

Kenneth E. Hagin, excerpt March 1, 1981:

"Now forasmuch as you're zealous of spiritual things you're to be commended for that," saith the Lord. "Forasmuch as you are zealous to desire to be used of God. Yea, forasmuch as you're zealous and even sense the call upon your life unto the ministry, you do well," saith the Lord.

"But remember this, that your ministry will never be powerful. It'll never -- speaking from the human standpoint, get off of the ground unless it's backed up with prayer. So build your prayer life first. Build your prayer life upon the Word. Build your prayer life. Wait upon Me," saith the Lord, "and you'll renew your strength. Yea, you'll run and you'll not be weary and you'll walk and not faint. Yea, only a ministry that's built upon prayer will be effective in these last days."

"And then some say, 'Well, the Word will do it, just let the Word do it.' But the Word will never be effective as it should if that who delivers the Word is not backed up with a life of prayer. So let the prayer life come first. Let the ministry of prayer be first. And you're to be commended because you're zealous of spiritual gifts."

"'Oh, to be used of the Lord,' some have said. 'Yes, to be used. Lord, use me. Lord, use me.' But remember, even the gifts of the Spirit can be misused. Remember, the gifts of the Spirit if used in the flesh are not powerful. They must be backed up with a life of prayer. And so when they're backed up with a life of prayer, then those become great weapons, powerful weapons to pull down the strongholds of the enemy. To do the work of God."

"So build a life of prayer. Yea, put prayer first, and by so doing the Word -- other things, ministry, vocal ministry, singing ministry, gifts of the Spirit in operations will come into their rightful place. And because your spirit has had times of fellowship with the Father and enough fellowship to become keen, then you'll understand the move of the Spirit. And then automatically you'll move with the Spirit. And you'll not come to the place you'd say, 'Well, I don't know what to do now. What should I do now?' Because your spirit is so in tune with heaven that you'll know heaven's desire heaven's will and heaven's plan. And so you will enjoy heaven upon the earth. So begin now. Begin now to build a life of prayer, to build a life, a ministry, of prayer. To give yourself unto the Spirit; for the Spirit would seek those whom He could use. Through whom He can voice the desires of the Father, speaking out the will of God to be done within the earth. And so you'll be glad that you did. You'll be glad that you did."

"So quit looking with your physical eye. Quit trying to figure out with your natural mind. Quit trying to understand with human reasoning. Yea! Yea! Get into the spirit and pray in the spirit. And you'll come to know things in the spirit. And you'll come even to see things in the spirit. And you'll see the enemy put to flight. Yea, he'll run. He'll run. He'll run. Yea, you'll pull down his strongholds. And, yea, that which he has prepared as a trap even for you, ha, ha, oh, no, no, you'll not be caught in that trap. Because, you see you were in the presence of God. And the Spirit of God will show you things to come. And so you'll see it and you'll not go that direction. You'll go this way. And this way it's all smooth and all blessed. And Satan will be left over there by himself shaking his head. Ah, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes. Ohhhh, don't try to understand with your natural mind. You'll never be able to fathom the depth of it. But just know the Spirit of God and learn to yield to Him. And enlist in the army of the Lord as a pray-er. And very humbly and sincerely come and say, "Lord, teach me to pray." And give yourself over to the Spirit and He'll lead you into prayer conquests that your mind cannot fathom and your imagination would have never even imagined. But you'll be glad you did for your life will be a light. And even your ministry will be enhanced and increased a hundredfold."