



PRAY FIRST

Mark 11:15-18

Pray First





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1. It is His house.

“my house”

• *This is God’s house,
not ours.*

PRAY
FIRST

A landscape photograph showing a dirt path leading through dry grass and rocks towards a range of mountains under a hazy, golden sky. The scene is captured during the 'golden hour' of sunset or sunrise, with a warm, low-key lighting. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, white font.

**Praying first means I give
God the right to redirect me.**

**PRAY
FIRST**

A landscape photograph featuring a rocky foreground with sparse, dry vegetation. In the background, a range of mountains is visible under a warm, golden-orange sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**Prayer is where
our plans become
surrendered plans.**

**PRAY
FIRST**

1. It is His house. *“my house”*

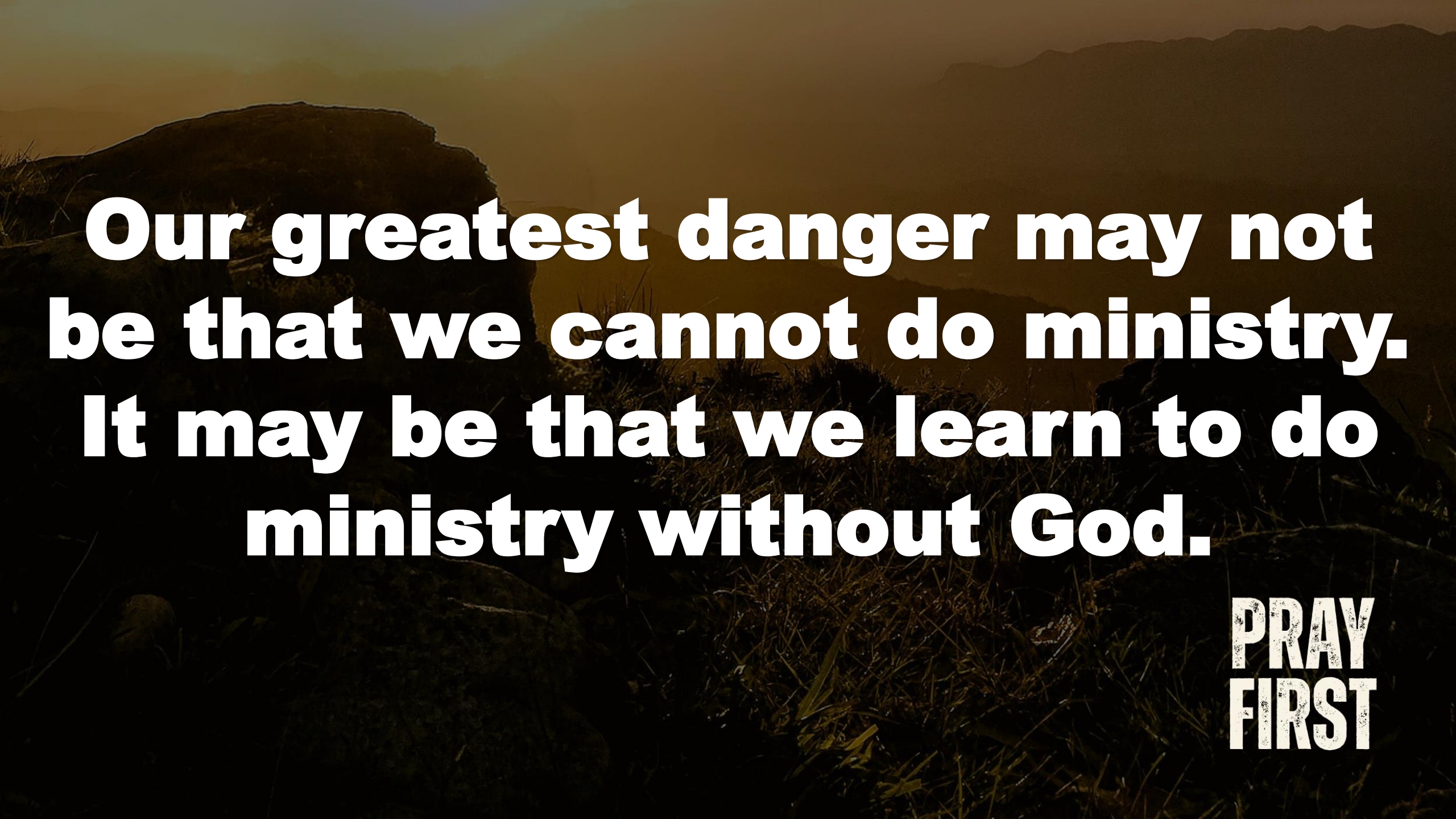
- *This is God’s house, not ours.*

2. It has a defining culture. *“shall be called”*

- *This is what His house should be known for.*



PRAY
FIRST



**Our greatest danger may not
be that we cannot do ministry.
It may be that we learn to do
ministry without God.**

**PRAY
FIRST**

A landscape photograph featuring a dirt path leading through tall grass and rocks towards a range of mountains under a hazy, golden sunset sky. The scene is bathed in warm, low-angle light.

