

PART 3 ROYAL PRAYER GUARDS

Teaching 3 of 5

Be Spiritually Alert — Guard Through Prayer

FOUNDATION

A Royal Prayer Guard is a believer who understands his or her responsibility to pray, remain spiritually alert, and use the authority of Jesus on behalf of those within his or her God-given jurisdiction.

In the previous teaching, we established that believers are called a “**royal priesthood**.” A priest is one who is able to draw near to God. Because of the blood of Jesus, we have been brought near to God and have the privilege and responsibility of prayer.

Jesus Himself demonstrated what it means to function as a Royal Prayer Guard. He prayed for Himself, His disciples, and future believers.

Therefore, because Christ left us an example, we are called to follow His steps.

1 Peter 2:21 RSV

“For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.”

1. A ROYAL PRAYER GUARD MUST BE SPIRITUALLY ALERT

Luke 22:31–32 RSV

“Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail; and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren.”

This passage gives us an important picture of Jesus functioning as a Royal Prayer Guard.

Jesus knew what was happening before Peter experienced the attack.

Notice what Jesus did:

1. Jesus knew Satan's plot against Peter ahead of time.
2. Jesus had to be spiritually alert to know what Satan was attempting to do.
3. Peter benefited from Jesus' alertness.
4. Jesus guarded Peter by praying for him.
5. Jesus had already prayed for Peter.

Jesus said, **"I have prayed for you."** The statement is in the past tense.

This demonstrates that prayer can take place **before the crisis arrives.**

6. Jesus was specific in His prayer.

He did not simply say, "Peter, I hope everything works out."

Jesus specifically prayed:

"that your faith may not fail."

7. Jesus gave Peter instructions for after his restoration.

Jesus said:

"and when you have turned again, strengthen your brethren."

Jesus was not merely concerned about Peter surviving the attack. He was concerned about what Peter would do **after** the attack.

ROYAL PRAYER GUARD PRINCIPLE

Be alert. Pray ahead. Be specific. Guard those God has entrusted to you.

A Royal Prayer Guard should be spiritually alert concerning what is happening in his or her:

- Home
- Marriage
- Children
- Grandchildren/Great-grandchildren
- Church
- Business
- Ministry
- Relationships
- Personal areas of jurisdiction

The purpose is not to become fearful or suspicious.

The purpose is to become **prayerfully alert**.

2. GOD DOES NOT WANT US TO LOSE WHAT HE HAS GIVEN US

John 6:39–40 RSV

“and this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up at the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that every one who sees the Son and believes in him should have eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

Jesus clearly expressed the Father's will:

“that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me.”

This should cause us to examine our lives.

If something God has entrusted to us has been lost in some category, we should go back, discover what happened, and take appropriate action so that it does not happen again.

This is part of being a responsible Royal Prayer Guard.

3. DISCERNMENT IS ESSENTIAL

Character Quality

Discernment vs. Judgment

“The God-given ability to understand why things happen.” — IBLP

1 Samuel 16:7

A Royal Prayer Guard needs discernment.

Discernment helps us understand what is happening without simply reacting to what we see on the surface.

We should ask:

What is really happening?

Why is this happening?

How should I pray?

What does God's Word say about this situation?

Discernment is not about judging people.

It is about seeking God's understanding so that we can respond appropriately.

4. SPEAK FAITH WHEN YOU GUARD

John 10:27–30 RSV

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish, and no one shall snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. I and the Father are one.”

Jesus made an extraordinarily strong statement:

“No one shall snatch them out of my hand.”

Jesus demonstrated what a Royal Prayer Guard should speak and how a Royal Prayer Guard should speak **in faith** on behalf of those being guarded.

Our words should not be controlled by fear.

Our words should be anchored in God's Word and spoken with faith.

5. JESUS SHOWS US HOW TO PRAY FOR THOSE WE GUARD

John 17 — Jesus Prays for His Disciples

John 17 gives us one of the clearest examples of Jesus functioning as a Royal Prayer Guard.

Jesus prayed directly to the Father.

He identified the people for whom He was responsible.

He prayed specifically for His disciples.

He prayed for their safety.

He asked the Father to keep them safe from the evil one.

He did not pray vaguely.

He knew exactly who He was praying for and what He was asking the Father to accomplish.

