

Praying with Breakthroughs Series

The Secret Place of Prayer

Main Text: Matthew 6:6 (NKJV)⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Quote:

The effectiveness that one has in the Spiritual Arena is impacted by what one does in the natural arena. When an individual begins to come into God's presence, he or she is now able to pray and get immediate results because the individual has connected to God which in turn gives us His Life! What began in the natural has now transferred to the Supernatural which gives us assurance and access to the Life and Power of almighty God through Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

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1. Prayer is a place. A secret place in the Spirit. There, our relationship with God is established; and from there, everything we ask according to His will is given to us.

a. John 14:13–14 (NKJV) ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

b. 1 John 3:22–23 (NKJV) ²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. ²³ And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

c. 1 John 4:14–15 (NKJV) ¹⁴ And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *as* Savior of the world. ¹⁵ Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God.

2. However, **in order to fully experience the presence of God, we must recognize that the atmosphere of that place is more important than the place itself.** Driving in your car to and from work is not “that place” where you meet God. It is “a place” but not “the place.” “The place” needs to be from distractions where you and God can communicate and you can take notes and download and upload with no interferences. Praying going to and from work is good, but don’t allow that to take the place where you and God meet and expect to be able to receive fully what God is trying to get to you.

3. Jesus taught that when we pray, we should go into our “room” (place of prayer), shut ourselves in with God, and speak to Him with faith and trust, as a little child speaks to their father. Our heavenly father will always be waiting for us. When we have learned to pray in the secret place, we will find that nothing and no one else is more important to us than God,. In that place, we are alone with our Creator, the King of Kings, the Almighty, the One who knows everything, including the state of each person’s heart. The atmosphere must be created for God to manifest.

a. John 4:23–24 (NKJV) ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

b. 1 John 3:20 (NKJV) ²⁰ For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

c. Acts 1:24 (NKJV) ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen

What is the secret place (10 Truths)?

1. The Place Where God’s Presence is Revealed and Manifested.

a. Jesus’s sacrifice on the cross gives us access to the presence of God and prayer is the place where that access occurs. **We cannot pray without first recognizing we are in God’s presence.** We don’t pray for the purpose of entering

into His presence, we pray because we are in His presence. **To pray is to recognize we have a divine appointment where we can speak face-to-face with a holy God.**

b. When Solomon built the temple and dedicated it to God, God responded in 1 Kings 9:3 “I have heard your prayer and your supplication that you have made before Me.”

c. **God is everywhere but His presence must be established.**

1) Psalm 139:8 (NKJV) ⁸ If I ascend into heaven, You *are* there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You *are there*.

d. Through the fire and the storm, in tribulations and persecutions, through loneliness and fear, He is always with us, because He had promised to be there. Jesus gave us His word that He would be with us.

1) Matthew 28:20 (NKJV) ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

e. **True prayer, therefore, includes a consciousness of being in the presence of God Almighty. To be in God’s presence, you need to set all your affection on Him; this means fixing your attention and thoughts on Him, focusing completely on His person. When we do this, eternity is pulled into the realm of time.**

1) Luke 5:16-17 (NKJV) (Matt. 9:1–8; Mark 2:1–12)(Prayer manifest the POWER OF GOD) ¹⁶ So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed. ¹⁷ Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them.

2) Jesus made sure He was in communication with the Father and filled with His presence. **Therefore, after he would return from the place of prayer, He would radiate power.** When the multitudes approached Him seeking

healing and deliverance, Jesus only had to declare the word, and supernatural breakthrough occurred.

3) After spending time in the presence of God, Jesus didn't need to pray for people, because the atmosphere He carried, which He had built with His father, produced instant MIRACLES, SIGNS, AND WONDERS.

f. What atmosphere do you carry? Don't wait for anyone else to build the atmosphere of God's presence, you build the atmosphere of God wherever you go!

2. The Place Where We come to Know God.

a. As we pray, God reveals Himself to us, and we are attracted to Him in an ever greater way.

