

# 10 Essential Principles of Divine Guidance

*“But when the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. For He will not speak on His own authority. But He will speak whatever He hears, and He will tell you things that are to come” (John 16:13).*

## **The Geiger Counter and Hearing God**

A German physicist invented the Geiger counter in 1945. It is an instrument used for detecting the presence and intensity of radiation. When radiation is detected, the device makes a distinct clicking sound. The closer you get to the substance and the greater intensity of its matter, the louder and faster the clicking noise becomes.

I have often thought that learning to hear God’s voice can be a lot like a Geiger counter. As you process what you are hearing and apply important checks and balances, there is an inner witness that you learn to pay attention to. You check in with the Holy Spirit; you listen to your “knower;” you weigh what you heard against the Word of God; you evaluate the content and fruit of the message; and you bear witness or you don’t—it either clicks or it doesn’t.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, there is a divine guidance system that comes with the package. Learning how to cooperate with Him to recognize His voice and avoid the subtle deception of the enemy takes time, but there are distinct principles (or clicks) that we can learn to quickly distinguish.

## **10 Principles of Divine Guidance**

Discerning the voice of the Holy Spirit is more of an art form than a rigid technique. Yet there are basic ground rules that

are essential for each of us to apply. Here are 10 principles of divine guidance that will help you recognize God's direction in your life:

**1. The will of God is made known in the Word of God.** Some people start trying to listen to the subjective when they've never first been grounded in the objective. They don't have a gauge to judge what they're sensing, hearing, feeling, thinking or what I call "knowing."

When the Scripture is hidden in your heart, you have an internal gauge of truth. It aids you in evaluating every thought and voice that may come your way. God's core values become rooted and established in your heart when you have read and memorized the Word. So the first guidance principle is always that the will of God is made known in the Word of God. God's Word is the final judge in all guidance.

**2. The will of God is confirmed through circumstances.** This principle can be a "little tricky" if used in isolation. It must be merged with the other guidance principles. So let's get this basic point down. God really wants you to hear and obey His voice—so He will even go out of His way to confirm His word. How? Yes, at times through circumstances. And even through extreme circumstances if He needs to!

I realize there are some exceptions to this principle, but God does guide us circumstantially as well. Ask in faith for Him to guide you and lead you. Push fear aside and even ask God to prove Himself to You. He loves a dare and will take you up on it!

**3. The Holy Spirit speaks from where He dwells.** Where does God dwell? God not only dwells in heaven, but if you are a child of God and have been filled with the Holy Spirit, He lives within you. According to 1 Corinthians 6:19, "your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit." He speaks to us from where He dwells. Where does God dwell? Colossians 1:27 tells us

plainly, "It is Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Have you listened to your heart lately? What is beating in your heart? The Holy Spirit is heaven's representative in all true guidance. God guides from the place God resides. And the people said, "Amen!"

**4. Divine guidance comes from meeting God's conditions.** Isaiah 58 is an incredible passage of Scripture where God's chosen fast is brilliantly described in detail. It speaks about honoring God and the observance of the Sabbath. Removing the pointing of the finger and feeding the poor are also addressed. Several key conditions are listed along with the attitudes they require.

God's corresponding promise is listed in Isaiah 58:11, "*And the Lord will continually guide you.*" But the conditions are listed first. What are the conditions that must be met for your promise to be unlocked? Meet the conditions and His eye will surely guide you.

**5. True guidance is accompanied by the peace of God.** There is peace in the midst of a storm. Peace does not mean there is no storm. Peace does not mean there's no warfare either. There is a center of quiet that is in the midst of the turbulence of life. True guidance from God does not push you; it brings peace and satisfaction.

James 3:17 says, "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." I love the order. Pure, peaceable, gentle—isn't that everything you would want hearing God to be all about? Don't you want to bear good fruit? God is not the author of confusion but mercy, gentleness and peace.

**6. Much guidance from God comes unaware.** Much of our guidance comes undetected. Why? Because of His marvelous ways! Also because we've asked Him to continually guide us! We want to do

His will. Divine guidance means God is moving in our lives and impressing our minds with His thoughts so that we can make wise decisions.

Psalm 25:9 wisely declares: "The meek will He guide in judgment, and the meek He will teach His way." Again, a condition is spoken which unlocks the provision. Humility is the doorway whereby we learn not just the will of God, but the ways of God. I love God's gentle nudges and whispers in the night. Don't you?

**7. Divine guidance does not mean we know all the details.** Uh-oh, that isn't what you wanted to hear. The problem with guidance is often that we want the rooftop experience where we can see the beginning from the end. We want to know the grand call that concludes with X, Y and Z! Now the Lord wants us, in a sense, to have a rooftop view. But often in our daily walks it's only the A's, B's and C's you gaze upon.

