



RETURN CONFERENCE

September 16-18, 2021

Join a fellowship of burning hearts in a unique
gathering unlike *any* we have ever done.

CONFERENCE GUIDE

RETURN CONFERENCE

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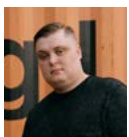
@billyhumphrey

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Pastoral Team, Upper Room

@brotherrussell

WORSHIP LEADERS

**ANDREW MEEK**

Worship Leader, IHOPKC

**ALICIA DETERMAN**

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**HANNAH MCKIBBEN**

Worship Leader, IHOPKC

BREAKOUT SPEAKERS

ISAAC BENNETT

BENJI & GABRIELLE NUÑEZ

ELIJAH CHOI

STUART GREAVES

MATTHEW CANDLER

DANA CANDLER

JAKOB & GEORGINA PILZ

RUBEN & ELISE CERVANTES

NATHAN & RACHAEL STEEL

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JOIN THE CONVERSATION VIA SOCIAL MEDIA



Use the hashtags
#return2021
#ihopkc



Check out Pathable
for special content!



FACEBOOK

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TWITTER

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INSTAGRAM

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YOUTUBE

youtube.com/ihopkc



SNAPCHAT

[@ihopkc](https://snapchat.com/ihopkc)



WELCOME TO THE RETURN CONFERENCE

DEAR FRIENDS,

The Lord called our leadership team in the fall of 2018 to put a pause on hosting conferences. We had hosted Onething Conferences for 18 years along with many other conferences throughout each year. At that time, we had a strong conviction from the Lord to enter into a “Reset” season in which we were re-aligned to focus on deeper intimacy with Jesus along with resetting our team to the core values and messaging that the Lord had clearly emphasized to us in the early days launching 24/7 prayer with worship for the harvest. It was also a reset in strengthening kingdom relationships among our staff and extended spiritual family connected with IHOPKC.

We needed margin to engage in our primary mission while strengthening a family spirit and a vibrant local expression. We wanted to give ourselves to an extended season of prayer and fasting together to prepare to go deeper in God, the Scriptures, and in relating to one another for the days ahead.

During this time, the world changed. Together, we experienced historic global shaking. Significant questions and struggles regarding the future and where the world

is going began to stir amongst millions around the world. Suddenly our season of focused prayer, fasting, and strengthening our spiritual family made sense.

During that season, there was much that the Lord spoke and emphasized in our midst. We feel a sense of responsibility for our extended international family to share and declare what we feel are key truths in a “kairos moment” to understand and engage with together to prepare for what is yet to come.

Our leadership team believes that it is time to restart various aspects of our conference ministry along with some new ways to host them. The reason is to proclaim the messages and themes that we believe will best equip the saints to thrive spiritually and to successfully navigate a time of historic transition across the body of Christ and beyond.

I believe that the 2020s will be the most dramatic transitional decade in human history. I realize that is a big statement, yet I believe it to be true. So much is changing, and the pace and dramatic nature of the changes will continue to escalate. The world as we now know it will not exist as it is right now when this decade is over. Therefore, we feel stirred by the Spirit to engage with other ministries, families, and students in this global moment. We want to engage with many others in a global conversation that I believe will be significant for laying hold of the Lord’s sovereign purposes together.

One of our contributions to this global conversation is the Return Conference. We want to serve our global spiritual family through equipping and connecting in a manner that enables us to go forward together. We now have the means to do this in a way that allows us to preserve the margin we gained a few years ago.

We are sober but eager to begin the conversation. We want to invite you to join us.

Until the fame of Jesus fills the earth,

Mike Bickle

FOUNDER
INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF PRAYER



Mike Bickle founded the International House of Prayer, an evangelical missions organization based on 24/7 prayer with worship. Mike is the author of several books, including *Growing in Prayer* and *Passion for Jesus*. Mike and his wife, Diane, have been married since 1977 and have two married sons and six grandchildren.

mikebickle.org | [@mikebickle](https://www.instagram.com/mikebickle)

A BRAND NEW WAY TO DO CONFERENCES

Hello, my name is Ruben Cervantes Jr., and I have the honor of being one of your conference hosts throughout this new experience. So many at IHOPKC have joined hands to create an innovative conference experience that launches us into a transitional decade together. You could say that our main goal of this conference is community. We are returning to God's definition of power, prayer, promise, and worship through the lens of John 13–17, and we want to do it together with you.

For so long we have prayed for a new way to engage our international family of affection in a meaningful way. We know that so many of the 20,000 that have been students or staff with us over the years carry the same spiritual fervor that the Lord continues to mark us with. Not to mention the tens of thousands of you who have joined us in Kansas City for our conferences. After almost three years of resetting into the “new us” since our last conference, we feel compelled to return to gathering together in order to contribute to the global prayer movement.

The Lord is saying so much to the prayer and worship movement all over the earth, we have prepared an interactive way to steward our part. The way forward is together. So I am going to walk you through how to make the most of the online venue, which is the primary way of engaging at RETURN, whether you came to Kansas City or you are joining us online. I assure you, you will want to take advantage of all that we have prepared for you. So check out these quick tutorials!

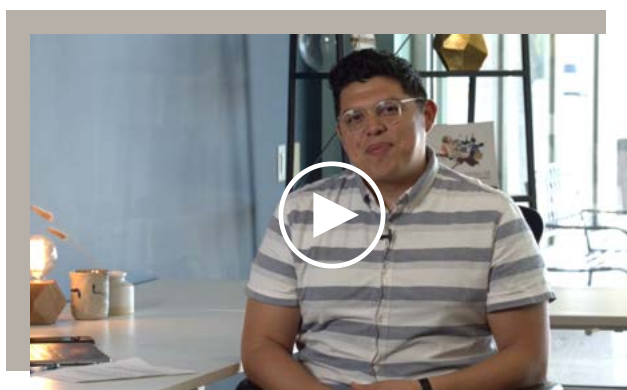
FIRST

An Introduction to Our Online Venue



THEN

How to Choose Your Breakout Sessions

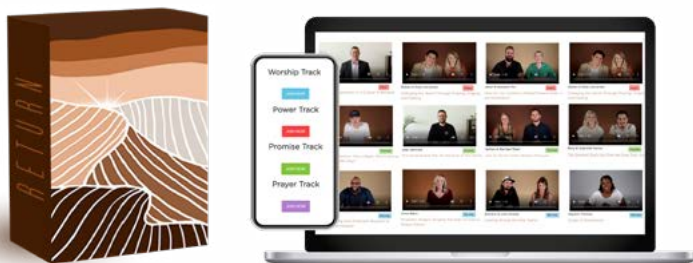


I hope that helps. If you still have questions, email return@ihopkc.org or get support directly on our online venue. Once you fill in your schedule of breakout sessions, you can see all the pre-conference content. Make sure to regularly check into our studio conversations throughout the conference where you will get to join me in hosting Francis Chan, Mike Bickle, Lou Engle, David Sliker, and many more! This will be the “home base” that will connect the dots throughout the conference.

Onward,

Ruben Cervantes, Jr.

LEAD CONFERENCE HOST
DIRECTOR, FORERUNNER SCHOOL OF WORSHIP



FULL ACCESS ONLINE OR ON-SITE

If you purchased the full access version of the conference, you can access the complete archives for only \$30 by upgrading to the Premium Package beginning Saturday, September 18.

