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PROACTIVE Prayer Template

Journal Edition

By Greg Pruett, PhD. President, Pioneer Bible Translators Author, *Extreme Prayer* and *Extraordinary Hearing*

Pattern of God's Presence Read (or Listen) Obey Adore Confess Thanks Intercede Vanquish **Extreme Prayer**

Introduction

I am so glad that you downloaded this PROACTIVE Prayer Template, and I think you will be, too.

This template is the best way I have found to make sure I stay steady in my prayer walk. It helps me maintain a balanced spiritual life by drawing on all the elements of the PROACTIVE acronym, and I believe it will help you as well.

I've found that the more powerfully my system of praying bolsters the people around me, the greater my spiritual influence and leadership become.

If you want to love and minister to more people, then you must become skilled at praying for them. I encourage you to use this template and a prayer journal to accomplish this. Print it out. Keep it where you pray. Share it with others.

The PROACTIVE prayer template makes it easy for you to begin praying for those you influence and for the work the Lord has entrusted to you.

Follow the instructions under each letter in PROACTIVE to develop your own prayer tool.



That all may know Jesus,

REG

Greg Pruett, PhD. President, Pioneer Bible Translators Author, *Extreme Prayer* and *Extraordinary Hearing*

Pattern of God's Presence

Identify transitions or patterns that happen every day. Use those transition times to build formidable spiritual habits.

Read:

Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. - Revelation 3:20

Pray:

"Lord, I open the door. These are the spiritual habits I am cultivating today."

In your journal, start by writing down 1-3 spiritual habits you want to work on. You could, for example, choose to read Scripture, memorize it, or practice the types of prayer in the other sections of this prayer tool. Choose transition times during the day when you can cultivate these habits. Listed below are examples of transition times that you can choose or adapt to match your own routine. Beside each habit you listed in your journal, write the transition times you have chosen for cultivating them.

- Waking up
- Lunch time
- Arriving at home
- Evening alarm
- When you lie down to sleep

There are some great apps available to help you form these habits. Try the *Lectio 365 app* for beginning and ending your day with prayer and Scripture.

Read (or Listen)

Scripture reading is the most foundational part of tilling the soil of your heart in preparation for extraordinary hearing. Make this your first priority.

The goal is to focus less on learning about God and more on knowing God.

Before you read (or listen to) God's Word, pray: "Lord, talk with me through your Word as I read a portion of Scripture today."

If you need help forming the habit of daily Scripture reading, the YouVersion app has reading plans and a daily reminder feature.

Obey

Obeying God's Word lays a crucial foundation for being able to hear from God and receive guidance from the Spirit.

When you read or listen to the Bible, internalize the meaning of the text by reading it slowly, or read it twice at your normal speed. Then respond to these prompts in your journal:

- 1. What do I learn about myself from this?
- 2. What do I learn about God from this?
- 3. How will I change my life today to obey this teaching?
- 4. Lord, give me one person I can share this teaching with today.
- 5. Here are some ways I want to apply the teaching of the Bible right now.

Adore

As Christians, we want to experience holy, awestruck moments in God's presence, but daily life can interfere. We need adoration in our lives to put us in the proper position to hear from Him.

Find a quiet place. If you can, get down on your knees or lie flat on the ground. Let your mind roam and freely imagine how elevated and powerful the God who created the earth must be.

Then, with awe and humility, speak aloud these words of praise from Scripture to Almighty God:

"Lord I join with heaven to praise You:

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come. - Revelation 4:8

"You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased. -Revelation 4:10

"You are worthy to take the scroll and break its seals and open it. For you were slaughtered, and your blood has ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. And you have caused them to become a Kingdom of priests for our God. And they will reign on the earth. - Revelation 5:9-10

"Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb! -Revelation 7:10

"Great and marvelous are your works, O Lord God, the Almighty. Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations. Who will not fear you, Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before you, for your righteous deeds have been revealed. - Revelation 15:3-4

"Praise the LORD! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself. She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear." - Revelation 19:6-8

Confess

We won't clearly hear from God until we stop rolling in filth. He wants to interact with us. He loves us. But He just can't intermingle with the constant mess and corruption we introduce into our lives. It separates us from Him.

PROACTIVE Prayer Template

Confession begins the process of removing the distracting noise of sin that drowns out the divine whisper of God.

Pray and Confess:

"Lord, let me tell you my sins from the last couple of days. Please forgive me for:"

In your journal, write down what you are confessing.

"Lord, today I confess that I am resenting what someone did to me. I now let go of that bitterness and I forgive this person through the power you give me."

Thanks

God wills that we cultivate a lifestyle of gratitude. He wants thanksgiving to continually spill from our lips. Saying "thank you" puts our hearts in the right, humble place to hear from Him.

What has God given you?

Pray:

"Lord, I thank you so much for these incredible blessings:"

Write in your journal a list of at least eight blessings for which you are grateful. Reflect on each one.

Intercede

Intercessory prayer — lifting up the needs of others — plays a vital role in extraordinary hearing.

PROACTIVE Prayer Template

Read each Scripture-based prayer below. For each one, record in your journal the name of a person for whom you will pray this prayer. Below that person's name list at least three specific prayers the Spirit guides you to pray. Don't limit yourself to praying for just one person.

Pray on their behalf:

"Lord, bless me and my loved ones and help us thrive in grace and peace."

