



PRAYING ON
OFFENSE



PRAYING ON **OFFENSE**

Scripture repeatedly links prayer with God's power and activity in the world—presenting prayer as the catalyst for unleashing the Kingdom. A Shepherd prays on offense with INTERCESSION (prayer for sheep) and INTENTIONALITY (fearless humility).

Prayer for Sheep Shepherds intercede by praying for others. They see prayer as a means to give God space to create opportunities for people in the organization to flourish. The role of an intercessor is to stand between God and people. The catalytic nature of prayer does not come from saying the correct words or making the right demands of God. Rather, in prayer, the Shepherd asks God what He is doing in the lives of their people and how they can join in that work. This posture of prayer opens a window to see how He is working, where He is working, and in who He is working.

Fearless Humility Shepherds respond to prayer with intentionality. The response to God's leading action is key—things discerned from the Holy Spirit must be lived out in fearless humility. The Shepherd leverages whatever God has given (gifts, power, influence, status, resources) to serve and elevate others without fear of the outcome. Praying on offense is less about wrestling some result from God and more about becoming aware of what God is doing in order to participate in it in an intentional way. Finding greatness in service to others is inherent in Jesus definition of greatness and is the pathway to unleash the Kingdom of God.

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In this guide, you will be invited to join God's work by prayer for those you shepherd. Slowly and prayerfully read through the Scripture and prayer prompts on the following pages. Write down any insight you have as you pray.

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Prayer for Your Sheep

Three times per week pray through the prompts provided. Write down any insight you have as you pray but don't feel pressure to write each time. Respond immediately if prompted to action and walk in step with His Spirit as you lead.

Prayer for Sheep 1 pg 2-3

Prayer for Sheep 2 pg 4-5

Prayer for Sheep 3 pg 6-7

Prayer for Your Shepherding Space

Three times per week pray for the culture of the space that you are shepherding within. Write down any insight you have as you pray but don't feel pressure to write each time. Transforming an entire space might feel overwhelming, but walk in step with the Spirit and allow God to build his momentum in his timing. "He is faithful, and He will do it" (2 Thess. 5:24).

Prayer for Shepherding Space pg 8-9

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you (Jer. 29:12).

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you (Matt. 7:7).

Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he brought them out of their distress (Psalm 107:28).



PRAYER FOR SHEEP 1

I'M PRAYING FOR...

God, is there a Scriptural promise you desire for me to pray for this person?

God, what are your desires for this person?

God, are there any ways that my sin or brokenness is getting in the way of this person's potential (i.e. comparison, jealousy, critical spirit, conflict avoidance, busyness, etc)?

God, what have you put inside this person that they does not yet believe about themself?

..... FEARLESS HUMILITY

God, considering what You are showing me, what act of fearless humility can give You space to help this person become more fully who You designed them to be?

..... EXAMPLES TO CONSIDER:

- Word of encouragement
- Authentic conversation about life
- Engaging in critical conversation that I have been avoiding
- Increased accountability for poor outcomes
- Anonymous gesture
- Simple act of kindness
- Off load responsibility for over busy worker
- Note of appreciation
- Public praise
- Speak truth in love
- Release spirit of control I have over them as their leader
- Intentional conversation about the good news of Jesus Christ



PRAYER FOR SHEEP 2

I'M PRAYING FOR...

God, is there a Scriptural promise you desire for me to pray for this person?

God, what are your desires for this person?

God, are there any ways that my sin or brokenness is getting in the way of this person's potential (i.e. comparison, jealousy, critical spirit, conflict avoidance, busyness, etc)?

God, what have you put inside this person that they does not yet believe about themselves?

..... FEARLESS HUMILITY

God, considering what You are showing me, what act of fearless humility can give You space to help this person become more fully who You designed them to be?

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- Public praise
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- Intentional conversation about the good news of Jesus Christ



PRAYER FOR SHEEP 3

I'M PRAYING FOR...

God, is there a Scriptural promise you desire for me to pray for this person?

God, what are your desires for this person?

God, are there any ways that my sin or brokenness is getting in the way of this person's potential (i.e. comparison, jealousy, critical spirit, conflict avoidance, busyness, etc)?

God, what have you put inside this person that they does not yet believe about themselves?

..... FEARLESS HUMILITY

God, considering what You are showing me, what act of fearless humility can give You space to help this person become more fully who You designed them to be?

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PRAYER FOR MY SHEPHERDING SPACE

I'M PRAYING FOR...

God, is there a Scriptural promise you desire
for me to pray for this space?

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land (2 Chron. 7:14)."

God, what is **wrong** with the culture of this space?

God, what is **good** about the culture of this space?

God, what is **missing** from the culture of this space?

God, what **vision** do you have for this space?

..... PRAYER FOR "KINGDOM ALIGNMENT"

God, what part of of this space aligns most with your Kingdom?

God, what part of this space is not aligned with your Kingdom?

..... FEARLESS HUMILITY

God, how can I confront and stop what is wrong?

God, how can I celebrate and cultivate what is good?

God, how can I create and catalyze what is missing?

God, what step can I take to bring this vision to life?

KINGDOM ATTRIBUTES TO CONSIDER:

- Humility
- Generosity
- Unity
- Honesty
- Hopeful
- Joyful
- Courage
- Self-sacrificial
- Creative
- Vision



PRAYER THROUGHOUT SCRIPTURE

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:6-7)."

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective (James 5:16)."

"Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up (John 14:13)."

"For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen (Ephesians 3:14-21)."

Further Praying on
Offense resources
can be found at:

