

PRAYING WITH AUTHORITY

"Perseverance builds character, character builds spiritual authority, spiritual authority builds influence, influence spreads renewal." - Mark Sayers

DISCIPLE MAKERS

EIGHT TIPS

1. 🦊 Authoritative prayer is about praying with confidence and boldness, not timidity.
2. 🙏 Jesus exemplified authority by commissioning his disciples to make disciples and baptize in his name.
3. 🌐 Dependence on Jesus is crucial; without it, there is no real authority in prayer.
4. 🏠 Prayer should be focused on specific places and people.
5. 🚪 Prayer walking opens doors for church planting and ministry.
6. 🙌 Be quick to bless, serve, and slow to call for repentance when using your authority.
7. 😞 Authority comes with responsibility, including weeping for others.
8. 📖 Six steps for authoritative prayer: take authority, listen to God, bind the enemy, declare God's truths, pray for personal cleansing, and focus on missional outcomes.

AT A GLANCE

As missional disciples, individuals possess authority in their prayers, praying with confidence and boldness. Practical steps for engaging in authoritative prayer: focusing on dependence on Christ's authority, obedience, and making disciples. Declaring our authority in Christ with humility also helps to stress a missional outcome, seeking divine appointments to bless and heal others.

VIDEO



PRAYING WITH AUTHORITY

DISCIPLE
MAKERS

"Because Jesus said he would give the keys to Peter - the rest of the apostles and every disciple from every generation - would have the authority to open the doors of the kingdom. This would be the role of the assembly of Christ followers: to speak and live out that Jesus is king, and in so doing, open the door for men and women of any age to be ruled by him as well... Kingdom movements focus on lifestyle, not theology. They point to the authority of scripture [and authentically obeying it] over the authority of the church." - David Bercot

PRAY RESPONSIBLY

Jesus demonstrated the authority in prayer when he commissioned his disciples, saying, "All authority on heaven and Earth has been given to me; therefore, go and make disciples." As believers, we have authority, but it must be exercised in alignment with Jesus's name, glory, power, and authority. To pray "in Jesus' name" is to pray in alignment with his purposes and will.

When Jesus sent out his disciples, he emphasized their dependence on him, comparing them to lambs among wolves. This illustrates that prayer is our mightiest action, not our resources or strength. It's essential to rely on the Lord's strength in prayer. When Jesus sent disciples into mission and they obeyed, he gave them authority to cast out demons and heal others. Disciples continued to heal and cast out demons throughout the book of Acts.

Authoritative prayer should be focused. Just as Jesus focused on specific individuals or Persons of Peace, we should concentrate our efforts on deepening relationships and ministering to those who are open to receiving the message of the Gospel. To not focus on a few would be to disobey Jesus's instruction of "shaking the dust off our feet". Jesus's act of shaking the dust off the disciples' feet for those who rejected him was not a curse but a gesture of mourning. We should be quick to bless, serve, and slow to call to repentance. People may reject God's authority, and they may reject ours, but we should respond with compassion.

If you're prayer walking in an area with few Christians, chances are there have already been generations of demonic spiritual activity building a stronghold there. Do not take this lightly, or you could get beat up spiritually. Praying with authority comes with responsibility. You can't make God move, but you can prepare the ground for him to work. We should take authority over the land, seek God's instructions, remove evil, declare the Lord's truths, cleanse ourselves, and have a missional outcome in mind—making disciples.

"The Kingdom is built on repenting of our sin and rebellion against God and restoring our relationships with God and with our neighbor, resuming our role as regents acting under God, with authority to establish and advance God's reign on earth as it is in heaven... When the Kingdom is properly understood as acknowledging and obeying the authority of God, it is also revealed to be the center of the Great Commission" - Jerry Trousedale

JOURNALING QUESTIONS

What does it mean to pray with authority and responsibility, and how do these concepts intertwine in the context of spiritual warfare?

What steps can you take to prepare the ground for God to work in an area through prayer?

Fasting as a Spiritual Practice: How can fasting, even in small steps, align your heart and soul with a higher purpose?

In what ways can you actively seek God's instructions and guidance while prayer walking to address spiritual strongholds and advance His mission?

How can the concept of having a missional outcome in mind, specifically the goal of making disciples, shape your approach to prayer walking and spiritual engagement in your community?

Have you ever encountered spiritual resistance or challenges while engaging in prayer walking? If so, how did you address them, and what did you learn from the experience?

How can you strike a balance between the responsibility of praying with authority and the understanding that God ultimately moves in His timing and according to His divine will?
