



Christian Conduct: HOLINESS



1 Peter 1:13-16 (NKJV)

¹³Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; ¹⁴as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; ¹⁵but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, ¹⁶because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."

Introduction

Have you passed your practical driving examination? To pass, the examinees must perform exactly what is on the examiner's list (the standards). Many put on a good front when the examiner is watching, but the rest of the time, they let down their standards. The Bible revealed to us the standard of God, truth and holiness.

Most of the time, the only distinction between a Christian and a non-Christian is that they go to church. But their lifestyle is the same, they still love the world and desire the things of this world. It seems that our new nature in Christ does not reflect the light of Christ and affect the way we live.

To be God's holy people, we must be focused on Christ's coming, obedient in all of life, and growing in our knowledge of God's holiness.

The word "holy" means to be separated. When applied to God, it points to His divine existence, that He is above and beyond His creation in such a way as to be distinct from it. Contained in the word is the

notion of God's purity, that He is totally separate from all sin. When God calls us to holiness, it means that we are to be set apart from the world unto God, separated from all sin. But since sin dwells in the very core of our being as fallen creatures, how can we ever hope to be holy?

There are three senses in which we are holy (or "sanctified") as God's people. The moment we put our faith in Jesus Christ as Savior, we are **positionally** sanctified or set apart unto God. Then we must be **progressively** sanctified by growing in holiness. This process will not be complete as long as we're in this body, but we must actively work at it. When we meet the Lord, we will be **perfectly** sanctified, made completely like Him.

Galatians 5:16

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

Romans 8:13

For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

1 John 3:2-3

²Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

If we belong to God, He has set us apart unto Himself. He is progressively making us like Him. And someday we will be completely like Him. We cannot go to heaven by striving to be holy. Good works cannot pay the penalty for our sins. Only the blood of Jesus Christ can satisfy the justice of God. We must put our trust in Him, not in our good works. So, if our faith in Christ to save us is genuine, it will result in a life of progressive holiness. If a person is not striving against sin and seeking to grow in holiness, it is doubtful whether his faith was saving faith.

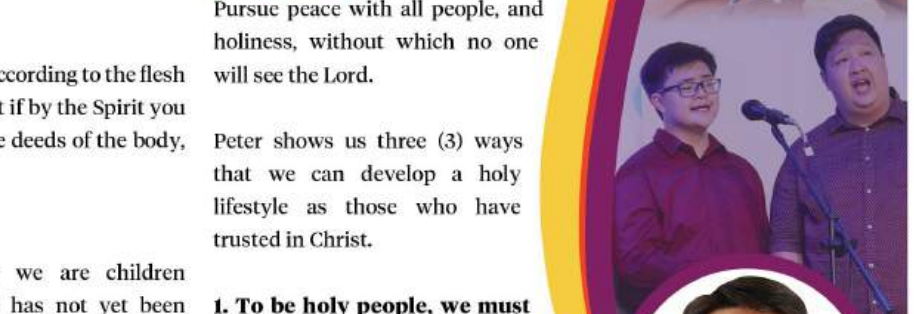
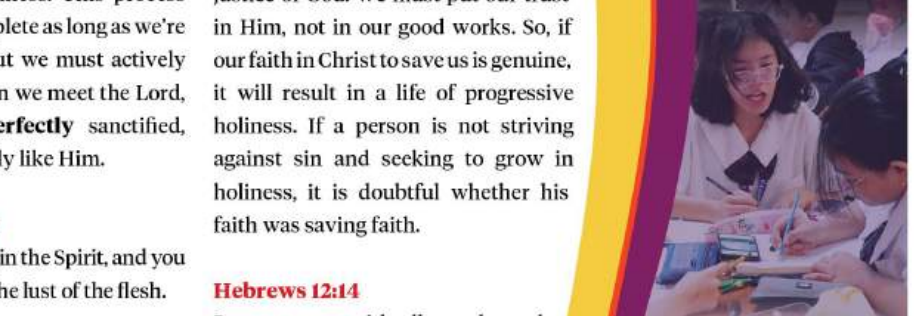
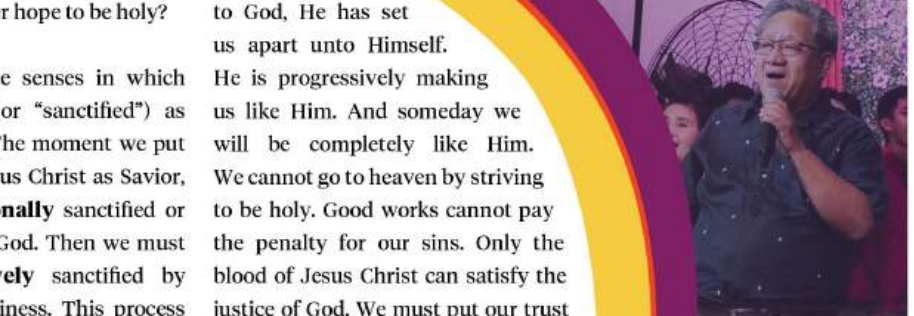
Hebrews 12:14

