

Feeling Wronged? Why You MUST Pray Instead of Retaliate

Let's be honest—when someone wrongs us, our first instinct isn't always to pray. More often than not, we want justice, or at the very least, an apology. But in a recent sermon, Pastor Jentezen Franklin made a bold statement: "God will take care of your enemies if you'll take care of your spirit in prayer."

That's not exactly what most of us want to hear when we've been hurt. But Franklin made it clear—our job isn't to settle the score; it's to stay right before God. He pointed to David, who said, "I extended friendship... I did good... I was kind and good to them and they persecuted me without a cause." Sound familiar? Maybe you've done everything right, and yet you still find yourself on the receiving end of betrayal, slander or cruelty.

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You Can't Pray and Plot Revenge

Franklin warned that we have a choice to make. "You can't give yourself to logic and revenge and give yourself to prayer at the same time," he said.

Trying to figure out *why* people act the way they do will only leave you frustrated. At some point, you have to let it go and give it to God. Otherwise, it can consume you.

Quoting Matthew 18, Franklin reminded us that holding onto unforgiveness has serious consequences: "If you don't give it to God in prayer and you hold on to that, He will turn you over 'to the tormentors.'" In other words, bitterness isn't just a feeling—it's a prison. It can affect you physically,

spiritually and emotionally.

Becoming a Person of Prayer

So what's the alternative? According to Franklin, it's simple: "You don't have to be bipolar, you can be prayer. You don't have to be split personalities and full of anxiety and panic and fear—you can be prayer."

He pointed to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane. As Christ faced the weight of all sin, He didn't lash out or seek an escape. Instead, "He took every addiction, every bitterness, every sin... and He said, 'I am not addiction, I'm prayer.'"

That's the challenge—to respond to hardship, pain, and even injustice with prayer, not retaliation.