**What I do first reveals
what I trust most.**

**PRAY
FIRST**

1. It is His house. *“my house”*

- *This is God’s house, not ours.*

2. It has a defining culture.

“shall be called”

- *This is what His house should be known for.*

3. It has central priority. *“a house of prayer”*

- *Nothing should crowd out communion with God.*

PRAY
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We don't pray because we are weak Christians. We pray because we have a strong Jesus.



1. It is His house. *“my house”*

- *This is God’s house, not ours.*

2. It has a defining culture.

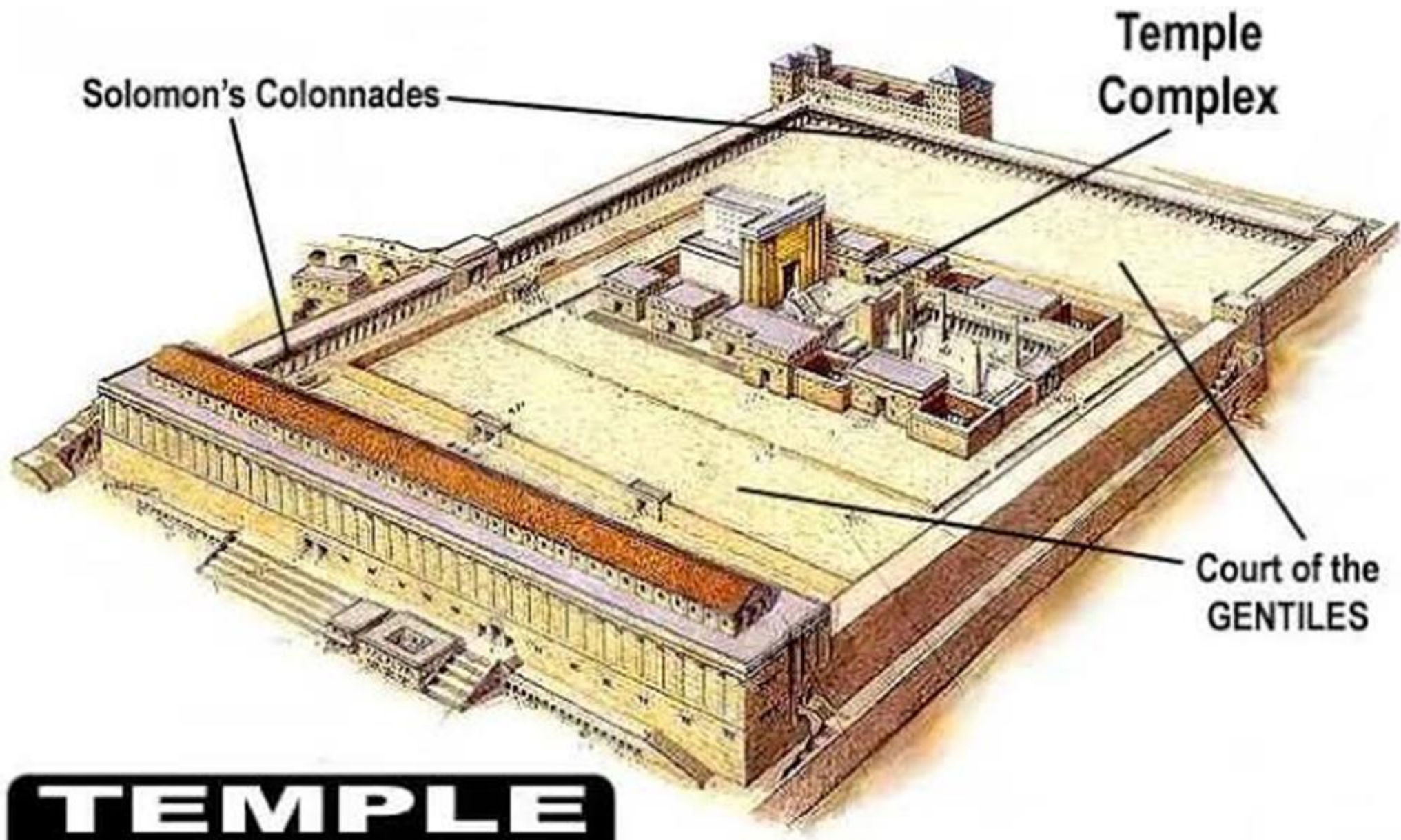
“shall be called”

