



**LIFE
Ministry
Uganda**



FAMILIES AT THE CROSSROADS

ESTABLISHING EFFECTIVE PERSONAL PRAYER ALTARS

Genesis 28:10-22

By Francis Mutatiina

Key words and terms

- Prayer
- Altar
- Establishing
- Personal

What is Prayer

- Prayer is communication with God.
- **Prayer** is about realigning our focus around Jesus, and reminding ourselves that it's His kingdom we serve, and that it's the Receiver and not the pray-er that makes all the difference.

<https://www.jesusfilm.org/blog-and-stories/40-inspirational-quotes-about-prayer.html>

What is an Altar

- The Latin root word of **altar** is *altare*, which means “high place or place of worship. It is a holy or sacred place”.
- Altars remind us of the sacredness of our everyday life.
- When we look at life through a sacred lens, everything changes.

Establishing involves
starting and sustaining

Personal...

- **Personal** is associated with having personal relationship with God as our Father through Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord (Revelation 3: 20 and John 1:11-12).
- A personal altar arises from a personal relationship with God. It is a significant experience of God's presence. Jacob made an altar after experiencing God in an unusual encounter (Gen. 28:12-15).

Effective personal prayer Altars

- What it is
- Where it is
- Why it is
- When it is
- How it is

What it is

A place of revival

- The personal altar of God is the beginning of revival. Our personal altar is not just for us to be personally blessed.
- “You cannot give what you don’t have. Whatever flows out of your spirit will touch others – nothing more, nothing less!” Dr Suzette Hattingh

Where it is

A personal altar is where a believer meets with the Lord. It's not a place – it's where you commune with God. Whatever form it takes – it's between you and God.

Why it is

It is for National Revival (2 Chronicles 7:13-14)

- “If we don’t have a *personal* revival, we cannot be part of a *national* revival,”
When God wants to bring a true revival – a true outpouring of the Spirit – He will bring it to the same level as the prayer in the land. Dr Suzette Hattingh

<https://www.csc.org.sg/speaker/suzette-hattingh/>

When it is

- All the time (1 Thesa 5:17: Prayer continually)

How it is

It is a discipline and lifestyle not a process or routine.

- It takes discipline to grow the passion for prayer at the personal altar.
- The key is not the exact format of prayer. The key is to be praying at all.
- The issue is not *how* we pray. The issue is that we pray.
- Prayer is not about how long we pray. It's about making time to meet with God.
- Some shout, some are silent, some speak in tongues.

ACTIVITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE PERSONAL ALTAR

Adoration:

- Fellowship with and touch God in praise, thanksgiving, confession and repentance (Psalm 100).
- Jesus gave us the pattern. He fellowshiped with the Father – loved the Father – then He loved those around Him,

ACTIVITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE PERSONAL ALTAR

Word Engagement:

- Read, study, meditate, memorize and apply God's Word. Just hunger and thirst for the Word and go deep in it.
- And we must have the confidence that His Word is good and true.

ACTIVITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE PERSONAL ALTAR

Intercession:

- Intercede or ask for things for yourself and for others.
- Matthew 6:4 talks of what you pray in secret, God reveals in the open.
- Be the voice and channel speaking into the emptiness in the world.

ACTIVITIES OF AN EFFECTIVE PERSONAL ALTAR

Intervention:

- Using God's word, wage war in the spiritual realm. Isaiah 55:11: God's word will not go back in vain
- Move to the place where we contend for the destiny of our life, nation and nations.

“If you don't speak, you rob your land from healing. You rob your nation from its destiny – the nations from your nation's destiny!” Dr Hattingh

Conclusion

- Because God has a plan for us to be the “vehicles” of His message, let us build our personal prayer altars.
- Let these personal prayer altars not only be the place where just we are blessed – just enjoying Jesus – to a place of the Great Commission.
- With each one of us here giving prayer everyday revival will spring up, characterised by repentance and returning to God.

