



PLOWING *before the* PLANTER

Training Session

October 5, 2012



Instructors:

Carlton Coon, Lisa Marshall, Thetus Tenney
and Flo Shaw

Plowing Before the Planter Introduction

A partnership between World Network of Prayer (WNOP) and North American Missions (NAM) for the sake of spiritual warfare in cities and communities where churches are being planted or in settings where churches are needed.

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Psalm 126:5-6

There is a need for greater prayer support for NAM church planters and new churches, and a consistent foundational and functional prayer base is essential to assist in fulfilling the Biblical mandate of evangelism and discipleship for effective church growth and establishment. WNOP and NAM has partnered to provide prayer support by launching and implementing the following initiatives:

Plowing Before the Planter

- WNOP/NAM will host effective prayer walks/coverage at targeted church plant localities by utilizing a selected group of local and non-local intercessors (financially self-supporting). The design and application will be *"Praying on-site with insight."*
- This group will pray on-site for three days (over a weekend).

Church Planter S.I.T.E. (Spiritual Intercessory Team Elite)

- Upon completion of on-site prayer, to provide prayer maintenance and a personal prayer connection, a group will commit to ongoing prayer and fasting support for the church planter and their church.
- This prayer team will consist of at least ten or more individuals called the "Church Planter S.I.T.E." who would become part of a church planter's prayer team to render consistent support for specific prayer needs submitted by the planter.

"Plowing Before the Planter"

- Under the supervision of WNOP, a branch coordinator has been appointed to lead a steering committee (8 or more) composed of district/sectional/local prayer coordinators, church planters, and ministers to directly oversee this effort.
- WNOP/NAM will lead prayer walks by utilizing an organized group of selected intercessors, both local and non-local residents, who will be financially self-supporting. Participants will not depend upon WNOP or NAM for any portion of funding.
- Optionally, a local pastor, sectional presbyter, or district superintendent can help to sponsor the financially independent intercessor(s), and be responsible for part or all costs for a particular assigned mission.
- This prayer team will enter a specified locality of a new church planted or being planted to render intercessory prayer on-site for three days [Friday Evening – Sunday Morning (Church service)].
- A trained district prayer coordinator or prayer leader will direct each mission group. In many localities spiritual warfare will be applied to pull down strongholds to effectively prevail over the powers of darkness over a region, so that fertile groundwork may be prepared to produce a fruitful harvest.

“Church Planter S.I.T.E. (Spiritual Intercessory Team Elite)”

- Church planters get “excited” when they get their own “SITE.” This is true, both in the spiritual and in the natural. Church planters can have their own Spiritual Intercessory Team Elite assigned to them to pray for both their personal and church needs.
- The intercessory team may consist of ten or more individuals who commit to consistent prayer and fasting for church planters for at least one year.
- These individuals may be recruited online through the efforts of local and sectional church prayer coordinators, under the supervision of WNOP.
- Distinct church planters may create versatile and standard prayer agendas reflecting their specific prayer focuses, and then communicate and circulate the agendas to the assigned prayer team to render strategic prayer, including times of fasting.
- WNOP will assist in encouraging the recruitment of individuals to commit to prayer/fasting for all church planters.
- Written resources will be available and general prayer resources online such as agendas on “How to Pray for Church Planters,” and “Effective Prayer Evangelism,” etc.

Training

- Training is essential in providing prayer support because all participating in prayer missions should be adequately prepared. Instructions are important not only in defeating the adversary and winning and gaining territory, but also on how to maintain victory after the mobile prayer team leaves (Ex: Intentions are not to just stir up the giant of a city through spiritual warfare, and then all the forces of hell break loose on the church planters and the residents of that city in the aftermath).
- It also is just as vitally important to have and apply knowledge and wisdom regarding the preservation of the good spiritual work of prayer that has been done. Accomplished trainers will have the ability to communicate such information to everyone involved or impacted by every task or mission.
- Future training sessions will continue to be taught by WNOP/NAM leadership and staff.
- The training session at General Conference will be videoed/available to view online.

Target Locations

- WNOP and the NAM Director with NAM leadership have initially chosen the listed locations to conduct beta tests this year. Initial church plant, location(s), and dates of a targeted area will occur:
 - October 6, 2012 – St. Louis, Missouri (partial beta test)
 - November 16-18, 2012 – New York Metro District (beta test)
 - 2013 Dates to TBA – Other locations across America, including specific Northwest locations; etc (beta tests/full-scale operations)
 - May 3-5, 2013 – Rocky Mountain District [Full-scale operation launch (first)]

It’s “Plow Time”

God has given us the land, as well as the tools, resources, and abilities, to possess it and to plant and build in His kingdom, unto His glory. Let’s go forth in the mighty name of Jesus, and have great revival and harvest across North America!

“... Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, then shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.” Genesis 13:14-17

Planning a Plowing Before the Planter Event

by Lisa Marshall

Planning a Plowing Before the Planter event will include the following information: Choosing a location, choosing a leader, assigning a team, planning the event, executing the event and follow-up after the event.

Choosing a Location

- The locations for Plowing Before the Planter events will be chosen by the World Network of Prayer and North American Missions. These locations and dates will be placed on the WNOP website in an area designated for Plowing Before the Planter and promoted in our weekly Prayer Connect. Information will also be sent to all WNOP district coordinators to promote and distribute in the districts.
- Suggestions for locations may be submitted to WNOP or NAM for consideration. Please send suggestions to WNOP, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO 63042, or by email to Lmarshall@upci.org.

A Leader is Chosen

- Leaders for the full Plowing Before the Planter events will be selected by WNOP.
- Leaders are required to complete all PBTP training and have the endorsement of their local pastor and district superintendent.
- There will be one leader for each PBTP team, although this leader is encouraged to have others assist to lighten the responsibility load.

A Team is Chosen

- Any interested intercessor will be considered for placement on the PBTP team as long as they meet the following criteria:
 - Are in good standing in their local church and have their local pastor's approval.
 - Have gone through the Plowing Before the Planter training videos, which will be posted online.
 - Are willing to be self-supporting in this endeavor.
 - Have completed and submitted a Plowing Before the Planter application which will be posted on WNOP's website. (wnop.org)
- Any minister will be considered for placement on the PBTP team as long as they meet the following criteria:
 - Are in good standing in their local church if they are working under a pastor.
 - Have pastoral approval if working under a pastor.
 - Have approval from their district superintendent.
 - Have gone through the Plowing Before the Planter training videos, which will be posted online.
 - Are willing to be self-supporting in this endeavor.
 - Have completed and submitted a Plowing Before the Planter application which will be posted on WNOP's website. (wnop.org)
- A team of intercessors will be chosen for each location. Applicants will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications may be mailed to WNOP, 8855 Dunn Road, Hazelwood, MO, 63042 or submitted by email to Lisa Marshall, Lmarshall@upci.org.