- *This is what His house should be known for.*

3. It has central priority. *“a house of prayer”*

- *Nothing should crowd out communion with God.*

PRAY
FIRST



**TEMPLE
MOUNT**

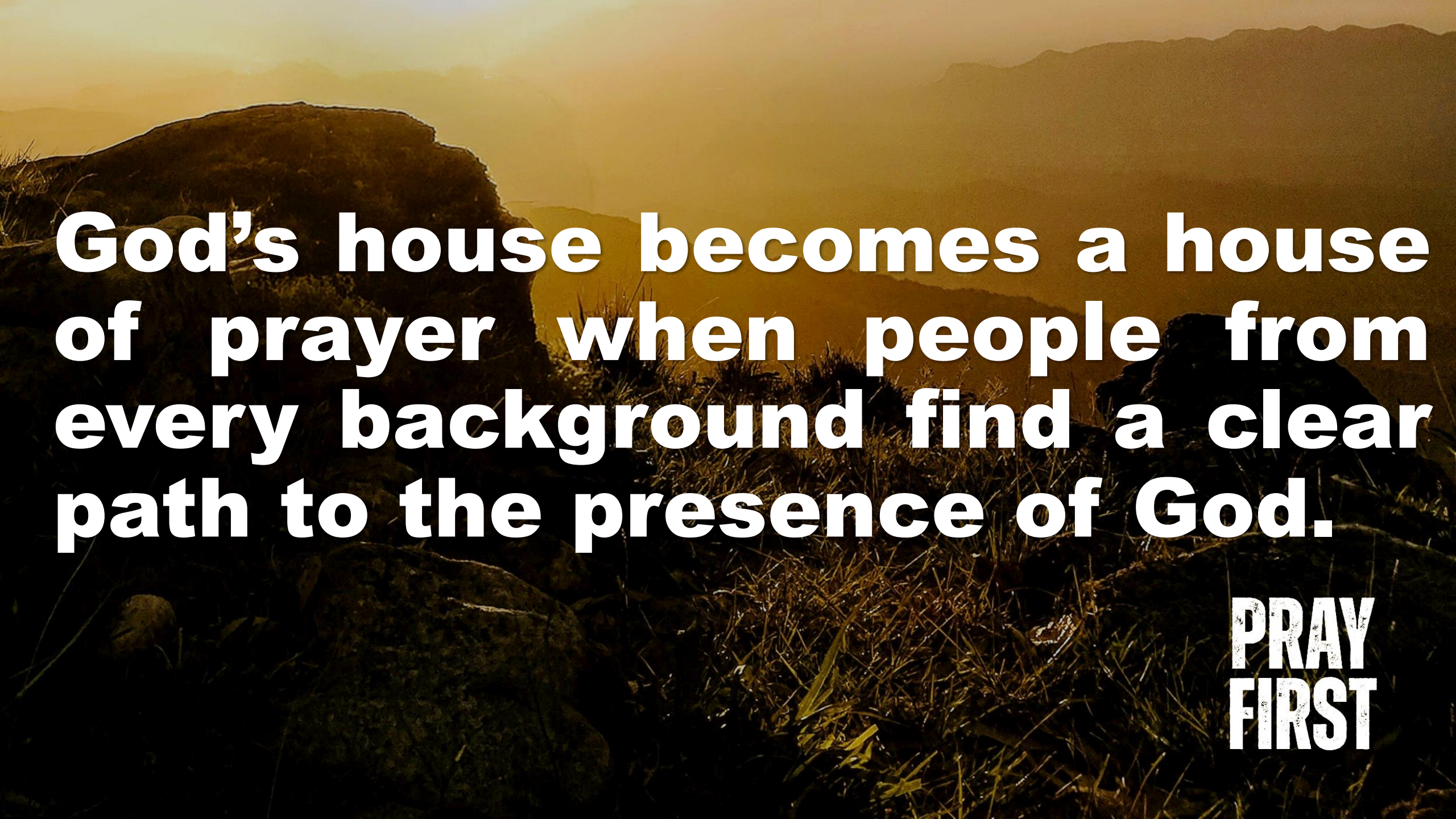
- 1. They had allowed religious activity to obstruct the people God wanted to draw near.**
- 2. God is not impressed with religious activity that leaves no room for God.**
- 3. You must remove whatever has crowded God out.**



1. It is His house. *“my house”*
 - *This is God’s house, not ours.*
2. It has a defining culture. *“shall be called”*
 - *This is what His house should be known for.*
3. It has central priority. *“a house of prayer”*
 - *Nothing should crowd out communion with God.*
4. It has a global invitation. *“for all the nations”*
 - *God is gathering people from all nations.*



PRAY
FIRST

A landscape photograph featuring a large, dark rock in the foreground on the left. The background shows rolling hills or mountains under a warm, golden light, suggesting sunrise or sunset. The sky is a soft, hazy yellow. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

**God's house becomes a house
of prayer when people from
every background find a clear
path to the presence of God.**

**PRAY
FIRST**

Take Home Truths

- Stop acting like the owner of your house. Surrender what belongs to God.
- Bring prayer into everything. Make “*Have we prayed about this yet?*” part of the culture of your home, group, and ministry.
- Clear away what has crowded God out. Establish a place and rhythm for seeking Him.
- Make room for others to draw near. Pray by name for people who need Jesus and be ready to welcome them.





**We will PRAY FIRST
because God comes first.**

**PRAY
FIRST**