Prayer 1:

"Lord, let them be patient and kind. Let them not be jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Let them not demand their own way. Let them not be irritable, and let them keep no record of being wronged. Let them not rejoice about injustice but rejoice whenever the truth wins out. Let them never give up, never lose faith, always be hopeful, and endure through every circumstance." (Based on 1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

Prayer 2:

"Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. This I declare about the LORD: He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him. For he will rescue you from every trap and protect you from deadly disease. He will cover you with his feathers. He will shelter you with his wings. His faithful promises are your armor and protection. Do not be afraid of the terrors of the night, nor the arrow that flies." - Psalm 91:1-5

Prayer 3:

"All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God: You will be blessed in the city and blessed in the country. ... You will be blessed when you come in and blessed when you go out. ... The Lord will send a blessing on your barns and on everything you put your hand to." - Deuteronomy 28:2-8 NIV

Prayer 4:

"I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit. Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." - Ephesians 3:16-19

Vanquish

Satan and his demons are real and indescribably evil. They move in our lives, trying to destroy us.

Take full advantage of all the weapons God gives you to fight!

Use these six tools for spiritual warfare maintenance:

- 1. "Lord, I mentally apply each piece of armor:
 - Protect my core with truth.
 - Cover my heart with right living.
 - Help me train hard to be able to race from place to place with the good news, bringing everyone I meet peace with God.
 - Block Satan's temptations with faith in you and a faithful life.
 - I refute the thoughts the devil would insert into my mind by intimately knowing that I am saved and by listening to my savior.
 - I will sharpen my knowledge of Scripture so the Spirit can use it to cut away Satan's strongholds in people's lives."
- 2. "Lord, 'Deliver us from evil' evil thoughts, evil people, and evil spirits."
- 3. "God, please send angels to guard my home and family."
- 4. "I dedicate my home and my workplace as a place of worship and prayer."
- 5. "If there are any evil spirits in this house, I drive you out in Jesus' name."
- 6. "I have nothing to do with you, and you have nothing to do with me."

Extreme Prayer

The book *Extreme Prayer* teaches us to pray for things that God cares deeply about and that advance His Kingdom.

Here are the biblical principles of extreme prayer:

- God answers prayers offered in Jesus' name. (John 14:11-14)
- God answers persistent prayer. (Luke 11:9-10)
- God answers unified group prayer. (Matthew 18:19)
- God answers specific prayers in ways that build our faith. (Matthew 17:20)

As we orient ourselves around producing the eternal fruit that God has chosen for us, and as we learn to cry out to God, He absolutely promises to answer our prayers with unlimited power.

Consider what God is calling you to do for His Kingdom.

Pray:

"Lord, I believe You created me for this purpose at this time of my life:"

Write the above prayer in your journal and complete it by adding your Kingdom purpose. Below it record prayers that are strategic to accomplishing this purpose.

"Help me to fulfill my purpose."

Continually seek your purpose in God's plan.

Strategic Prayer Request List

Kingdom of God

List in your journal prayer requests that advance God's Kingdom. Write down at least six and be specific. Pray, and watch for His answers.

Mountains

So Jesus answered them, "Trust God! I'm telling you absolutely that if you say to this mountain, 'May God pick you up and toss you into the ocean,' and if you aren't a skeptic in your heart but rather you trust that what you say will happen, then it will. - Mark 11:22-23 GPT

Take some time to think of mountain-like obstacles standing in the way of God's Kingdom growing. List at least six in your journal and pray persistently until He removes them.

Friends Who Don't Know Jesus

Pray:

"Lord, help me faithfully share your Gospel and love with these people. Bring other believers into their lives to tell them about Jesus."

Make a list in your journal of friends or family who don't know Jesus.

Finish your list with this petition:

"Lord, bring me one person to share your love and Good News with today."

Leaders

I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. - 1 Timothy 2:1-2

In your journal, list at least four leaders whose decisions affect your life and then pray for them. From your country's leaders to your boss, ask God to make it possible for you to live a quiet life under their authority.

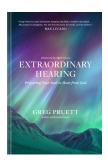
Closing

Close your prayer time by praying this Scripture:

"Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen." - Ephesians 3:20-21

Additional Resources

Are you interested in learning more about PROACTIVE prayer? The book *Extraordinary Hearing: Preparing Your Soul to Hear from God,* by Greg Pruett, develops in greater depth the concepts of PROACTIVE prayer introduced here. Each section in this template has its own chapter. Greg's insights will help deepen your prayer life as you build them into your walk with God.



PioneerBible.org/ExtraordinaryHearing

To go deeper into the principles listed in the Extreme Prayer section of this template, we recommend Greg's first book *Extreme Prayer: The Impossible Prayers God Promises to Answer* (Tyndale Momentum, 2014).

About Pioneer Bible Translators

Prayer is Pioneer Bible Translators' strategy for accomplishing our mission — God's mission — to see transformed lives through God's Word in every language.

The word "Pioneer" reflects our commitment to translating the Bible and planting churches among the world's least-reached people groups. Our primary focus is on the most challenging language groups — those who are marginalized, those who live in hard-to-access places, and those who are Deaf.

Greg Pruett, the creator of this prayer tool and author of *Extraordinary Hearing: Preparing Your Soul to Hear from God,* is also President of Pioneer Bible Translators. He leads by putting these principles of prayer into practice. Prayer *is* our strategy. We hope this prayer template helps make prayer your strategy, too.

Would you join us in praying strategically for Bibleless people and the work of Pioneer Bible Translators? Sign up for our Prayer Guide at PioneerBible.org/pray. Once a week you'll receive an email containing a praise or request for each day of the following week.

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