**PURCHASE FULL ACCESS
ONLINE, \$79**

**PURCHASE FULL ACCESS
ON-SITE, \$99**

LIMITED ACCESS

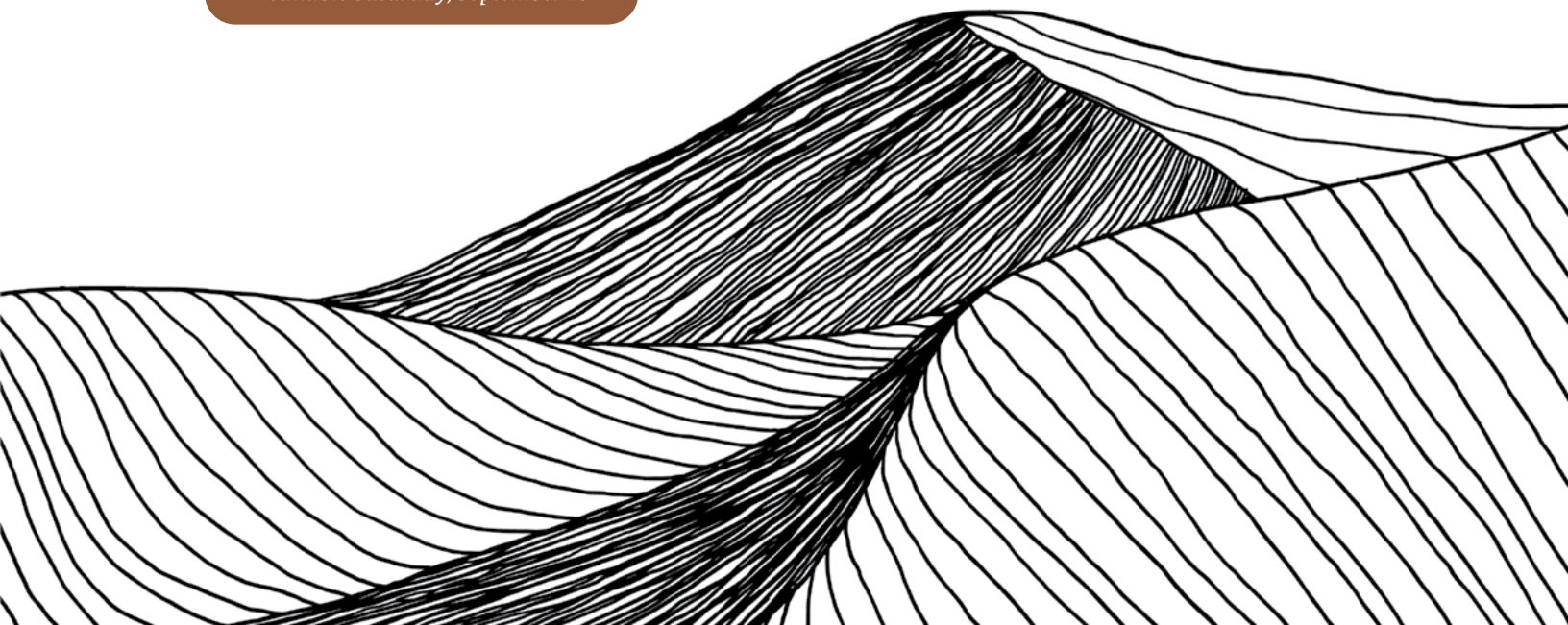
If you're unsure, no problem! When you register for limited access online, you'll still get a ton of great stuff. You can always commit to the full package later, including all 90 sessions, for only \$129.

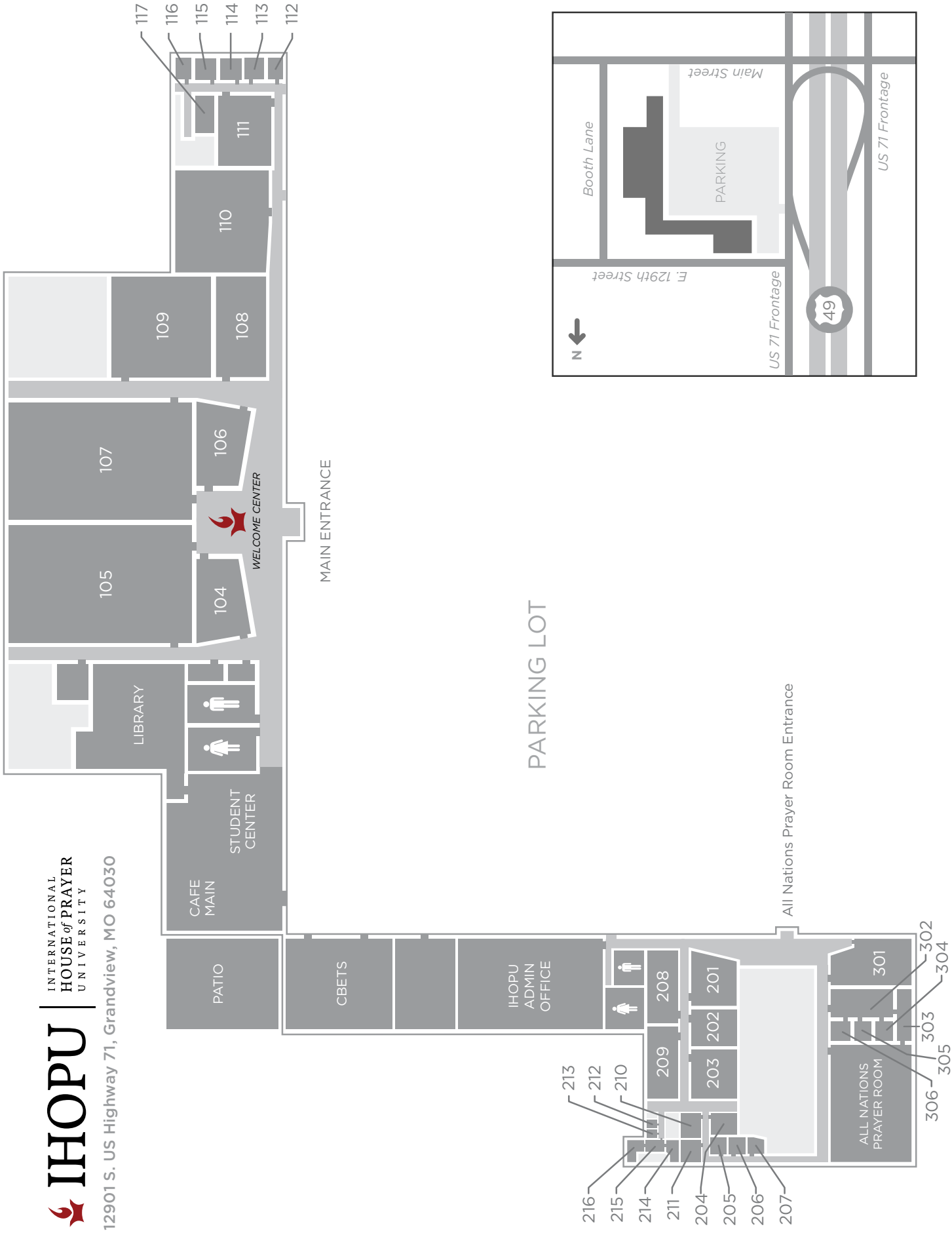
**REGISTER FOR LIMITED
ACCESS ONLINE, \$0**

WHAT DOES THE PREMIUM PACKAGE INCLUDE?

Relive RETURN by watching all the highlights and moments you may have missed or engage with it for the first time. This package includes all the main sessions (with Francis Chan, Chris Reed, and Mike Bickle) plus breakout session notes, videos, interviews, and more. This conference was designed specifically to involve both our in-person and online audiences. The Premium Package will immerse you in all the teaching tracks, all the Q&A, all the dialogue and interaction, no matter where you live! You can digest the full breadth of the conference at your own pace.

UPGRADE TO PREMIUM PACKAGE, \$30
Available Saturday, September 18





IHOPKC MISSIONS BASE MAP

KANSAS CITY // GRANDVIEW



LEGEND

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| A Herrnhut Apartments | D Camp and Training Center |
| B Red Bridge Center (RBC) | E Forerunner Church |
| » Global Prayer Room | » Forerunner Bookstore |
| » Cafe Main | |
| » Forerunner Bookstore | F IHOPU Campus |
| C Forerunner Church Offices | » All Nations Prayer Room |
| <i>Location of the original Prayer Room</i> | » Cafe Main |

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Choose breakouts from four tracks: **Prayer, Promise, Power, and Worship.** After many of the teaching sessions, there is an opportunity for you to engage with the issues through discussion groups.

PRAYER | IHOPU ROOM 107

10AM | FRIDAY MORNING

STUART GREAVES

Coming to the Fellowship Table of the Lord

The scripture makes it clear that we do not have an inheritance to be bored, but to have a vibrant spirit in the Lord. Find out the way forward as Stuart unpacks Revelation 3 and how to respond as the Lord is knocking at the door of our hearts.

2PM | FRIDAY AFTERNOON

MATT CANDLER

How to Win the War for Your Attention

There are many battlefronts both inside and outside of the Church, such as racism, abortion, political unrest, love growing cold, and passionless preaching. Amidst all of these battlefronts, the greatest war of this generation is the war for your attention.

10AM | SATURDAY MORNING

DANA CANDLER

Is Your Interior Life Sufficient for the Coming Seduction?

It is the highest priority of God that His Church would be filled with His love, walking in the first commandment. How do we keep an unoffended heart that is burning with understanding in the midst of increasing pressure?

2PM | SATURDAY AFTERNOON

DR. CHARLES METTEER

Hearing from God Amidst the Chaos of the 2020s and Beyond

Join Dr. Metteer as he talks about the difficulty of connecting with God when deeply troubled, the heightened importance of our interior lives in the 2020's and beyond, and how to develop this inner relationship with God.

PROMISE | IHOPU ROOM 109

10AM | FRIDAY MORNING

ISAAC BENNETT

The Generational War for the Soul of the Family

There is coming both an increase of a culture of betrayal in society, and an increase of the spirit of unity and power on the Church. Join Isaac as he looks at the Lord's plan for a profound global outpouring of unity amidst a culture of betrayal.

2PM | FRIDAY AFTERNOON

NATHAN & RACHAEL STEEL

How to Thrive Under Pressure

In Matthew 24, Jesus tells us that there will be an increase of pressure leading up to His return. This means that the pressure of 2020 is only just the beginning of an increase of pressure across the earth. Join Nathan and Rachael as they discuss the joys that are to be found in the midst of historic pressure.

10AM | SATURDAY MORNING

ELIJAH CHOI

Israel & Palestine: Who's Right, Who's Wrong, and How Do We Pray?

What is the cause of the controversy of Zion? Furthermore, what is the purpose and plan of the Lord related to Zion? If you have the desire to move past mere information and to enter into the fellowship of the Lord in the controversy of Zion, join this breakout session.

