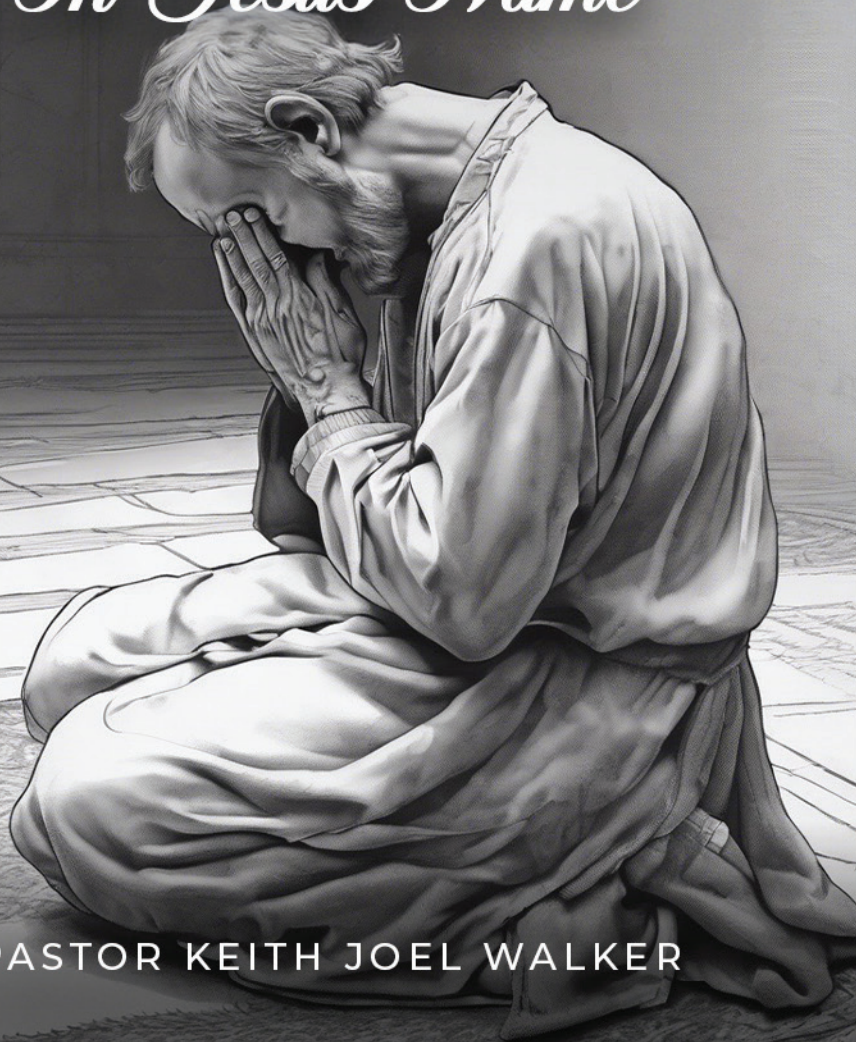


THE
POWER *of*
PRAYER
In Jesus Name



PASTOR KEITH JOEL WALKER



THE POWER OF PRAYER IN JESUS NAME

Written by
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Introduction

In the life of every believer, prayer stands as the vital link between the soul and God. It is through prayer that we communicate with our Creator, seek His guidance, and unleash His power in our lives and communities. This booklet aims to explore the profound significance of prayer as articulated by renowned Apostolic Pentecostal preachers.

Drawing from their insights, we will delve into the transformative nature of prayer, the importance of intercession, and the power of praying in the Spirit.

As we journey through the pages of this commentary, let us open our hearts to the call of prayer, recognizing it as not just a duty but a privilege that connects us to the heart of God.

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1. The Essence of Prayer

Understanding Prayer as a Dialogue

Prayer is not merely a monologue where we present our needs to God; it is a sacred dialogue where we listen for His voice. As E.M. Bounds stated, “Prayer is not a monologue, but a dialogue. God’s voice in response to mine is its most essential part.” This understanding transforms our prayer life from a routine to a relational experience with our Creator.

Reflection: Take a moment to quiet your mind and listen. What is God saying to you in this season of your life?

The Role of Faith in Prayer

Faith is the foundation upon which our prayers stand. When we approach the throne of grace, we must do so with confidence, believing that God hears and answers our prayers. The effectiveness of our prayers is directly proportional to our faith in God’s character and promises.

Quote: “Prayer is the essential exercise of faith.” — E.M. Bounds

2. Apostolic Authority in Prayer

The Power of the Name of Jesus

The name of Jesus carries authority and power.