- There will be two alternates chosen for each location in the event someone approved has to cancel.
- Applicants will be notified promptly of their approval by email.
- The leader of the event will promptly set up an email group and will begin communicating with the group.

Plans are Made

- six months out:
 - Location is chosen and announced
 - Team is selected
 - Correspondence between the team leader and the church planter begins
 - Correspondence with the team begins
 - Updates are given
 - Fasting and prayer is encouraged
- three months out:
 - A plan decided by the PBTP leader and the church planter for the three-day event is put in place. A copy is sent to all team members.
 - As the program progresses, WNOP will provide written, suggested plans. Each area will be unique. A basic structure will be suggested for all events but there will be flexibility allowed to adjust as needed.
 - Travel arrangements need to be solidified
 - Flights or ground travel for all team members needs to be coordinated. Some target PBTP locations are a lengthy distance from the airport. Team members will need to arrive as closely together as possible. This may require work on the leader's part to assess times from the home cities of team members to choose a time target time frame. Travel will need to be made by the team members as close to the targeted time as possible. If team member cannot get a flight within the suggested time frame, they will be responsible for their own travel to the target city.
 - Transportation from the airport to the church plant locations needs to be solidified by:
 - Van rental from a company
 - Arrangements with a local church to have a van and driver
 - Hotel rooms reserved.
 - It is preferred the church planter or a neighboring pastor suggest a hotel. This will keep the hotel in a safe area
 - It may be possible to get a group rate if requested
 - You may also check with any local churches in the area who may have a special rate with an area hotel
 - Have each member secure their room with their personal credit card
 - If team members are interested in sharing a room, it is recommended they contact one another and the leader not make suggestions.
 - A meeting room will need to be secured for a centralized place for everyone to meet. This room will also serve as a corporate prayer room.
 - Gas Cost
 - An estimate of gas cost should be projected so that team members will have an accurate idea of how much money they will need.

- two months out
 - A fasting and prayer plan for the event should be put into place. This can be done several ways: have each person choose a day to fast each week, have the entire group fast on the same day, have all members of the team fast at least one meal each day
 - Material on effective prayerwalking and prayerwalking tips should be sent to your team.
- one month out:
 - leaders should put into place a more stringent schedule for prayer and fasting. It is imperative those going be in top spiritual condition.
 - A list of suggestions should be sent out to the team covering:
 - Type of clothing to wear (is it hot, cold, windy, etc.)
 - How-to tips on prayerwalking and any new material developed on the area you will be going to
 - Do's and Don'ts while on location
 - Budget of remaining items needed (Food, Gas, etc.)
 - All maps and prayer guides should be printed to be distributed to the team on location
 - At this point, locations should be chosen as where to walk and drive. Times should be chosen for group prayer in the hotel. A detailed schedule, including time assignments, should be completed. We suggest 6-7 hours of planned activities. The team members may spend any additional time praying in their room or in the meeting room.
 - A plan should be put in place as to where to meet once arriving at the airport or designated meeting place. Each team member should have a clear understanding of where they are to go once they arrive as well as how much luggage is allowed. (If you have a larger group, you will have to limit the amount of luggage each person brings)

The Event

- Arrive at the airport
- Secure ground travel (rent van or make contact with church van driver)
- Check into hotel (The leader will need to make sure all is in order with the meeting room. A key to the meeting room should be provided for each team member when they check in.)
- Announce a meeting time and the location for first meeting.
- Have orientation meeting and a time of prayer.
- Execute plan for the weekend
- Have a closing meeting prior to time to leave.
- Check out of hotel.
- Travel back to the airport.

After the Event

- When you meet for your final time of prayer, we suggest getting feedback from your team. What worked? What didn't? Suggestions for improvement? How they felt about what they were doing? What God spoke to them personally?
- Encourage each team member to make a commitment to continue to cover the church planter and city in their personal prayer time.
- The leader will send a report of the prayer walk to WNOP.

Prayer Walking

by Thetus Tenney

- Selecting the team
- Preparation
- Arrival
- Onsite Plans
- Meshing with the Locals
- Setting the Plan
- Follow-Up
- Continuation

Biblical Background on Prayer Walking

The Bible offers many models of effective ways to pray. Although prayer walking, as a term, is never mentioned in Scripture, Jesus prayerfully looked over the city of Jerusalem (Matt. 23:37-39). Also, the Apostle Paul's "...spirit was being provoked within him as he was beholding the city [of Athens] full of idols" (Acts 17:16).

"Arise, walk about the land... for I will give it to you" (Genesis 13:17)

As we prayerfully look at our city, God will burden our hearts, provide discernment, and release strategies to bring the city of Jesus.

The Old Testament has many passages relating to walking an area for God's glory. Three passages give us a spiritual picture connected with walking. The story of Joshua taking the city of Jericho (Josh. 6) is probably the most familiar Old Testament account of the powerful act of walking and praying. Walking around the city seven times before the walls fell flat is a model of extending God's Kingdom through man's humble availability and faith joined by God's miraculous ability. Our prayers and obedience can be a means of releasing God's power to cause the walls of unbelief, violence, strife and evil to come down.

God spoke to Abraham, "Arise, walk about the land through its length and breadth; for I will give it to you." (Gen. 13:17). Speaking to Joshua, God said, "Every place on which the sole of your foot treads, I have given it to you..." (Josh. 1:3)

These passages obviously refer to God's promise of the Holy Land to the Jewish nation. Nevertheless, the physical act of walking was a prophetic statement of declaring God's sovereignty over the earth. Today, our only desire for prayer walking a city is to claim the area for God's glory and to pray for the spiritual freedom of those living there.

It is important to catch the spirit of prayer walking rather than simply adopt the method of prayer walking. Scripture clearly instructs us to pray for our city:

"And seek the peace of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf; for in its peace you will have peace" (Jer. 29:7)

Although this verse does not indicate walking and praying through our city, there is probably not a better way to systematically cover a community with prayer than to literally walk and pray through its neighborhoods.