Most of the time, you will only see what is 3 feet in front of you. Here is a word of wisdom—enjoy the walk in the park. Life is more than just another meeting or the next hot word with gigantic details. Life is precious. Live it to the fullest. If you obey your A, B and C, you will get to R, S and T and eventually finish your course of X, Y and Z!

**8. The process of guidance is not always pleasant.** Isaiah 55:8-9 declares, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." The New Testament teaches us that we can have the "mind of Christ." But many of us still have struggles with our own thoughts, opinions, reasoning, traditions and strongholds that are contrary to His.

Well, God likes coming in and busting those up. He has determined that we will never be the same again. He calls us

to authentic lifestyles where bearing our cross is not a pain but a delight. So the process might be painful for the moment, but the end result will be His life expressed through us in exchange for our own efforts.

**9. Hearing God speak should prompt you to action.** Daniel 11:32 promises, “But the people who know their God will be strong and take action.” I want to be a person of faith who does exploits in the name of the Lord. Don’t you?

Many times people are looking for the next thing, the next word and the next calling. I have a word for you today. Have you completed the last orders God gave you? Sometimes people are trying to get to the next thing when they have not completed the last thing. I say to you, “What was the last thing God told you to do? Have you completed it?” Then get busy!

**10. Guidance is a skill to be learned over a lifetime.** It’s not a one-time experience where you heard God speak once and then you rehearse the same old testimony the rest of your life! It is a lifetime walk with Him! Hearing God is a skill to be learned and passed on to others.

I learned early on a basic life principle. For the most part, when it comes to guidance, I can hear the Holy Spirit through the gifts of the Spirit for others. But when it comes to me and my individual life and walk with Him, I hear Him the same way others do—through a relationship built over a lifetime!

There is something that will never fade or ever circumstantially go away—it is relationship with God. Be like John the beloved and lean your head upon the chest of your Messiah and Master. Listen for the very heartbeat of God. Cultivate a friendship with Jesus. True guidance is not just a one-time thing or a one-night stand; it is finding the Guide Himself. {eoa}

*For the original article, visit .*

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# Prophetic Decrees to Start Your Day With Power

Are you tired of seeing the enemy throw a curve ball in your day-to-day plans? Are you frustrated by the way things have panned out?

Did you know that you have been given power by God to change situations and not allow situations to change you? Fight back with spirit-filled anointed words that will transform your life through prophecy. The Bible says that if you decree a thing it will be established (Job 22:28).

As Christian believers, we are seated in heavenly places right now with Christ Jesus; we must listen, pray, rule and engage from that dimension. We are between the best of two worlds—heaven and Earth! Heaven wants to come to the Earth and only comes through *you*—the believer. God desires that the glory of the knowledge of Him will fill the Earth through *you* as well. Prophetic decrees from the throne of God in heaven release God's purposes (Job 22:28).

It is through the decree that is released from God that people of a region arise and fulfill the will of God as in the days of Ezra (Ezra 1:1–5). God was active then, and He will be active today in your life. God is as essential to our daily activities as the very air we breathe. The desire of God's heart is for us to involve Him in our daily schedule.

We have to make ourselves available to partner with heaven if we want to see remarkable changes in our lives. One of the lethal weapons against God's people is ignorance. God's people perish because of lack of knowledge (Hos. 4:6).

This is the time to take back your day! There are angels that are unemployed due to the fact that we are not asking God to release them to carry out His will for our lives. Angels hearken unto the voice of the Lord and God wants to use our voice to release the angels to bring to pass His will (Ps. 103:20). Employ them with your voice! God has a prophetic word for you to start your day:

## **God Fights for His Beloved**

*Just when you think you have everything figured out, life throws a curve ball your way. My child, I have given you wisdom, determination, passion and zeal to break through any restriction. When you feel like throwing in the towel, don't! I've come to you this morning to encourage you, to fortify you and to equip you to endure whatever happens. The enemy wants you to strike out, so he throws whatever he can to push you to the breaking point.*

*But you were never built to break down but to break through. When trouble comes, let Me keep you safe from all harm. It may appear the enemy has the advantage, but he is defeated. Know I have wired you to win the war. I will fight for you and come to your rescue like a mother eagle swoops down to catch her eaglets when they fall. No situation or person is stronger, mightier, or greater than Me.*

## **Now is Your Time to Prophecy**

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I will not be defeated.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I am an overcomer in Christ Jesus.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that today I have victory over my past.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that when the enemy comes to eat up my flesh, he shall stumble and fall.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I walk in the love of Christ and bless those who curse me in Jesus' name.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I have the full armor of God upon me.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I am anointed, chosen and called of the Lord.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that every illegal barrier, hindrance, restriction and limitation is broken in Jesus' name.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** I will be slow to speak and quick to hear.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that I will not be held back from reaching my full potential.

