. (Isa. 62:6–7, NAS)

This clearly emphasizes that God will raise up 24/7 prayer ministries in the end times, which will never be silent until Jesus returns. The 24/7 dimension of this promise implies that some intercessors and ministries are called to engage in this as a full-time occupation. God's promise to appoint intercessors indicates that He will make a way for them to walk in this calling, including financial provision.

Isaiah is referring to New Testament believers (who will be on the earth when Jesus returns)—some will be full-time occupational intercessors. Their hard work in prayer is meant to serve and strengthen the prayer ministries in local churches in their region, and to be catalytic by inspiring and supporting others in prayer.

Only one generation will see the fulfillment of God's promise to appoint, or set, watchmen (intercessors) in place to cry out all day and all night *until* Jerusalem becomes a praise in the earth. This prophecy speaks specifically of prayer ministries being established by the Lord that will continue *until* He returns, for Jerusalem will become a praise in the earth only after Jesus returns. At that time, all the nations will see Jerusalem as Jesus' own city, as the city of the Great King (Jer. 3:17; Mt. 5:35).

Isaiah's prophecy speaks of a "spiritual wall" of intercession from which the *end-time* watchmen-intercessors will cry out 24/7 for the release of God's promises. Ezekiel also spoke of "spiritual walls" consisting of prayer (Ezek. 13:3–5; 22:30). God will establish end-time watchmen-intercessors in their place to function as a "wall of prayer." These watchmen are to "make the wall"

by standing in the gap in prayer before God and the people, so that the land may be blessed rather than destroyed.

Are you grasping the gravity of this promise? Through Isaiah, God promised sovereignly to appoint intercessors and establish them in the work of intercession that will never stop until Jesus returns. This will include full-time occupational intercessors who will stand on the wall of intercession to cry out for God's purposes for Jerusalem.

Intercessory Missionaries in the New Testament

Some ask where intercessory missionaries are found in the New Testament. My response: Where in the New Testament do we find leaders who do not prioritize prayer? Starting with Jesus and the apostles, the New Testament highlights many leaders who gave themselves to prayer in an extravagant way.

Jesus spent long hours in prayer (Mk. 1:35; 6:46; Lk. 5:16; 6:12; 9:18, 28). Jesus valued Mary of Bethany's choice to sit before Him; He called it the one thing needed (Lk. 10:38–42). He emphasized prayer, or "watching," more than any other specific activity when speaking about the generation in which He would return (Mt. 24:42–43; 25:13; Mk. 13:9, 33-38; Lk. 21:36; Rev. 3:3; 16:15).

Paul embraced night-and-day prayer in various seasons and called widows to this ministry (1 Thes. 3:10; 1 Tim. 5:5; 2 Tim. 1:3). John the Baptist spent a lot of time communing with the Lord in the wilderness of Judea (Mt. 3), and the apostles were committed to their prayer lives as well (Acts 6:4). An angel explained to Cornelius, a man who "prayed to God always" (Acts 10:2), that his continual prayers were a memorial before God (Acts 10:4).

Prayer was a high priority to the leaders in the New Testament (Acts 1:14, 24; 2:42; 3:1; 4:31; 6:4; 9:11; 10:2, 9, 30-31; 11:5; 12:5, 12; 13:3; 14:23; 16:16, 25; Rom. 8:26; 10:1; 12:12; 1 Cor. 7:5; 2 Cor. 1:11; 9:14; 13:7-9; Eph. 1:17-19; 3:14-20; 6:18; Phil. 1:4, 9-11; 4:6; Col. 1:3, 9-11; 4:2-3; 1 Thes. 3:10; 5:17, 25; 2 Thes. 1:11; 3:1; 1 Tim. 2:8; 4:5; Heb. 13:18; Jas. 5:13-18; Jude 20). Consider just a few of the many statements reflecting the value of prayer in the New Testament (Acts 2:42; 6:4; 12:12; 1 Thes. 3:10; 5:17).

They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship . . . and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. (Acts 6:4)

It is easy to find leaders in the New Testament who were consistently engaging in prayer and the Word; it is actually difficult to find a precedent for leaders who did not do this. God's kingdom work is accomplished in the place of prayer and outside of it: three dimensions of missions work—continual prayer, mercy deeds, and sharing the gospel—must go together. Prayer causes the work of outreach to the lost and needy to be much more effective. Oswald Chambers said, "Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer *is* the greater work."

Some are concerned that intercessory missionaries may develop lazy, isolated lives in prayer, detached from the real needs of people. Anyone who has prayed four hours in one day, with fasting, and then gone out to preach the gospel, will know that the call to be an intercessory missionary is not for lazy people. Some ask if too much prayer leads intercessors to neglect walking in love for others. I have observed just the opposite.

Night-and-day prayer is a practical expression of the commandment to love one another, through which multitudes are blessed and delivered. Intercessors also grow in love for the ones they take up in prayer. When someone has a family member who is being tormented by a demon, that family member needs someone to cast the demon out. Jesus linked greater effectiveness in casting out demons to prayer and fasting. He spoke of the need for prayer and fasting when ministering to certain kinds of demonized people (Mt 17:21). In other words, the rigorous lifestyle of an intercessory missionary is one that embraces the first and second commandments to love God and others.

The Anna Calling

Anna was a "watchman" who was set upon the wall in Jerusalem. We see an expression of Isaiah's prophecy in Anna, who prayed in the temple night and day (Isa. 62:6; Lk. 2:36–38). She was a token of what will happen across the nations during the generation in which the Lord returns.

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess... She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day... she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of [Jesus] to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. (Lk 2:36–38)

Notice that Anna was a prophetess (v. 36), intercessor (v. 37), and evangelist (v. 38). The grace for prophetic ministry, intercession, and evangelism came together in one woman. Anna was widowed after living with her husband for seven years (v. 36), probably when she was in her mid-twenties, and that is when she began giving herself to prayer day and night. At eighty-four years old—approximately sixty years later—she was still ministering to the Lord in much prayer with fasting. Anna stayed faithful in her calling to long hours of prayer! What a remarkable woman! Anna represents those with the grace to sustain long hours of prayer for many years. Anna's calling transcends gender and age—this calling is for male and female, young and old. I refer to some intercessory missionaries as having a specific "Anna calling," by which I mean they have grace for much prayer and fasting.

Anna is the most extreme example of the intercessory missionary lifestyle in the New Testament. She probably spent more hours in prayer each day than we ask our intercessory missionaries to do. In this very hour, the Lord is wooing those with a heart and calling like Anna to the full-time occupation of worship and prayer. He is personally appointing and setting them into their places. The Lord is calling forth modern-day "Annas" in churches and prayer rooms around the world. Those whom God raises up as "Annas" we must celebrate as a great gift to the Body of Christ and the prayer movement. These individuals need to be called forth, recognized, and released by their leaders to obey their God-given mandate.

Jesus made a reference to Isaiah's prophecy about day-and-night prayer when He promised that it would result in a great release of justice to the earth (Lk. 18:1–8).

Shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who <u>cry to Him day and</u> <u>night</u>? He will bring about justice for them . . . When the Son of Man comes [second coming], will He find faith on the earth?" (Lk. 18:7–8, NAS)

In verse 8, Jesus connected the call to night-and-day prayer to the timing of His return to the earth. It is important to notice that this parable was given in conclusion to what He had just taught about the end times in Luke 17:22–36. In other words, He connected His release of justice in the earth during the end times to night-and-day prayer, and, in verse 8, Jesus referred to the generation in which He returns.

Intercessory Missionaries in the Old Testament

We find important information in the Old Testament about the full-time occupation of singers who ministered to God night and day. David commanded all the kings after him to uphold the order of worship that he received from God, because it was God's command (2 Chr. 29:25; 35:4, 15; Ezra 3:10; Neh. 12:45).

[Hezekiah]...<u>stationed the Levites</u> in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments . . . <u>according to the commandment of David</u>...for thus was the <u>commandment of the Lord</u>. (2 Chr. 29:25)

David was the first one in Scripture to establish the full-time occupation of a worshiper (1 Chr. 9:33; 16:37; 23:5; 25:7; 2 Chr. 31:4; 8:12-14; 31:4-6, 16; 34:9, 12; Neh. 10:37-39; 11:22-23; 12:44-47; 13:5-12).

These are the <u>singers...</u> who were <u>free from other duties</u>; for they were <u>employed in that work</u> day and night. (1 Chr. 9:33)

David established 4,000 musicians and 4,000 gatekeepers (1 Chr. 23:5; 25:7). David set into place about 10,000 intercessory missionaries. They were Levites—some were singers and musicians, and others were gatekeepers. (Today, I would add sound technicians to this list, because, in my opinion, the soundboard is the most important "instrument" on a worship team). The gatekeepers took care of the buildings and finances and carried out many other activities to support the ministry to God in the temple. In our context, this speaks of those who help in financial or event management, janitorial or organizational service, running seminars, etc.