When we pray in His name, we invoke His presence and power to act in our situations. Matthew 18:18-20 reminds us of the authority given to believers to bind and loose on earth as it is in heaven.

Reflection: Consider the authority you have in Christ. How can you exercise that authority in your prayers today?

Scriptural Foundations: Matthew 18:18-20 and Matthew 16:18-19

These passages emphasize the power of agreement in prayer and the authority of the church. When we unite in prayer, we tap into a divine promise that God will be with us and respond to our requests.

3. The Transformative Nature of Prayer

Praying Through: Moving from Flesh to Spirit

Praying through involves pushing past our fleshly desires and emotions into the realm of the Spirit. It requires persistence and a willingness to surrender to God's will.

Quote: "Every great move of God is preceded by a great wave of prayer." — T.W. Barnes

The Effects of Prayer on Character: Meekness and Humility

Prayer cultivates humility and meekness in the believer. As we spend time in God's presence, we become more like Him, reflecting His character in our lives.

Quote: "To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing." — E.M. Bounds

4. Praying in the Spirit

The Evidence of Speaking in Tongues

Speaking in tongues is a powerful expression of praying in the Spirit. It allows us to communicate with God beyond our understanding, enabling deeper intercession and worship.

Reflection: Have you experienced the gift of tongues? How has it impacted your prayer life?

Intercession: Standing in the Gap

Intercessory prayer is a vital ministry of believers. It involves standing in the gap for others, pleading for God's mercy and intervention in their lives.

Quote: “When we pray, we invite God’s presence into our circumstances.” — James Kilgore

5. Insights from Apostolic Leaders

Quotes and Reflections from E.M. Bounds

- “Prayers are deathless. They outlive the lives of those who uttered them.”
- “The greatest thing anyone can do for God and man is pray.”

Wisdom from Bill Cole, Nona Freeman, Nathaniel Urshan, T.W. Barnes, and James Kilgore

- Bill Cole: “Prayer is the key that unlocks the door to the supernatural.”
- Nona Freeman: “In prayer, we find our strength; in prayer, we find our direction.”
- Nathaniel Urshan: “The effectiveness of our ministry is directly proportional to the depth of our prayer life.”
- T.W. Barnes: “Prayer is the bridge that connects us to heaven.”
- James Kilgore: “Prayer is the foundation upon which every successful ministry is built.”

Perspectives from Andrew Urshan, G.T. Haywood, and Murray Burr

- Andrew Urshan: “A prayerless church is a powerless church; we must seek His face to see His hand.”
- G.T. Haywood: “Prayer is the breath of the soul; without it, we cannot survive spiritually.”
- Murray Burr: “Prayer is the lifeline that connects us to the heart of God.”

6. The Power of Revival Through Prayer

The 100-Year Prayer Revival

While the phrase “100-Year Prayer Revival” may not refer to a single, specific event, it symbolizes the long-standing tradition of prayer that has characterized many revivals throughout church history. Continuous prayer meetings and intercessory efforts have paved the way for movements that transformed communities and nations.

Significant Revivals of the 1800s and 1900s

1. The Second Great Awakening (1790s-1840s): This revival emphasized personal piety and social reform, leading to increased church attendance and the establishment of new denominations.
2. The Welsh Revival (1904-1905): Fueled by prayer and passionate preaching, this revival saw thousands come to faith in Christ, impacting communities across

Wales and beyond.

3. The Azusa Street Revival (1906-1915): Often considered the birthplace of modern Pentecostalism, this revival was marked by fervent prayer, worship, and the manifestation of spiritual gifts, including speaking in tongues. It drew people from various backgrounds and led to a significant increase in the Pentecostal movement worldwide.

4. The Cane Ridge Revival (1801): This revival in Kentucky was characterized by emotional worship, spontaneous prayer, and a powerful sense of the Holy Spirit's presence, leading to a significant conversion of souls.

5. The Brownsville Revival (1995-2000): Originating in Florida, this revival was characterized by deep worship, prayer, and a focus on repentance, drawing thousands to experience the power of God.

The Azusa Street Revival: Birth of a Movement

The Azusa Street Revival, led by William J. Seymour, began in a humble mission on Azusa Street in Los Angeles. It was marked by intense prayer, fasting, and a hunger for God's presence. Participants experienced the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues, miraculous healings, and a deep sense of community. This revival not only transformed lives but also catalyzed

the global Pentecostal movement, emphasizing repentance, prayer, and the need for personal encounters with God.

