

# The POWER Of PRAYER

By Pastor Marcus Martinez



Prayer is giving God the LEGAL Authority to come into your situation.

It is important to know the power of prayer. It has been said that people who do not pray do not have any power in their lives. They do not have power to change nor experience any form of victory in their lives.

I want to show you why prayer is absolutely necessary in the life of a believer. You may think that God, being sovereign, is just going to do whatever He wants to do; but I want to show you that everything God does, he does legally through His Word. Prayer is very important because it gives God the legal right to come into your situation. Prayer keeps you under God's protection.

Let's look at **Genesis 1:24 –28** Then God said, **“Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind”**; and it was so. **And God made the beast of the earth according to its kind, cattle according to its kind, and everything that creeps on the earth according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. Everything God created, He saw as good.** The desire of God for humanity is good. His desire for your life is to bless you.

**Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image...** We often like to think of ourselves as really pathetic people, but we are made in the image and likeness of God. You are not a loser by nature, you are a winner and the image of God is what you bear. **...According to Our likeness; let them have dominion...** That word dominion means authority. God gave man authority over the earth. **...Over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”** So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female... Then God blessed them, and God said to them, **“Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.”** Subdue means to take over. That sounds like God gave man quite a bit of authority over this earth **...have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**

God gave man authority. Therefore, God is standing back and waiting for you to invite Him in through your prayer. That is why the Bible says **“...whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved” (Joel 2:32).** Even though God desires all men to be saved, yet this would not happen unless they call upon the Lord.

Do you know that you can pray for your family? I will give you an example of the power of prayer. While I was at College, I visited my parents on Halloween day. I was getting ready to go out and party that night. I don't know why I did it but I asked my mom to iron my orange T-Shirt. She gladly said she would, but she had a reason for ironing that shirt.

She took the shirt and while she was ironing it, she was praying over it. I heard her say, **“Father in the name of Jesus, I pray that when he goes to that place, he won't have a desire to be there...”** I got upset with her and pulled the shirt away and asked her why she was doing that. I put on the shirt and I went to the club.

At the club, I stayed right next to the speakers, trying to be cool; but I realised that I didn't want to be there. I got so angry that I didn't go home to my house; I went straight to my parents' house and asked my mom why she had prayed for me. You see, prayer can convict your children to change. If we start having some praying moms like that, situations will begin to change.

Take authority over the atmosphere. You have the legal right to take authority because God has given you dominion over this earth. Not over people, but over the atmosphere. For example, if you find your home is stressful, you can take authority over the atmosphere in your home.

As I understand my role as a person who has been given dominion and authority in this earth, I see the importance of cultivating the atmosphere that I want in my life. The world should not dictate the atmosphere in your life. You dictate it! You do not have to let circumstances dominate your emotions.

The bible says that, **“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 6:12)**. There are certain things that you cannot deal with in the natural realm. They have to be dealt with in the spiritual realm through prayer. Some things happen in your life and you can not explain the reason. You are doing everything right, but everything is going wrong. It is because of lack of prayer. You have given God little or no opportunity in your life because you have been in control. Instead, pray and give God the right to come in and stop the forces of darkness in your life.

Don't think that prayer has to be many words. It is through your heart that prayer is effective. You need to monitor what goes through the halls of your mind. It can either set you forward to want to pray or it will set you back and your life's situations will never change. Take authority over thoughts that run through your mind. You cannot stop thoughts from coming around your mind, but you can stop them from making a nest.

Allow me to challenge you today to start giving more of your time in prayer to God. Would you start bringing God more into your situations and more into your life? In **Jeremiah 29:11**, God says **“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.”** Start taking that God-given authority over your family, marriage and children. Allow God to do what He intended from the start, which is to bless you and to give you peace and hope for an expected end.

*Unless otherwise stated, all scripture quotes are from the New King James Version (NKJV)*