2PM | SATURDAY AFTERNOON

BENJI & GABRIELLE NUÑEZ

The Greatest Story No One Has Ever Told You

The Lord gives 150 chapters in the Bible to prepare us to respond to both the coming glory and coming crisis. This session will greatly affect the way you read scripture and help you understand what the Lord is doing in the nations, what he has done in the past, and what He will do in the future.

POWER | IHOPU ROOM 105

10AM | FRIDAY MORNING

JAKOB & GEORGINA PILZ

How Do You Confront Wicked Powers When You Are Powerless?

Over the last year and a half, there has been an onslaught of unexpected events. Jakob & Georgina dive into both the internal and external aspects of confronting darkness as well as how to engage with the Lord in prayer when you feel powerless.

2PM | FRIDAY AFTERNOON

RUBEN & ELISE CERVANTES

Changing the World through Praying, Singing, and Fasting

Ruben and Elise explore the power of pentecost, the fruitfulness of prayer, and singing that breaks chains. If you are looking for real substance in your prayers and power in your life to effect real change, join this breakout session to learn more.

10AM | SATURDAY MORNING

DEAN BRIGGS

The Ekklesia & Contending Prayer in the Great Battles to Come

Dean Briggs will be talking about the restoration of dominion in the ministry of Jesus and the authority of Christ in communities of contending prayer. In these days, we have to be a people who understand our authority in Christ. Join this breakout session.

2PM | SATURDAY AFTERNOON

DAVID SLIKER

Fearless Proclamation in a Culture of Betrayal

There is an underlying strategy of the enemy to silence us through fear and intimidation. This breakout session will give you the tools to begin to grow in boldness, tenderness, and confidence to speak forth the truth in every era of resistance and rage.

WORSHIP | IHOPU ROOM 104

10AM | FRIDAY MORNING

BRENTON & CARA DOWDY

Leading Strong Worship Teams

Brenton & Cara break down the key components to leading a strong worship team. If you want to know how to lead a strong worship team and how to go somewhere together as a team, you won't want to miss this! With over 20 years of experience, the Dowdys share invaluable wisdom they have learned along the way.

2PM | FRIDAY AFTERNOON

RICHARD TOWN II

Keys to Moving from Proficient Musician to Prophetic Worshiper

Many musicians are proficient at their instrument, but fewer have learned to prophesy as they play. If you are longing to truly play the heart of God, join Richard as he unpacks keys for moving from a proficient musician to a prophetic worshipper.

10AM | SATURDAY MORNING

ANNA BLANC

Prophetic Singers: Singing the Heart of God to Shape History

There are multitude of hinderances that constantly try to keep singers from singing the heart of God. At this time in human history, more than ever, it is time for the singers to take their place in the calling the Lord has for them. As they do, there will be songs that will arise across the earth—songs of praise and worship that will anoint Jesus in the day of His return.

2PM | SATURDAY AFTERNOON

NAYOMI THOMAS

Songs of Deliverance

This is not just for singers and musicians, but for everyone. What does it mean to sing songs that deliver not only people, but people groups and nations? In this hour of crisis, more than ever, we need people to declare songs of deliverance.



Since 1999,
over 16,000
staff, students, and
interns have served
the Lord at IHOPKC.

sessions, each led by a full worship team; it is broadcast live to the nations by webstream, equipping and inspiring others.

PRAYER AND OUTREACH

From our core mandate to keep a 24/7 prayer sanctuary, many ministry, justice, and outreach expressions have been birthed, both in Kansas City and throughout the nations. From the place of prayer, we go out to win the lost, heal the sick, feed the poor, and make disciples. Many more prayer and missional communities have been supported, inspired, and given courage by what is happening in a little prayer room in Kansas City.

We refer to our full-time staff as “intercessory missionaries.” They raise their own support to work as full-time missionaries who reach out to others from a lifestyle of prayer and worship.

Through the years, over 16,000 believers have served as staff, students, or interns, investing 50 hours per week as they go from the prayer room to the classroom, to ministry outreaches and works of service. Many have gone on from Kansas City to support the Body of Christ in cities across the nations.

The community of IHOPKC is committed to prayer and the fore-runner message. This means spiritually preparing ourselves and others for the unique dynamics that will occur in the generation of the Lord’s return.

THE IHOPKC MISSIONS BASE

Advancing 24/7 prayer & proclaiming the beauty of Jesus

IHOPKC BY THE NUMBERS

700

intercessory missionaries on staff today

22

years of 24/7 prayer with worship

84

two-hour prayer sets per week in the Global Prayer Room

10

languages streaming prayer with worship

The International House of Prayer community exists to partner in the Great Commission by advancing 24/7 prayer with worship and proclaiming the beauty of Jesus and His glorious return.

As an evangelical missions organization, we are committed to working with others in the Body of Christ as we pray for the release of God’s power and purpose and seek to walk out the two great commandments to love God and people.

BEGINNINGS

On May 7, 1999, the International House of Prayer was founded by Mike Bickle and twenty full-time “intercessory missionaries,” who cried out to God in prayer and worship thirteen hours a day. Four months later, on September 19, 1999, prayer with worship extended to the full 24/7 schedule. Today, from dawn

to dusk and through the watches of the night, by the grace of God, prayer and worship are offered to the Lord unceasingly.

Scripture teaches that night-and-day prayer is deeply connected to the release of the fullness of God’s power and purpose (Lk. 18:7–8; cf. Isa. 62:6–7). We are offering Jesus 24/7 worship and contending for justice and for the power of the Spirit to bring transformation to every sphere of society.

The 24/7 prayer room is the center of all we do at IHOPKC; it is open to the public around the clock, day and night. The prayer room has been designed to reflect the tabernacle of David (1 Chr. 9:33; 22–24); it is a place where we never cease worshiping the Lord and interceding for our world.

Each twenty-four-hour period is divided into 12 two-hour prayer



Join the New IHOPKC Podcast.

Episodes released weekly



International
House of Prayer

PODCAST

Family Connect

Available on iTunes and
other podcast providers

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



Take the prayer room anywhere

LIVE AND ONLINE 24/7



ONLINE

24/7 at ihopkc.org



SMART TV

Available on Roku



MOBILE APP

Available on
iPhone and Android

ihopkc.org/prayerroom

Now streaming in 10 languages

Get live worship and prayer from our All Nations Prayer Room

ARABIC | SPANISH | CHINESE | KOREAN | RUSSIAN
FARSI | GERMAN | FRENCH | PORTUGUESE

ihopkc.org/anpr



IHOPU

INTERNATIONAL
HOUSE *of* PRAYER
UNIVERSITY

ONE SCHOOL.
EVERY NATION.
BURNING AND
SHINING TOGETHER.

24/7 PRAYER NOW HAS A 24/7 GLOBAL CLASSROOM

Can you imagine sharing your learning experience with others around the globe . . . in **real time**? From Singapore to Sierra Leone, from Brazil to Kansas City, IHOPU students are experiencing something entirely new **together**. Join these students and others in our global classroom, whether here in Kansas City or in your hometown.



Schools of Ministry, Worship, Media

We are working to remove every obstacle and boundary to see forerunner messengers and ministers emerge from every nation, tribe, and region of the earth. We are coming soon to you, in *your* language. Visit us online to learn what languages are currently available!

Forerunner School of Ministry (FSM) is dedicated to equipping praying leaders, preachers, messengers, and missionaries to engage in the Great Commission in the power of the Spirit with understanding of the urgency of the hour.

Forerunner School of Worship (FSW) equips worship leaders, singers, and musicians. Our training combines excellent musicianship with study of the Word and intimacy with Jesus, preparing students to serve in houses of prayer, local churches, and places of worship all over the earth.

Forerunner Media Institute (FMI) aims to foster creative messengers with a deep understanding of Scripture, who can challenge and change culture through storytelling. FMI offers biblical training alongside mentoring in technical media skills and production.

[Visit ihopu.org today to learn more!](https://ihopu.org)



Here in Kansas City? We'd love to meet you!

Chat with our Connect Team over the phone, visit a class, or take a tour of our campus. We look forward to speaking with you and meeting you soon!

(816) 775-4008 FROM 9AM TO 5PM, MONDAY-FRIDAY // [IHOPU.ORG/VISIT](https://ihopu.org/visit)

IHOPKC INTERNSHIPS

Find out more at the IHOPU
& Internships Info Meeting
Sept. 18, 12:30pm, Room 109

Our internships exist to see people equipped with the Word of God and a deeper life in prayer and friendship with Jesus, ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit, and equipped to engage in outreach and ministry in the local church.

While each internship has a distinctive age group, length, and schedule, they all share the same core training components: equipping and encounter in prayer and worship, classroom instruction, practical ministry experience and outreach, and a season of growing and building community amongst like-minded believers who want Jesus to be first in all things.

For more information, please visit ihopkc.org/internships.

