

# WELCOME TO WORD OF FAITH LIFE GROUPS

**WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER**

## LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

Praying Scripturally Against The Kingdom Of Darkness, Part 2

Thursday, May 26, 2022 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

*Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching*

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### OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

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### WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)

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If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

### PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)

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### FACILITATION OF LESSON

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**Sermon Title:** *“Praying Scripturally Against The Kingdom Of Darkness,” Part 2*

#### POINT 1

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The reason we're studying this is because we need to know how to pray prayers that will affect change in our community.

We talked about a man that was interceding for the lost that would come to reverend Charles Finney's revival. Father Nash wasn't pulling down strongholds or fighting demons who were ruling over cities where Finney was going to be preaching.

He was praying according to **Romans 8:26** where it says:

*“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.”*

However, we need to realize that the Holy Spirit may lead a person to pray in private in ways that would be wrong in a public setting. For instance, many people, especially if unbelievers are present, wouldn't understand if a person suddenly got down on the floor at church and began groaning and carrying on in prayer.

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But prayer that is in line with the Word of God. When you pray you prepare the ground of people's hearts so the Word can be planted and bear eternal fruit in people's lives.

#### QUESTION

1. What would be the reaction of people (especially the unsaved) if someone suddenly got on the floor and started groaning and moaning? What would be your reaction if you weren't familiar with such things happening? (Be honest)

#### POINT 2

If we will enter into intercession and travail for the lost in this community, the Lord will give us the city. When he gives it to us, we will still have to possess it.

And the way, we possess it is through intercessory prayer and travailing for the lost. We can intercede on behalf of others with our understanding, as Finney did when he pled his case with God using the promises in God's Word. But we don't always know how to pray for folks as we ought according to **Romans 8:26**.

#### **READ: ROMANS 8:26**

*"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought....."*

That's why we need to be sensitive to pray as the Holy Spirit leads us and as He takes hold together with us:

*"...but the Spirit itself (himself) maketh intercession for us with **groanings** which cannot be uttered."*

#### **READ: 1 CORINTHIANS 14:14-15**

*14 For if I pray in an **unknown tongue**, my **spirit prayeth**, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is it then? I will **pray with the spirit**, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.*

The Amplified Version reads:

*14 For if I pray in a **tongue**, my spirit prays, but my mind is unproductive [because it does not understand what **my spirit is praying**]. 15 Then what am I to do? I will **pray with the spirit** [by the Holy Spirit that is **within me**] and I will pray with the mind [using words I understand]; I will **sing with the spirit** [by the Holy Spirit that is **within me**] and I will sing with the mind [using words I understand].*

Praying for the lost in this manner is a part of the scriptural way to win a city for God. To win a city, you must win souls.

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Winning a city for God doesn't necessarily mean that every single person in that city will be saved because people still have free choice. But prayers and intercession make it easier for people to yield to God and to desire to be saved. As a result of the believers praying for the lost, many will come to the Lord.

The Lord wants us to give ourselves to prayer that's based on the Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

#### **QUESTION:**

1. How do we possess our Islands?
2. How do you pray when you don't know how or what to pray? (Use scripture to explain)
3. How does prayer and intercession affect people? What are the results?

#### **POINT 3**

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Once again, the question is, how does planting incorruptible seed, preaching the Word, and bringing people out of darkness increase the Kingdom of God?

In Acts 19, Paul preached the word of God in Ephesus

#### **READ: Acts 19:9-11**

*But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus. **He preached daily.***

*10 And this continued by the space of **two years**; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. 11 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:*

People were saved, believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke with tongues, the sick were healed, and those who were oppressed by evil spirits were delivered. All of this happened as a result of Paul preaching the Word.

#### **READ: ACTS 19:20**

*So mightily grew the **word of God** and prevailed.*

It was the Word that grew and prevailed in the hearts and lives of the people of Ephesus and brought them out of the bondage of the Kingdom of Darkness.

