



# Believe God's Word When You Pray

## Believe God First, Then Pray

### Leader's Notes

#### I. The congregation should pray for the pastor.

- Praying for the ministry in united prayer is the responsibility of the congregation.
  - 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2, *"Finally, dear brothers and sisters, we ask you to pray for us. Pray that the Lord's message will spread rapidly and be honored wherever it goes, just as when it came to you. Pray, too, that we will be rescued from wicked and evil people, for not everyone is a believer"* (NLT).
- Pray for the pastor to be anointed and speak the Word of the living God.
- Pray like this: *"God reveal Your Word to my pastor and anoint him to preach the Word of God with faith and power."*
- The Word of God and the Name of Jesus—that's where the power is.
- God confirms His Word with signs and miracles that bring the power of God into display and manifestation.
- God can change everybody and everything in answer to prayer.

#### II. Don't pray against the pastor.

- Pray—don't complain to God—and don't rehearse problems.
- Complaining opens the door to strife and to every evil work.
  - James 3:16, *"For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work"* (KJV).
- Christian people as well as sinners come against the pastor.
- Religious and/or selfish ideas cause people to go away from God.



## III. Form of godliness.

- Beware of people who have a form of godliness but deny the power of God.
  - 2 Timothy 3:2-5, *“For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!” (NKJV).*
- There are temptations to get involved in religious forms, but they will cause you to miss God entirely.
- It is possible to exalt traditions of praying instead of exalting God.
- As you sing praises with your mouth, don't allow your soul and spirit to be distracted from actually praising God.
- Don't emphasize forms of prayer such as your prayer posture rather than listening for the voice of the Lord.
- You can become religiously unreasonable by:
  - Trying to impress God by praying in Elizabethan English.
  - Repeating God's Name at every breath.
  - Saying what other people say—instead of simply talking to God.
- Don't look for an emotional experience for verification that God hears you.
- You can be respectful in prayer without following a form or tradition.
- Prayer is real. Talk to God and listen to God. Find out what God thinks. Study God's Word.



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## Quote From Kenneth Copeland

*Prayer is real. Prayer is communication with God.*

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## Confession

I pray for my pastor that he preaches the anointed Word of God in the Name of Jesus. The church is growing and prospering as a result of his obedience to live in faith and preach in power. He and his family are continually protected from wicked and unreasonable men.

In the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

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