**I DECREE AND DECLARE** that my family, finances, relationships, friendships, properties and assets are protected in Jesus' name. {eoa}

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## Send Satan Packing With This Reminder From His Past

Satan wasn't always Satan as we know him today. The Bible records that he was created by God as Lucifer, which means "light bearer."

And like most names in the Bible, Lucifer's name is very significant and very revealing. As I explore in my book, *Silence Satan*, it has to do with his clothing. Allow me to explain.

### **The Clothing of Lucifer**

The Old Testament details that Lucifer was once adorned in some of the most beautiful and exquisite gems such as moonstone, jasper, sapphire, turquoise, emerald and others (Ezek. 28:12–13).

Fascinatingly, when you study these stones that covered Lucifer, most are prism-like. That is, they refract and reflect; and so their beauty is only appreciated in the presence of an external light. This explains Lucifer's name as "light bearer." Lucifer was created to bear God's light—to be heaven's instrument to reflect God's glory and to draw worship to God.

### **Lucifer Becomes Satan**

Eventually, however, Lucifer used this beautiful covering to bring attention to himself. "Look at my beauty and my splendor," he boasted (Ezek. 28:17).

Soon after this, God kicked Lucifer out of His presence, and in doing so, He stripped him of his covering so that there's no longer anything beautiful about him. But Satan still longs to be seen as glorious, which is why the Bible says that today he masquerades as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14).

### **The Clothing of God**

Though Lucifer's covering was surely stunning, it wasn't the most beautiful that God had prepared. No, the Bible speaks of something much more magnificent—a robe of righteousness decked with garland and jewels (Is. 61:10). This isn't a robe that only reflects God's light, but a robe that's made up of God's

light. And even more incredibly, it's a robe that God prepared to cover whomever would later accept salvation offered by Jesus.

Do you know what this means? As a Christian, you're covered in this robe. You're clothed in the very source of light and righteousness—Jesus Himself (Gal. 3:27). And what's more, this robe is so bright that it completely drowns out whatever is beneath it. Your dirty clothes with all of its holes and sin stains are no longer seen. Amazingly, covered in the beauty of His righteousness, when God looks at you, He sees purity, He sees His holiness, He sees Jesus!

### **A Reminder to the Devil**

So I say, "If you've got it, flaunt it!" Declare this word of victory about yourself as often as you can: "I am the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus" (2 Cor. 5:21). A declaration like this sure to keep the devil away. Because when Satan hears you say this, it'll give him a potent reminder of everything he isn't and what he can never be. And he certainly won't be able to stand being around you. {eoa}

**Kyle Winkler** equips people to live in victory. His mobile app, *Shut Up, Devil!*, is the #1 spiritual warfare app; and his recent book, *Silence Satan*, has helped thousands shut down the enemy's attacks, threats, lies and accusations. Kyle holds a Master of Divinity in biblical studies from Regent University. Get daily encouragement from Kyle on Facebook and Twitter.

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# **When You Pray, This Will**

# Guarantee You Foolproof Intercession

Are you an intercessor? In its most basic form intercession simply means the act of praying for something or someone else.

We sometimes equate it with spiritual warfare, pulling down strongholds, entering enemy territory and taking back what the enemy has stolen from us. But without disparaging that, and after many years of engaging in intercessory prayer, I found successful intercession is not at all complicated.

A very young child is an intercessor when he prays at the side of his bed. God hears his prayer, sees the sincerity of his heart and his simple faith. He answers according to His will. An elderly man may no longer be physically able to kneel, but he can sit in his rocking chair, look up to heaven and intercede. God hears and God answers.

The Bible says that Jesus is our intercessor (Rom. 8:34). It also says that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us (Rom. 8:26-27). When we maintain a transparent and submitted relationship with the Lord, we will tune in to His prompting, follow His directions and work in concert with Him toward a designated outcome. It is not a frustrating exercise, but a very joyful one because it's foolproof.

Let me illustrate this by sharing two distinct incidents from my life when listening to the Lord and following His lead brought about a godly change of circumstances.

One evening as a young Bible College student, I returned to the dorm from my part-time job, set my purse in my room and was heading down to dinner when a thought entered my mind. It was not my own thought as I silently heard, "Pray for your mother."

It was a strong urge so I immediately got on my knees and said, "Lord, I don't know why I'm praying for my mother, but I feel an urgency and so I'm praying for her protection, her safety, her well-being. Be with her. Keep her safe, Lord. Whatever is going on, please be there and help her." When I had no more words to pray I got up and went downstairs for supper.

I did not know what the problem was, or even if there was a problem. I just knew I had to pray for her. Years later, my mother was sharing with some friends about an incident that occurred while she lived in Brooklyn, New York, before she retired in Puerto Rico.