7. Practical Steps for a Robust Prayer Life

Developing a Consistent Prayer Routine

Creating a consistent prayer routine can deepen your relationship with God. Consider setting aside specific times for prayer each day, and be intentional about it.

Tip: Use a prayer journal to document your prayers and track God's answers.

Creating a Prayerful Atmosphere

Designate a space in your home for prayer. This could be a corner with a comfortable chair, your Bible, and any other items that help you focus on God.

8. Conclusion: The Call to Pray

As we reflect on the insights shared in this booklet, let us be reminded of the power and importance of prayer in our lives. The Apostolic Pentecostal tradition has shown us that prayer is not just a practice but a way of life. It is through prayer that we align ourselves with God's will, experience His

presence, and become vessels of His power in the world.

Final Reflection: What is your next step in deepening your prayer life? Commit to taking action today.

Notable Figures Who Prayed and Were Answered

Old Testament Figures

1. Abraham

- Scripture: Genesis 20:7
- Context: Abraham interceded for Abimelech, and God answered his prayer, healing Abimelech and his household.
- Verse: “Now return the man’s wife, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you will live.”

2. Jacob

- Scripture: Genesis 32:9-12
- Context: Jacob prayed for deliverance from Esau, expressing his fear and reliance on God’s promises.
- Verse: “Then Jacob prayed, ‘O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, Lord, you who said to me, “Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper.”’”

3. Elijah

- Scripture: 1 Kings 18:36-37
- Context: Elijah prayed for fire to come down from heaven to prove God's power to the people of Israel.
- Verse: "At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: 'Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command.'"

4. Moses

- Scripture: Exodus 32:11-14
- Context: Moses interceded for the Israelites after they sinned by making a golden calf.
- Verse: "But Moses sought the favor of the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your anger burn against your people, whom you brought out of Egypt with great power and a mighty hand?'"

5. Joseph

- Scripture: Genesis 41:14
- Context: Joseph prayed for wisdom to interpret Pharaoh's dreams.
- Verse: "So Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was quickly brought from the dungeon. When he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came before

Pharaoh.”

6. Daniel

- Scripture: Daniel 9:20-23
- Context: Daniel prayed for the sins of Israel and sought understanding about their future.
- Verse: “While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the Lord my God for his holy hill, while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice.”

7. Gideon

- Scripture: Judges 6:36-40
- Context: Gideon prayed for a sign from God to confirm His call to deliver Israel.
- Verse: “Gideon said to God, ‘If you will save Israel by my hand as you have promised, look, I will place a wool fleece on the threshing floor...’”

8. Isaiah

- Scripture: Isaiah 37:14-15
- Context: Isaiah prayed for deliverance from the Assyrian king Sennacherib.
- Verse: “Hezekiah received the letter from the

messengers and read it. Then he went up to the temple of the Lord and spread it out before the Lord. And Hezekiah prayed to the Lord.”

9. Jeremiah

- Scripture: Jeremiah 33:3
- Context: God invites Jeremiah to call upon Him for answers.
- Verse: “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.”

10. Jonah

- Scripture: Jonah 2:1-2
- Context: Jonah prayed from the belly of the fish, crying out to God for help.
- Verse: “From inside the fish Jonah prayed to the Lord his God. He said: ‘In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me.’”

11. Jehoshaphat

- Scripture: 2 Chronicles 20:5-6
- Context: Jehoshaphat prayed for help when faced with a vast army.
- Verse: “Then Jehoshaphat stood up in the assembly of Judah and Jerusalem at the temple of the Lord in the front of the new courtyard and said: ‘Lord,

the God of our ancestors, are you not the God who is in heaven? You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations.”

12. Ezekiel

- Scripture: Ezekiel 11:13-14
- Context: Ezekiel prayed for the people of Israel during their exile.
- Verse: “Then I said, ‘Alas, Sovereign Lord! Are you going to completely destroy the remnant of Israel?’ In response, the Lord spoke to me.”

13. Hannah

- Scripture: 1 Samuel 1:9-20 - Hannah prayed for a son, and God answered her prayer by giving her Samuel.

14. Solomon

- Scripture: 1 Kings 3:5-14 - Solomon prayed for wisdom, and God granted him wisdom and riches.

15. Hezekiah

- Scripture: 2 Kings 19:14-20 - Hezekiah prayed for deliverance from Sennacherib, and God answered by saving Jerusalem.

16. Nehemiah

- Scripture: Nehemiah 1:4-11 - Nehemiah prayed for the welfare of Jerusalem, and God granted him favor with the king.

