



# RCCG OCEANIA

Prayer & Intercession

## Prayer: Earth's Legal Authority

### At a Glance

#### BIG IDEA

Prayer is not merely a religious ritual but a legal petition to a higher authority, requiring human involvement for God's actions on earth. By understanding our constitutional rights in prayer, we can effectively invite divine intervention and ensure our petitions align with God's will.

#### PRIMARY PASSAGES

Genesis 1:26

Matthew 6:5

1 John 5:15

Isaiah 7:9

## Key Takeaways

- Prayer is a governmental activity, not just a religious act.
- Humans have been given authority on earth, making their cooperation essential for divine action.
- Continuous prayer is necessary to maintain divine intervention.
- Prayer should be private and sincere, avoiding public performance.
- Using scripture in prayer aligns requests with God's will.

## Introduction

Prayer is often seen as a spiritual exercise, but it holds a deeper significance as a legal activity that invites divine intervention. Understanding prayer as a legal petition helps us recognize the authority given to humans and the necessity of our cooperation in God's plans.

## Scripture Reading

- **Genesis 1:26** — Explains the delegation of authority to humans, foundational for understanding prayer as a legal activity.
- **Matthew 6:5** — Jesus' teaching on sincere prayer, avoiding hypocrisy.
- **1 John 5:15** — Assures that prayers aligned with God's will are heard.
- **Isaiah 7:9** — Illustrates the necessity of human cooperation in divine plans, as seen in the incarnation.

## Key Points

**1. Prayer as Legal Petition** — Prayer is more than a spiritual exercise; it is a formal request to a higher authority, akin to a legal petition. In this context, prayer involves claiming rights based on a divine constitution. This understanding elevates prayer from a mere ritual to a powerful tool for invoking divine intervention.

- Reflect on the legal nature of prayer and how it changes your approach.
- Identify areas in your life where you need to petition God with authority.
- Study the Scriptures to understand your rights in prayer.

Scripture: Genesis 1:26

**2. Human Authority and Cooperation** — God has entrusted humans with authority on earth, making our cooperation crucial for divine intervention. This authority is not just a privilege but a responsibility to align our actions and prayers with God's will. The story of Moses and Pharaoh exemplifies how human cooperation is essential in fulfilling divine plans.

- Acknowledge the authority given to you by God.
- Seek ways to cooperate with God's plans in your daily life.
- Pray for wisdom to use your authority responsibly.

Scripture: Genesis 1:26    Isaiah 7:9

**3. Necessity of Continuous Prayer** — Continuous prayer is vital to ensure ongoing divine intervention and alignment with God's will. It is not a one-time event but a persistent practice that keeps us connected to God's purposes. Like Moses interceding for the Israelites, our continuous prayers invite God's ongoing involvement in our lives.

- Commit to a regular prayer schedule.
- Persist in prayer even when immediate answers are not visible.
- Use prayer to align your desires with God's will.

Scripture: 1 John 5:15

## Key Points (cont.)

- 4. Private and Sincere Prayer** — Prayer should be a private, sincere act, avoiding public displays that seek human approval. Jesus emphasized the importance of sincerity in prayer, teaching that true communication with God is personal and heartfelt, not for show. This sincerity ensures our prayers are genuine and effective.
- Evaluate your motives in prayer to ensure sincerity.
  - Create a private space for personal prayer.
  - Focus on heartfelt communication with God rather than public recognition.

Scripture: Matthew 6:5

## Group Discussion

Tip: Use these questions to guide the group from seeing → understanding → applying.

### Observation

- What does Genesis 1:26 reveal about human authority on earth?
- How does Jesus describe sincere prayer in Matthew 6:5?
- What assurance does 1 John 5:15 give about our prayers?
- How does Isaiah 7:9 illustrate the need for human cooperation in divine plans?

### Interpretation

- Why is prayer considered a legal petition rather than just a religious act?
- In what ways does human authority impact divine intervention?
- How does continuous prayer maintain our alignment with God's will?
- What are the dangers of public displays of prayer according to Jesus?

## **Application**

- How can you incorporate the understanding of prayer as a legal petition into your daily life?
- What steps can you take to ensure your prayers are sincere and private?
- How can you use your authority on earth to cooperate with God's plans?
- What practical ways can you commit to continuous prayer?

## **Prayer Focus**

- Reflect on your authority in prayer
- Seek alignment with God's will
- Commit to continuous prayer

## **Next Step**

Reflect on how you can incorporate the understanding of prayer as a legal petition into your daily life.

## **Conclusion**

Understanding prayer as a legal activity transforms our approach to divine communication. By recognizing our authority and responsibility, we can effectively invite God's intervention in our lives. Let us commit to sincere, continuous prayer, aligning our petitions with God's will and fulfilling our role in His divine plans.