She said she was coming home from work one evening, when some men accosted her. They taunted, pushed and make snide remarks about how pretty she was. They circled her, laughed and grasped at her. This torment went on for a while when *suddenly* one of the men "snapped out of it."

He said, "What are we doing? Are we crazy? Let the old woman go and let's get out of here." With that, they released her. She went up the stairs to her apartment, fell on her knees before God and thanked Him for His deliverance and protection.

The time? It was the *exact* time that the Holy Spirit had nudged me to pray for her.

What if I had not heeded the urgency I felt? I cringe to think what would have happened to my mother on that night if I had delayed in obeying. Being sensitive to His still small voice and doing what He said to do *when* He said to do it brought the intended results.

The second incident I am sharing occurred many years later. This time I worked in concert with the Lord using a language unknown to me, but given by Him. I was awake praying around 3:00 a.m., when I told Him that I would not resist His Holy Spirit's gifts anymore but I wanted to be sure they were His

gifts, and not some counterfeit. I then saw in my mind's eye a ticker tape with a language written on it. As I whispered the unknown words I saw a picture of a young lady. I recognized her as one of the teachers in our Christian school.

She was married to a godly man and they had moved out of state. A year later, although she had no grounds, she left her husband and moved back to the area, lived with her parents and returned to her position in the Christian school. She was miserable but remained staunch in her decision.

As I continued, I saw her bound up like a mummy with what looked like translucent ribbons. As I spoke the words, I saw the wrappings come off bit by bit until she was completely free. Then I felt a strong sense of relief, refreshing and even joy. This was a *new* experience for me so I asked the Lord to confirm what had just happened.

Later that morning, I was preparing the room for my women's Bible class at church when one of the women in the class came running in. She said, "Ruth, did you hear about-?" "No, what?" "She said that she woke up this morning and said, 'What am I doing here? I should be back with my husband.'" She immediately called him, their marriage was restored, and they went on to serve the Lord together with great anointing.

Both turnarounds were a result of Spirit-led intercession. In both instances, the Lord specifically led me to pray. One instance was in my youth—with simple words but in obedience; the other was as a mature woman—by the Holy Ghost—not knowing what I was saying but led by the same Holy Spirit to accomplish His plan and will.

Whether you pray in simple terms and don't know why you are praying or pray in a heavenly language and don't understand what you are saying, when it is Spirit led, it will accomplish its purpose. Moving in concert with and obedience to the Lord are the keys that will *guarantee* foolproof intercession.

## Prayer Power for the Week of September 25, 2016

This week as you hear the clarion call to prayer in these turbulent times, ask the Lord to direct you to pray His perfect will in every circumstance. Stay tuned to His Spirit and keep your spirit open to pray at His prompting as the need arises. Thank Him that He continues to intercede for you and that the Holy Spirit prays the will of God through you and for you. Continue to lift up the nation as it faces the upcoming elections, and pray for wisdom and God's leading as you cast your vote. Remember those who have lost loved ones through acts of terror, natural disasters, war and crime. Repeatedly pray for revival, a harvest of souls and more laborers for the harvest. Ask the Lord to include Israel in His protection, revival and fulfillment of His purposes in these days (Rom. 8:26-27; Rom.8:34; James 5:16). {eoa}

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## Faith Leaders Call for Urgent Prayer Covering Over Trump

*Note: Earlier it was stated that Frank Amedia was Donald Trump's liaison for Christian policy. He no longer serves in that volunteer position. A faith advisory council has been appointed for Trump. Amedia is independent of any official role for the campaign.*

Many of the nation's faith leaders believe it isn't only Hillary Clinton and the Democratic Party that Republican Donald Trump is attempting to defeat in the 2016 Presidential election.

The opposition goes much deeper than that—and to a much higher spiritual plane. That's why pastors like Frank Amedia feel

like the Lord has led them to cover Trump—and all of America—in prayer at least until Wednesday, November 9, the day after the election.

As the co-senior pastor of Touch Heaven Canfield Church in Canfield, Ohio, Amedia heeded God's call to lead the Kingdom Wide Prayer Watch on Monday, September 26. The movement urges believers to fast and pray for Trump beginning at 6 a.m. and ending with the completion of Trump's first presidential debate with Clinton.

Trump and Clinton will engage each other in the first nationally televised debate Monday at 9 p.m. ET at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York.

"We are interceding to pull down strongholds, expose and strike down adversarial plots and strategies, bind every force that opposes the will of God, and loosen upon Mr. Trump the supernatural gifts of grace, favor, wisdom, revelation, power, peace and presidential authority," Amedia said.