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

Peter shows us three (3) ways that we can develop a holy lifestyle as those who have trusted in Christ.

1. To be holy people, we must be focused on Christ's coming (1:13).

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Rev. Dr. James C. Sy
Administrative Pastor



Before the event begins, students exercise with their classmates while singing at the top of their lungs, giving their fullest energy.

The Math and Science Week was filled with interesting activities, mind-boggling booth games, and quiz bee for both online and face-to-face students.

Comprehensive video lessons and a seminar workshop was prepared for all the learners to enjoy. They acquired various ways to measure, create their own three-dimensional eyeglasses, periscope, and many more. The UCACOA students also facilitated booth games, giving a way for all students to play while learning Math and Science concepts, and win exciting prizes at the Redemption Booth. On the other hand, students were thrilled to play the Math and Science Quiz Bee which challenged their minds and abilities.

With these events, UCA helps to improve students' confidence and their socialization skills while excelling in academics.



SEMINAR WORKSHOP

The last leg of the seminar is as comprehensive as the first two. All students experienced the wonders of Science theories and answered questionnaires that tested their skills.



From teacher's assistance to answering on their own, the kids enjoy solving and measuring.



The Math and Science enthusiasts show their answers after finishing their worksheets.



2 Corinthians 5:17
(NKJV)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

It was a carnival of fun-filled and mind-boggling booth games that reflect important mathematical and scientific concepts relevant to today's world.

BOOTH GAMES



Students have fun playing with their friends, answering questions, and receiving prizes.



QUIZ BEE

Engaging the students in a challenging competition, the quiz bee was facilitated to test their prior knowledge and advanced learnings about the topics in different branches of Math and Science.



Students confidently write and declare their answer, aiming to enter the next round.



There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.

Romans 8:1 (NKJV)



In which peso bill can you find the Mayon Volcano and the whale shark or butanding?

- a. Php 50
- b. Php 100
- c. Php 500
- d. Php 1,000



After all the events where the students displayed their best effort, UCA awarded and recognized the winners of the Math and Science Quiz Bee and those pupils who have excelled in their activities. Even the online students were recognized during the special Google Meet session.



Galatians 5:22-23
(NKJV)

²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
²³gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.



Isang araw na puno ng kagalakan sa piling ng Diyos ang naranasan ng mga nagdiwang ng ika-15 na anibersaryo ng UCF Mt. Tabor Church noong nakaraang Linggo, Setyembre 29.

Matapos ang preparasyon para sa isang mahalagang araw ng pag-alala sa kabutihan ng Panginoon sa Kaniyang ministeryo, ang lahat ay nakisaya at nagpasalamat sa Panginoon. Ang mga miyembro at manggagawa ng UCF ay buong kagalakang naghandog ng pasasalamat sa pamamagitan ng pag-awit at pagsayaw sa ating dakilang Diyos na buhay. Mula bata hanggang matanda, ang bawat isa ay nakiisa rin sa paghahandog ng presentasyon na alay sa ating Panginoong Hesus. Ang Diyos ay tapat at mabuti sa Kaniyang mga anak kaya naman puno ng kasiyahan ang buong anibersaryo nang ating balik-tanawin ang pagkilos ng Diyos sa mga nagdaang taon sa panambahan ng UCF sa pamamagitan ng iba't ibang Audio-Visual Presentation (AVP) na ipinalabas sa buong programa.

Inaasahan na sa pamamagitan ng ministeryo ng Mt. Tabor Church, marami pang kaluluwa ang makakarinig ng Salita ng Diyos at makasama sa Kaniyang malaking pamilya.

Panimulang Panalagin

Bilang pagbubukas ng programa, ang lahat ay inanyayahan sa isang panalagin. Dito pinasalamanat at dinakila ng buong panambahan ang Panginoong Diyos para sa Kaniyang katapatan at walang hanggang pagmamahal sa Kaniyang mga anak.