The singers were employed in the work day and night, and thus were freed from other duties. In other words, they did not have another job outside their temple responsibilities. Their job was hard work. They sang and played their instruments; I imagine they had many "worship team practices" and had to grow in musical skill, knowledge of the Scripture, and many other related activities. God commanded David to establish this ministry of night-and-day worship. It required a significant amount of work and was very expensive. David insisted on making this costly investment of time

and money, knowing that the Lord had commanded it and that the God of Israel is worthy of such praise.

In the generations that followed, when Israel went astray, God raised up spiritual reformers with a vision to restore worship as David had commanded it. Seven generations in the Old Testament experienced "revival." Each honored the command that God had given David, and restored Davidic worship, complete with full-time intercessory missionaries.

- 1. Around 970 BC, Solomon established the singers according to the direction of David (2 Chr. 8:14).
 - And, according to the order of David his father, [Solomon] appointed the divisions of the priests for their service, the Levites for their duties (to praise and serve before the priests) as the duty of each day required...for so David the man of God had commanded. (2 Chr. 8:14)
- 2. Jehoshaphat's reform in about 870 BC also included establishing singers and musicians in their place to sing to the Lord (2 Chr. 20:19–28).
 - Then the Levites . . . stood up to praise the Lord . . . [Jehoshaphat] appointed those who should sing to the Lord . . . they came . . . with stringed instruments . . . to the house of the Lord. (2 Chr. 20:19–28)
- 3. In about 835 BC, Jehoiada, the high priest, restored temple worship in the order of King David, with singers and musicians. The young future king, Jehoash (Joash), was only seven years old at the time. (2 Chr. 23:18).

Jehoiada appointed the oversight of the house of the Lord to . . . the Levites . . . with singing, as it was established by David. (2 Chr. 23:18)

Hezekiah's revival (about 725 BC) included restoring singers according to the commandment of David (2 Chr. 29:25–27).

[Hezekiah] stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with . . . stringed instruments...according to the commandment of David . . . the song of the Lord also began. (2 Chr. 29:25–27)

Around 625 BC, King Josiah restored full-time singers and musicians to their place, just as David had commanded the kings of Israel to do (2 Chr. 35:3–15).

Then [Josiah] said to the Levites ... "Prepare yourselves ... <u>following</u> the written instruction of David ..." and the singers ... were in their places, <u>according to the command of David</u>. (2 Chr. 35:3–15)

Zerubbabel lived about 500 years after David, and during this time they were still putting singers in place because it was the command of David. Was this thing burning in God's heart? In 536 BC, Zerubbabel established full-time singers and musicians as a full-time occupation to worship God, because King David commanded that this be done in Israel (Ezra 3:10–11; Neh. 12:47).

. . . the Levites . . . to praise the Lord, according to the <u>ordinance of</u> <u>David</u>. (Ezra 3:10–11)

In 445 BC, Ezra and Nehemiah established full-time singers and musicians because King David commanded it. Also at that time, God commanded Israel to support the singers

financially in the same way that David had done (2 Chr. 8:14; 31:5–16; Neh. 11:23; 12:44–47; 13:5–12).

... the Levites ... give thanks, group alternating with group ... according to the command of David ... Both the singers and the gatekeepers kept the charge of their God ... according to the command of David ... In the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah all Israel gave the portions [financial] for the singers and the gatekeepers, a portion for each day. (Neh. 12:24, 45-47)

Intercessory Missionaries throughout History

The Lord has led many throughout history to establish night-and-day prayer ministries. Looking back through church history I see a golden thread of the Spirit testifying that this is on God's heart. Although it is clear that the Holy Spirit has not emphasized this calling to the whole Body of Christ through the 2,000 years of church history, He has clearly called some to this ministry. Thus, we see a witness of night-and-day prayer down the centuries, a testimony that God desires this kind of extravagant ministry from His people.

The order of worship that God commanded David to establish—full-time singers and musicians in God's house—is timeless and valid today, but the application of this command differs according to each generation and culture.

Throughout 2,000 years of church history, intercessory missionaries have been known by different titles. However, we see the biblical values behind this occupation in that they did the work of missions from a lifestyle of being deeply engaged in prayer, worship, and the Word.

One of the most dramatic expressions of 24/7 intercessory prayer began with Comgall, a monk in Bangor, Ireland, in AD 558. After Comgall's death in AD 602, the annals reported that 3,000 monks had joined his monastery that maintained a 24/7 prayer ministry for over 300 years. It became an influential missions-sending community, famous for its choral psalmody and unceasing prayer.

