



# MOUNTAIN OF FIRE AND MIRACLES MINISTRIES

International Headquarters, Lagos.

MONDAY SPIRITUAL HOSPITAL (BIBLE STUDIES - 42<sup>ND</sup> SERIES)

## WE WRESTLE (Part 2)

### LECTURE 2- THE EFFECTIVE PRAYER WARRIOR

**MEMORYVERSE:** James 5:16b, "... *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*"

**TEXT:** James 5:13 – 18; 1 Kings 17:1; 1 Chronicles 4:9, 10

**INTRODUCTION:** Prayer is the most powerful source of joy, comfort and spiritual upliftment for millions of people the world over and still remains one of the most effective means of connecting with the living Almighty God. And the Bible confirms that "... **The effective prayer of righteous man avails much**" (James 5:16b).

Meanwhile, one may ask, what does effective mean, and who is **the** effective prayer warrior? In tonight's Bible study, we shall answer these questions and other related questions regarding **the** effective prayer warrior.

#### I. DEFINITIONS

- A. **What does "effective" means?** Basically "effective" means "adequate to accomplish a purpose; producing the intended or expected result."
- B. **Who is a warrior?** A warrior is "a person skilled in combat or warfare."
- C. **Who is the effective prayer warrior?**
  1. The effective prayer warrior is someone who earnestly lifts others in prayer. He asks in the Lord to release the troubles, pain and sorrow from his life and for the total wellbeing of others too.
  2. The effective prayer warriors positively pray with all supplication, endlessly and tirelessly to bring strength, endurance, patience, understanding and hope to all others unconditionally.
  3. The effective prayer warrior is generally thought of as a Christian who prays continually and effectively for others in the manner of praying taught in Scripture.

#### II. WHAT ARE THE SPIRITUAL QUALIFICATIONS OF "THE EFFECTIVE PRAYER WARRIOR"

Learning to pray aright involves knowing **what** God expects as qualifications for those who approach Him in prayer.

1. **The effective prayer warrior must be a man right before God** (James 5:16b): Being righteous before God will answer one's prayer refers primarily to positional righteousness that one receives because of faith in Christ Jesus. (2 Cor. 5:21)
2. **The effective prayer warrior is a man in the Spirit** (Eph. 6:18; Jude 20): This definitely

refers to temporal fellowship in that a Christian is submitted to the control of the Holy Spirit.

3. **The effective prayer warrior must pray according to God's will** (1 John 5:14-15): God is sovereign at all times, and our prayers, in order to be effective, must be in accordance with His sovereign will for us.
4. **The effective prayer warrior must be abiding in Christ and His Word** (John 15:7) The Christian is to be in fellowship with his Lord and reveling in His Word before there will be effective prayer (Rom. 12:2).
5. **The effective prayer warrior must be obedient to the Word** (1 John 3:22) The believer who chooses to be obedient to God will most certainly see God bless him in his prayer life.

#### III. HOW CAN ONE BECOME AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER WARRIOR?

1. **To be effective warrior in prayer is to engage in the spiritual battle and fight the good fight of faith wearing the full armor of God and "pray[ing] in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests"** (Eph. 6:10-18).
2. While all Christians are to be prayer warriors, there are some people who feel they have a special and unique ability to pray and have been called by God to pray as their special ministry. Are you one of them?
3. The Bible never specifies certain people who are **to pray more often, more diligently, or more effectively than other Christians**, but there are diligent prayer warriors who are known for their emphasis on prayer. What are you waiting for, join them now.

4. Paul commands that “**requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone**” (1 Tim. 2:1), and he says nothing that would indicate some people are exempt from doing so.
5. Effective prayer is indeed work. We have to learn to walk with God, so we meditate daily on Him and His ways in order to become more and more humble, which is essential for effective prayer (2 Chron. 7:13-15).
6. We also **study Scripture** thoughtfully every day to learn what is pleasing to God and therefore what constitutes acceptable prayer.
7. We learn to **eliminate hindrances to prayer** (Mark 11:25; 1 Peter 3:7; 1 John 3:21-22) and not to grieve the Spirit of God (Eph. 4:30-32).
8. **We learn that we are in a spiritual battle with Satan**, so we must pray for our own spiritual well-being to maintain our strength and focus in praying for others (Eph. 6:12-18).

#### IV. KEYS TO EFFECTIVE AND POWERFUL PRAYERS

1. **The effective prayer warrior sets aside a special time and place for prayer.** You can pray more effectively if you have a special time and place for doing so (Mark 1:35).
2. **The effective prayer warrior ask God to help him in his prayer.** God is not only able to answer your prayer, but he is also able to make your prayer to him stronger.
3. **The effective prayer warrior knows God is the doer.** The power of your prayers will increase dramatically when you realise that God is the doer.
4. **The effective prayer warrior uses the names of God.** Some people can get great results in prayer just by speaking to God without using his name. But when you use the name of God, **I AM THAT I AM**, you increase the power of your prayer greatly.
5. **The effective prayer warrior visualizes what he wants to happen.** What you think about when you pray can greatly affect the quality of your prayer.
6. **The effective prayer warrior must be grateful. By cultivating gratitude, you open yourself to receiving more of God's gifts. Gratitude is the law of increase.**

#### BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO PRAYED SPECIFIC EFFECTIVE PRAYERS

1. Abraham (Gen. 18:22-28)
2. Moses (Exo. 32:31-34)

3. Hannah (1 Sam. 1:20-23)
4. Elijah (1 Kings 17:1)
5. Daniel (Dan.10:10-14)
6. Jesus (John 17)
7. Paul (Eph. 1:15-19)

#### V. WHAT ARE THE HINDRANCES TO EFFECTIVE PRAYER?

1. **Cherished sin in one's life (Isa. 59:1-2; Ps. 66:18):** Sin, which is rebellion to God, breaks temporal fellowship with the Father.
2. **Selfishness (James 4:3):** So often we ask for things in prayer when our motives are putrid. The human heart is very deceitful but God answers the prayer of an honest man.
3. **Ill will or hatred towards another (Mark 11:24-26):** To harbor ill will and carry around a grudge towards another person hinders effective prayer.
4. **Stinginess towards the poor & God's work (Proverbs 21:13):** There is perhaps no greater hindrance to prayer than stinginess, the lack of liberality toward the poor and toward God's work.
5. **Poor marital relationship (1 Peter 3:7):** Husbands and wives have biblical responsibilities to one another, for they are joint heirs of the grace of life.

**CONCLUSION:** You should work daily to become effective prayer warrior. Put God first in your life. Let the first thing you do every day be to commune with Him. Make it a priority to read your Bible daily. Meditate on what you have read and let it settle in your heart. Fast from time to time. Believe that God is able and willing to answer your prayer requests TODAY. You have to believe in order to receive and you'll be amazed at what He will do.

#### PRAYER POINTS

1. Oh God arise, and empower me to become effective prayer warrior, in the name of Jesus.
2. Powers harassing my prayer life, die, in the name of Jesus.
3. Holy Ghost fire overshadow my life, in the name of Jesus.
4. Anointing to pray effective prayers, fall upon me, in the name of Jesus.