1) John 17:3 (NKJV) ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

b. God wants us to see Him as He is; He longs to establish an intimate relationship with us, and for us to become one with Him as He is one with His Son Jesus.

1) John 10:30 (NKJV) ³⁰ I and My Father are one."

2) Ephesians 1:4–6 (NKJV) ⁴ just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, ⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, ⁶ to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

c. Prayer is the place where we can see God as He really is and receive His life.

3. The Place Where We appropriate the Power of God.

a. Acts 4:31 (NKJV) ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy

Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ³³ And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

b. In the book of Acts, every time Christians got together to pray, the power of God manifested.

c. If the book of Acts is a model for Today's Church, then the Church should never lack power! If there is no power, there is no foundation of prayer, because in prayer, God empowers the church to carry out His (God's) agenda. **EVERYTIME YOU PRAY, YOU HAVE ACCESS TO THE POWER OF GOD! (We have prayer every Sunday Morning**

1) Act 2, the disciples remained in prayer for several days prior to being baptized with Power in the Holy ghost

2) Peter went out and proclaimed the message of the Gospel which Over 3,000 got saved.

3) Before giving us POWER, God wants us to have a relationship with Him.

4. The Place Where We Participate in Spiritual Activity.

a. When you begin to pray, you begin to receive the empowerment in the spirit by the Spirit of God to call those things into existence.

b. Matthew 18:18–20 (NKJV) ¹⁸ “Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

5. Place Where We Obtain Spiritual Authority.

a. Spiritual Authority belongs to all of the children of God by inheritance.

1) Luke 10:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

2) Our use of spiritual authority is legal only while we maintain a relationship with our heavenly Father.

3) The “Right Connection” is equal to the “Right Perception” which instills the “Right Position” to delegate the use of the resources in Heaven.

b. Whenever our “Prayer Life” begins to diminish in our personal lives or corporate church, OUR SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY IS WEAKEND!

1) We begin to lose our authority.

2) We begin to lose the spiritual territories that we have won from the enemy.

3) In order to maintain our position and advance God’s agenda, 1 Thessalonians 5:17 gives us a very important key to our victory: 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV)¹⁷ pray without ceasing,

4) We must recognize our authority is given to us only when we are here upon the Earth and we must exercise it NOW!

c. Prayer consist of talking and communicating with God. I speak, I listen and I implement what God is speaking to me or the plan that He gives me.

6. The Place Where We submit to the Lordship of Christ.

a. The Secret Place of prayer is where we surrender our will to God so the Lord can accomplish His will in us. It is also where the greater spiritual struggles take place for believers, because it is easier to say, “Jesus is my Provider” than it is to say, “Jesus is my Lord and Owner of my life.”

b. While here upon the earth, Jesus submitted to the Lordship of the Father.

- i. Example: Garden of Gethsemane, “Father, if it is Your will, take the cup away from Me; never the less not My will, but Yours, be done.” (Luke 22:42)
- ii. To become the Lord of all, Jesus had to fully submit to His Father’s will.
- iii. If we want to operate in heaven’s authority, we too, need to be people of prayer who live in complete obedience to the Father.
- iv. Every day, we must surrender our will to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

7. The Place of the Sufferings of Christ.

- a. Philippians 3:8–10 (NKJV) ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,
 - i. Notice that Paul was a Pharisee, teacher of teachers and was a student of Gamaliel. He was very knowledgeable in the law of Moses, but his desire was seen in verse 10. “know Him (Jesus); power of His resurrection; Fellowship of His sufferings.”
 - ii. Prayer is the place of fellowship with the sufferings of Christ because it requires obedience and self-denial.
 - iii. Jesus speaks to his disciples: **Mark 14:38 (NKJV)** ³⁸ Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.”
 - iv. Prayer is not a “feel like moment”, Prayer is life changing, life altering, atmosphere transforming power of God when you speak.