In those days, most of the people who sustained 24/7 prayer ministries did so as their full-time occupation; therefore, I refer to them as "intercessory missionaries," although they themselves did not use that term. Most who embraced this calling in medieval times were monks, priests, or nuns who lived in monastic communities.

Most monastic communities that sustained 24/7 prayer were involved in outreach to the cities nearby. Ministries from all streams of the Body of Christ have mobilized 24/7 prayer ministries, including those with Celtic, Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant traditions.

Alexander Akimetes

Around AD 380, Alexander established a monastery that maintained 24/7 worship and prayer. He organized rotating choirs into shifts to create uninterrupted prayer and worship twenty-four hours a day. He first organized this perpetual praise near the Euphrates River, where it lasted for twenty years. Then he and seventy monks moved to Constantinople in AD 400, where another 300 monks joined them to once again organize 24/7 prayer with praise, which lasted much longer this time as a

movement. Since their prayer with praise never stopped, their group was referred to as "the order of the Acoemetae" (literally, the sleepless ones).

After Alexander's death in AD 430, the monastery's influence grew until, at the end of the fifth century, it housed over 1,000 monks committed to day-and-night prayer—intercessory missionaries. They sang hymns and doxologies throughout the night and day. Similar ministries of 24/7 prayer and psalmodic, choral praise were established in other monasteries at that time along the Euphrates and in Persia.

Bangor, Ireland

In AD 433, St. Patrick returned to Ireland (having been enslaved on the island previously) to preach the gospel. In the twelfth century, the monk Jocelin reported that Patrick had come to a valley on the shores of the Belfast Lough where he and his comrades beheld a vision of heaven. Jocelin wrote, "They beheld the valley filled with heavenly light, and with a multitude of heaven, they heard, as chanted forth from the voice of angels, the psalmody of the celestial choir." From then on, this place near Bangor was known as "The Valley of Angels."

Approximately one hundred years later, Comgall established Bangor monastery in that exact valley. Over three thousand monks joined him in a full-time way, and together they maintained a 24/7 house of prayer with worship that continued for more than 300 years. Comgall's monastery at Bangor practiced continuous worship that was antiphonal in nature and based on Patrick's vision.

In the twelfth century, Bernard of Clairvaux spoke of Comgall and Bangor, stating that "the solemnization of divine offices was kept up by companies, who relieved each other in succession, so that not for one moment was there an intermission."

These monks, through practicing continual prayer and worship, were stirred to evangelize the lost wherever they went. They were sent out from Bangor as missionaries to Europe. Wherever they settled, they first established constant praise and adoration to God, and their mission work flowed from a foundation of prayer.

These intercessory missionaries were sent to preach the gospel throughout Europe, leading multitudes to Jesus. Examples abound. For instance, Colombanus set out from Bangor with twelve brothers to plant monasteries that combined prayer and mission work throughout Switzerland. Another, St. Martin, practiced continual antiphonal worship and established monasteries throughout Gaul (France).

Abbot Ambrosius

Around AD 522, in Switzerland, Abbot Ambrosius organized choirs of monks who sang the Psalms in rotating shifts, continuing day and night. They continued for nearly four hundred years, until around AD 900, impacting monasteries all over France and Switzerland. These intercessory missionaries were effective in preaching the gospel and impacting many for Jesus.

Cluny, France

Around AD 1000, the monastery at Cluny in central France sustained 24/7 prayer with worship, because they were convinced that by doing so they were participating in the very worship of

heaven, as seen in Revelation 4. Hundreds of monastic communities throughout Europe followed the example of Cluny by embracing 24/7 prayer with worship. Thus the Cluny community was catalytic in raising up intercessory missionaries who established houses of prayer as monastic communities, doing the work of the kingdom.

Bernard of Clairvaux

Just after AD 1100, Bernard, together with his seven hundred monks in Clairvaux, France, organized into day-and-night prayer that continued for many years, resulting in a dynamic release of evangelism through signs and wonders across Europe. Bernard promoted continual prayer; reports from visitors to the monastery at Clairvaux speak of the monks singing their prayers through the night and working in silent meditation through the day.

The Moravians and Count Zinzendorf

In 1727, Count Zinzendorf, a young and wealthy German nobleman, committed his estate in Germany to twenty-four-hour-a-day prayer ministry. He renamed his estate Herrnhut, which means "the watch of the Lord." About 300 persecuted believers moved from Bohemia to Zinzendorf's estate, forming the Herrnhut community. At that time, Zinzendorf gave up his court position to lead this new ministry.