"I really don't believe that there is an intentional commitment from any political persuasion to fight against God, because the Bible says that we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but the forces of darkness. Speaking for myself, and perhaps for other faith-based leaders, we clearly see that the conservative platform Mr. Trump is committed to is one that we need to support because there are so many areas that line up with our faith. But the spiritual warfare that surrounds this election is nothing that you and I don't experience all the time as children of God."

After receiving a revelation from the Lord, Amedia says he began making phone calls on Thursday to drum up support for the Kingdom Wide Prayer Watch. Generals International's Cindy Jacobs, MorningStar Ministries' Rick Joyner, *It's Supernatural* television host Sid Roth, New Wine Ministries senior pastor Mario Bramnick (who is also the president of the Hispanic

Israel Leadership Coalition), international speaker and business consultant Lance Wallnau, and Paula White, senior pastor of New Destiny Christian Center in Apopka, Florida, are among many kingdom leaders spreading the word and getting behind the movement. Other worldwide ministries have joined in, including ones in Pakistan, Africa, Israel and Mexico.

With that type of support, Amedia said he expects “tens of thousands of people committed in a covenant” for fasting and intercessory prayer from early Monday morning through the debate.

“I wasn’t sure there was enough time to get this going, but what the Lord wants, He accelerates,” Amedia said. “We just began to get the news out over the weekend, and it simply snowballed from there.”

Pam Pryor, faith director for Trump’s campaign, says, “The government could decide how we get to practice our faith.”

“That’s just how crucial every aspect of this presidential election is,” Amedia said. “It’s about the protection of the unborn. It’s about the Supreme Court and appointing righteous judges. It’s about our alliance with Israel. It’s about the restoration of our military. It’s about family values and the protection of our Judeo-Christian heritage. If any of those things mean anything to believers, they need to join us for this prayer watch. Those values have been under assault for many years, and many people have accepted that as the norm. We shouldn’t accept that.”

If anyone would like to receive specific prayer points and up-to-the-minute notices during the prayer watch, please send an email to [info@](mailto:info@). Interested individuals can also tune in to throughout the day on Monday for updates on the Kingdom Wide Prayer Watch. {eoa}

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# What Many Christians Don't Understand About 'the Anointing'

The Bible sometimes speaks of “anointings,” but most don't seem to have any idea about what this term means.

In Scripture, “anointing” spoke of sacred moments when an individual (or object) was smeared with oil and commissioned to accomplish a particular task. It typically referred to those installed into the priesthood, as well as prophets, and those operating as kings.

One example is evidenced in the following: “And you shall anoint Jehu, the son of Nimshi, to be king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha, the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah, to be prophet in your place” (1 Kings 19:16).

As we can see from this passage, “anointings” were tied to particular functions and roles. The conferred blessing and favor would remain within the respective perimeters and facilitate the accomplishment of incredible things.

Even in terms of “Messiah,” the anointing was connected to a specific vocational role. The “anointed one of God” was installed to establish the heavenly Father's purposes and accomplish a particular work within creation.

Consider what was spoken over Jesus in Luke 4:18-19:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and

recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

The anointing came upon the Son of Man to boldly preach, heal and release those who were under the oppression of darkness. It cannot be overlooked that the anointing always serves a function.

Many confuse anointings with giftings, but they're not the same. What you're able to activate in this season, may have little do with your underlying gift-mixes and abilities. In most cases, it only relates to your current areas of responsibility.

Over the years, people started attending my local church and were put into places of oversight. They soon began to operate in the “anointing of the house.” However, some misunderstood their emerging abilities. They presumed that they could leave the congregation and carry this anointing to another place. However, most were unable to do so.

They didn't understand that “the oil” of God's presence was poured out for a particular function. So, if they no longer operated in their appointed role, that anointing is naturally withdrawn.

It is important to understand the differences between giftings and anointings. Although both refer to abilities, each emerges from an entirely different matrix.

Each of us has to consider what God has anointed us to accomplish in this strategic season. Your temporary abilities are likely coming from a place completely outside of you.  
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**J.D. King**, *director of the World Revival Network and co-pastor at World Revival Church, is writing Regeneration: Healing in the History of Christianity. King is a sought-after speaker, writer and author.*

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# How You Can Break Strongholds for Permanent Freedom

When it comes to spiritual freedom and walking in complete deliverance from evil, it is so important that we guard the gates of our lives. Gates are the doorways through which light or darkness enters our hearts, minds, souls and bodies. The enemy can only build a stronghold where there is darkness. If we are careful not to allow darkness into our gates, the battle is nearly completely won!