INTERNSHIPS BY THE NUMBERS

49

nations
represented
since 2010

8,000+

interns have
taken programs
since 1999

21+

years of internships
at IHOPKC

*Preparing believers of
all ages as intercessors,
messenger, singers,
and musicians for the
growing prayer and
missions movement
throughout the earth*

INTRO TO IHOPKC

All ages | One 3-month track

Intro to IHOPKC is a full-time internship program that encourages individuals into a lifetime of prayer and friendship with Jesus. This program is designed as a time of consecration, encounter, and missions through prayer. Many have rebuilt their spiritual foundations in this program through a season of encounter and equipping, for a deeper life in prayer and confidence in the love of God. We welcome single and married applicants of all ages.

ihopkc.org/intro

SIMEON COMPANY

Ages 50+ | One 3-month track

The Simeon Company is a gathering point for believers over the age of fifty, married or single, who desire to give the next season of their lives more fully to prayer, worship, the ministry of the Holy Spirit, outreach, and works of justice. Our goal is to see each intern filled with passion for Jesus and turning toward the younger generation as a spiritual father or mother. We believe that unity and ministry between generations are part of God's glory and plan for the Church.

ihopkc.org/simeon



ONE THING INTERNSHIP

Ages 18-25 | 6 months

In the One Thing Internship we call young adults to wholeheartedly pursue God in a season devoted to prayer, friendship with Jesus, study of the Scriptures, and equipping for ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit. We believe God is raising up a generation who are confident in God's love and who abandon themselves to Jesus as their supreme delight and pursuit—their “one thing” (Ps. 27:4). In the context of 24/7 prayer and worship, you will be encouraged and equipped in a life of prayer and outreach.

ihopkc.org/oti



FIRE IN THE NIGHT

18+ | Two 3-month tracks

Fire in the Night is an internship joined to the NightWatch, the prayer watch of a company of people who pray and worship the Lord from midnight to 6am in our Global Prayer Room. We believe that the night belongs to the Lord. Fire in the Night interns cry out in prayer for justice and revival to break in on the earth. Our interns are involved in building a fiery community, outreaches to the lost, and ministry to others in the power of the Holy Spirit.

ihopkc.org/fitn



HOPE CITY

18-40 | two 3-month tracks

The Hope City internship trains and equips intercessory missionaries to carry out works of justice through serving the poor, the homeless, and addicted in an inner-city prayer room setting. Participants grow in the knowledge and love of God through spending time in the Word and prayer; they also develop the life skills they need to minister in an inner-city context by leading in the Hope City prayer room, serving in our community kitchen, and participating in the food distribution project and evangelism outreaches. We do this along with ministering to and living among recovering gang members, drug addicts, and the homeless. (Read more on page 20.)

ihopkc.org/hopcity





HOPE CITY

*Bringing God's hope
to the inner city*

Visit our expo
booth in
the bookstore.

[ihopkc.org/
hopecity](http://ihopkc.org/hopecity)

Hope City is a ministry center that functions with a social justice emphasis in the inner-city community of Kansas City. Hope City maintains a house of prayer, a community center, a soup kitchen, training for addicts, and youth outreach.

Hope City is part of the International House of Prayer, a ministry committed to combining 24/7 worship with prayer and 24/7 works of justice. Our central ministry is the prayer room, because we know that prayer to a God who hears us is the answer to every need.

Located in one of Kansas City's toughest neighborhoods, known for high gang activity, violence, murder, and poverty, Hope City encounters real-life scenarios where those who have been marginalized by society—the lost, sick, and driven out—are forced into desperate situations. We have the opportunity to respond to challenges, to transform

hardship into hope, and to see the life-changing power of God at work in people's lives.

HOPE CITY INTERNSHIP

From the place of prayer, interns help feed the hungry, serve the broken and addicted, and learn skills to impact

“
AN INNER-CITY
PRAYER ROOM WHERE
THE HOMELESS, THE
ADDICTS, AND THE
POOR CAN FIND A
PLACE OF HOPE
”

these men and women through prayer, worship, works of justice, and the grace of God. Interns have the opportunity to show the love of Jesus in word and deed and bring hope to the inner city.

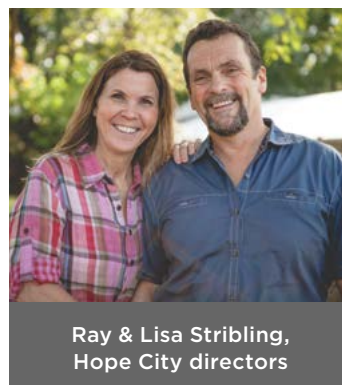
THE TRADE-OFF PROGRAM

The Trade-Off Program is a 90-day program for individuals who are coming out of drug addiction, prostitution, and other destructive lifestyles into the new life that Jesus gives.

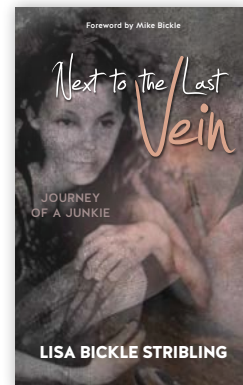
At Hope City, we desire to see lives transformed and people succeed in a world that swallows up the poor and the weak. We provide a safe, structured environment for people to learn and take healthy, life-changing steps to freedom from addictions and damaging choices. We teach people to believe for lasting change in their lives.

COMMUNITY CENTER

Hope City operates a day shelter with a soup kitchen, serving hundreds of plates of hot food to the surrounding community. Our shelter offers a food pantry, fresh coffee, showers, Wi-Fi, and clothing. Additionally, we offer teaching and training in life skills, recovery classes, and biblical teaching.



Ray & Lisa Stribling,
Hope City directors



**Read Lisa Stribling's journey out of
drug addiction in *Next to the Last Vein*.**

Available in the Forerunner Bookstore

Find out more at the IHOPU & Internships Info Meeting | **Sept. 18, 12pm, IHOPU Patio (outside cafe)**



SEEK HIS FACE

SET APART A TIME TO ENCOUNTER GOD

INTERNSHIPS

ihopkc.org/internships

INTERNSHIPS

APPLY TODAY





THE UNCEASING WORSHIP APP

3,679,200+ MINUTES OF WORSHIP FROM
THE IHOPKC PRAYER ROOM DELIVERED TO
THE PALM OF YOUR HAND

AVAILABLE NOW

 **APP STORE**

 **GOOGLE PLAY**



ADVANCING 24/7 PRAYER

UNTO THE GREAT COMMISSION. UNTO THE RETURN OF JESUS.

PARTNERS

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—Hannah, Afghanistan

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Today millions of brothers and sisters in Christ from around the earth watch the prayer room webstream every year, many of whom live under persecution in closed nations.

"I work at All Nations House of Prayer in Taiwan. When I went into China this year to do training in the harp and bowl prayer model, I spoke to some young people in their 20s who are so encouraged by your webstream of 24/7 worship and prayer. It is a powerful resource for Chinese believers who are in the beginning stages of raising up houses of prayer."

—Abby, Taiwan

"Tonight I turned on the 24/7 webstream, and you were praying for the high school graduating class of 2017. I'm a high school senior graduating from a Christian school on Friday. I'm not sure what the Lord is going to do with my life yet. Through your prayers, God encouraged me that He is preparing works for me and my peers and that He will use us mightily."

—Nick, Minnesota

“

I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent . . . till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

ISAIAH 62:6-7





THE DANIEL PROTOTYPE

AN OVERCOMER IN BABYLON

By Dean Briggs



Imagine a vast city of sun-dried-mud brick dwellings crammed together claustrophobically beside towering structures with walls covered in dazzling tile and huge gates guarded by statues of mythical creatures. Everywhere public propaganda proclaims the greatness of the god-king, who is venerated on penalty of death. The desert heat is unrelenting. The peasants teeming in the busy streets live lives of drudgery and routine. The poor live further out in hovels, while the wealthy live in opulent, colorful homes attended to by many slaves. People, priests, and rulers all make sacrifices to a pantheon of gods in decorated temples and atop ziggurats in the city center near the king's palace. A mighty river cuts the city in half, while winding streets hide endless dark alleys. Brothels and shamanism are as much a part of daily life as the endless vegetable carts and beggars who line the streets. A more civilized visitor might be shocked at the debauchery that happens in public on a daily basis.

But no, this is civilization—the height of it.

Welcome to ancient Babylon, a little over five centuries before the birth of Christ. There, as we peer over his shoulder, we see an old, faithful Jew spending his final years doing what he has done for decades: praying to Yahweh. This is a dangerous occupation for the old man, for it is not the land of Yahweh, but of Nabu, Marduk, Ishtar, and many other demonic powers. While prayer anchors the old man's daily rhythms, his devotion has been far from easy. For nearly seventy years—a period spanning his entire adulthood and much of his youth—the old man has wasted his life in captivity along with hundreds of thousands of his countrymen. Yet others see a different story. Though he is quite aged, Daniel, whose name means “God is my judge,” actually wields enormous influence. He has served multiple

rulers spanning the empires of Babylon, Media, and Persia. How can this be?

As you read this and ponder Daniel's extraordinary life, you might be holding an iPad and sipping a cup of coffee from the convenience of your living room, watching the RETURN conference unfold online. Perhaps you are joining us here in Kansas City, eager to consider and prepare for the days ahead. Our world has certainly changed. An unsettling, disturbing new era is upon us. The return of Christ draws nearer every day. Whether it is five years or thirty-five years from now, it is a breath, nearer than any other day in 6,000 years of history. What does that mean? How then shall we live

I don't know any more relevant figure to study than Daniel.