They committed to pray in hourly shifts around the clock, all day and night, every day, taking inspiration from Leviticus 6:13, "The fire must be kept burning; it must not go out." This prayer meeting continued non-stop for the next hundred years. From the prayer room at Herrnhut came a missionary zeal that has hardly been surpassed in Protestant history. By 1776, over two hundred missionaries had been sent out from this small community at Herrnhut. These were the first Protestant intercessory missionaries.

Zinzendorf became the leader of the first Protestant missionary movement in history. He sent out missionaries, two by two, to the unreached people groups of the earth. As they were sent out, the prayer furnace back home in Herrnhut covered them in prayer. The first Protestant missionary movement married the prayer aspect of the Great Commission with evangelism. Count Zinzendorf saw prayer and missions as inseparable.

Throughout history we see many examples of an irrefutable principle in God's kingdom—in God's timing, the establishing of night-and-day prayer brings revival in the Church, which leads to significant evangelistic zeal and effectiveness in bringing unbelievers to faith in Jesus. This principle is seen in the fruit of the labors of the historical monastic prayer communities that led multitudes of people to Jesus.

What do Intercessory Missionaries do in Prayer Rooms?

What do intercessory missionaries do in a prayer sanctuary?

1. We *minister to God* by declaring His worth unceasingly, reflecting the way He receives worship continually in heaven (Mt. 6:10). We magnify the supremacy of Jesus, spreading His fame by declaring His worth, beauty, and riches, calling others to love and obey Him

- and give their allegiance to Him. Millions of people across the nations join the choirs of heaven by ministering to God in this way. He is worthy.
- 2. We *labor in intercession* for the release of God's power to win the lost, revive the Church, and impact society, while also engaging in works of justice and compassion.
- 3. We *grow in intimacy with God* by personally encountering Him through His indwelling Spirit, receiving greater grace (Jas. 4:6) to love, obey, and partner with Him, as we are fascinated by who He is.
- 4. We grow in the understanding of God's Word, gaining insight into His will, ways, and salvation and learning about the unique dynamics of His end-time plan to transition the earth to the age to come. We serve others in an important way by taking the time and effort to grow in our understanding of the Word, that we may help others understand God's heart and will for this hour of history.

The Prayer Movement Today

The Holy Spirit has raised up thousands of new prayer ministries in the last ten to twenty years. In 1984, the number of 24/7 houses of prayer in the world was fewer than twenty-five. Today there are over ten thousand—and most of that growth has been in the last ten years; they are springing up all over the globe at a staggering rate. Such momentum in prayer cannot be attributed to human ingenuity, but must rather be the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit.

The significant increase of new 24/7 prayer ministries and of large prayer events in stadiums is a prophetic sign of the times—a sign of the approaching day of the Lord's return. In cities around the world, new 24/7 prayer ministries are being established. From Kiev, Bogota, and Jerusalem to New Zealand, Cairo, Cape Town, and Hong Kong, men and women are responding to the Spirit's leadership in this.

Despite the pressures and inherent dangers, we see 24/7 prayer centers coming forth in the Muslim world, in nations like Egypt, Turkey, Syria, Indonesia, and Lebanon.

God's desire to be worshiped on earth as He is in heaven has not changed. I believe that some of the principles expressed in the order of worship that God commanded David to embrace are timeless, such as establishing the full-time occupation of singers and musicians in God's house.

Not everyone is called to be an intercessory missionary. The greatest ministry is to do the will of God. In other words, the greatest ministry you can have is the one to which God calls you. If He has called you to serve in the marketplace or in your home, don't despise your calling by imitating the ministry of another. We must embrace our own, individual calling, because that is the highest calling for us.

The Holy Spirit has not emphasized the calling to night-and-day worship and prayer worldwide throughout church history, but is now calling many ministries to embrace it. *I do not believe that it is God's will for every local church or ministry to host 24/7 worship in their own building*, but that He plans to establish it in each city or region of the earth. This can happen if many local churches partner together in the work of night-and-day prayer. The practical application will differ from city to city and from nation to nation, as well as according to different cultures.

Many are asking the Lord to establish 24/7 prayer with worship in every tribe and tongue before the Lord returns, by bringing multiple ministries together in unity to accomplish the work in every region of the earth. Imagine a missions movement that reaches every tribe and tongue, with the gospel being preached in every language, deeply connected to 24/7 prayer with worship.

Will you join me in asking the Lord to establish one million full-time intercessory missionaries before the Lord returns—singers, musicians, sound technicians, intercessors, and gatekeepers maintaining the systems that support these prayer ministries? For some of you, this is your calling—your personal story is deeply linked to God's plan related to the end-time prayer movement. What a glorious privilege!