



STUDY GUIDE

Overcoming Chaos through Prayer

“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out Your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.’ After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word of God boldly.” (Acts 4:29–31, NIV)

I. Fervent Intercession of the Early Church

A. They Prayed and the Place Was Shaken.

The members of the early Church came under severe persecution. Did the believers run and hide? No, they stayed and prayed. But they didn’t pray for protection as much as they prayed to be effective witnesses in the midst of harassment. When they prayed, the building was shaken! God was in the house, and miracles were in the air!

B. Peter’s Release from Prison.

Acts 12:5–17 tells us about the time when the Church faced persecution and they arose to the occasion with fervent intercession. God responded with angelic activity and Peter’s supernatural release from prison. As a direct result of Peter’s deliverance from his captors, he went on to preach the Gospel and strengthen the Church.

C. Paul and Silas Rock the Dungeon through Prayer.

According to Acts 16:22–33, Paul and Silas were imprisoned together in Philippi. These two radical disciples were singing hymns and worshipping God even in the depths of the dungeons. An earthquake rocked the place, their shackles fell off, and locked doors were thrown open. This was no coincidental earthquake! As a result of this miraculous intervention from God, the jailer and his entire household became Christians.

II. Reversing the Whirlwind of Witchcraft

While leading a team in intercession for Evangelist Mahesh Chavda for an open-air crusade in Haiti, the witch doctors went on national radio and declared that their kingdom was under siege. They released a call to warlocks and witches to join together to bring interference to the crusade.

I was on the platform of the flatbed truck while the intercessors were underneath lifting their cry to the Lord. As Mahesh was preaching, a whirlwind appeared to the side of the flatbed truck where the witch doctors had assembled, releasing curses. I stamped on the truck, calling for more intercession, and a roar of prayer arose.

As an answer to our prayers, the Holy Spirit sent an actual white whirlwind that drove the witch doctors away. The white tornado went through the crowd, scaring off the chain gang of disrupters. The powers of evil were confronted as the power of the Holy Spirit increased. Souls were saved and healings were released for the Glory of God!

III. The Holy Spirit Said, “Read About Obadiah”

This is another key lesson on combining “Hearing the Voice of the Holy Spirit” and “Releasing the Power of Prayer.” I was told to gather 50 prophets on the steps of the Supreme Court Building and to intercede the evening before “The Call on the Mall” in Washington, D.C. The Call was led by Lou Engle in Washington, D.C., and gathered over 400,000 people to pray and fast for the United States. Since 2000,

The Call has gathered hundreds of thousands of people to pray both nationally and internationally in key cities of the earth.

I was told by the Holy Spirit to read about Obadiah. I answered back, “Oh, of course, the guy with the little book.” The Holy Spirit insisted and said, “No, read about Obadiah!” And I insisted back, “Yeah, I know, that guy with the little book at the end of the Old Testament!” And the Holy Spirit persisted yet again, “Read about Obadiah in 1 Kings 18.” I responded yet again, “There is no Obadiah in 1 Kings 18. I have taken that passage about Elijah all over the world.”

But I opened my Bible to 1 Kings 18 and read the opening verses. I was surprised to find verses concerning Obadiah that I had never seen before! Obadiah served King Ahab with humility and in the fear of the Lord, hiding the prophets in caves, 50 to a cave. While Elijah was doing his public displays of confronting the prophets of Baal, Obadiah and the other prophets were kept safe from Jezebel’s influence.

The Holy Spirit asked me, “What were these prophets doing in the caves while Elijah was doing his ministry in the public?” I read all of the passages over again and it did not say. I realized something. There were two assignments that day: 1) Front Room Prophets, and 2) Back Room Prophets. We need both working together to succeed.

Elijah was the Front Room Prophet publicly confronting the powers of darkness. Obadiah and his teams of 50 were the Back Room Prophets praying in secret the assignments the Holy Spirit gives. It takes both to be successful to win the battles against witchcraft!

IV. The Role of Prayer in Perilous Times

- A. Storm Warnings Are Released.**
- B. Times of Shaking Will Become More Severe.**

Yes, times of shaking will become more severe as the end times unfold. God’s Word and His character are like a measuring line; whatever does not match up with it will be shaken. God’s warnings give people an opportunity to respond.

Each storm requires a different response, but the responses have something in common—desperation.

C. **Three Types of Storms:**

1. **Storms of God’s judgment.** Our response—a cry for mercy, requiring brokenness and tenaciousness.
2. **Storms of dark demonic attack.** Our response—authoritative intercession, requiring faith, endurance, boldness, and no common ground with the enemy.
3. **Storms of the consequences of sins.** Our response—repentance, requiring humility.

V. **An Invitation for Global Prayer Storm Inductees**

A. **The Need of the Hour**

God wants to empower His chosen watchmen with grace and authority to intervene in the times of chaos. He is looking for humble people who understand the times in which they live. They must know the principles of confession, repentance, and have cultivated an authentic spirit of faith to confront the demonic spirit of fear which permeates society globally today. These gatekeepers must have the spirit of wisdom and revelation brought together to create a level of discernment to match the need of the hour.

B. **The Response to the Need**

Here I am, Lord! Use me. Use us. Let crisis intervention arise through intercession for such a time as this. Teach me to stand in the gap so that Your Kingdom can come, and Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. May chaos and the culture of fear be exposed and destroyed, in the mighty name of Jesus. Capture me for Your holy purposes, for Your holy name’s sake. Amen and amen!