None of us can really fathom the oppressive darkness of Daniel's time nor the staggering beauty and countless seductions it offered him, even as an exile. None of us can travel through time, so we have to rely on other data points; but we don't actually need to travel through time at all. Tellingly, Babylon along with her successive empires were so infamously steeped in wickedness—in politics, economics, trade, sexuality, and routine occultism—that Babylon's persistent value system is highlighted for purging at the return of Christ. The judgment of Babylon is part of the culmination of redemption, restoration, and justice for the entire earth (Rev. 17-19). If the world feels like it is spinning out of control and growing dark beyond redemption, I assure you, it is not worse than Babylon. But we're not far

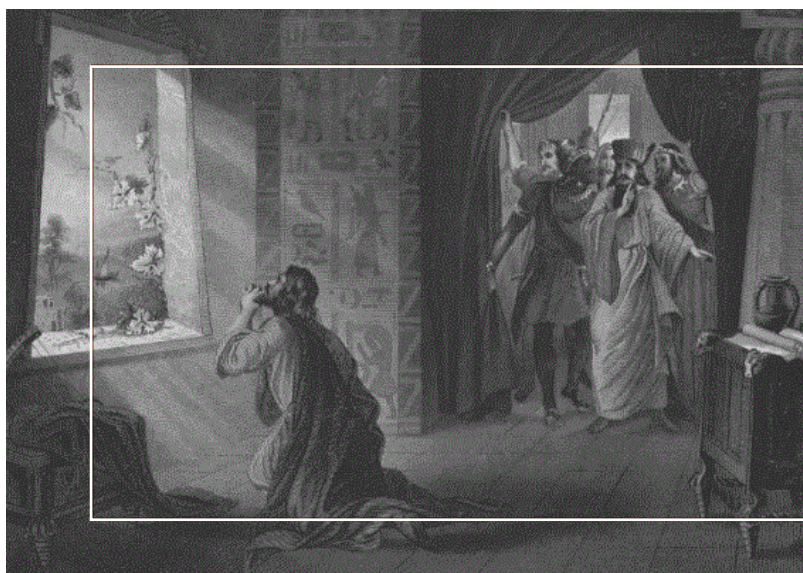
In pondering this fact, we are tempted to make a mistake in two parts. We either assume Babylon to be less dark than it really was or so dark and oppressive that no righteous labor

could survive, much less thrive. Daniel proves us wrong on all counts. At roughly eighty-three years old, he has been one of the most significant power brokers whose influence has spanned three great and terrible empires. Though a Jew, he might as well be a native-born Babylonian or Persian prince. He is a man of rare virtue, incredible gifts, and unwavering faithfulness. Neither astrology, sorcery, court intrigue, military coups, labyrinthine politics, barbaric punishments, or routine temptations—including greed, self-promotion, and self-preservation—were sufficient to spoil Daniel's soul or ruin his witness.

Instead, Daniel continually responded with wisdom, excellence, and faithful intercession when he was positioned at the highest, most influential levels of trusted leadership—no matter the cost to his well-being. He did this whole searching for answers to the dilemmas of his times, the fulfillment of prophecy, and for greater influence in the

stewardship in prayer. Daniel's *modus operandi* was human cooperation with God's sovereignty. Oh, how greatly God loves such an intercessor—something the angels repeatedly told him (Dan. 9:23; 10:11, 19).

Why did Daniel respond this way? Imagine a prisoner who has lost track of time. He expects to die in prison. But then one day a guard shows up and tells him his sentence is complete and that he will be released the next day. What a surprise! One type of prisoner might dance and celebrate, but another more thoughtful prisoner might be overwhelmed to realize all that had been lost. Now that liberation has come, the full toll of his crimes settles in. The ending of a criminal sentence could push such a man or woman to seriously reconsider, with great remorse, all the lost time and the damage and to reconsider whatever crimes had put him in prison to begin with. Daniel committed no such crimes, but he does give his soul to this kind of introspection and prayer on behalf of



"Daniel chapter 9 grants us a window into how God assigns and distributes divine intelligence. Firstly, He looks for faithfulness. Secondly, he looks for steady intercession."

demonized land of his captivity. He was a spiritual activist and a pragmatic diplomat. This forms a template for our own posture amidst the challenges of modern life.

Turning to Daniel 9, we read: "In the first year of Darius . . . king over the realm of the Chaldeans— . . . I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes" (emphasis added).

When Daniel realized it was time for the miserable deportation to end, he did not rub his hands together in satisfaction and head for the pool. Though the duration of the exile had already been announced by a trustworthy prophet—the same one who had tearfully predicted it to begin with—Daniel did not passively expect that any prophetic outcome lay outside the purview of his own

a potentially unwitting, insolent nation. To the degree that it was up to him, Daniel borrowed the troubles that others had made, took the word of Jeremiah and Jeremiah's own grieving into his bosom, then turned those troubles into fuel for intercession. He did this to properly own the wretched past that he might help create a different future. Daniel essentially said, "I am too old to return, but I will pave the way back for another generation. I will wrap them in the spirit of my own repentance and ask God to preserve them so that they will never wander from the Lord again."

The selfless wisdom of this very practical "now" prayer was followed by an astonishing, unexpected angelic visitation—by no less a figure than Gabriel himself! Gabriel proceeded to declare end-time mysteries of the highest order, including the pivotal puzzle piece of the seventy weeks. In praying faithfully for what was now behind him, and therefore covering the transition right in front of him, the old intercessor became a prophet for what lay ahead of him and his people.

Intercession and prophetic activity operate in high congruency. Daniel chapter 9 grants us a window into how God assigns and distributes divine intelligence. Firstly, He looks for faithfulness. Secondly, He looks for steady intercession. While we often focus on interpreting the mysterious details Daniel was shown in this encounter, at the macro level we see perhaps an even greater mystery: the precious flow of trust and revelation between God and the person who will give oneself to the burden of prayer.

Notice how Daniel appealed to God for an understanding of local prophecy, purpose, and mercy but in response was shown eternal prophecy, purpose, and mercy. Nowhere did Daniel's intercession include any requests for angelic visitations or cool, futuristic prophetic words. Yet out of what should have been a bitter, meaningless life—exiles don't have status, privilege, or power—Daniel carved into heaven with ruts of prayer, steady virtue, and selfless intercession. He thus becomes perhaps the preeminent case study in all of Scripture for how a life of intercession potentiates our own existence. For instance:

Daniel inquires about seventy years of Jeremiah's prophecy of exile and desolation, and the angel answers with a far loftier panoply of seventy Sabbath cycles of years in the historical restoration of Jerusalem for the Messiah's eternal purpose. In other words, the revelation granted to Daniel far surpassed the scope of his own request (Dan. 9:3-19).

Daniel appeals to the Lord's mercy while acknowledging the due process of the old covenant's legal penalty upon oath-breakers (Dan. 9:11). In response, he is shown the totality of redemption which the Lord will accomplish through Christ in the new covenant (Dan. 9:24-27).

Daniel inadvertently contends with principalities and powers. In this, we see that prayer is fundamentally a series of divine transactions. Whether or not we ever see as Daniel saw, he gives us the glimpse we need to know that prayer is our entry point into divine realities. In devotional prayer, we commune with

God. In intercession, we enter the very battlefield trodden by angels and demons (Dan. 10:5-14).

And so, this is how we prepare for the days ahead. We build such a life. In prayer, we become a lens through which the light of God is both refracted and enlarged from small to panoramic impact, projecting the will of God through the agency of our life like a lens upon human history. Our "local" concerns in prayer may open doorways of global import. This is how God delights to use His faithful Daniels. It's a job with ten million openings, and everyone who applies is hired. But even more than our intercession, we are to learn to delight in the privilege of knowing and loving Jesus. Together, let us throw the doors of our hearts open and fully return to Jesus, the Desire of All Nations. He is truly worthy of it all.

In summary, a lifestyle of prayer and fasting positions "whosoever will" as a magnet for the spirit of revelation and understanding. As the Lord's return draws near, the Bride of Christ will find herself increasingly surrounded by hostile forces, decadent culture, and increasingly pagan and lawless societies. Into this very darkness, we are sent as sheep among wolves, embedded as yeast hidden in a lump of dough, and positioned as light held aloft in the darkness, anointed by the Holy Spirit to grow "ever brighter unto the perfect day" (Prov. 4:18).

Make no mistake, the politics, economics, immorality, and increasing occultism of our modern era are troubling in the extreme. Though authority will be given to "persecute the saints of the Most High," which can cause fear if you let it, I believe Daniel lived as a prototype of one with a witness of dominion in the midst of staggering darkness and pressure (Dan. 7:25). Babylon will be judged, and we, the saints of God, are called to rejoice in her downfall. We need not fear Babylon. Babylon should fear us. Jesus is returning, beloved. We have received an unshakable kingdom from which we can live with unshakable hope. If you are alive today, should the Lord tarry, your prayer life is your path to entering His rest and then laboring with strength. You have influence. You can move angels. You can interpret dreams. You can receive wisdom from on high and mold culture by your obedience, humility, and steadfast spirit.

