

# Victorious Life Through Effective Prayer – Being Kingdom Minded

Today, we are sharing the keys to a *Victorious Life Through Effective Prayer* by being Kingdom-minded. Join us as we use those keys to unlock the door to a victorious life filled with purpose and fulfillment.

## Introduction

Today we kick off a short series on prayer. This is one of the most important aspects of a relationship with God. Some Christians tend to think of prayer as something unimportant, casual, or only necessary or effective at certain times when actually, having a conversation with the Creator of the world is the most important thing a person can do.

When we take the time to get to know someone, we spend time talking and having meaningful conversations. That is all prayer is, in its simplest form, a conversation with God.

Today is Palm Sunday which signifies the triumphal entry of Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem that started the passion week, or the week that ends with his crucifixion and subsequent resurrection. Jesus is the example and fulfillment of God's kingdom here on earth. As we look at having a victorious life through effective prayer, today, we will talk about being kingdom-minded.

## Alignment

God has great purposes and plans for believers, non-believers, and the world. He is a god of love who enjoys his people and wants a relationship with every human being, whether they acknowledge him or not. He has a perspective on life and eternity that may or may not line up with our perspective. When we take the time to get to know him by spending time with him, we begin to align our hearts with his.

When Jesus was teaching us how to pray, he talked about this alignment. We find this in the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:9-10 which says:

### Matthew 6:9-10

- (9) "This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
- (10) your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

This simple instruction first, shows us that we need to acknowledge God's holiness, secondly, we pray for his purposes, that people will come to know him. Thirdly, we pray for what he wants to accomplish here on Earth. Later, Jesus gives us authority in prayer when he tells us in chapter 16 that "whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven".

Aligning our minds with Christ means being kingdom-minded. Having prayers that are offered in faith, with power from the Holy Spirit, gives you authority to speak over addiction, speak over broken relationships, speak over poverty, and over poor health. Aligning your heart for God's purposes will usher his kingdom here, it will be done on earth as it is in heaven.



Two thousand years ago when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, he was not the victor, the revolutionist, the strong man everyone expected. No, he was exactly who God expected. Let's read Philippians 2:5-7

#### Philippians 2:5-7

(5) In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: (6) Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; (7) rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

Aligning our hearts means to have the same mind as Christ. A victorious life through effective prayer means we pray for God's kingdom and his will to be fulfilled here on earth. It may not be what we think or expect, but it will always be better than what we can hope or imagine.

#### Then, Now, and Coming

Being kingdom minded in our prayer life means to look at time differently. God's timing generally does not align with our timing. We tend to want things quickly and not have to wait. God has a purpose in all things. We may not understand it at the time, but his timing is never early and never late. Revelation 1:8 speaks to God being outside of time.

#### Revelation 1:8

(8) "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

He is the God of all time. He always was, still is, and forever will be. When we pray, we must be thankful for what he has accomplished in the past, and what he is doing now, and pray for things to come that will display his glory in the lives of people.

God is at work today. He is at work in the lives of his people. You may not feel it, you may not see it, but you must believe it. Let's read what the psalmist had to say in Psalm 27:13.

#### Psalm 27:13

(13) I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

We must have confidence that He is at work in our lives today.

We also must have confidence that he is working things out in people's lives today that will benefit them and humankind for all generations. When asked by someone who wanted to know if only a few people were going to be saved, Jesus replies in Luke 13:24-29 with this:

#### Luke 13:24-29

(24) "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. (25) Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.' (26) "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' (27) "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!' (28) "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of



teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out. (29) People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.”

As we live a victorious life through effective prayer and having a kingdom mindset, our hearts yearn for the salvation of our friends and family. Friend, God is not done yet. He is still on the throne and still doing mighty things displaying his power and extending mercy, grace, and forgiveness to all who call on the name of Jesus. Your prayers today will outlive you.

### Sow Seeds Today for Tomorrow

The Bible is full of people for whom God was at work in their lives but never saw that fulfillment here on Earth. Abraham was promised that his descendants would number the grains on the sand. Moses was promised that the Jews would return to the promised land. David prayed for peace and spent a large part of his life on the run from a jealous, crazy, king. It was his son Solomon who experienced peace.

Friend, as you sow seeds of prayer today that align with his kingdom and his will, He is faithful to fulfill his promises.

As the Apostle Paul was encouraging the church in Ephesus to stand strong in the Lord and in his mighty power by putting on the armor of God so we can stand strong against the devil’s schemes, he wrapped up by talking about prayer. Let’s read Ephesians 6:18

### Ephesians 6:18

(18) And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.

As we sow seeds of prayer today and lift up our requests to God, we must remember to pray for God’s people. We are all going through warfare in this world. It may be a war of the flesh, an attack by the enemy, or physical unrest. As saints, we need to pray for each other and encourage one another.

### Conclusion

As we take on the mindset of Christ and align our hearts with the kingdom of God, we unlock the doors to victorious living through effective prayer. Let us sow seeds of faith today, trusting in God's timing and faithfulness, knowing that our prayers have eternal significance beyond our earthly existence. Continue to pray fervently, uplift one another, and stand strong in the Lord, for in doing so, we are a part of the unfolding of God's divine plan for His people, both now and forever more.

Join us next time as we continue this series of *Victorious Living Through Effective Prayer* and discuss being a victor versus being a victim.

