

A key to manifest victory for the Church



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Introduction

The Church is under attack:

- There is a watering-down of the truth in the Church
- People are being killed and persecuted
- People are suffering attack
- People are taking offence and leaving the Church

The question

What can you and I do to reverse this attack and see manifest victory in and for the Church?

I believe that a key to this manifest victory is prayer and intercession.

Whose side are we on?

- The Lord Supreme
- The Lord, Creator of everything
- The Lord, who is Good
- The Lord who loves His Church (the Bride of Christ)
- The Lord of heaven's armies
- Jesus Christ, who won the victory at the Cross

We Christians are on the side of the Lord - Father, Son (Jesus Christ) and Holy Spirit

What is the source of the attack against the Church?

1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)

⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

The enemy, Satan (the devil) is behind any attack on the Church.

Do we have authority to pray?

Genesis 1:26,28 (NLT)

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." ²⁸Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."

Do we have the authority to pray?

Matthew 28:18-20 (NLT)

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Do we have authority to pray?

Yes, we do have the authority to pray. We need to exercise our God-appointed dominion over the earth.

Define prayer

Prayer is conversation with the Lord

When do we pray?

Ephesians 6:18 (NLT)

¹⁸Pray at all times and on every occasion in the power of the Holy Spirit. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all Christians everywhere.

We pray at all times

For whom do we pray?

1 Tim 2:1-4 (NLT)

¹I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. As you make your requests, plead for God's mercy upon them, and give thanks. ²Pray this way for kings and all other who are in authority, so that we can live in peace and quietness, in godliness and dignity. ³This is good and pleases God our Saviour, ⁴for He wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. ⁵For there is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and people. He is the Man Christ Jesus.

For whom do we pray?

We pray for everyone

About what do we pray?

Mark 11:22-25 (The Message)

"Jesus was matter-of-fact: "Embrace this God-life. Really embrace it, and nothing will be too much for you. This mountain, for instance: Just say, 'Go jump in the lake' - no shuffling or shilly-shallying - and it's as good as done. That's why I urge you to pray for absolutely everything, ranging from small to large. Include everything as you embrace this God-life, and you'll get God's everything. And when you assume the position of prayer, remember that it's not all *asking*. If you have anything against someone, *forgive* - only then will your heavenly Father be inclined to also wipe your slate clean of sins."

About what do we pray?

We pray about everything!

Who is an Intercessor?

Intercede = go between

Intercession = "mediation with a view to reconciliation"

An Intercessor is someone who notices a problem, challenge or need, and discusses it with the Lord

Why should we pray and intercede?

Ezekiel 18:23 (NLT)

²³"Do you think that I like to see wicked people die? says the Sovereign Lord. Of course not! I want them to turn from their wicked ways and live.

2 Samuel 14:14 (NLT)

¹⁴All of us must die eventually. Our lives are like water spilled out on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again. But God does not just sweep life away; instead, He devises ways to bring us back when we have been separated from Him.

Why should we pray and intercede?

- The Lord loves everyone
- We love people and want them to connect with the Lord
- So that blindspots can be eradicated
- To draw out the talents or calling on someone's life
- If one member of the Church isn't healthy, the whole Body is affected

For the benefit of the whole Church

How do we stand against the enemy?

1 Peter 5:8-11 (NLT)

⁸Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that your brothers throughout the world are undergoing the same kind of sufferings. ¹⁰And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

How do we stand against the enemy?

By proclaiming the truth

How do we learn to pray and intercede?

From experienced people

As a result of need

Practical pointers

Ask Jesus how to pray

Pray interactively

Pray expecting an answer

Wait with the Lord

Ask the Lord to open your eyes to His answers

Thank Him in faith for answers not yet seen

Position yourself where you should be

Spend time praying with experienced people

Unlock the door to Victory!

We are on the side of the Victor,
Jesus!

Our enemy is Satan

We have God-given authority to reign

We converse with the Lord (pray):

At all times

For everyone

About everything