

Speaker: Associate Pastor Timothy Ong
Title: House of Prayer
Text: Luke 19:46 ; Mark 11:17 ; Isaiah 56:7

Introduction:

There is a Chinese idiom that says:
When you enter the temple you must show respect to the gods.
When you enter the house you must show respect for the people in the house.

Body: **1. Man is capable of taking something sacred and turning it into something common**

Prayer is a means (channel) through which God blesses His people.
It now has the form but lacks the power thereof.
We even have a tendency to turn it into something wrong. What God has meant to be a blessing, is turned into something that is abhorring to God.

2. God takes something common and turn it into something sacred
The church is set aside to be a **house of prayer**

2 Chron.6:20 I pray that “Your eyes may be open on this house day and night, on the place of which You have said that You would put Your name there, to listen to the prayer which Your servants prays toward this place.”
It is not that there is a specific place only where you can ‘find God’.
It is that God can use something common in nature, and a seeming common place; and He made it into something of deep spiritual significance, and of great spiritual value.

3. What God intended the house of God to be is vital

If God has intended that through prayer He will answer man’s call for help and grace ***then prayer will remain as the channel for God to bless us.***
When God has appointed the church to be the house of prayer, then the right place to go to pray is the church.
And the right thing to do when you are in the church is to pray.

4. When we do that which God intended the church to be, that makes prayer powerful

Prayer is joyful (Isaiah 56:7)
It is a place for the nations to gather before God’s presence.
It is the house of prayer for the nations.
It is God’s intention that souls be saved and brought to the church.
Our offerings that we bring to Him each Sunday, He accepts it.

Conclusion:

King Solomon prayed:
2 Chronicles 6:18 - 21