Summary

These examples illustrate the power of prayer in the lives of the Old Testament prophets and figures. Their cries to God reflect a deep reliance on Him during times of distress, need, and uncertainty. Each prayer not only reveals their relationship with God but also serves as a model for believers today, encouraging us to approach God with honesty, faith, and expectation.

New Testament Figures

1. Jesus

- Scripture: John 11:41-44 - Jesus prayed before raising Lazarus from the dead, and God answered by raising him.

2. Peter

- Scripture: Acts 9:36-40 - Peter prayed for Tabitha (Dorcas), and she was raised from the dead.

3. Paul

- Scripture: Acts 16:25-26 - Paul and Silas prayed in prison, and God answered by sending an earthquake that opened the prison doors.

4. The Church

- Scripture: Acts 12:5-17 - The church prayed for Peter's release from prison, and God sent an angel to free him.

5. Cornelius

- Scripture: Acts 10:1-4 - Cornelius prayed, and God sent Peter to share the Gospel with him and his household.

Scriptures on Prayer

Old Testament Scriptures

1. 2 Chronicles 7:14 - "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2. Psalm 34:17 - "The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles."

3. Psalm 145:18 - "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."

4. Isaiah 65:24 - "Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear."

New Testament Scriptures

1. Matthew 7:7-8 - "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened

- to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”
2. Matthew 21:22 - “And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”
3. Mark 11:24 - “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.”
4. Luke 18:1 - “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.”
5. Philippians 4:6-7 - “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
6. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 - “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
7. James 5:16 - “The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”
8. 1 John 5:14-15 - “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”

The Book of Psalms is Rich with David's Prayers

Key Psalms of David That Involve Prayer

1. Psalm 3 - A prayer for deliverance from enemies.

- Key Verse: "But you, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high." (Psalm 3:3)

2. Psalm 4 - A prayer for relief in distress.

- Key Verse: "Answer me when I call to you, my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer." (Psalm 4:1)

3. Psalm 5 - A morning prayer for guidance.

- Key Verse: "Listen to my cry for help, my King and my God, for to you I pray." (Psalm 5:2)

4. Psalm 6 - A prayer for mercy in time of trouble.

- Key Verse: "Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath." (Psalm 6:1)

5. Psalm 7 - A prayer for protection from enemies.

- Key Verse: "O Lord my God, I take refuge in you; save and deliver me from all who pursue me." (Psalm 7:1)

6. Psalm 9 - A prayer of thanksgiving for God's justice.

- Key Verse: "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with

all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.”
(Psalm 9:1)

7. Psalm 10 - A prayer against the wicked.

- Key Verse: “Arise, Lord! Lift up your hand, O God. Do not forget the helpless.” (Psalm 10:12)

8. Psalm 13 - A prayer for help in despair.

- Key Verse: “How long, Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?”
(Psalm 13:1)

9. Psalm 17 - A prayer for protection and vindication.

- Key Verse: “Hear me, Lord, my plea is just; listen to my cry. Hear my prayer—it does not rise from deceitful lips.” (Psalm 17:1)

10. Psalm 18 - A prayer of thanksgiving for deliverance.

- Key Verse: “I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies.”
(Psalm 18:3)

11. Psalm 19 - A prayer for guidance and understanding.

- Key Verse: “May the words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.” (Psalm 19:14)

12. Psalm 23 - A prayer of trust in God as the

Shepherd.

- Key Verse: “The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.” (Psalm 23:1)

13. Psalm 25 - A prayer for guidance and forgiveness.

- Key Verse: “In you, Lord my God, I put my trust.” (Psalm 25:1)

14. Psalm 27 - A prayer for confidence in God.

- Key Verse: “The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear?” (Psalm 27:1)

15. Psalm 28 - A prayer for help and assurance.

- Key Verse: “To you, Lord, I call; you are my Rock, do not turn a deaf ear to me.” (Psalm 28:1)

16. Psalm 30 - A prayer of thanksgiving for deliverance.

- Key Verse: “I will exalt you, Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths.” (Psalm 30:1)

17. Psalm 51 - A prayer of repentance.

- Key Verse: “Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” (Psalm 51:10)

18. Psalm 55 - A prayer for help amidst betrayal.

- Key Verse: “Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous be shaken.” (Psalm 55:22)

19. Psalm 61 - A prayer for protection and guidance.

- Key Verse: “Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer.” (Psalm 61:1)

20. Psalm 86 - A prayer for mercy and help.

- Key Verse: “Hear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.” (Psalm 86:1)

21. Psalm 102 - A prayer of an afflicted person.

- Key Verse: “Hear my prayer, Lord; let my cry for help come to you.” (Psalm 102:1)

22. Psalm 143 - A prayer for guidance and deliverance.

- Key Verse: “Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.” (Psalm 143:1)

Summary

These psalms illustrate David’s heart for prayer, showcasing his dependence on God in times of distress, his gratitude for deliverance, and his desire for guidance. They serve as powerful examples for believers today, encouraging us to pray earnestly and trust in God’s faithfulness.