- v. God has to work in us before He can work through us and make us good stewards of His grace. (The power was established and released when Jesus die on the Cross of Calvary)

8. The Place where the Keys of the Kingdom are activated!

- a. Matthew 16:19 (NKJV) ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” (was a result of verse 15-16)
- b. Bind and Loose are “Legal Terms.” Jesus used the Hebrew expression of “binding and loosing” to communicate to Peter and all believers that He gives us spiritual authority on earth. This is why, when we prayer, we declare and decree in other words, we pass “always” or “regulations” concerning what is allowed and not allowed according to the will of God because we have the authority to do it! This authority is ratified in heaven because it originates in Christ and is part of His work on earth.
- c. Matthew 16:17-19;(Luke 4:18-19) Matthew 16:15–19 (NKJV) ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”
- d. The revelation that Peter had on who Jesus Christ was. The rock is not peter, the rock is the chief cornerstone, which is Jesus Christ. And when you are established in and on Jesus Christ as being your chief cornerstone, gates of hell will not and can not prevail against you.

- i. Ephesians 2:19–20 (NKJV) ¹⁹ Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*,
- e. You have to speak and take authority by the Word of God and interject into the situation.
 - i. Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV) ²¹Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.
 - ii. Death and Life: Power of the tongue
 - iii. Example: if someone speaks a declaration of poverty, they will see poverty because their words have the power to create. If they confess sickness, they will likely bring sickness upon themselves or someone else putting into effect a negative “law” in their life. If they declare prosperity or health, that is what they receive, their declaration is legal because it is aligned with God’s will.

9. The Place Where We Expand our Territory!

- a. The secret place of prayer is also where we expand the capacity of our spirit and the size of our territory.
- b. If you can not conceive it you will never be able to receive it.
- c. Your prayer life will determine your measure of influence and government in the Spirit.
- d. Quote: Apostle Zane Anderson: The church is not a social club, it is a government.
- e. Quote: Pastor Randy Winkles The church as a government, has the ability and the legality to put in motions laws and ordinances and enforce those laws and ordinances here upon the earth. It begins in prayer that leads to alignments and actions that produce a change in the atmosphere.
- f. Paul understood the measure of influence.

- i. 2 Corinthians 10:13 (NKJV) ¹³ We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—a sphere which especially includes you.
- ii. Each one of us has a sphere of influence that God has given us and the only way that we can impact that “sphere” is through prayer where God gives us the ability and the creativity to speak into it to cause “Kingdom of God change.”
- g. When we stop praying, we begin to lose the authority we previously had.
 - i. Today we see more and more believers die of cancer and other sicknesses, as well as lose their marriages, their children, and their homes, because the church has stopped praying.
 - ii. Because the church as a whole has moved away from prayer over the last few decades, more believers have started to depend on the prayers of others rather than maintaining a strong prayer life themselves.
 - iii. Go, shut yourself up with God and persevere until you recover everything that the enemy has stolen from you! In the book of Acts, every time the church got together and prayed, the power of God descended down powerfully.
 - iv. 1 Chronicles 4:9-10: 1 Chronicles 4:9–10 (NKJV) ⁹ Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, “Because I bore *him* in pain.” ¹⁰ And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, “Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep *me* from evil, that I may not cause pain!” So God granted him what he requested.
 - v. Every war starts with a desire to win resources and territories; in a spiritual sense, resources and territories can be gained or regained only through prayer.

10.The Place Where We Obtain the Favor of God.

- a. Psalm 5:12 (NKJV) ¹²For You, O LORD, will bless the righteous; With favor You will surround him as *with* a shield.
- b. The favor of God makes us irresistible to blessings, protection, prosperity and much more. God's favor cannot be imparted from one believer to another. I cannot pray for someone else to receive the favor of God, God's favor is something that individuals, believers and churches attract.

Conclusion:

Everything that has been described in prayer to this point is revelation about the secret place of prayer, where humanity meets his Creator and is transformed. God expects us to daily enter His presence, the place where spiritual power and activity are released, to know His heart and to receive His authority.

The church needs to go back to that secret place, so that the Father who sees in secret will reward the church in public. (Matthew 6:4 = principal about giving but can also be applied to obedience in God aligns us to receive publicly because God exalts the humbled, Luke 14:11)