



A Secret To The Miraculous WEEK 5 DISCUSSION GUIDE

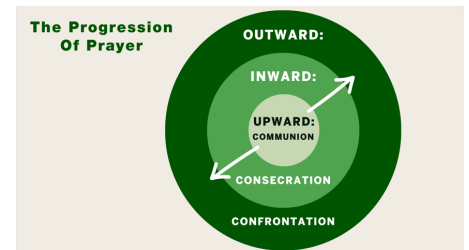
Overview

In this message of the *LifeLine* series, our faith will grow as we discuss how we can see miracles in our lives, homes, businesses, and families by learning to agree in prayer.

Discussion

In this series, we've learned about the progression of prayer: 1. Upward Prayer 2. Inward Prayer 3. Outward Prayer.

- Which of the three types of prayer has grown the most in you during this series?
- Why do you think the progression is important and beneficial rather than jumping around in prayer? How does it help you grow in your relationship with God?



Jesus spoke of the Prayer of Agreement in **Matthew 18:19**, “*...If two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.*” Today, we will discuss the power of the prayer of agreement.

Read **Acts 12:5-11**. These verses show us the power of the prayer of agreement. **Verses 1-2** tell us James was murdered at the hands of Herod Agrippa. Then this madman goes on to the next of Jesus’ closest friends and a vibrant leader of the church—Peter. He was thrown in prison, bound in chains. But... the Church woke up. They went to the greatest power source on earth...prayer. They didn’t just pray by themselves, they prayed corporately, together, in agreement. **Verse 5** says: *...constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.* When the Church prayed, Peter was literally delivered by an angel of the Lord through the prayers of God’s people. The devil is clearly out to ensnare, bind up, and imprison people—physically, relationally, emotionally, and spiritually. One of the greatest ways we see the power of God and overcome the enemy is when people come in agreement and pray.

- What does it mean to pray a prayer of agreement?
- Why is it important for people to come together and pray when facing challenging times?

Three Questions About The Prayer Of Agreement:

1. How has Satan been defeated?

When you see people around you deeply hurting, you can be led to believe the enemy is winning, and God is almost retreating. That’s not true. The enemy is defeated! We still have our flesh and sin nature, but the devil was defeated at the cross. **1 John 3:8**: *...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.*

So, if Satan is defeated, why do we see so much evil? People still have fallen natures, ungoverned by

God. When Jesus defeated Satan at the cross, the devil was rendered powerless over Believers on the earth. The enemy still roams the earth, seeking whom he can devour. However, under the blood of Jesus, the enemy cannot touch us. The church was also given delegated authority to enforce the rule of God in the earth. This is enforced through prayer. For example, in **Acts 12**, why was James murdered by Herod Agrippa? Could it be that no one prayed? It's the prayerlessness of the Church that allows so much evil to run rampant in the earth. When the church stops praying, evil starts flourishing.

- How does the understanding that Satan is defeated at the cross impact the way we perceive and respond to the evil we see around us in the world today?
- What can we do to remind ourselves and each other that the enemy is defeated?

2. If Satan is defeated, why pray?

If the enemy is already defeated, why do we need to spend time and energy praying? For one reason... to enforce the victory of Calvary and keep the enemy out of our lives! When we pray, we come into agreement with Heaven, and we bind the enemy. We don't defeat the enemy. Jesus defeated him at the cross. We reinforce the defeat of the enemy through prayer. We partner with God to see Heaven come to earth in the lives of people. We have delegated authority from God by way of Jesus' work on the cross. As we bind the devil, we set parameters where he cannot trespass. Jesus even taught us to pray with authority over the enemy in the Lord's Prayer and said in **Matthew 6:13: ...*"But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."*** At the same time, we release... we loose the supernatural to move and work and establish the Kingdom of God.

- Why is it important to continuously pray?
- Are you actively praying for God's will to be done? If not, what do you think is holding you back?

3. How does the prayer of agreement work?

Jesus speaks of the power released through agreement in **Matthew 18:18-20: *"Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."*** As we come together in agreement with Heaven and one another, God moves powerfully.

- What do you think makes the prayer of agreement effective?
- Can you share instances where praying in agreement with others has brought about a powerful response from God?

Life Challenge

Think about how you can engage more in the prayer of agreement. Make a list of who you can begin to pray *for* and who you can pray *with*. Then, stand in faith!

Pray Together