



**PRAYING
PROFESSIONALLY**

Praying Professionally

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(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated)

You, My children of David, have been in advanced studies and training for years, and hence I have raised the bar regarding your prayer lives. I expect that you'll perform according to your knowledge and understanding, and therefore I'm not satisfied with childish elementary performance. To have such a standard for you would be ridiculous. For you, that wouldn't even be interesting, much less truly challenging.

So, because you have been trained and educated in the ways of prayer, the spirit helpers, the spiritual weapons, and the nature of the spirit world, I expect you to be more professional in your prayer lives. By professional I mean that you take your prayer life seriously, you have a time and a place to pray, and you have a plan. Being professional is not being haphazard and lackadaisical; it's being focused and making the time count. Prayer is a part of your job as a professional disciple. It's not an extra or just something to do if you have time. It's fundamental and central to your life and work, and without it you won't get very far.

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Your prayer life is your profession. It's not your only profession, but it's one of the very most important ones. Are you acting like a professional when in prayer? Do you give it the same care, attention, precision, determination and focus as you do your other professions? Are you a professional?

A professional is someone who sees what they do as their vocation, their career. They believe it's important, and they put their heart into it--not only the execution and delivery, but also the training and preparation. They are always looking for ways to grow and progress in their professional skills, and then putting those skills to use to achieve results. Just as someone in the world knows that he must be professional if he is going to land an executive position in a company, in like manner the one who wants the best answers to prayer knows that he must pray professionally, giving it all he's got, to get the best results in prayer. If you expect miracles in answer to your prayers, make those prayers targeted, detailed, and spirit-filled! Pray the prayers of professionals!

Praying professionally means persevering until you see the answer. A professional doesn't stop halfway through a project. You'd never get promoted, you'd never get anything done, because in order to get something done, you have to not only start it, but complete it, and you have to see it through. But so many people pray that way--they pray once or in one sitting, and that's the last they remember of that prayer request. Praying that way can indicate that you don't really expect an answer, because you're not looking for one.

A key in praying professionally is not only focusing on specifics and believing that there isn't an alternative to receiving the answer, but it's in coming back again and again, and not wavering in your faith if the answer is not seen immediately. Sometimes I will bring the answer immediately and other times I will allow the answer to take longer for a variety of reasons. Sometimes the time is not right. Sometimes there are still choices that must be made on the part of the recipient of the answered prayer. And other times I just want to test your faith and see if you will pray and pray again until you see the answer. The key is believing. The key is knowing, and never taking no for an answer. Never give up, and you will see the results of your prayers.

Professional prayer is not fly-by-night. Professional prayer is carried out with excellence. A prayer professional will work at it. He knows that he must keep a list and update it frequently. He'll take note of the answers to his prayers, and he'll be sure to praise Me for each one. He is not shy about persisting in prayer; he expects that he'll have to persevere if he's going to get the desired results. If necessary, he'll pray as long as it takes to get the answer that he needs. The professional prayer warrior is not limited to just speaking his peace, but he realizes that sometimes he must "do the wanting." I often request that something be done in order for Me to answer prayer, and the professional will be on the lookout for clues. He will seek out what must be done in order to get the job done. He will be on the ball, always looking for a way to make his prayers more effective so that they can really pay off. The professional in prayer is a go-getter. He knows what he wants and is prepared to do whatever is necessary to get it. He won't give up until he gets the desired answer.

Just as the professional athlete gets out of the game what he puts into it, so it is with the professional prayer warrior. The athlete in training has to be consistent, diligent, regular and persevering, and it's no different for the one dedicated to professional prayer.

Like a doctor knows that he'll never be able to turn a blind eye to a needy situation that requires medical assistance, so the professional at prayer knows that he can never slack off when prayer is needed. He's always prepared to meet a need. He's equipped to ask at the throne of God and he expects Me to deliver the goods.

Just as the doctor knows that he is trained and has the necessary skills and knowledge that could save a person's life, so it is with the prayer professional. He knows that he has the close link with Me that can command action in the spirit world that will work miracles in the lives of those that he prays for.

The prayer professional knows that his gift of prayer makes him a servant of others. He can't lay down his gift and turn a deaf ear to a needy situation that requires prayer. He's responsible and he knows that when prayer is needed, he must deliver the goods and intercede before the throne of God until every prayer is answered.

The professional at prayer keeps track. He knows what the score is, how things are faring, what might be lacking, or what else is needed to gain victory. He's prepared to give whatever it takes to make it across the goal line. If more prayer is required, or more conditions need to be met to bring the desired outcome, he's right there, Johnny-on-the-spot, to do all that is necessary to pray the answer through.

A professional prayer master is never satisfied until every prayer is answered.

The professional at prayer is specific and articulates his prayer in detail. He gives Me the what, when, where, who, how, why, and as many specifics as possible. And he expects Me to answer in the same fashion, in detail--with each request taken care of.

The professional at prayer comes to My table prepared to talk. He clearly and concisely presents the needs, asks Me to take care of them, claims his right to My promises, and walks away counting it done, knowing that he's held up his end of the bargain. If something happens to come up later which involves a "refiguring" on the prayer front, he comes right back to the table, prepared to talk again, and prepared to do his part, whatever I may require, to meet the need and get the job [answer to prayer] done.

The prayer professional works smart. He's regular with his prayers, consistent, diligent, aims his prayers on target, and he'll persist until he's satisfied with the action that I've taken in answering his prayers.

A professional prayer warrior is constantly searching for fresh ways to pray, and for enhanced ways to use his weapons, so that his prayers are as powerful as they can be, so that the sword of his spirit life is kept razor sharp and ready to strike the Enemy with a precise cut and unique swing. This is the difference between a clumsy thug with a pitchfork and a trained, swift, mounted knight with a sharp sword. Which are you?

Prayers prayed in full faith, utilizing the spiritual weapons, and claiming My promises, yield accurate, full-of-faith results. While I never judge the length, style, or fluency of your prayers, I do look upon your desperation of heart, the level of faith you're displaying by how much you're willing to use the spiritual weapons in prayer.

If you want professional results, you must use professional means. Prayer is a skill that can be honed, so take time daily to sharpen your prayer scythe. Then when it comes time to use it, you'll be able to cut through the obstacles with ease.

Effectiveness in prayer is not a talent that you either have or you don't have. Everyone has the ability to be a winning, proficient master in the art of prayer. You just have to hone your skills. Study the music sheet of My Word so that you will know it backward and forward. Tune the strings of your heart so that you're in the best position to receive My answers. Practice your voice of faith by memorizing and claiming My promises. And then get ready to play beautiful music that will reach My heavenly courts and allow Me to pour out the blessings and answers in abundance.

Things are going to progress beyond anyone's natural abilities, and those who have leaned on the crutch of their carnal talents will find themselves much less useful, but a person who has mastered the art of bringing his requests to Me, and then patiently and praisefully waiting for Me to work, is going to become infinitely more valuable in any sphere of My service than one who is naturally gifted for certain tasks.

If you knew how effective and efficient prayer was, you'd hardly do anything else. Prayer opens doors that cannot be opened otherwise, breaks chains that would be impossible for human strength to break, removes the most daunting obstacles, delivers the most well-guarded prisoners from Satan's clutches, and causes miracles to become commonplace occurrences.

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