

# Call of Duty Pt 10 “Pray with Expectation”

*CENTRAL QUESTION:*

*What does it mean to live and breathe in the atmosphere of prayer?*

## THE SOLDIER’S ENVIRONMENT

Key Scripture: Ephesians 6:17-18 "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit..."

The Atmosphere of War:

- Prayer is not just a weapon; it is the oxygen a soldier breathes.
- We often mistake prayer for an occasional act rather than a constant state.
- A soldier must always be aware of their surroundings to stay safe.

Reality: Your focus must shift from what others can do for you to how you can build the Kingdom of God.

## II. THE PROBLEM WITH "FLIP-PHONE" PRAYER

### A. BEYOND THE CRISIS

Many people only call on God when they need money or a miracle.

Key Insight: We shouldn't treat God like a bank or a person we only contact when we are in trouble.

### B. CONTINUAL VS. SPORADIC

Prayer should not be a habit or a formal recitation like a nursery rhyme.

It must be a daily routine that fuels your engine from the moment you wake up.

## III. THE VARIETY OF PRAYER (THE SOLDIER'S TOOLKIT)

The Bible describes many ways to communicate with the Commander:

- Public and Private Prayer: Engaging with God both in the assembly and in the closet.
- Supplication and Intercession: Standing in the gap for others, like a mother praying over a sick child.
- Praise and Thanksgiving: Finding joy and gratitude even when the "snow" of life falls.
- Prayer of Agreement: When two or three gather, the strength of the prayer increases ten-fold.

## IV. PRAYING WITH EXPECTATION

The Story of Peter (Acts 12):

- The church was praying for Peter's release from prison.
  - God answered by sending an angel to open the gates and drop the chains.
  - The believers were so shocked when he knocked that they didn't believe it was him.
- The Lesson: Don't pray for the door to open and then act surprised when God actually does it.

## V. PRACTICAL DISCIPLINE (THE DAILY ROUTINE)

How to stay vigilant:

1. Start Early: Give God the first five or ten minutes before you do anything else.
  2. Pray Mid-day: Throw in "spontaneous" prayers as people come to your mind.
  3. Close the Day: Spend your final moments alone with God rather than the television.
- The Result: This routine keeps you "rooted and grounded" so you are prepared when a real battle arrives.

## KEY TAKEAWAY:

*Prayer is the fuel that makes the armor of God effective. To be a true warrior, you must:*

- *Stay vigilant and aware of your spiritual surroundings.*
- *Pray in the Spirit, not just in the fleshly "want" list.*
- *Believe that God can take what is "irreparable" and make it brand new.*

## FOR FURTHER REFLECTION:

- Are you only calling God when you have a "bill" to pay?
- Do you actually expect God to answer the things you asked for this morning?
- Who can you "agree" with in prayer this week to make your petition stronger?
- What "chains" do you need to believe will fall off as you start praying in the Spirit?

*Scripture References for Further Study: Ephesians 6:10-18 | James 5:15 | Acts 12:1-17 | Hebrews 4:16 | Psalm 100:4*