Quotes on Apostolic Pentecostal Praying

1. William J. Seymour “We must be careful not to

let the fire go out. We must pray and seek God continually to keep the flame of the Holy Spirit alive in our hearts.”

2. Nona Freeman “Prayer is the key that unlocks the door to the supernatural. It is through prayer that we access the power and presence of God.”

3. T.W. Barnes “Every great move of God is preceded by a great wave of prayer. When we pray, we are inviting God to intervene in our situations.”

4. Nathaniel Urshan “The effectiveness of our ministry is directly proportional to the depth of our prayer life. If we want to see results, we must be men and women of prayer.”

5. E.M. Bounds “Prayer is the greatest of all forces, because it honors God and brings Him into the human realm.”

6. James Kilgore “When we pray, we invite God’s presence into our circumstances. Prayer is the foundation upon which every successful ministry is built.”

7. Andrew Urshan “A prayerless church is a powerless church. We cannot expect to see the hand of God move among us without a fervent prayer life.”

8. G.T. Haywood “Prayer is the breath of the soul; without it, we cannot survive spiritually. It is through prayer that we maintain our relationship with God.”

9. David Bernard “Prayer is not just a duty; it is a privilege. It is the way we communicate with our Creator and experience His power in our lives.”

10. Mark Morgan “In prayer, we find our strength; in prayer, we find our direction. It is the lifeline that connects us to the heart of God.”

11. Michael Williams “The fervent prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. When we pray in faith, we release the power of God to change lives.”

12. L. David Harris “Prayer is not just about asking; it’s about listening. It’s about being still in the presence of God and allowing Him to speak to our hearts.”

Additional Quotes on Apostolic Pentecostal Praying

1. G. A. Mangun “Prayer is the ultimate expression of faith. It is our lifeline to heaven and the means by which we access God’s power.”

2. Paul Mooney “When we pray, we are not just speaking words; we are engaging in a divine conversation that can change the course of history.”

3. Bishop J. L. Hall “Prayer is the engine of the church. Without it, we are merely a social club; with it, we are a force to be reckoned with in the spiritual realm.”

4. Elder J. M. McCarty “The secret to a vibrant Christian life is found in the prayer closet. It is there that we find strength, wisdom, and direction for our lives.”
5. Dr. J. T. Pugh “We must pray with a sense of urgency. The world is in desperate need of the power of God, and it is our prayers that can bring about change.”
6. Sister R. H. McMillan “Prayer is the pathway to revival. When God’s people humble themselves and seek His face, He will hear from heaven and heal our land.”
7. Bishop Charles H. Ellis III “In prayer, we find our identity and purpose. It is in the presence of God that we discover who we are meant to be.”
8. Evangelist David K. Bernard “The greatest weapon we have against the forces of darkness is prayer. When we pray, we unleash the power of God to combat evil.”
9. Pastor John W. McClain “Prayer is the foundation of our relationship with God. It is through prayer that we experience His love, grace, and guidance.”
10. Sister E. L. McClain “When we pray, we are not just asking for things; we are aligning our hearts with God’s will and inviting His presence into our lives.”
11. Rev. J. A. McClain “A prayerful spirit is a

powerful spirit. When we cultivate a life of prayer, we open ourselves to the miraculous.”

12. Bishop H. H. McCarty “Prayer is the heartbeat of the church. It keeps us alive and connected to the source of our strength.”

Summary

These additional quotes further emphasize the vital role of prayer within the Apostolic Pentecostal tradition. They highlight the transformative power of prayer, its ability to connect believers to God, and its significance in fostering spiritual growth and revival. Each quote serves as an encouragement for individuals and congregations to engage deeply in prayer.

Conclusion

The Bible is filled with examples of individuals who prayed and experienced God’s intervention in their lives. From the Old Testament to the New Testament, prayer remains a powerful and essential practice for believers. It connects us to God, aligns our hearts with His will, and invites His presence and action in our lives. As we cultivate a robust prayer life, we can trust that God hears us and answers according to His perfect will.