Seven points toward effective Prayer Walking:

1. Get yourself straight. Make sure that nothing stands between you and the Lord. Assure that your heart is clean before Him and that you are prepared to hear clearly.
2. Approach the throne with thanksgiving & praise. Come into His presence with thanksgiving and enter His gates with praise. Let the Lord know that you are elated to be His servant and that you are available to do His Will as He directs.
3. Ask the Lord to guide direct, lead and impress you with His agenda. As you begin to traverse an area, agree with the Lord that He is the Director of your efforts and you are present to follow His lead.
4. Pray accordingly. As you sense His guidance, affirm in prayer what He is saying. Become His partner in intercession for the area you have selected to pray over. Keep your spiritual eyes and ears open toward His guidance.
5. Engage in repentance. Repent of the sin that may have been committed in the place. Look for physical and spiritual signs of sin as you walk, asking for forgiveness and cleansing as you go. Expect the Father to alert you of special needs for repentance. Do not become self-conscious in this area.
6. Seek the release of bondages placed. Command that all bondages established by sin committed be broken, be done away with – “in the Powerful Name of Jesus!” Command that all the spiritual chains on the people living there, fall off – that the people be set free, “in The Name of Jesus!”
7. Rejoice in the victory. As you near the end of your walk, enter into clamorous praise and worship – rejoicing over the cleansing of the ground from the effects of sin and the release of the prisoners that live there from the same effects. Be sure to beseech the Father to dispatch a Spirit of Adoption over the whole area so that the enemy will find it difficult to return and that the inhabitants will experience a positive disposition toward the Gospel.

Practical Prayerwalking

Many Christians have been learning to quietly pray in the places that they live, work or play. We've come to call this sort of on-site intercession "prayerwalking."

Prayerwalking is simply praying in the very places we expect God to bring forth his answers. Prayerwalking is usually a low-profile affair: Friends or family stroll two-by-two through their own neighborhoods, schools and work places, praying as they go. Once in a while the prayers can be demonstrative, but most prayerwalking is fairly quiet. It's usually being on the scene without making one.

As you pray God's promises with specific homes or worksites in view, you'll find that hope for those people begins to grow. You'll begin to see people as God might view them. You'll likely find yourself becoming more interested in the welfare of the people you are praying for. In other words, you might find yourself becoming the kind of neighbor that you always wanted to be.

Watch for the ways God impresses you to display his love in practical acts of kindness. Be ready to offer to pray with your neighbors as opportunity may arise. Ask God to give you opportunity to explain clearly how people can enjoy friendship with God by the power of the gospel.

2012 “Plowing Before the Planter” WNOP/NAM Training

Topical Prayers

Flo Shaw

In establishing the “Plowing Before the Planter” partnership, it is evident that **Prayer** and **Evangelism** are both partners in the plan of God. Jesus said, *“All souls are mine, but the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”* We have a mandate to pray that the gospel will effectively reach a lost humanity. We must plow the ground in advance with prayer and prepare the soil of the hearts of potential souls so that the seeds of the gospel of Christ may penetrate the soil as it is sown and cultivated by the planter, in order to bring forth a fruitful harvest. Once the fallow ground is broken and the seed is planted, then the tears of our prayers must continually cultivate it.

Prayer is part of the energy that pulls the guided plow and tills the soil of unconverted, hard, un-regenerated hearts of humanity that are likened unto deficient types of soils. As WNOP “Pray-ers” and NAM “Planters” work together, in due season, an appointed harvest will be reaped. The apostle Paul exhorted, *“some planteth, some watereth, but God giveth the increase.”* (I Corinthians 3:7) The Word says that God is *“not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”* (II Peter 3:9) If We, the Church, will hear the voice of Jesus calling US to “PRAYER” then the WORLD will hear the voice of Jesus calling them to “SALVATION.”

Lifestyle of Prayer

Personal Prayer Life:

Prayer is a two-way communication between you and God. It is having a conversation and relationship with God. It is the spirit of humanity making contact with the Spirit of Divinity, and is a powerful force when activated and set in motion. It is so important to practice a consistent consecrated lifestyle of prayer unto God. Your personal relationship with God is first priority. Such a daily commitment greater positions you to have power with God in prayer. I Thessalonians 5:17 says *“Pray without ceasing.”* Be in a continual attitude of prayer. Always be sensitive to the voice of God at all times. Respond when He moves upon you to pray or intercede. *God reveals Himself to us in prayer.* We help to develop our relationship with God through prayer. **We must be faithful and committed to God in prayer.**

Sincere Prayer:

Prayer should be more than just “lip service”, done in a mechanical fashion like the Pharisees, but it should be accompanied by heart-felt service unto the Lord. The motive of our prayer should not be to impress people, but rather to reach God. The Bible pronounces *“Do we seek to please God or man; it we seek to please man, then we are not a servant of Christ.”* In general prayer, some people may select to elevate their voice during prayer; others may choose to pray softly. It is not the volume of our voices that brings God to attention, but it is out sincerity in asking, along with our faith, is what moves Him.

Pray quality prayers! “Don’t expect a million-dollar answer to a one-cent prayer!”

How Does One Enter into Effective Depths of Prayer?:

One must live a crucified and repented life daily, fleeing from carnality, and pursue to maintain a consecrated lifestyle in obedience unto God. One should seek not to fulfill the carnal dictates of the flesh. The flesh is the sensuous nature of humanity—with an appetite that appeals to sin.

Prayer Preparation:

Payer tools, such as the Bible, city map, pad/pen, pictures, prayer guides, etc, may be used to help reinforce your dialogue with God during prayer. The main request that we should first attend to is the one submitted by God as He pens it upon our hearts/minds as we tune into the Spirit during prayer.

