

Vineyard Prayer Room Guidelines

The Vineyard Prayer teams are extremely vital to the health and growth of the ministry here at the Vineyard on Big Pine and in our impact for the Kingdom of God. Since we come from so many different backgrounds we have a wide variety of ideas about what spiritual warfare is.

There are some ideas and concepts of spiritual warfare that are popular in some parts of the body of Christ that I am not really comfortable with. I am not trying to be judgmental or critical of these concepts, I am just not in agreement with them. My belief is that our greatest impact on the Kingdom of God is done on a terrestrial level, a vertical level, where we can love and encourage the people that are around us, sharing the Good News with them and ultimately helping them connect with Jesus. Our focus is to help usher light into the darkness.

There are some who believe that in spiritual warfare, we are to identify and target territorial demonic forces to try and tear them down or bind them up. I just don't believe that is our calling.

I believe that the scripture teaches us to be humble in prayer and to address our prayers to God.

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ 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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

⁹ "This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, ¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ¹¹ Give us today our daily bread. ¹² Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. ¹³ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

Jude 1:9 (NIV)

⁹ But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

But some would say, what about Ephesians 6:12?

Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

I would say that in context, we are told in response to this verse to put on the armor of God and to pray in the Spirit with all kinds of prayers and requests and to keep praying for the saints.

Ephesians 6:13-18 (NIV)

¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers

and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.

The way we ultimately defeat the rulers and the darkness is by bringing people into the light of Jesus.

Our Simple Prayer Room Theology

Focus on praying to God instead of praying against the enemy.

I don't even like mentioning the enemy in prayer because I think he likes the attention. So keep your focus on God and pray to Him about situations.

Pray for the kingdom to come. Pray for revival. Pray for people to be blessed. Pray for people to be saved. Pray for our mission of One More. Pray for the ministry of encouragement. Pray that God would be glorified. Pray for people to be healed, delivered and set free. Pray for the churches in the area that preach the Word of God, and pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel.