

8 | CULTIVATING YOUR FIELD - PRAYER



When you know what territory, what garden, God has entrusted to us, it is time to start praying for that garden. The garden may be your parenting, your classroom if you are a teacher, or your business if you are an entrepreneur. It is more important to know to whom you are praying than what you are praying. God is the Almighty, He gives authority over your garden and strategies for it. It is also important to know who you are: you have received the authority to rule your garden. You may use that authority to bring justice, peace and joy back to the garden.

When you pray from God's Spirit, you get to work with Him. You apply the word God gives you in faith and God's work takes place through you.

We can learn the following four principles from the first Ekklesias in the New Testament. The strength of these Ekklesias was that they knew their God, knew who they were together, and their prayers had power.

Jesus is King - prayer of proclamation

In the area God has entrusted to you, you have been given the authority to make Jesus King over all that you have been called to. In this Kingdom, Jesus has been appointed by the Father as King. We may say a prayer of proclamation in faith. By doing so, we give Jesus the keys to an area. We acknowledge and declare that His government is coming to earth.

By proclaiming Jesus as King, you acknowledge that the powers of satan over that territory are coming under His rule. (*Acts 28:31*)

Man or woman of peace - prayer of intercession

Jesus instructed the disciples to seek the man or woman of peace. Do you want to discover who the man or woman of peace is in your life? Invite the Holy Spirit to put someone on your heart. You can begin to intercede for that person, or persons.

God often uses that person to pass on the gospel to others in the family or circle of friends. (*Luke 10:5-9*)

Presence of God - binding and dissolving

Binding and dissolving is the engine of an Ekklesia that grows and is multiplying. This form of prayer begins with us realizing ourselves that we may be in God's presence. We may dwell in His rest wherever we go and stand. In His presence the Holy Spirit speaks and we receive the authority to bind and dissolve.

In heaven, God is the three-in-one. Father, Son and Spirit make decisions together, in unity. This is reflected on earth: where two, three or more believers decide something will happen. (*Matthew 16:16-20*)

In Christ we are blessed - prayer of blessing

God is a God of blessing. Abraham's story gives us insights into how blessing grows, every time God visits Abraham and speaks to him, He gives Abraham a blessing. We get to experience that too, because we become descendants of Abraham by faith, according to Romans 4:13. Galatians 3:29 talks about that we will be given possession of the world. Abraham believed in God and he acted on the word that God spoke to him. The promise that we will be given possession of the world applies to all who, like Jesus and Abraham, understand God's voice and take action. Below I share some of the blessings received by Abraham. Like Abraham, you can listen to God's voice and simply do what He asks of you; the blessing will follow naturally.

A proclamation based on Abraham's blessings:

(Genesis 12:1-3)

1. I will be a great people.
2. I am blessed in Jesus.
3. I have standing with people, at work and in the city.
4. I am a source of blessing.
5. God blesses those who bless me.
6. God stands up for me when I am mocked.

(Genesis 15:1)

7. I am protected.

(Genesis 17:1-9)

8. I am a progenitor of a multitude of nations.
9. I am royal descendant and from me come spiritual heirs; sons and daughters of the Kingdom.
10. God has an everlasting covenant with me.
11. God will be my God and that of my descendants.

(Genesis 22:16-17)

12. I will take possession of cities of the enemy.

EXERCISE:

1. Which of these four forms of prayer needs your attention? Make a plan to work on these, if you haven't already.
2. What victories, breakthroughs or answers to prayer do you know from your own life? Share these in your Ekklesia or with people you know well. Keep doing this regularly: remember the beautiful answers to prayer that the Father has given to you.

LESSON LEARNED:

The Ekklesia that prays in unity knows God, knows who they are together and knows that their prayers have power.



A large, empty rectangular box with a thin red border, intended for writing or drawing.