The Burden of the Lord:

A **Burden** is a deep concern of God. An Allegory → **Nuclear Fission: Splitting of an atom (Broken)** - Releases the greatest amount of energy. Spiritually, this is a similar experience in bearing a burden. Allow a **burden** to generate **prayer** and the prayer to create **anointing**...which will produce results! You may initially acquire a burden that God places on your heart. YIELD to it. Pray Spirit-Led prayers! Sometimes we pray with the detailed understanding of the need, and sometimes without. In either case, yield to the Spirit of God. Romans 8:26-27 states *“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”*

The Will of God:

Find out what “God’s request” (will) is, and pray it...and it shall be done! And, send out “your request” to God, and if it is His will, pray it...and it shall be done! *“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”* 1 John 5:14-15

Tuning in to the Voice of God:

Jesus said, “His sheep would hear His voice.” This indicates that we should be aware of how to hear the voice of God, and also how to distinguish it from the voice of the *flesh* and the voice of the *devil*. We must also “hear what the Spirit sayeth unto the churches.” (Revelation 2:7) God’s voice can be heard through: an audible voice; a deep heart-felt impression; a quickening of a scripture(s); a minister of God or chosen vessel; a divine order of circumstantial events; visions or dreams; and other divine providential avenues.

Compassion:

The Lord desires that we have compassion for others. The Bible says, *“Jesus...saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.”* (Matthew 14:14) Directly observing the needs of others “on site” can influence and motivate the empathetic intercessor to activate the healing virtue of Christ. Such empathy motivates the intercessor to pray with intensity as they sense the turmoil and confusion of others who are bound by sin. Jesus said *“And of some have compassion, making difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire...”* (Jude 22-23).

Supplications

Supplications are earnest requests or petitions made unto God for internal or external needs. Psalm 6:9 says *“The LORD hath heard my supplication; the LORD will receive my prayer.”* Matthew 7:7 says *“Ask,*

and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:” Sometimes we must persevere in prayer with importunity, and push for an answer. **Perseverance** is defined as a

steadfast persistence. Hannah was desperate to receive an answer. (1 Samuel 1:8-28) Our prayers will reveal how earnest we are if we continue to persevere as Hannah did. **Importunity** is to eagerly request or to repetitiously beseech. Hannah also possessed importunity as she entreated God. Jesus is our friend, and it is never an imposition to ask for His help at any time. God desires that we **Pray Until Something Happens**. Even when we don’t even feel like going any further, we must PUSH our way through in prayer, until we receive God’s reply on a matter.

Focused Prayer

Focused Prayer entails targeting specific needs in prayer that special attention is given to. The apostle Paul admonished us to refrain from worry and quoted, *“Be careful for nothing; but in EVERYTHING by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.”* (Philippians 4:6) We must “zoom in” like a camera lens and focus on the specific needs at hand, and fervently pray. James 5:16 says *“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”*

Corporate Prayer

Corporate Prayer is powerful as we join in prayer with others, especially when the challenges appear insurmountable. “One can put a thousand of the enemy to flight, and two could put ten thousand.” There are times when we should “bear one another’s burdens.” Praying in the physical, church building or “on site” is very beneficial because it helps to develop the spiritual atmosphere that will impact the services conducted and the activities transpired in that particular place or locality.

Travail

Travail is the action of bringing a burden to the process of birth. It is a cry before God and is addressed to God to manifest His kingdom. *Travail* is similar to experiencing the discomfort of childbirth. *“Give me children lest I die,”* was the plea of Rachael. The Bible declares that **Zion** (church) will bring forth her child in one day. This is a miracle because a pregnancy is normally a nine-month gestation, but because of the urgency of the work, God will do it in one day! (Isaiah 66:8) Hannah’s burden/cry of desperation in travail was so intense that she could no longer speak, for her lips quivered and stammered. When we no longer travail in prayer, then a spiritual transformation will unlikely occur to bring forth revival. Galatians 4:19 states, *“My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you.”*

Intercessory Prayer

Intercessory prayer is standing in the gap between God and humanity. The intercessor can speak to God about the affairs of this world. Intercession is the mind, soul, heart, and spirit wrestling with God until the answer comes. It is a privilege to be able to speak to God about the affairs of this world, and to become an advocate of “intercession” in His kingdom. It is true that, “Prophets went to man for God. Intercessors go to God for man; everybody cannot be a prophet but everyone can be an

intercessor.” When one is involved in intercession, it is similar to the function of an ambassador who leaves their homeland entering a foreign locality to mediate between the two areas.

Prayer Assignments:

A genuine intercessor carries a “beeper,” meaning that he/she may be on call 24-hours day and receive a prayer assignment anytime and anyplace. Although Jesus Christ is our intercessor, we have been assigned to intercede for our world. (Romans 8:34). God "sought for a man" (Ezekiel 22:30 states “And, I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.”) This scripture emphasizes the spiritual power and restraining influence that one person has in directing God in His actions.

Prophetic Prayer

Prophetic Prayer is praying, in part, the mind of God by speaking forth thoughts of the omniscient Spirit of God who is cognizant of the past, present and future. Accessing the Spirit realm in prayer allows for the manifestation of results in the natural realm. At times, God may permit His Spirit to flow through a prophetic prayer anointing which guides intercession through accompanying knowledge. Prophetic prayer can cause that which is dead to resurrect and come alive! Jesus said “The words that I speak to you, they are spirit and they are life.” One can speak/prophesy to the wind (Spirit) as in Ezekiel 34:1-9. Sometimes the operation of the gifts of the Spirit is appropriated during prayer.

The Gifts of the Spirit:

The gifts of the Spirit, as well as miracles, signs and wonders confirm the power of God and the power of His anointed word, and are often the products of prayer. The Bible says “These signs shall follow them that believe...” and it also says, “He confirmed the word with signs following...” A literal spiritual force is launched when an intercessor speaks the word of faith. This supernatural energy is released from the throne of heaven and manifested on the footstool of earth as we bow down to God in prayer.

Spiritual Territorial Research

Spiritual Territorial Research is the research conducted to ascertain the prevailing or dominating spirits of influence or strongholds in a targeted geographic territory or region, including historical roots and religious ascendancy. Additionally, the general culture and lifestyle of the mass population, including the governing societal trends also may be assessed. The research also may entail general information regarding the demography and industry of an area. Territorial research consists of a combination of the compilation of natural chronological events and the spiritual insight discerned or observed by Christians that are attune or perceptive to the spirit realm of a specific territory.

Territorial Research will be done in advance to know how to best render prayer and conduct spiritual warfare (i.e. main prevailing spirits in that region. Ex: Las Vegas – spirits of gambling, entertainment, etc; San Francisco, CA – spirits of homosexuality, affluence, etc; Milwaukee, WI – spirit of alcoholism, etc; Detroit, MI – spirit of crime; etc.; Rio Grande Valley, TX – spirits of Catholicism; witchcraft, etc).

There is information available on territorial research done for upcoming “Plowing Before the Planter” events in St. Louis, MO; New York Metro, NY; and Missoula, MT (Rocky Mountain District).

Spiritual Warfare

Spiritual Warfare is the war or conflict between the forces of good and the forces of evil in the spiritual/invisible realm; it is the active battle between those representing God’s kingdom and Satan’s kingdom. Spiritual warfare is a powerful weapon that entails directly addressing Satan and his kingdom in offensive combat against the forces of evil. Mighty strategic weapons of war are available, through the spiritual warfare, earth-moving prayer, and may be used to defeat every enemy of the Church!

The Purpose of Spiritual Warfare:

The main objective of spiritual warfare is to enter in the Spirit and to pull down strongholds of the adversary and also the spiritual fortified gates of Hell with God’s prevailing power and authority.

- As we engage in spiritual warfare through intercession, God’s kingdom is being established. Jesus and the Apostles both proclaimed the Kingdom of God. Jesus has commissioned us as disciples to likewise proclaim the Kingdom of God. (Luke 9:1-2)
- One of the greatest prayers that one can pray is found in Matthew 6:10 *“Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.”* Matthew 11:12 states, *“...the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent takes it by force.”*
- Luke 12:31-32 says *“...seek ye the kingdom of God...and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”*
- A promise was made to Abraham by God ensuring that his “seed” would possess the gate of his enemies. We are the seed of Abraham. God said *“...I will bless thee...and multiply thy seed as the stars...and as the sand ...and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.”* Genesis 22:17

Source of Satanic Operation:

One-third of the angels under Satan’s authority joined him in his rebellion against God, and became organized fallen angels (demonic spirits or devils) when God cast them upon the earth, where Satan established a kingdom. Jesus said, *“And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?”* (Matthew 12:26)

- God created all things for mankind, but Man was created for God. The whole earth was under Adam’s authority: *“The heaven, even the heavens are the LORD's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men”* (Psalm 115:16). God commanded Adam to take dominion over the earth and subdue it, but when he ate the forbidden fruit, he surrendered his right to rule the earth.
- But through the sacrifice of Jesus at Calvary, and by the regeneration and redemption of Man through the new birth experience and through obedience the Word of God through the Spirit, redeemed Mankind (Church) can have access to the kingdom of God upon this earth.

Preparing for the Battle:

To effectively engage in Spiritual warfare, we must often first obtain victory in the battle fought within (internally) before we are successful in winning the battle fought without (externally). One must face their own internal fears of defeat, so that they will be able to fight the overall war and win in the conquest. *“For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”* (II Timothy 1:7) We must be solid in doctrinal truth and Biblical principles and we must be confident in God’s ability through us! *“...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”* I John 4:4

Recognizing the Enemy:

The mind is a battlefield of the soul, will and feelings; therefore, we must renew it daily with prayer. We cannot always avoid confrontation of the enemy, but we do not have to be a victim of circumstances and succumb to defeat. Once we recognize the schemes of Satan, we must prepare for

the attack and then arm ourselves against him. We cannot sit idle and wait until he attacks; it may be too late then. We must know who Christ is and who we are in Christ! Satan is concerned about how we use the power that God has given to us. ***The Spirit of God has “insight” with “eyesight.”***

Satan is Limited:

- ***He is a fallen angel and is not equal to God***
- ***He is not omnipresent (All places at once)***
- ***He is not omniscient (All knowing)***
- ***He is not omnipotent (All powerful)***
- ***He is unaware of thoughts/mind***

The Power of Prayer over Satan:

From the headquarters of Hell demonic forces are sent on assignment by Satan to “kill, steal and destroy.” The Bible says *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour.”* (1 Peter 5:8) Satan has power, but GOD HAS MORE! Jesus said, *“All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”* (Matthew 28:18) Jesus also stated, *“...I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give you power to tread on serpents, and scorpions and over ALL the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”* (Luke 10:18-19)

THE WHOLE ARMOR OF GOD:

As you abide in Christ, and He in you, and you “put on Christ,” you confidently can adorn yourself with the **whole Armor of God** and be able to fight in prayer, and war victoriously against the adversary!

Ephesians 6:10-12, 18-19 declares, *“...be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. **Put on the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil...For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against **principalities**, against **powers**, against the **rulers of darkness of this world**, against **spiritual wickedness in high places**...Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...that utterance may be given...that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.”*

Having your loins girt about with truth,

Loving the truth brings protection to our spiritual loins, which is the seat of procreation or reproduction. This preservation from false precepts girds us. *Gird* means to bind with a flexible band by holding fast the contents.

And having on the breastplate of righteousness;

The breastplate covers the heart so that it remains pure. To be in right-standing with God is important in your relationship with Him. Proverbs 4:23 says “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”

And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;

The mobility/sole of one’s feet represent spreading the “good news,” and shedding peace. “...How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

Above all, taking the shield of faith...ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

The shield of faith helps to quench fiery darts of the adversary. Such potential harmful penetrations may be wounds from anger, bitterness, envy, jealousy, strife, unforgiveness, condemnation, gossip, revenge, etc.

And take the helmet of salvation,

The helmet of salvation protects the mind/covers the head from a blow that may be fatal. We should embrace Godly views and cover the principles of salvation, including deliverance, preservation, healing, sanity, etc.

And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: The sword of the Spirit is God's Word, and we should be on the offense declaring truth. Hebrews 4:12 says, "the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing ... dividing soul and spirit..."

Our Adversaries Operate in Various Levels of Authority:

- **Principalities:** High level chief rulers in the lower atmosphere who represent Satan's kingdom as princes or monarchical feudatories in our earthly atmosphere. Principalities are understood by the Greek word "arche" meaning chief or ruler. These principalities are ruling demonic spirits or devils possessing executive authority or governmental rule in the world over specific territories and regions. (Principalities normally involve a particular nation, people or race. There are evil angels ruling the kingdoms of the world that oppose the truth and work of God, and of which Satan is the chief prince (ruler), of both the world system and the devilish system.) **Example:** Daniel, Chapter 10 - *The Prince of Persia tried to hinder God's purpose to bring truth and salvation to nation(s).* v. 13: *The Prince of Persia withstood Michael.*
- **Powers:** Preeminent authorities existing as a high rank above Principalities of the air; inners to the powers that be in authority or higher subjects deriving their power from chief rulers/dominating influences. The Greek word for "powers" is "exousia" which means derived or conferred authority; the warrant or right to do something; or delegated influences of control. (Powers would include all high-ranking, evil supernatural powers and the power of sin and evil in operation in the world that may be seen in areas like terrorism, violence, extreme poverty, drug cartels, wide-spread diseases, crime, progressive homosexuality, and other heinous acts in society.) **Example:** Genesis, Chapter 18 - *The sins of Sodom and Gomorrah brought destruction and death.* v. 20: *God said "their sin is very grievous."*
- **Rulers of the darkness of this world:** Superior evil rulers or agents of this world, higher ranking than Powers, who exercise satanic reign over this present spiritually, dark sinful world. Such rulers are often associated with idolatry, pagan gods, witchcraft, magic, necromancy, voodoo, and demonic practices of ancient times, etc. Rulers operate to bring spiritual blindness to regions and often display evil supernatural manifestations. (Rulers usually include entities associated to dark practices, and often reflected by those involved in the occult, fortune telling, evil secret societies, and other groups that engage in evil practices.) **Example:** Acts, Chapter 19 - *Those in Ephesus worshipped the great goddess Diana.* v. 35: *The residents of the city were bound in idolatry and were engaged in evil practices.*
- **Spiritual wickedness in high places:** The highest rank of Satanic spirits of influence operating above earth's realm, that relates to the human spirit or soul and spiritual wickedness and iniquity, as the part of humanity. The Greek word for wickedness is "ponēria" meaning, depravity, specifically like in mischief, deception, malice, filth, and iniquity. Such wicked spirits, in high places, are often viewed as the corporate hierarchy of all of Satan's devil spirits. (These malicious spirits work evil and wickedness in high places. They operate in elevated supernatural realms propagating activity for the ultimate deception and demise of humanity.) **Example:** II Corinthians 4:4 - *"The god (Satan) of this world hath blinded the minds..."* and Revelation, Chapter 12:9 - *"Satan which deceiveth the whole world..."*

We have dominion power and authority over evil forces. Every city, town, state, country, region, province, country, nation, etc, have demonic princes set over them, and their power must be broken before a genuine outpouring of the Holy Ghost can come to an area. An example is *Rev. Billy Cole* who labored in an area where only a few people had received the Holy Ghost, until he prayed and fasted extensively, and consequently, the Lord told him, "Behold, I give you power over the prince of Thailand." From that encounter, great revival came to Thailand, and from then on for a time more than 100 people received the Holy Ghost on a monthly basis.

EXAMPLE: Powerful supernatural experience regarding the progression and reality of these verses.

I Corinthians, Chapter 15: *"The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven...etc."*

Mighty Weapons Used in Spiritual Warfare include: The **blood** of Jesus; The **name** of Jesus; The **Word** of God mixed with **faith**; The **Spirit** of God; The **worship** and revelation of **one true God!**

Praying in the Spirit:

One may discern an evil force that attempts to hinder their efforts during intercession. First, rebuke this spirit, in the name of Jesus. The Bible says, *"Submit...to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from thee."* (James 4:7) Do not allow him to thwart your progress in prayer. Ephesians 4:27 says, *"Neither give place to the devil."* Psalm 144:1 says, *"He teacheth my hands to war and my fingers to fight."* Certain physical actions may manifest during prayer. Sometimes divers tongues may manifest and one may intercede in a "war" tongue as they battle satanic forces. Continue to yield to God until this lifts. The devil cannot understand tongues; so we have an advantage to speak to the Lord and even the devil tries to eavesdrop; but he cannot get an ear full. Spiritual warfare may consist of intense travail, deep intercession, authoritative commands/actions, strong supplication, sporadic praise, and other Spiritual weaponry, including such types of prayer.

Tapping into the spirit-world:

Although invisible, demonic spirits sometimes can manifest in the natural realm. Some individuals in the Body of Christ have seen angels appear, as well as devils and demons manifest during prayer. This usually gives the intercessor insight to what oppressive spirits they are fighting against, and what scriptures and tactics to employ during this battle. At times you may ask God to send *angels* to help.

Angelic Intervention:

Angels are bearers of the miraculous and are greatly involved in the affairs of humanity (Psalm 68:17). They are ministering spirits who minister for the heirs of salvation (Hebrews 1:14). We cannot dispatch angels, but we can pray to God and ask Him to release them to work. They hearken to the voice of His Word/do His commandments. (Psalm 103:20) One angel slew 185,000 men in a battle! (II Kings 19:35)

Angelic Hierarchy (Heaven's Warriors) In warfare praying, ask God to send His angels to help accomplish His will...and He will do so, according to His purpose. There are seven divisions of Angels.

Angel of the Lord – Ministers in various aspects and is a theophany of the Lord. (Judges 6:21)

Guardian Angels – Minister to people, especially those needing special help and care. (Psalm 91:11)

Ministering Angels – Minister to the needs of the saints. (Hebrews 1:14)

Elect Angels – Minister to the needs of the church. (Acts 12:11)

Archangels – Minister in reference to apocalyptic issues and Biblical prophecy. (Daniel 12:4-13)

Cherubim – Minister to God and His interest in kingdom matters and reign. (Genesis 3:24)

Seraphim – Minister to matters pertaining to salvation, revival and restoration. (Revelation 22:16)

Binding and Loosing:

To prevail against the gates of Hell, we must use the keys to the kingdom, which includes "binding and loosing." In Matthew 16:18-19 Jesus said *"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and*

whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Keys are used to lock (bind) and unlock (loose). Speaking (verbalizing) words in the Spirit and the Word of God in prayer is a “key” we must use. After we first bind the strong man; then we can spoil his house.

Learn to “bind” a negative or evil spirit and to “loose” a good or positive spirit:

Binding is to prohibit, forbid or confine.

Loosing is to permit, allow or sanction.