A lot of the spiritual warfare people deal with is caused by not properly guarding their gates. Let me be specific. The gates are your eyes, ears and mouth. It is through these portals that either light or darkness enters, based on what we look at with our eyes, listen to with our ears, or speak about with our mouths. Regarding the eye gate, Matthew 6:22-23 says, "The light of the body is the eye. Therefore, if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is unclear, your whole body will be full of darkness. Therefore, if the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

## **Remove Legal Places for the Enemy**

If we want to keep evil and the demonic out of our lives, then we have to closely guard our gates and not allow darkness to enter into us. Once darkness is tolerated or allowed to dwell within us, the enemy is given a legal resting place to build his demonic strongholds in our minds, emotions and bodies. Once the enemy begins to take hold in these areas, not only are you tempted to sin, but driven to sin.

Suddenly you are no longer just dealing with your flesh. Now

you are being driven by forces outside of yourself into things your heart knows are wrong. Sometimes darkness begins to enter into us without us even realizing it. For example, it could start by just glancing at a sensual picture. But with each successive glance more darkness enters into the mind, soul and body. The enemy is given a place to land and suddenly you are now being driven to look at things you know are wrong. If this is allowed to persist, the enemy could build a stronghold of sin in your life and try to cut you off from fellowship with God.

### **How to Be Set Free**

In order to be set free you must do several things. First, you must repent for opening up your gates to darkness. You must confess any and all sin to God in complete transparency before Him. You must ask the blood of Jesus to wash over you, spiritually removing all trace of sin.

Once you confess, then you must be washed clean by the water of the Word, which happens as you read the Bible. You must have your mind renewed by light and truth until the memories fade and are washed clean. It's also good to get around the anointing, especially in church meetings where God's presence and power are moving. The tangible anointing will break any demonic yoke or grip the enemy tried to get on you. Then you must make a choice by God's grace to keep your gates shut to any further darkness entering in. Once the darkness is cut off and you begin to flood your gates with light, the enemy will lose any place he has in you and you will walk in total victory and freedom.

### **Walking in Personal Deliverance**

Jesus died to set us 100 percent free! I want to see you walking in that total freedom. For the last 28 years, God has taught me principles of personal deliverance. He has taught me how to dismantle demonic strongholds and see every area of the

soul, mind and body liberated in Christ.

You don't have to be controlled by demonic oppression, patterns of sin or by weaknesses in your flesh. You can be completely transformed and set free in a lasting, permanent way. {eoa}

**Matt Sorger**, author, prophetic messenger, revivalist, healing evangelist, teacher, television host and philanthropist has served in full-time ministry for over 23 years spanning over 200 nations of the Earth through travel and media ministry. He hosts a weekly teaching program titled *Power for Life*. Matt moves in a unique anointing that fills entire rooms with the tangible glory of God with many healed, set free and empowered. He teaches believers how to live a life saturated with the glory of God and brings a great balance between authentic, supernatural encounter and solid biblical truth. He reaches cities and regions by partnering with and impacting local churches to see a great breakthrough of the Holy Spirit.

For the original article, visit .

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## A Spiritual Warfare Prayer to Encourage Intercessors

A while back, my husband Mike had a challenging week. He and several other members of the intercessory prayer team at our church were under spiritual attacks, especially with physical ailments.

But Mike is a prayer warrior, so when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord within Mike raises up a standard against him!

If you are facing a spiritual attack, then prayer is your first line of defense against it.

Mike wrote this prayer for spiritual warfare to encourage his fellow intercessors. Mike's story and prayer follows:

Praise be to God with grace and blessing to each and every one of you. A few of you are aware that "no-good lying wonder" attacked my body again—in my knee this time.

Suddenly, this past Monday afternoon my left knee swelled up with pain that was almost unbearable. This was the first time I had experienced such an ordeal. I had to use some crutches to get around my house.

But thanks be to God for your prayers because recently I felt a small pop in my knee and the pain with the swelling started to subside. I was able to put pressure/weight on the knee with minimal discomfort. By the time Kim arrived home from church, I was, in my opinion, 89 percent healed. I am now 100 percent completely healed.

I am fully aware why the enemy is attacking me this way and that. I am also aware that he attacks you.

Our enemy may be shrewd with his attacks, but he is very stupid because he picked on the "right" man and the "right" group of people who will come against him and his kingdom with everything within us. With that being said:

*Heavenly Father and in the name of Jesus, we honor and praise You today for being with us in all and everything. It is our delight to honor and serve You in any capacity we can. We are truly honored that You read and hear our prayers, and we know that You answer each and every one of them, and for that we thank You.*

*We come to You today on behalf of all the intercessors and are asking You to equip us for the fight that lies ahead of us in*

*the spiritual, which may be manifested in the physical against Your archenemy.*

*We know You have seen the multiple attacks that he has and is imposing on Your people. However, nothing he does will stop any of us from pressing on and through to the very end of this assignment.*