This is what the RETURN conference is about: preparing the Church for days of extraordinary transition, testing, and glory. Between our pre-conference and live breakouts, you'll have access to seventy-six short, rich teachings spanning four tracks: Prayer, Promise, Power, and Worship. In addition, seven main sessions will plunge us deep into corporate worship and biblical perspective while also offering dynamic interaction, Q&A, prophetic and healing ministry, networking and friendship with people spanning six continents, and more. It's far more than any person can take in, which is why we'll offer an exclusive option to get all of the video archives once the conference ends. We look forward to spending these three days together.

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus. 🙏



Dean is happily married to Jeanie, and the proud father of eight grown children. His books include *Ekklesia Rising*, *Consumed*, *The Visionary*, and many more. He also co-authored *The Jesus Fast* with Lou Engle. A former pastor and church planter, Dean is a consultant, dreamer, and Bible teacher. As part of the senior leadership of IHOPKC, he travels and speaks around the world.

20

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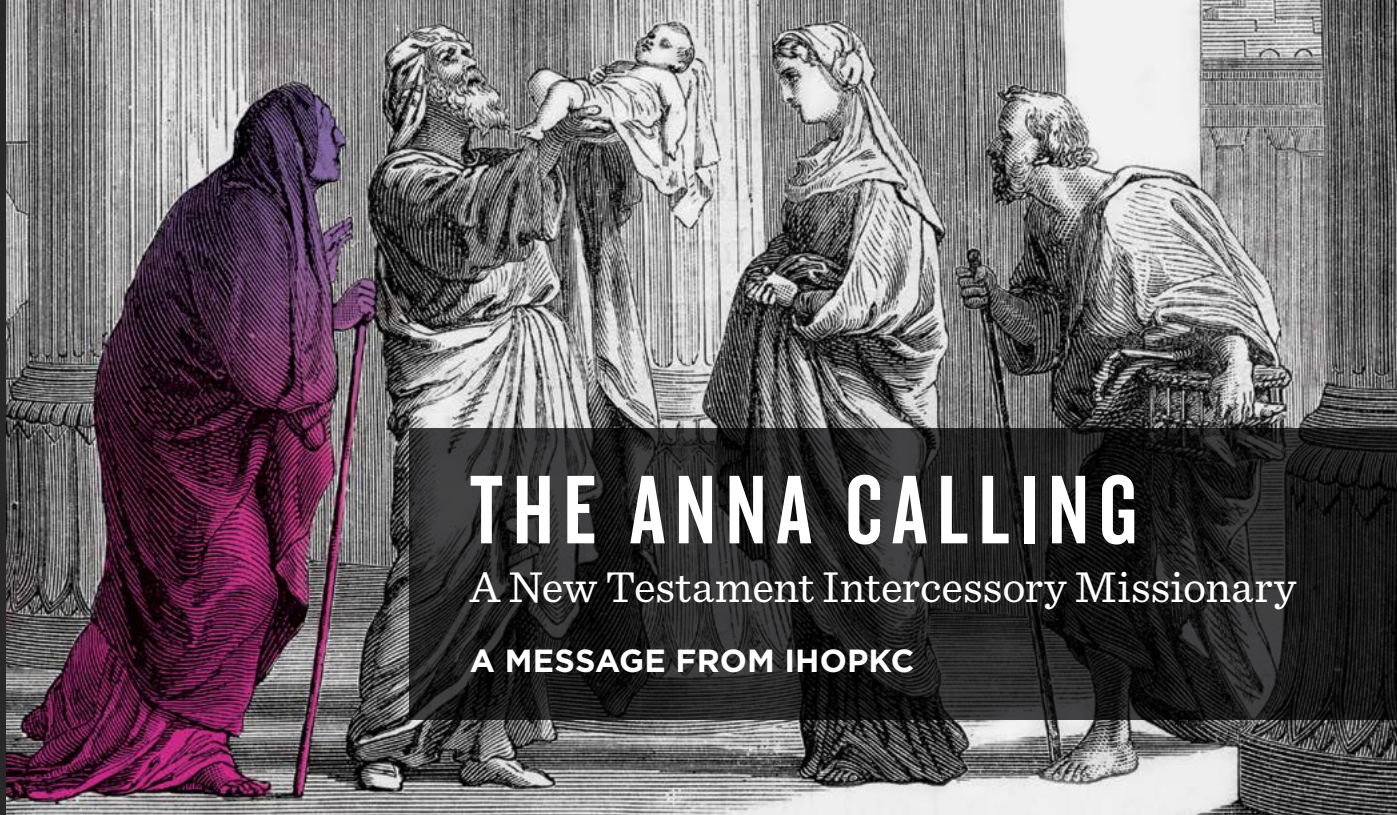
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THE ANNA CALLING

A New Testament Intercessory Missionary

A MESSAGE FROM IHOPKC

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 (Isaiah 62:6; Luke 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. (Luke 2:36–38)

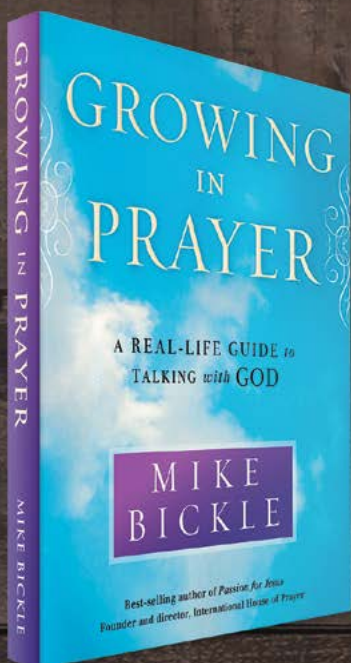
Notice that Anna was a prophetess (v. 36), intercessor (v. 37), and evangelist (v. 38). The grace for prophetic ministry, intercession, and evangelism came together in one woman. Anna was widowed after living with her husband for seven years (v. 36), probably when she was in her mid-twenties, and that 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 (Luke 18:1–8).

“Will not God bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night . . . ? I tell you that He will bring about justice for them . . . When the Son of Man comes [second coming], will He find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:7–8).

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. ♡



"What a gift to our generation! This is a comprehensive handbook that will travel with me and is an essential aid for leaders involved in training others. Here are the keys to both a world-changing movement and a joy-filled heart."

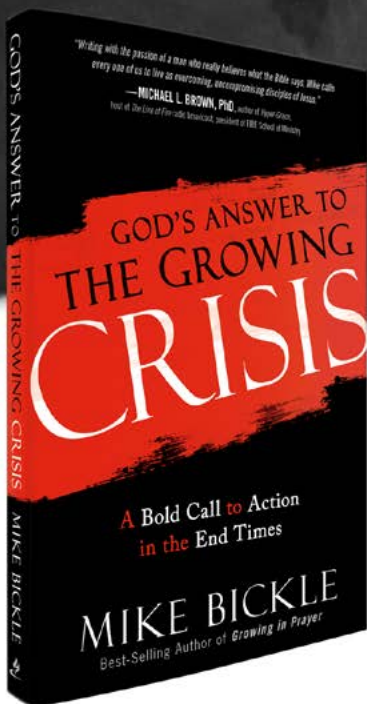
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THE WISDOM OF INTERCESSION IN AN UNPRECEDENTED HOUR

BY DAVID SLIKER

AS we have launched back into conferences, the question has been asked of us: “Why are you doing conferences again?” The question arises because we have a primary assignment that makes it difficult to host conferences: the “keeping of a sanctuary” of 24/7 prayer that involves a significant amount of labor to build and maintain. However, the primary assignment blends into a critical secondary assignment: messaging and a “spirit of wisdom and revelation” that fuels perpetual prayer long-term. Messaging and intercession, therefore, are inseparable. Along with the necessity of messaging to fuel prayer here, comes the assignment to serve the body of Christ and the worldwide prayer movement everywhere it may be found. Messaging is the heartbeat of what we do, and intercession is always the hoped-for outcome of all that we declare, teach, and express.

Ultimately, that is our hope for this conference: that the Return Conference will serve night-and-day intercession everywhere in preparation for present and future shaking and disruption that will impact our children and grandchildren in very direct and difficult ways. Intercession is our best answer to the present and future crises, and as such we want something to happen and to continue to happen long after the conference has ended – we want the

prayer to continue. We want it to continue beyond our own leadership and influence. We want intercession to take hold and be perpetuated like an unstoppable force of nature. We hope that the next generation would see the inherent beauty and wisdom in the simplicity of God’s method to transform His Church and change the world. We want 24/7 prayer to outlive and outlast us, and to usher in the return of the King to the earth.

Having engaged in intercessory prayer for several years now, I have come to a greater place of appreciation for the brilliance of the Lord and the beauty of His plan. The “why” of intercession has become more beautiful and dearer to my heart.

Intercession is the righteous response of the faith of the saints when they witness or experience pain, loss, oppression, injustice, and the wickedness and brokenness of humanity in a fallen world.