BIND	LOOSE	SCRIPTURAL REFERENCES
SPIRIT OF HATE, FEAR	SPIRIT OF LOVE, POWER...	Mark 12:30-31, II Timothy 1:7
SPIRIT OF INFIRMITY	SPIRIT OF HEALING	Isaiah 53:5
SPIRIT OF ERROR	SPIRIT OF TRUTH	I John 4:6
SPIRIT OF BONDAGE	SPIRIT OF LIBERTY	II Corinthians 3:17
SPIRIT OF UNBELIEF	SPIRIT OF BELIEF, FAITH	Matthew 17:20

When we bind and loose in the name of Jesus during intercession, we are discharging the Word (Rhema) that God has spoken to us to accomplish what He has purposed it to do. Job 22:28 says *“Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.”*

- Isaiah 55:11 says *“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”* God speaks to us; we speak in intercessory prayer upon the earth!
- *“Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.”* Jeremiah 1:9-10
- Prayer has power to turn people from Satan’s power to God’s power. Acts 26:18 says, *“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto the power of God...”*

Tearing Down Strongholds:

A **stronghold** is defined as a pre-supposed unchangeable stance that is like a fortified place. It is the throne of principalities that reign over things, people or places. Negative strongholds may represent entities like false religion, tradition, fear, unbelief, witchcraft, crime, poverty, etc.

- Strongholds must be torn down and plucked up and destroyed from the roots. Some strongholds are conditions like strong towering trees that have a **root** system that reaches far beneath the surface where the natural eye cannot see. (Ex: Hebrews 12:15)
- Perhaps, this tree can be hewn down...but, unless the roots are plucked up, it has the potential to sprout again. In order to destroy the entire tree, one must totally uproot it.
- Natural roots have the ability to travel below the earth and become attached to neighboring objects in its path. It is so important to remove ungodly roots before it defiles oneself/others.
- The prayer of “faith” can permanently uproot such strongholds/conditions. Apply the binding/loosening prayers as well. II Corinthians 10:4 states, *“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds.”*

Taking a Stand for Godly Territory:

Territorial strongholds can sometimes hold whole regions captive. These forces establish a seat of authority in an effort to oppress the entire region and its population. When a ruling power is bound and cast out, usually, its lower-ranking powers of authority will retreat, and victory will be won! But, one must keep a prayer covering over that area. One can feel the atmosphere change just by crossing

the border of another region. The ruling forces may be subdued to a greater extent there than perhaps in another region, or the magnitude, number and nature of spirits existing there may be different in comparison to another locality. You can change the atmosphere through the power of prayer! Make the “battleground” become a church “campground!”

- The spiritual gates of Hell may often exist as fortified walls that hold captive people/entities and may be reinforced with barriers of doubt, fear and unbelief paralyzing one’s faith and resulting in the bondage. At times, before a territory can be captured, the gates must be defeated.
- A promise was made to Abraham by God ensuring that his “seed” would possess the gate of his enemies. We, the Church, are the seed of Abraham. The Word says *“...I will bless thee...and multiply thy seed as the stars...and as the sand ...and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.”* Genesis 22:17
- We activate and exercise Apostolic authority when we speak the name of JESUS in prayer which in turn helps to break the chains of darkness and destroy the yoke of the enemy, thus defeating the gates of Hell and setting the captives free.

Defeating All the “Ites” at All “Sites”

Exodus 33:2 says *“And I will send an angel before thee; and I will drive out the Canaanite, the Amorite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.”*

God also told the children of Israel, “Remember I delivered the Ammorites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites into your hands.” In the spiritual, “ites” come, but God will handle these “ites.”

You’re trying to build the church in your building program...THERE goes the “Termites.”

You’re trying to sustain your health in your physical body...THERE goes the “Parasites.”

You’re trying to keep the computer working in your office...THERE just went all the “Megabites.”

You’re trying to keep food on the table for your household...THERE come more “Appetites.”

You’re trying to run the race of life and find energy to keep going...THERE leaves the “Metabolites.”

Whatever “ites” we’re contending with, God will give us overcoming power. He WILL give us victory!

Mighty Weapons of Warfare

The **Name of Jesus** is the highest name. Act 4:12 says *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”* Jesus has all power (Matthew 28:18), and as believers we have access to that power through the name of Jesus. All are subject to His name (Philippians 2:10-11). In the name of Jesus, there is salvation (Acts 2:38-39); power (Mark 16:16-20); healing (Acts 3:4-7, 16; 4:10, 30); deliverance (Acts 16:18; I Corinthians 6:11); etc. Needs are met as we pray in the name of Jesus, according to His will (I John 5:14-15). Everything the early church did revolved around the name of Jesus (Colossians 3:17). With delegated authority, we are Jesus’ representatives on earth, being united with Him in kingdom purpose (Luke 10:18-19). Jesus said *“If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it”* (John 14:14). The name of Jesus is not effective among us until we proclaim it and use it! Hebrews 4:16 says *“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”* There is power in proclaiming and demonstrating in the revelation of the name of Jesus and of the one true God!

The **Revelation of One God** has power, for it helps us to truly realize who we are in Christ. As a man, Jesus died; as God, He raised Himself from the dead (John 2:19). In the flesh, Jesus was man, and in the Spirit He was God (I Timothy 3:16). Jesus was God and man; Father and Son; Spirit and flesh in one image, one body. *“For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily”* (Colossians 2:9). Monotheism is a foundation of the Scriptures. Deuteronomy 6:4 states, *“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our*

*God is one Lord.” Ephesians 4:5 says “One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” That is the message! We must focus on that “One” God as we pray. **Focus on God and His power, rather than mainly on the devil and his power.***

The **Word of God**—another mighty weapon—is like a fire (Jeremiah 23:29), and when we walk through “the heat of a battle,” and the fire of the enemy, then the Word can consume it and/or protect us through it like he did Shadrach, MeShach and Abednego. The Word (Jesus) was in the fire, and survived. If we have the Word of God in us, then Jesus can cause us to “walk through the fire and not be burned.” God’s Word is the “Sword of the Spirit” and will not return void. It pierces and gets to the core of the matter. The Word of God is the “Good News.” It is the gospel to the lost. It is God’s message to us. Psalm 119:89 states *“For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.”* John 15:7 relays *“If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.”*

The **Spirit of God** resides in us, and helps us to fight many battles. Zechariah 4:6 says *“...Not by might nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.”* The Spirit of God is the presence of God ready for action! Through God’s Spirit anything is possible! The Spirit of God guides us and helps us in all matters of life. John 16:13 says *“Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.”* The Spirit of God empowers us to do His work! Act 1:8 says *“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses...unto the uttermost part of the earth.”*

The **Blood of Jesus** is a mighty weapon. It is essential to plead the blood of Jesus over people and situations, because it appropriates the promises of Calvary and is a constant reminder of Jesus’ victory to Satan. The blood washes away our sins (I Peter, 1:19, Revelation 1:5). The blood signifies salvation , healing, power, authority, protection, deliverance and more. The children of Israel had a blood covering over them (Exodus 12:13). When a blood covering is absent, all that oppose the kingdom of God has liberty to roam. The blood has been applied in your life. We are made overcomers by the blood of the Lamb... (Revelation 12:11).