*Our first offensive attack today against this demon is in the form of this digital prayer since the morning is still fairly new and the words in this prayer will be anointed words that will set the tone for my fellow warriors so that they will be on guard throughout this day and every day.*

*I pray that each one will immediately release any bondage or stressful situation they may be going through. I pray that they stay and remain focused as they face situations today, whether it be in the workplace, at home or in the public sector.*

*I pray that You heal their bodies immediately Father (right now in the name of Jesus) so that the enemy knows he "ain't stopping nuttin'" and so that Your intercessors can focus on the matters that will disrupt his kingdom.*

*Father, You know what Your intercessors are going through. May You touch and anoint each one today as confirmation that You have heard their prayer and are working accordingly on their behalf today!*

*For those who are concerned about their children, who have to face the problems presented to them in the public schools, send Your peace to the student(s) and to the parents, for You are our Jehovah Nissi.*

*For those who have been attacked in their body with afflictions, diseases and ailments, send healing unto them, for You are our Jehovah Rapha.*

*For those who are overwhelmed with the lack of financial stability, send them the knowledge and wisdom to be able to manage their finances then follow that up with an immediate supply of money to help them overcome their current situation, as You are our Jehovah Jireh.*

*Speaking of the money, Father, I pray that You take the money from the dope dealers, destructive rappers, crooked politicians and any other unsavory character, group of people or organization and give it to Your people so that we can put it to good and godly use. Why should our enemy have such tools at his disposal to use against Your people?*

*We know You are in control and even now working on all of our behalf, and for that we thank You.*

*There is so much more I want to pray unto You, Father which I shall do indeed. In the meantime, this digital prayer is dedicated to my fellow intercessors. {eoa}*

*Kimberly Taylor can testify of God's healing power to end binge eating. She is an author and the creator of the Christian weight-loss website . Visit today for inspirational health and weight-loss tips.*

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## **Confronting the Jezebelic Influence of a Bully**

Years ago, I was asked to be a part of a board of directors for an organization that oversaw the policies and procedures for our condo association. I did not know any of the members well, so this was a new venture for me.

We met once a quarter to discuss policies and issues that came up. Most of the members seemed polite and cordial at first, but over time I noticed that one particular person was being very accusatory, pushing and rude. Dwayne was jumping in on every conversation, wanting every agenda he had to be heard and every change he wanted to be implemented.

One particular day, after a number of passive-aggressive comments, Dwayne accused the president of this board for having bad motives and manipulating the agendas. I had observed this pattern over and over. In my mind I thought, "Why has no one stood up to this guy?"

As I watched his verbal accusations being thrown over and over again, I had finally had enough. I interrupted him, saying, "Enough! Knock it off!" I continued, "I have watched you do this over and over, and you're out of line!" I didn't scream, but I spoke firm. He immediately froze and never spoke a word for the rest of the meeting.

In the moment, no one from the group said anything about my words. They continued the meeting and moved on. I thought, "Did I do something wrong? Why was this allowed to go on?"

Then when the meeting was over, the board members came over to me, "That was awesome! No one has stood up to that guy. Boy, we needed that!" It clearly dawned on me in that moment. No one had ever, ever, ever firmly stood up to the bully in the group. Everyone walked on eggshells around him in fear. This is why bullies continue to roam the planet and torture people until someone decides to stand up to him.

### **Who Is the Bully in Your Life?**

Bullies are a common occurrence. We've all had them in our lives. I've had the neighborhood bully who would come sniffing around, waiting to see if he could beat the tar out of me. I remember the big guy named Frankie in school who would try to use his words to intimidate me and get me to bow at his every

move. Today bullies are on the rise in every way, creating a deep sense of fear in other students, piercing their hearts with words that are deeply damaging.

Maybe you have a bully at work. Every time you are around that person, they dictate the agenda and push their ways on you every time. Your bully may be an ex-spouse who continues to have a pushy influence over you. That "friend" you have who develops a controlling presence over you in conversations and decisions may be filled with bullying ways. Quite possibly, Satan has a bullying presence in your thoughts, keeping from stepping out in courage while keeping you cowering in fear.

On world scale, terrorism is the bully of the planet. Terrorists wreak havoc on countries, not simply by the acts they do, but by placing fear and intimidation in people's lives over the possibility of a horrific event. Most of the time, the terrorist acts do not play out, they are simply threats. But the fear of an attack occurring keeps nations under the grip of that power.

### **The Bully: A Jezebel Spirit**

In the Bible, Jezebel personifies the bully mentality, therefore this bullying process is actually the work of a Jezebel spirit. With just a set of words, Jezebel pushes Elijah into hiding by saying, "So let the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time" (1 Kings 19:2). Elijah, who was one of the most courageous men and was involved in some of the most incredible miracles of history, becomes intimidated by the words of a bully.