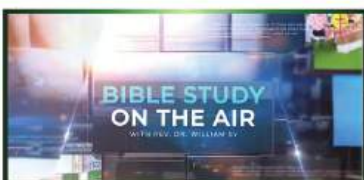


Pinangunahan ni Rev. Ricardo Jacob ang buong panambahan sa isang panalagin.



Upang alalahanin at baikan ang kagila-gilalas na pagkilos ng Panginoon sa nagdaang mga dekada, naghanda ng mga Audio-Visual Presentation (AVP) ang UCF na magtatanghal ng Pangalan ng ating Panginoong Hesus.

Audio-Visual Presentation



“Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me.

John 15:4
(NKJV)

Papuri at pagsamba

Naghandog ng pasasalamat, papuri at pagsamba ang buong panambahan bilang pagdakila sa ating Diyos na banal. Nag-alay ng awitin at masasayang tugtugin na pinangunahan ng mga anak ng Diyos. Higit sa pakikinig ng Kaniyang Salita ay naranasan din ng mga nagsipagdalo ang presensya ng Diyos.



Rev. Dr. William Sy



Isang pamilyang umaawit ng pagsamba at pagdakila sa Panginoong tapat.



Sa pangunguna ng ating mga pastor ang lahat ay sama-samang sinalubong ang presensya ng Diyos ng mayroong mataas na papuri at pagsamba.



Rev. Morrell Estrellado



Namutawi sa mga labi ng mga dumalo ang mga katagang pasasalamat at pagmamahal na kanilang nadarama sa ating Panginoong Hesus. Puspos sa presensya ng Diyos ang bawat isa, sabay sa pagpalakpak at pagtaas nila ng kamay.



Mula sa kanilang mga puso, ang mga awitin ay hinahandog ng mga anak ng Diyos bilang pagbibigay parangal at pagsamba sa Kaniyang Ngalan.



Rev. Dr. James Sy



John 15:5
(NKJV)

"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

Mga Presentasiyon

Naghanda ng mga nakakaaliw na sayawin at awitin ang mga kapatiran na nais magpuri at magpasalamat sa ating Panginoong Hesus. Ang bawat presentasyon ay nagbigay ngiti at paalala sa mga manunuod tungkol sa kabutihan ng Diyos.



Sa pamamagitan ng mga awitin para sa Panginoon, sa murang edad pa lamang ay itinatanim na sa mga bata ang Salita ng Diyos.



Masiglang umawit at sumayaw ang mga batang nais papurihan ang Panginoon.



Hindi lalaon ay tutubo, lalago at mamumunga din ang mga binhing sa puso ng mga bata ay naitanim.



Hindi rin limitado ang kapatiran upang kanilang ihayag ang kanilang pagsamba sa ating Diyos sa pamamagitan ng kanilang munting awitin.



Ang mga presentasyong kanilang hinandog ay nagbigay rin ng kagalakan sa puso ng mga bisitang maaari ring katagpuin ng Panginoon.

“If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

**John 15:6
(NKJV)**

Maliban sa pag-indak at pagkanta ay naghanda rin ng espesyal na costume ang mga kapatirang nais papurihan ang ating Diyos. Masayang hinandog sa Diyos ng mga grupo mula sa mga *Home Bible Church (HBC)* ang bawat salitang kanilang inawit sa kanilang mga presentasyon.

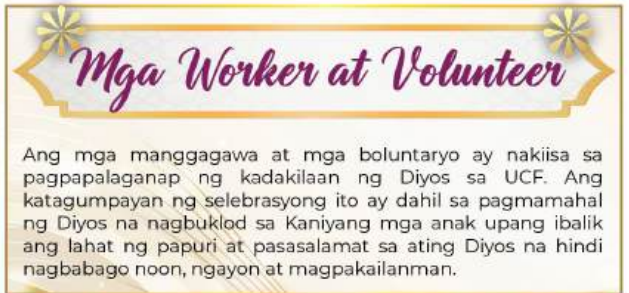


John 15:7
(NKJV)

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.



Pastors



Ang mga manggagawa at mga boluntaryo ay nakiisa sa pagpapalaganap ng kadakilaan ng Diyos sa UCF. Ang katagumpayan ng selebrasyong ito ay dahil sa pagmamahal ng Diyos na nagbuklod sa Kaniyang mga anak upang ibalik ang lahat ng papuri at pasasalamat sa ating Diyos na hindi nagbabago noon, ngayon at magpakailanman.



