



2 Chronicles 7:14

- This well-known verse actually culminates the biblical account of the dedication of the temple of Solomon in the ancient city of Jerusalem
- **The familiar words of 2 Chronicles 7:14 are God's response to Solomon's prayer of DEDICATION.**
 - Solomon sought assurance from God that prayers offered from the newly-constructed temple would be answered.
 - The effectiveness of Israel's prayers would depend on the degree to which they honored the guidelines He sets forth in 2 Chr. 7:14.
- Having a beautiful new auditorium is not nearly as important as entering it with a beautiful new spirit.

1.) We must **HUMBLE** ourselves.

- Worship that pleases God comes from hearts that understand we can do nothing without God (Acts 17:28, Colossians 1:17).

2.) We must **PRAY** together.

- Few aspects of life in the Lord are as consistently emphasized as the call to prayer (Jer. 33:3, 1 Thes. 5:16-18, Phil. 4:6, Col. 4:2).
- Prayer in the Holy Spirit is the activity that undergirds everything else we do.
- A vital part of what God calls us to do when we gather in this place is pray to Him with a wide range of prayers.

3.) We must seek God's **FACE**

-- To be the people of God means that we are people seeking to know and honor God for who He truly is (Jeremiah 9:24).

4.) We must turn from **WICKEDNESS**

-- More than an apology, God wants us to put off the old sinful self and put on the righteousness of Christ.

-- If we gather without feeling the Holy Spirit tug us toward repentance, then we do not gather according to God's command.

Conclusion

-- When we sincerely conform to these four elements of true worship God promises to hear our prayer, forgive our sins, and heal our land.

-- In all of the chaos, conflict, and corruption of this world, this is one hope to which we can safely turn.

-- Change around us begins with change in us, and hope for the world begins in the **HOUSE OF GOD**

-- Let us come to this beautiful new place with the beautiful new spirit commanded in 2 Chronicles 7:14.