# WHAT IS THE COLLEGE OF PRAYER?



# Our Purpose

The purpose of the College of Prayer is to *mentor*, *train*, and *equip* Christian pastors and leaders who will reach a lost world through a *revived* church. We are seeing lives ignited with the presence of Christ one life, one family, one local church, one community at a time all over the world where we are teaching life-giving, Godencountering biblical kingdom principles on prayer.

We're here to train those who want to get back to the basics of where a vibrant Christian life filled with the presence of Christ starts. We're here to mentor those who are working too hard, and praying too little. We're here to equip those who desire tools to further their intimacy with the living God. All of this starts with a simple, but honest plea, "Lord, teach us to pray!" (Luke 11:1)

While our primary focus is pastors and church leaders, the College of Prayer is for *everyone* who has desire for greater intimacy with God.

Armin Gesswein, the original visionary for the College of Prayer, used to say "Prayer is so major, we dare not minor in it any longer." What are you majoring in? No matter where you're at in your Christian journey, there's a place for you in the College of Prayer.











# Our Strategy

Our strategy is to create dynamic God-encountering prayer environments that provide a continuity of gatherings we call "modules" by establishing a "campus" which is committed to teaching our 3 years of core curriculum.

People are looking for substance and are hungry for an authentic spiritual life. As Christ taught His early followers, He is teaching many of us that the spiritual reality we long for is found not in another conference, **but** at the throne of God.

It is not surprising that we have received hundreds of testimonies from grateful pastors and Christian leaders who tell us that they would have dropped out of ministry if not for the healing, freeing and refreshing impact of the College of Prayer. Our ministry has been useful in bringing spiritual renewal to millions of Christians around the world who attend our campuses.

To say I enjoyed the College of Prayer this week would be an immense understatement. I loved it.

It totally shook my world and revolutionized my prayer life.



## What is a Campus?

The College of Prayer owns no buildings, so what is a campus? A campus is hosted by a local church and consists of a Servant Leadership Team of at least 5 Christian leaders who are committed to the vision of the College of Prayer, with influence to gather 50 or more people 2 times each year, 2 days at a time, over a 3 year period.

Essentially, the same people return to a campus for at least 3 years, which leads to a deeper impact on one's life through extended accountability and interaction. This continuity allows for deep relationships to be fostered and life-changing principles to be embraced in a community setting.

At a campus you will enjoy extended times of prayer, worship, repentance, cleansing, and renewal in addition to life-giving teaching. Best of all, we encounter the manifest presence of Christ together.

Each campus of the College of Prayer is part of a bigger movement of what God is doing around the world to mobilize His Church, His people, back to prayer; to equip each of us, our families and our Churches to be a house of prayer for all nations.









# What is Taught?

Our core curriculum is taken largely from the pattern Jesus used to teach His disciples how to pray in Luke 11. Teaching takes place by certified leaders within the College of Prayer and includes empowerment for your personal life, home life, work life, and ministry as follows:

**Course 1** — Lord, Teach Us to Pray!

**Course 2** — Lord, As Families, Teach Us to Pray!

**Course 3** — Lord, As Churches, Teach Us to Pray!

The beauty of our curriculum is that it does not matter which course you begin ... you can always get involved with a campus at anytime and you will be tremendously blessed by the people, teaching and an encounter with Christ.

College of Prayer. I knew that it would entail learning strategies that we could implement in our churches. However, I was blown away. We spent hours in God's presence. He was in control of the agenda. There was more time spent in prayer than anything else. I appreciated the leadership team's sensitivity to God's leading.

### Who Can Attend?

Each module provides ministry to and equipping for *all* believers including church members, ministers, pastors, missionaries, intercessors and people who just want to know how to pray more effectively. God has called us to raise up a new generation of Christ-exalting, Godencountering leaders who know how to pray with purpose and power.

We welcome those 16 and older at our campuses. Children and teens ages 5-15 can get involved in ABBA, a ministry which teaches kids and families Godencountering prayer principles. For more information, visit www.housesofprayer.info/abba.

The College of Prayer is a place where we cross denominational, gender, racial, political, and generational lines. This kind of unity can only be found in the "Upper Room\*" as we learn to pray together.

\*The Upper Room was a literal place in Jerusalem where followers of Jesus congregated primarily following His ascension. We also use "Upper Room" as a metaphor for an environment where we encounter God's presence through Christ by the Holy Spirit.







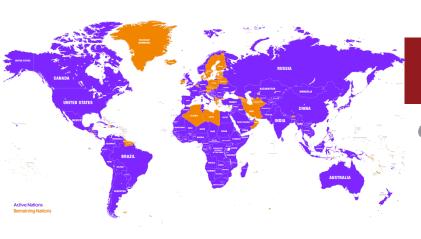




# Our History

The College of Prayer International was founded in 1997 by Fred Hartley and three other pastors who were mentored by Armin Gesswein.

Since our beginning we have seen significant growth throughout the world. We now have over 340,000 campuses located on 5 continents spanning over 140 countries and requests are coming in from all over the world every month to launch new campuses.



<sup>\*</sup> Some countries not listed for security reasons.

#### Our Future

God has called the College of Prayer to rebuild the Upper Room in every nation of the world. Our vision goes beyond prayer that revives the church—we want to see unreached people receive the good news of Christ. We are seeing this happen throughout the world where we have campuses that provide dynamic, God-encountering environments in which prayer, worship, study, and spiritual mentoring take place.

No matter where you're at in your journey with Christ or what role you play as a follower of Christ, there is room for you in the College of Prayer!

The best way to learn about the College of Prayer is to experience it for yourself. Visit www.collegeofprayer.org to find a campus near you!

The College of Prayer was what I had hoped – a time of personal revival. It deepened my prayer life and personal worship of God.

[My wife] and I have always had individual

devotions and occasionally prayed together as needs arose. But now we are praying together each night. Sometimes we need a little push to form new disciplines and the College of Prayer helped do that.