Ministry Leaders



Choir



Band



Dancers



Kitchen



Decoration



Ushering and Security

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:3
(NKJV)



Colossians 3:9-10
(NKJV)

⁹Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, ¹⁰and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.

Ang lahat ay masayang nagsalu-salo sa inihandang munting putahe kasabay nang malugod na kumustahan sa bawat isa. Bakas sa mga ngiti ng mga manggagawa gayundin ng mga bisita ang kagalakang makiisa sa programang ito.

Pagsasalu-salo



Ang pag-ibig ng Panginoon na naranasan ng kapatiran ang siyang nabahagi sa mga taong dumalo sa panambahan. Ito ay oportunidad upang makakilala rin ang iba pang mga tupang naghahanap sa Panginoon.



Puno ng galak at saya ang lahat sa kanilang pagbisita sa UCF Mt. Tabor Church. Tiyak na isa itong hindi malilimutang karanasan.



Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him.

1 John 5:1
(NKJV)

Offertory & Birthday Song

Ang lahat ay taos-pusong umawit ng "Happy Birthday" upang gunitain ang ika-15 na anibersaryo ng UCF Mt. Tabor Church. Matapos nito ay nag-abot ng handog ang kongregasyon para sa Everybody's Birthday.



Bilang kanilang souvenir sa naging masayang selebrasyong ito, ang mga dumalo ay buong ngiting nagpakuha ng litrato sa photobooth kasama ang kanilang mga pamilya at kapatid sa Panginoon. Hawak ang makukulay na props, kanilang ipinahayag ang kadakilanan ng ating Diyos.

Photobooth



Romans 5:1-2
(NKJV)

¹Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Christian...

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The Greek text has only two commands in 1:13-16: "Fix your hope" and "Be holy." The sense of 1:13 is, "Girding your minds for action, keeping sober, fix your hope completely on the grace being brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." The command is to have a determined focus on the grace that will come to us when Christ returns. There are three (3) aspects of this focus:

- Holy living in light of Christ's coming begins in the mind.

"Gird up the loins of your mind" is a figure of speech stemming from the fact that the men in that day wore long outer robes which got in the way when they needed to run, work, or fight in a battle. So, they would tuck their robes into a belt so that there wouldn't be a hindrance. We might use the expression, "Roll up your sleeves." The idea is to be mentally prepared for combat or action in the realm of holiness.

The point is holiness begins in your thought life. What you think determines how you live. One of the most practical things about living the Christian life is: Deal with sin on the thought level! Judge wicked thoughts the instant you have them, confess them to God, and replace them with thoughts of Him and His Word. If you are envious of someone, judge it, confess it, and ask God to replace it with His love for that person. If you are lusting after a woman (or man), deal with it instantly. Flee from it, both mentally and physically! As Paul puts it, take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:5-6

⁵Casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶and being

ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.

It's on the thought level that your Christianity is either real or fake. You can fool everyone else, but God knows your thoughts. If you're faking it and not cultivating a holy thought life, sooner or later it's going to come out in the open in some form of sin that everyone can see. There isn't anyone who ever committed adultery who didn't first entertain the thought in his mind.

You need to guard what enters your mind as carefully as you guard what you eat. You wouldn't think of eating garbage because it would make you sick. If you feed your thoughts daily on the sensual, materialistic garbage on TV, and in the other media and you seldom feed on God's Word, you will not be transformed to a holy man or woman. Peter says that we must fix our hope completely on the grace that will be brought to us at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Holiness begins in our minds as we think often of our Savior and the gracious salvation we will fully experience when He returns, and we are changed into His likeness!

- Holy living in light of Christ's coming requires spiritual alertness. "Being sober" (1:13) literally means "not drunk," but obviously has a spiritual application, meaning to be alert, temperate, and self-controlled. It refers to clarity of mind, resulting to good judgment.

Peter uses it in 5:8, "Be sober, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

If a literal lion were on the loose outside, it wouldn't be wise to go for a stroll out there! You'd be on the lookout for any sign of it. You'd make sure your kids were indoors. You'd warn them sternly of the dangers. You'd take every precaution so that you wouldn't become his next meal! We live in a worldly society where

the ruler is the Devil. If you feed your mind on the garbage of the world and don't feed on God's Word, it's like getting drunk outside when there's a lion on the prowl. You will be most likely to be the victim! You're not going to be a holy person.

- Holy living in light of Christ's coming is motivated by grace.

