## STEP 6 - WORSHIP (THE ALTAR OF INCENSE)

A small altar of burning incense stood at the entrance to the Holy of Holies, where God's presence dwelled. The people of God entered God's presence as they worshipped His names. This altar represents worship and the pleasure it gives God when we worship Him.

**PROVERBS 18:10 NKJV** The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

**PRAYER**: (As you pray through the different names of God, focus on a few aspects of who He is that have been especially meaningful in your current season of life.) I know that You are always with me, God, and Your presence is life to me. You give me breath, joy, and purpose. I love You, God."

## **STEP 7 - INTERCESSION (THE ARK OF THE COVENANT)**

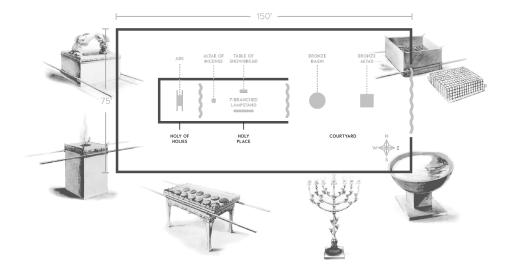
The final place in the Tabernacle was the Holy of Holies, where God's presence dwelled. There, the priest interceded by praying on behalf of the people of God. In the same way, we intercede on behalf of those around us.

**1 TIMOTHY 2:1-4** I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

**PRAYER**: "Thank You, God, for creating a way through Jesus for me to have Your presence wherever I go. I want to specifically ask You to watch over those in authority over me— my spiritual leaders, governmental leaders, the leaders in my family, and my employers (pray for these people by name). Give them wisdom and grace, watch over and protect them, and help them to know and love You more. I also ask you to watch over the marginalized in my nation and community (pray for these people by name). \* I ask you God, to be present with my family (pray for these people by name). \* Watch over my church - every member, guest, Dream Team Member, leader, and Pastor (pray for these people by name). \* I ask You to watch over my city, my nation, and our world. I pray for justice and equality for all and ask You to bring peace (name areas where you feel a burden.) \* Lastly, God, I ask You to provide for my needs. I know that You sustain me and that You care for me (name specific needs that you are aware of.)

# PRAYING THROUGH THE TABERNACLE

In the Old Testament, the Tabernacle was the dwelling place of God, built to His specifications, where He would meet His people. As they entered the Tabernacle, they passed through seven stations, following God's instructions, to experience His presence. Today, even though we no longer need the physical Tabernacle to meet with God, these same steps can help us connect with Him. This prayer model will take us through each station of the Tabernacle and use the purpose of each station to guide our prayers.





# **STEP 1 - THANKSGIVING & PRAISE (THE OUTER COURT)**

The Israelites entered the Tabernacle with thanksgiving and praise, and we start our prayer time the same way.

**PSALM 100:4** Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

Spend some time really thinking about all the blessings in your life. You can write a list, sing your own song of praise, or spend moments reflecting in gratitude.

**PRAYER**: "Father God, You are good, and You deserve all my praise and more. Thank You for the many ways You have blessed me and for watching over me (tell Him specific things in your life that you're grateful for. Thank Him for something new that you've never thanked Him for before). I thank You that Your mercies are new every day. I thank You for who You are and all You have done for me."

# STEP 2 - FOCUS ON THE CROSS (THE BRAZEN ALTAR)

In the Old Testament, everyone had to regularly bring animal sacrifices as payment for their sins. Today, we don't have to do that because Jesus paid for our sins once and for all with His blood on the cross.

**PSALM 103:2-5** Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all His benefits—who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

**PRAYER:** "Thank You, God, for making a way for me through Your Son. Jesus, thank You for the sacrifice You made for me on the cross. You saved me, and You set me free. I praise You for being my Healer. You have power over all disease and harm in my life (*list specific areas where you need to experience God's healing power*). Thank You for being my Redeemer. You rescue me and give my life purpose. Thank You for transforming my life with Your love, for making me new. I want to grow to be more like You (*give Him access to every area of your life*). I know You have good plans for me and all that I have comes from You (*thank Him for specific blessings in your life*)."

# **STEP 3 - CLEANSING & PREPARATION (THE LAVER)**

The next step in the Tabernacle was a bowl of water where people were reminded of their sinfulness and their need to be cleansed and forgiven by God. Checking our hearts and motives and surrendering our lives to God is an important part of daily prayer.

**ROMANS 12:1** Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

**PRAYER:** "God, I confess my sins to You and turn away from them (tell God any sin you know is in your life and confess it to Him with a sincere heart. Ask Him to show you any other areas that need His cleansing). Thank You, God, for freely forgiving me. As I turn away from my sin, I turn toward You, and I offer myself to You."

# **STEP 4 - INVITE THE HOLY SPIRIT (THE CANDLESTICK)**

The next piece of the Tabernacle was a seven-branched golden candlestick. The fire represents the Holy Spirit and how we are called to be light in the world's darkness.

**ISAIAH 11:2** The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—the Spirit of Wisdom and of Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and of Might, the Spirit of the Knowledge and fear of the LORD.

**PRAYER:** "Holy Spirit, I ask You to fill me up. I need Your presence in my life, guiding, directing, comforting, and counseling me. I know that You, Holy Spirit, are God, in the Trinity with God the Father and the Son, Jesus. You are the Spirit of Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Might, and Knowledge. Give me a holy fear of the Lord, helping me to be in awe of who God is and what God does. Work in me, Holy Spirit. Teach and transform me (pray through any areas where you feel the need for transformation today). Empower me with Your spiritual gifts to strengthen the Church and to help bring the reality of the Kingdom of Heaven to earth.

# **STEP 5 - THE WORD (THE TABLE OF SHEWBREAD)**

In the Tabernacle, a table with twelve loaves of bread represented the importance of reading God's Word for daily sustenance.

**JOSHUA 1:8** Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

**PRAYER:** "Thank You, God, for giving me Your Word. I commit to reading it, and I ask You to reveal Yourself to me through it. I want to know You more. Help me to be dependent on, and grow more in love with Your Word. I claim the promises You have for me, and I meditate on the truth of Your Word (pray any Scriptures that are on your heart or that God has given you in your current season). Help me apply it so I can be Your ambassador for love, justice, and righteousness.