By engaging in intercession, Christians actively refuse the accusation of the world against God: “Why does God allow...?” and instead orient their prayer related to the question, “Why does man rebel...?” Intercession recognizes that the central question of injustice is the assertion of men’s agenda in relationship to the earth’s collective desire for the absence of God’s presence, power, and ultimately, accountability related to human affairs.

“
BY ENGAGING IN
INTERCESSION,
CHRISTIANS
ACTIVELY REFUSE
THE ACCUSATION
OF THE WORLD
AGAINST GOD...

In other words, men want to possess the earth and its resources to build a global society without the God of Israel and His appointed Ruler of the Nations. The daily intercession of wicked men who seek to acquire and keep their power is accusation and complaint along with a stubborn refusal to repent. The end—their power and success—justifies their self-reliant arrogance.

By engaging in intercession for kings and rulers of the earth, the Church engages this wicked and unrepentant group with something more than a cry for “change.” The Church meets the rage and rebellion of the ones in power with a cry for “mercy.”

The Church cuts against the rejection of God and the accusations against Him by inviting Him to come down and be with us, to be the answer to global pain, loss, loneliness, bitterness, oppression, lying, cheating, immorality, theft, brokenness, sickness, and beyond. Yet intercession serves the dual purpose of both inviting God to come and be the solution to injustice while simultaneously having mercy on the unjust that they might be saved!

This is the beauty of God’s leadership and love, bringing the Church into humility and gentleness, meekness and lowliness, loving their enemies, praying for the oppressors and the wicked, loving mercy. God desires to spare the unjust and the rebellious, He delights in mercy, and He wants to seek and save the lost.

Therefore, in the face of increasing pain, loss, and wickedness, we engage in the hope of our calling and lean again into mercy. We engage in intercession because we want God on His terms to fill the earth with His presence, bringing forth His righteousness and justice.

As the conference comes to an end, may the fires of night-and-day intercession burn ever more brightly, without end, until He comes! 🙏



David Sliker has been a senior leader and author at the International House of Prayer Missions Base in Kansas City, Missouri, for nearly 20 years. Ministering and serving with his wife, Tracey, and their four children, Riley, Lauren, Daniel, and Finney, David’s primary ministry calling is to be an intercessory missionary. Additionally, he ministers internationally, equipping saints in prayer and intimacy with God, the power of the Holy Spirit, passion for the Scriptures, and the proclamation of Jesus and His return. He is the President of International House of Prayer University, where he teaches about prayer and intimacy with Jesus, missions, biblical studies, and the return of Jesus.

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with DAVID SLIKER

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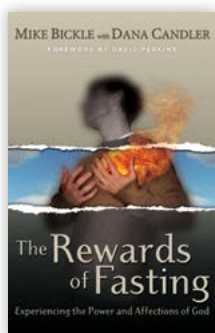
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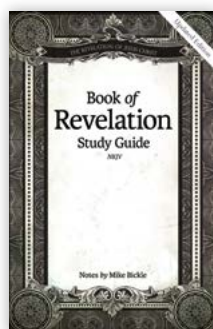


The Rewards of Fasting

Mike Bickle & Dana Candler

The grace of fasting is a gift from God that positions us to experience more of His power and affections. Done in the right spirit, fasting increases our recep-

tivity to God's voice and His Word, enabling us to encounter Him more deeply. This book is designed to equip people to embrace the discipline, grace, and joy of fasting.



Book of Revelation Study Guide

Mike Bickle

Simple and inspiring, this verse-by-verse guide to the book of Revelation includes a glossary of terms and symbols as well as in-depth articles and charts. Mike's straightforward approach brings

the message to life and emphasizes its relevance for us today. Gain understanding of some of Mike's most compelling insights into this book of the Bible; discover how the Bride will partner with Jesus as He cleanses our planet of evil and ushers in the kingdom of God.

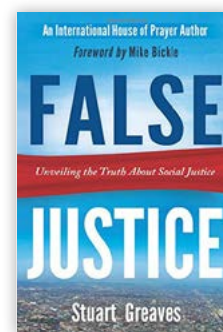
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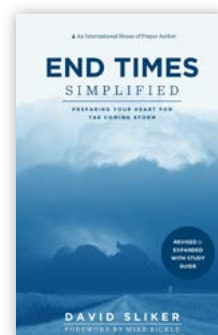


False Justice

Stuart Greaves

This book intentionally calls for a paradigm shift in the way most people think about justice. *False Justice: Unveiling the Truth about Social Justice* equips you with the Christ focus and

biblical backing needed to form a right and godly mindset regarding social justice.

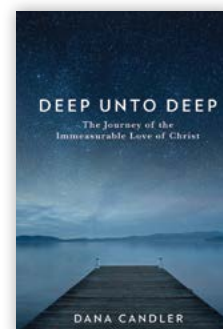


End Times Simplified

David Sliker

Most people don't know how to approach the end times, but the Bible is clearer than you might think on this subject. If you want to understand end-time events and how you fit into them,

the straightforward language and biblical truths in this book make it an excellent resource.

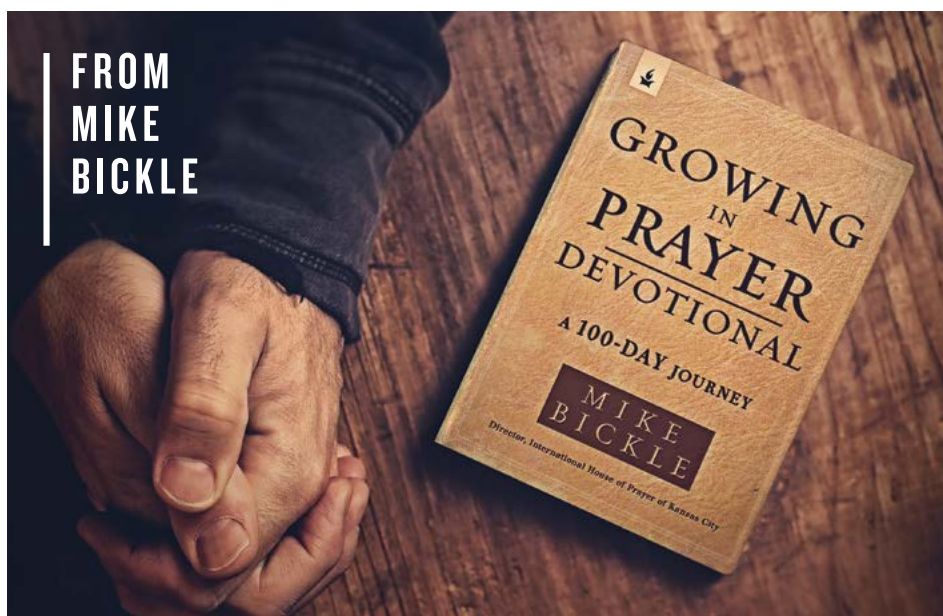


Deep unto Deep

Dana Candler

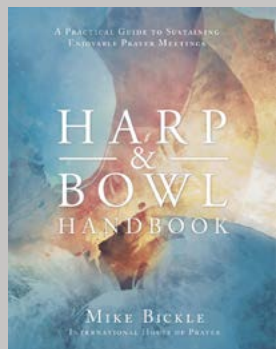
Above all else, we were made to know a Person—the Lord Jesus—and to know Him deeply. This quest of knowing Him—comprising times of weak prayer, profound joy, desperate hunger, and even seasons that test

our love for God—is the highest pursuit and richest fulfillment of our lives.



This devotional will help energize a prayer life that has become routine, stale, or nonexistent and will be a welcome resource for believers who desire to grow in prayer.

NEW FROM FORERUNNER PUBLISHING



HARP & BOWL HANDBOOK

Mike Bickle

This practical guide from the International House of Prayer of Kansas City is based on over twenty years' experience in corporate 24/7 prayer. What we refer to as the "harp and bowl model" is a scriptural, God-focused, dynamic structure that facilitates the flow of sustained, enjoyable prayer.

Harp & Bowl Handbook provides direction for prayer rooms and the musicians, singers, and intercessors who staff them. It includes the mechanics and principles of our application of the harp and bowl model, key apostolic prayers from the New Testament, a brief history of night-and-day prayer, a biblical overview of the end-time prayer movement, and a look at intercessory missionaries in the biblical timeline.

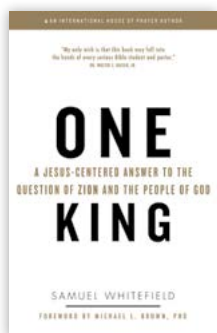


Chaos Beneath the Shade

Tracey Bickle

From her own experience of getting free, Tracey Bickle honestly walks us through recognizing and overcoming the bitterness lurking within and its resulting

chaos. Will offenses ruin us, or will we emerge tender, victorious, and joyful? How can we be healed from the pain of heart injuries? Join Tracey and discover the wise counsel of God to free us from the chaos of bitterness and release us into His peace.



One King

Samuel Whitefield

Few subjects have been more controversial throughout history than Israel. As the controversy around Israel increases, anti-Semitism mounts, and the gospel mission to every people group

nears completion, the global church must understand both the original Old Testament gospel mandate and exactly how the first coming of Jesus dramatically shifted redemptive history. Discover God's Jesus-centered solution to the conundrum of history and the answer to the question, "What is true Zion, and who are the people of God?"