After hearing these words, Elijah retreats into the wilderness in fear. He falls into a depressive state and loses his sense of clarity. He questions God, the vision over his life and even wants to die. This is what happens when we come under the Jezebelic work of bullies in relationships.

## Symptoms of the Bully Effect

Here are some of the common characteristics that the bully of Jezebel has been having its work over your life:

1. Deep discouragement and depression.
2. A constant swell of anxiety and fear.
3. A constant exhaustion coming from the anxiety and despair.
4. Regularly and ongoing confusion and disorientation. You can't seem to think straight.
5. Passivity kicks in. Your programmed response is to do nothing about the situation. You lose your offensive strategy and take a back seat.
6. Division and isolation. You become separated from others, friends and associates. You move into isolation.
7. Loss of vision: You lose that faith to see the vision of what God is doing in your life.
8. Self-doubt: You stop believing in who you are.
9. Defeatism: A very deep temptation to quit with thoughts that say, "Forget it ... its not going to work out."
10. You feel like the only answer is to quit and get out of things.

## Confronting the Bully

In addressing this issue of the bully or what we often see as a Jezebelic influence, we have to remember the following things:

**1. Bullies are the most insecure and fearful people in town.** The more they seek to intimidate or walk around with a swagger, the greater they have to overcompensate for their

insecurity. The reality is deep inside, people who are bullies, or walk with a Jezebel spirit are terrified, so they place terror on others to cover their own inward fear. They are paranoid that people will see their weakness, vulnerability and brokenness. Instead of being transparent with their fear, they take the bully route to cover it up. The more you fear and back down, the more you empower them.

**2. The work of a bully is the enemy working through a person to intimidate you.** The only way a bully has power is if people are afraid of him and back down to his ways. The more we learn to be active and stop backing down, the more we will empower our freedom.

**3. You have to face the bully.** Most people react to the bully by doing nothing but backing down and cower behind the bushes. But the only way a bully can be defeated in your life is face him. I am not talking about with a fist fight, but by a firm stance where you will not be pushed around any longer. So many people are bullied around by issues that would no longer torment them if they just simply faced the issue, the person and the circumstance.

**4. You stand up to the bully by not being pushed around.** The United States has a policy in dealing with terrorists of any kind. "We do not negotiate with terrorists." This is for a good reason. The more you fall into the bully's agenda, the more you empower the fear, threatening and manipulation. Once you stand up to the bully, he loses his ability to have power over you, because his power comes in getting you to do something he wants you to do.

Get out of passivity and take your stance today.

**Question:** What bully situation do you run from that you need to face today? {eoa}

**Mark DeJesus** *has been equipping people in a full-time capacity since 1995, serving in various roles, including teaching*

people of all ages, communicating through music, authoring books, leading and mentoring. Mark's deepest love is his family: his wife, Melissa; son, Maximus; and daughter, Abigail. Mark is a teacher, author and mentor who uses many communication mediums, including the written word, a weekly radio podcast show and videos. His deepest call involves equipping people to live as overcomers. Through understanding inside out transformation, Mark's message involves getting to the root of issues that contribute to the breakdown of our relationships, our health and our day-to-day peace. He is passionately reaching his world with a transforming message of love, healing and freedom. Out of their own personal renewal, Mark and Melissa founded Turning Hearts Ministries, a ministry dedicated to inside out transformation. Mark also founded Transformed You, a communication platform for Mark's teachings, writing and broadcasts that are designed to encourage people in their journey of transformation.

For the original article, visit .

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## **Golf Legend Arnold Palmer Dies at 87**

Golfing great Arnold Palmer, one of the most popular PGA players of all time who was elected to the World Golf Hall of Fame in 1974, died Sunday in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at the age of 87.

A seven-time PGA major champion, Palmer's immense popularity drew a legion of fans known as "Arnie's Army" and helped propel the game just as television was coming of age.

"We are deeply saddened by the death of Arnold Palmer, golf's

greatest ambassador, at age 87," the USGA said on Twitter.

Nicknamed "The King," Palmer retired from the PGA Tour in 2006 with 62 victories, fifth on the all-time list. He won his first major championship, The Masters, in 1958, and proceeded to that prestigious tournament three other times—in 1960, 1962 and 1964. He won his only U.S. Open championship in 1960, and The Open championship in 1961 and 1962. He won PGA Player of the Year twice (1960 and 1962) and was the PGA Tour's leading money winner four times.

Palmer helped change the perception of golf as an elite, upper-class pastime to a more democratic sport accessible to middle and working classes.

Palmer received the President Medal of Freedom in 2004 from President George Bush, and was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2009.

Palmer's death comes on the heels of the death of another popular sports figure Sunday. Miami Marlins pitcher Jose Fernandez, who was only 24, died in a boating accident early Sunday morning. {eoa}