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If you want to see miracles happen, including people being set free from demonic oppression and influence, **PREACH THE WORD**. Put God's word first because God's Word never fails! When you emphasize or exalt anything other than the Word, you get off on doctrinal tangents and people aren't set free from the bondage of Satan. Exalting anything but the Word of God opens a door to the Devil because it gets you sidetracked from God's purpose for the church.

#### QUESTION:

1. When Paul preached the Word what were the results? (Don't just give a one statement answer, there's a lot in this!)
2. What happens when you emphasize anything other than the Word of God?

#### POINT 4

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Preach the Word! Establish people in the Word! Then they will be able to stand in any test or trial Satan tries to bring their way. Because they have a solid foundation for their faith – the Word of the living God.

**Acts 19:20** says, *“the word of God prevailed in people's lives.”* The word **“Prevail”** means *to gain ascendancy through strength and superiority; to triumph; to be or become effective or effectual; to predominate.*

When the Word gains ascendancy in people hearts, it has the power to transform their lives and deliver them from every bondage of the devil. The word prevailing in people's lives is the key to the triumphant church prevailing over the powers of darkness on this earth. It is the scriptural way to change cities and nations for God. That's why there was a worldwide shut down of churches during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Christians still don't see it that way but it's true. A lot of churches are still shut down and there are still places where they can't preach the Word. We can't allow anything to stop the Word from going forth; I don't care what they come up with.

#### QUESTION:

1. Explain how the word Prevailed is described in this passage?
2. What was the main objective of this Pandemic and worldwide shutdowns? (Share your thoughts)

#### POINT 5

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There was a newsletter of a missionary who had ministered in the Philippines for many years. His report of ministering in the Philippines is an example of how preaching the Word can affect change in a nation.

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His ministry team went to an island that had never been reached with the gospel, and the people on the island were in great bondage to Satan. These missionaries preached the Word to the people, and many were delivered out of the bondage of darkness. Believers could have fasted and prayed for the people on that island for the rest of their lives, but no one would have been saved if someone hadn't gone to the island and preached the Word.

Believers could have commanded the devil to stop ruling on that island, but he would have gone right on ruling because without the knowledge of the Word, people would have consciously or unconsciously continued to yield to Satan.

Without the preaching and teaching of the Word, the people wouldn't have known they had authority over Satan themselves and that they no longer had to be defeated by the devil.

So effective, scriptural prayer was first made for those on the island who were in bondage to Satan. But then someone had to go and plant the incorruptible seed by preaching the Word to the people so that many, many people could be born again and delivered out of the kingdom of darkness. The more believers get the Word to prevail, the more we will see cities and nations changed to the Glory of God. The word "**Prevail**" means *to gain ascendancy through strength and superiority; to triumph; to be or become effective or effectual; to predominate.*

That is the way to stand as the triumphant church of the lord Jesus Christ in the earth, reaching all nations with the gospel in these last days.

#### QUESTIONS:

1. What was the condition of these islands and how did this missionary team affect change in the islands?
2. What are the things those believers could have done and then fill in the blanks after the but?

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**ALTAR CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)**

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**PRAISE REPORTS - \*2-MINUTES PER PERSON**

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**PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)**

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**Prayer focus:**

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
  - a. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian and the ministerial staff.
  - b. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

**Have you reached out to your circle today?**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)**

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1. Join **Covenant Partner's, Friday, May 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. for Dinner and a Movie.** Dinner will be at the Meat-up followed by a movie at Caribbean Cinema. For more information contact Minister Lavern Oysterman by email at [wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com](mailto:wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com)
2. Join us for the next SWAT Outing, **Saturday, May 28th at 11am.** SWAT Outings are schedule every 2nd and 4th Saturdays. For more information contact Minister Francis.
3. Join us for Friends and Family Day, **Sunday, May 29th at 10:00 am.** It's our dress down Sunday. To make food donations please see Minister Creque.
4. In observation of **Memorial Day, Monday, May 30th** early morning prayer is canceled. Join us Tuesday, May 31st as prayer resumes at 6:00 am.

**OFFERING**

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- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/>
- <https://www.givelify.com/>

**CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL**

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