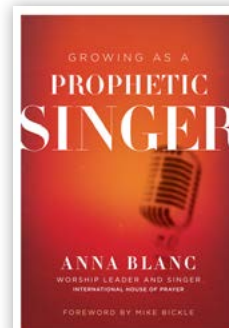


Crazy Love

Francis Chan

Does something deep inside your heart long to break free from the status quo? Are you hungry for an authentic faith that addresses the problems of our world with tangible, even radical, solutions? God

is calling you to a passionate love relationship with Himself. The answer to religious complacency isn't working harder at a list of do's and don'ts—it's falling in love with God. And once you encounter His love, as Francis describes it, you will never be the same. Because when you're wildly in love with someone, it changes everything.

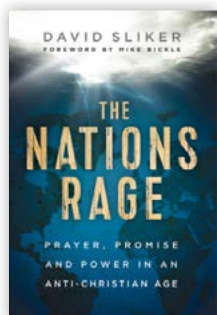


Growing as a Prophetic Singer

Anna Blanc

This book is an excellent resource for equipping and strengthening prophetic singers in their calling. The book's instructional

approach is paired with personal experiences from Anna Blanc's years as a prophetic singer and worship leader at the International House of Prayer. It addresses practical issues of the heart and offers instruction on how to grow vocally and develop in the Word. This informative and approachable resource is for any singer or worship leader who is involved, or who desires to be involved, with a house of prayer or a church worship team.

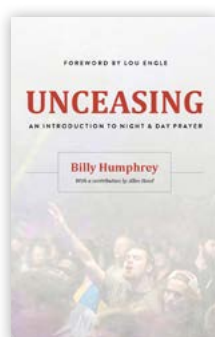


The Nations Rage

David Sliker

How many of us are ready to face, with true faith and courage, the unique challenges of the earthshaking trouble and glory ahead? While the

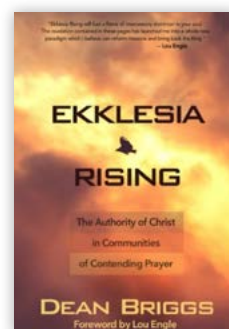
spiritual atmosphere grows more toxic and society becomes more anti-God, Christians are engaging less and less with their faith in Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. We do not have to fear the future. But we must not be surprised by it or be unprepared to face it.



Unceasing

Billy Humphrey

Why night-and-day prayer? What are the biblical precedents for night-and-day intercession? Those who desire a greater understanding of the prayer movement that is sweeping the earth will find *Unceasing* to be an invaluable resource.



Ekklesia Rising

Dean Briggs

For generations, we have been taught that Jesus promised to build His "church" in Matthew 16:18, so we've dutifully tried to build the church with Him. But there's a big problem: that's not the word He used.

Instead, He announced something far more potent: "I will build My ekklesia!" A motherlode of identity and mission separate church and ekklesia. If Jesus gave His disciples authority and keys to bind and loose, it means we have been put on offense, so why are we stuck on defense? If we are built to soar in heavenly places with real authority in prayer, then why does our mission often feel grounded on the launch pad?

Find out more at the IHOPU & Internships Info Meeting | **Sept. 18, 12pm, IHOPU Patio (outside the cafe)**



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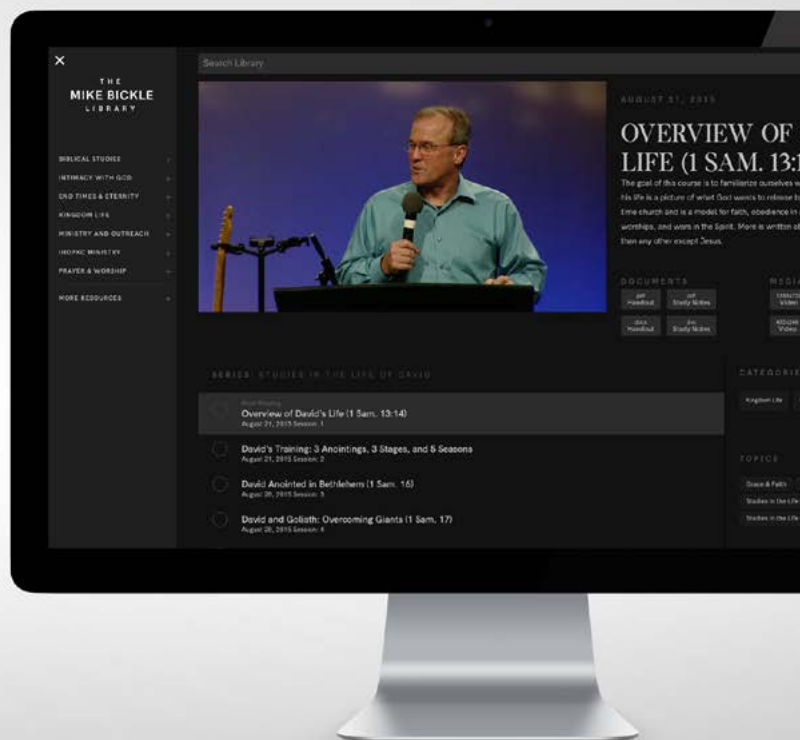
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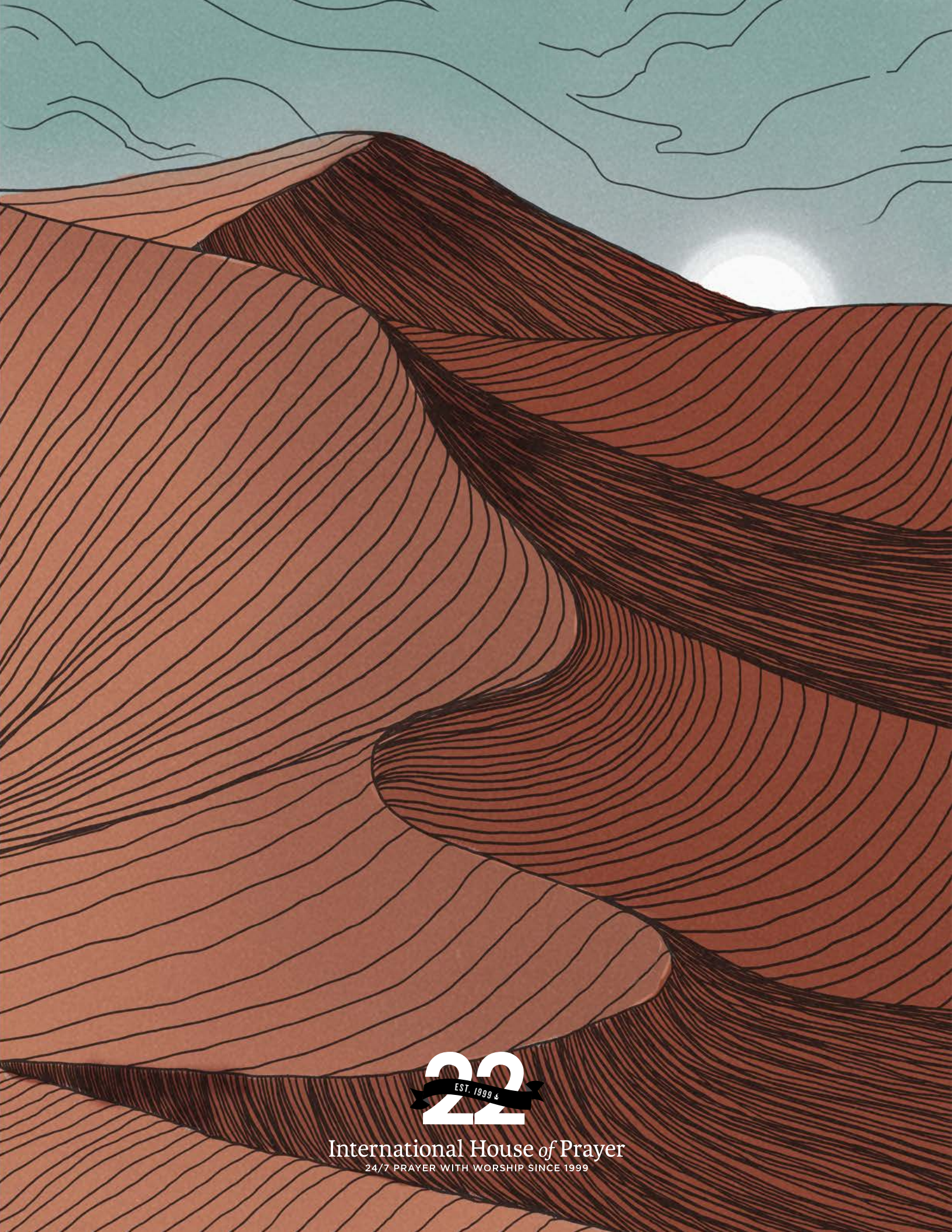
The Newly Relaunched MIKE BICKLE TEACHING LIBRARY

This IHOPKC resource library, encompassing more than thirty years of Mike's teaching ministry, provides access to hundreds of resources in various formats, including streaming video, downloadable video, and audio, accompanied by study notes and transcriptions, **absolutely free of charge.**

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