The **Praise and Worship** of the saints are powerful weapons. **Praise** is thanking God for what He has done (Psalm 67:3, 86:12) and **Worship** is thanking God for who He is (Psalm 29:2, 95:6). *Praise* is an act of magnifying God in celebration as He is exalted. *Worship* is serving God in adoration and reverence, and recognizing Him as the source of our substance, as well as our existence. We must worship God in Spirit and in truth. John 4:24 says *“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”* Paul and Silas had an “attitude of gratitude” and prayed and sang praises unto God even when they were in prison...and God delivered them (Acts 16:25-16). Do likewise! When the Israelites marched around the walls of Jericho, this spiritually represented a type of praise and worship (Joshua, Chapter 6; Hebrews 11:30). Is there a time to stop asking in prayer? Yes, when you reach a level of faith and feel a release to command it in the name and Jesus and that God has promised to answer it. You can now shift gears and praise and worship Him for it. Note: There are other weapons of war available to us!

Prayer with Fasting

It is also important to visualize the desired results in prayer. This is the spiritual sight of faith. It has perfect vision and can read every letter on the chart of the supernatural. The scripture declares, *“Building up your most Holy Faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.”* When one prays in the Spirit by speaking with tongues they are edifying their faith towards God to answer their prayers. Respond to God when His Spirit moves upon you to pray. Perhaps that may be the only window of opportunity to respond in prayer. (Ex: John 5:4 –Moving of the water for healing came at a certain time) Make your request,

activate your faith, and believe God for the answer. *“Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.”* Mark 11:24

- Fasting, coupled with prayer, is a powerful weapon (Daniel 9:3, Mark 9:29; Acts 2:42). It brings humility to the human nature and propagates greater sensitivity to the spiritual realm. It is an act of surrender and self-denial of the flesh in exchange for a greater revelation of Jesus Christ.
- The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit, and fasting sharpens that sword, making it more effective. Fasting complements prayer. It brings powerful transformation. It ushers personal/global revival and transcends to those around us. ***Consecration brings revelation, and revelation brings demonstration!***
- **Isaiah 58:6-14** relays the purpose for fasting: looses the bands of wickedness; unties heavy burdens; frees the oppressed; breaks every yoke; produces compassion for the needy; provides an entrance to the presence of God; hastens an answer from God; brightens one path; repairs breaches and gaps; grants spiritual understanding; brings deliverance and victory; activates Godly authority; and more.

Apostolic Prayer

The early church was born in a prayer meeting, and as they continued in prayer, miracles, signs and wonders took place. They experienced great revival and tremendous church growth. They received power to become bold witnesses in spreading the gospel. God desires that we activate the power that He gave to us through prayer. He gave His disciples, “power and authority over devils, and to cure diseases.” This also qualifies us to do likewise, if we act upon this principle (Luke 10:1-9). In the New Testament, throughout the book of Acts, early Church Christians prayed. Specific accounts are recorded in: Acts 1:14, 24, 2:42, 46-47, 3:1, 4:31, 6:4, 8:15, 9:40, 10:2, 4, 9, 19-20, 48, 12:5, 13:3, 14:23, 16:9, 13, 25, 20:36, 21:5, 22:7, 28:8. The ***Azusa Street*** revival is a great historical event that found its roots in the fertile groundwork of prayer. Acts 4:31 says *“And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.”*

The Word of Faith:

The Bible says, “By the words of thy mouth thou art justified or thou art condemned.” A creative word of faith is to literally speak things into existence through the power of prayer. **Lord, according to thy will “Let there be...”** Jesus said *“...whosoever sayeth unto this mountain, be thou removed and cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and ye shall have them.”* (Mark 11:23-24) James admonished that we approach God with faith. *“But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.”* (James 1:6) After you pray the Word of Faith, then simply trust God that He will bring it to pass. (Psalm 4:5, 9:10, 37:5; Proverbs 3:5-6) Jude 1:20 says *“...beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.”*

Wisdom and Knowledge:

Sometimes unaware, the intercessor has often been provided information that composes their prayer agendas, by the gifts of the Spirit. When God reveals information, in prayer, it should not be labeled as prophetic; it only becomes prophetic when it is vocalized. Many times, Godly impressions that the intercessor is endowed with may simply be “a word of knowledge.” When one is led by the Spirit to pray for certain things and, in response, or given insight on how to resolve matters, this act may actually be “a word of wisdom.” God uses gifted intercession to give us greater insight on what to focus on in prayer. **The “word of knowledge” reveals what to pray for, whereas the “word of wisdom” reveals how to pray for it.** “Stir up the gift that is within you,” by stirring up all of the resources of

prayer...and watch what will manifest... even in the realm of the gifts of the Spirit as God gives...severally as he wills. Be sensitive to this area because it can make a positive difference in prayer.

Discipleship Prayer

Discipleship prayer is necessary to help develop mature Christians. This kind of prayer is also very essential for retaining new converts. One should consistently pray for their spiritual development.

There are valuable tools available in organized prayer efforts for significant Church growth and retention. A local church assembly can help to establish a strong church through the power of prayer. The Church Planter **Spiritual Intercessory Team Elite (S.I.T.E.)** is designed to help provide consistent prayer support (includes fasting) for a church plant as they join together with the prayer efforts of the church planter/church.

Heavenly Prayers:

Prayers are descriptive of odors stored in golden vials that travel into eternity to be poured out at God's appointed time, even beyond mortality. The potency of these is so powerful that they never die, but only get answered at an opportune time. An Angel offered incense with the prayers of all saints upon the altar up unto to God and then he filled it with altar fire and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. (Revelation 8:3-5)

Victory in Prayer:

Peter said *"But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer"* I Peter 4:7. Paul said *"... we were troubled on every side; without were fightings, within were fears"* II Corinthians 7:5. But, through prayer we can have revival and restoration, with victory on every side! God said *"And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory... The glory of this latter house shall be greater than the former..."* (Haggai 2:7-9) Truly, across the globe to the four corners of the earth, we can have ultimate victory through the dynamic power of prayer! ***Surely, Satan, your kingdom is coming down! And the Church will...plow ahead!***