"Fix your hope completely on the grace being brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." God's grace is the motivation for holy living. Peter is telling us, "You've already tasted God's salvation in Christ, but the fullness is when Jesus returns. Persevere through trials and focus on the fact that God is going to bless you beyond what you can imagine, not based on what you deserve, but based on His undeserved favor!" That future grace should motivate us to live holy lives right now, no matter how much we suffer.

2. To be holy people, we must be obedient to the Father in all of life (1:14, 15b).

- We must make a break with our past lifestyle.

"Do not be conformed to the former lusts which were yours in your ignorance." The word "conformed" is used only one other time in the New Testament, by Paul in Romans 12:2, "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God."

Our past lifestyle was marked by our efforts to fulfill selfish desires. The word "lusts" refers not only to sexual lust, but "to all kinds of self-seeking, whether directed toward wealth, power, or pleasure." It brings out the strong emotional tug of temptation and sin. These lusts have full sway in unbelievers because they are ignorant of God and His holiness and grace as revealed in His Word. But as Christians, growing in our knowledge of God, we don't have to be controlled by selfish desires.

We make a break with the self-centered living that marked us before we met Christ and now live under His lordship and for His purposes.

Shallow Christians are people who "invite Jesus into their heart" because they're told that He will give them an abundant life. If they like what Jesus is doing for them, and if they feel that their lives are happier now than before, they'll let Jesus "stay in office." But they've never made a break with their past life. They've never repented of sin or yielded to Christ as Lord. They're still running their own lives, living for the same selfish desires they formerly lived for. The only difference is that now they're trying to "use Jesus" to fulfill selfish desires. That is not saving faith. Saving faith involves repentance. It makes a break with the past lifestyle and seeks to follow Jesus as Lord.

- We must establish a habit of obedience.

"As obedient children" is a Hebrew expression that means "characterized by obedience," or "habitual obedience." The implication is that God is our Heavenly Father whom we obey. His Word tells us how He wants us to live. We ought to obey God as a conditioned response. Peter quotes from the Law (Leviticus 19:2) and applies it directly to his readers under grace: "You shall be holy, for I am holy." We are not under the ceremonial or civil laws of Israel. But God's moral law stems from His holy nature and is just as applicable under grace as it was under the law. As God's children, we need to get in the habit of asking, "What does God's Word say?" Then we obey it.

- We must erase the distinction between sacred and secular.

"Be holy yourselves in all your behavior" (1:15b). The word behavior is another favorite for Peter (6 of 13 New Testament uses are in 1 Peter,

continue on page 14>>

²²that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

Ephesians 4:22-24
(NKJV)

Christian...

>> from page 13

with two more in 2 Peter). It refers to conduct or, what we would call "lifestyle." Peter linking "holiness" with "behavior" and adding the word "all" is significant because many pagan religions of that time separated "cultic holiness" from everyday life. Peter is saying that our separation unto God is to affect every area of life, both private and public. There is no such thing as secular life, family life, career life, church life that is not sacred for a genuine Christian.

An integrated life eliminates hypocrisy. There's nothing that turns people off more than to see

someone who professes to be a Christian, but whose lifestyle denies it. This doesn't mean that you must be perfect. It means that you live with integrity, confessing sin when you commit them, making your Christianity practical in every aspect of life. Just as we can learn quite a bit about a father by watching his children, so the world learns about our Heavenly Father by watching His children. That means that we must learn to obey our Father in all of life.

3. To be holy people, we must be growing in our personal knowledge of God's holiness (1:15, 16).

The Christian life is a process of growing to know God as He has revealed Himself in Scripture. This

knowledge of the Holy One has a transforming effect on our lives. We can never be as holy as God is holy, since such absolute holiness belongs to God alone. But we can and must grow in personal holiness as we grow to know our Holy God.

To whatever extent we gain insight on the holiness of God, we will gain equal insight on the magnitude of our sin. At the same time, we will delight in the amazing grace of God who saved us through the cross of Jesus Christ. That knowledge will make us more holy in all our behavior.

Conclusion

Turn to God from your sin and appeal to Him for a clean conscience and an obedient heart, based on the

blood of Jesus Christ that was shed for you.

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a contrite and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble."

The greatest miracle that anyone can witness, or experience today is when an unholy man become holy, and when that holy man was put back into the unholy world, he keeps his holiness.

We can if we focus on Christ's coming, as we're obedient in all of life, and as we grow in our personal knowledge of God's holiness.

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SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember
from the sermon as you seek
God in your life.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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3:00 PM
Cabuyao City, Laguna

HOUSE OF PRAYER
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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