Observe the pattern:

- 1. Jesus prayed directly to the Father.**
- 2. Jesus identified those entrusted to Him.**
- 3. Jesus prayed specifically for them.**
- 4. Jesus was not guessing when He prayed.**
- 5. Jesus prayed for their safety.**

This gives us a practical model for our own prayer lives.

Ask yourself:

Who has God entrusted to my prayer life?

What specifically should I be praying for them?

What areas need protection?

What does God's Word say about their situation?

6. THE NAME OF JESUS IS AUTHORITY

There is another important truth in John 17.

The word “**name**” is repeatedly emphasized in the chapter.

The Greek understanding of “name” includes:

- Authority
- Character
- Title
- Reputation
- Person

The teaching explains that Jesus exercised His Father's name—His Father's authority—on behalf of those He was guarding.

Psalm 44:5 AMP

“Through You shall we push down our enemies; through Your name shall we tread them under who rise up against us.”

As Royal Prayer Guards, we use the **name of Jesus—His authority**—on behalf of those we are guarding.

This is not merely repeating the words “in Jesus' name.”

It involves **relationship and fellowship with Jesus and faith in His authority.**

7. DO NOT PUT YOUR TRUST IN PEOPLE

People are important.

God can work through people.

God can work through:

- Doctors
- Medicine
- Professionals
- Friends
- Family
- Leaders
- Others He places in our lives
- Animals

But our ultimate trust belongs in **Jesus**.

Psalm 118:8 TLB

“It is better to trust the Lord than to put confidence in men.”

The Royal Prayer Guard must learn to distinguish between **appreciating people** and **placing ultimate confidence in people**.

People can help us.

But Jesus is our Lord.

8. A PERSONAL LESSON ABOUT USING A NAME

The original teaching gives a practical personal account involving an automotive repair shop.

A friend had recommended a particular shop, so the decision was made to use the shop based heavily on the friend's name and relationship.

The friend's name was repeatedly mentioned to establish credibility and hopefully receive good treatment.

However, after the repair, the vehicle developed a serious problem because the oil filter had not been installed correctly.

The lesson learned was powerful:

A person's name and relationship cannot replace our relationship with Jesus.

The teaching's conclusion is:

“Only go in the name of Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior!”

This does not mean that we cannot receive recommendations or appreciate relationships.

It means that our ultimate confidence must never shift from Jesus to a human relationship.

9. THE ROYAL PRAYER GUARD'S FOUNDATION

The lesson can be summarized in this progression:

BE ALERT

Recognize that spiritual opposition exists.

PRAY AHEAD

Do not wait until the crisis arrives.

PRAY SPECIFICALLY

Know what and whom you are praying for.

USE GOD'S WORD

Let Scripture shape your prayers and declarations.

GUARD THOSE ENTRUSTED TO YOU

Know your God-given areas of responsibility.

USE THE AUTHORITY OF JESUS

Operate in the name of Jesus with faith.

TRUST JESUS

People are valuable, but Jesus is our ultimate confidence.

ROYAL PRAYER GUARD DECLARATION

I am a Royal Prayer Guard.

I will remain spiritually alert.

I will not wait for a crisis before I pray.

I will seek God for discernment.

I will pray specifically for those God has entrusted to me.

I will stand on God's Word.

I will use the authority of the name of Jesus in faith.

I will guard my home, family, church, business, ministry, relationships, and every area of God-given jurisdiction.

I will not put my ultimate confidence in people.

My trust is in Jesus Christ.

I will follow the steps of Jesus, my example and my King.

I am a Royal Prayer Guard.

TEACHING QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be spiritually alert?
 2. What did Jesus know about Peter before Peter experienced his trial?
 3. Why is praying ahead important?
 4. Why should our prayers be specific?
 5. Who has God entrusted to you to guard through prayer?
 6. What is the difference between discernment and judgment?
 7. What does the “name” of Jesus represent?
 8. Why is relationship with Jesus essential when exercising His authority?
 9. How can we appreciate people without placing our ultimate trust in them?
 10. What area of your God-given jurisdiction needs greater prayerful attention?
-

KEY THOUGHT

A ROYAL PRAYER GUARD DOES NOT WAIT FOR THE ATTACK TO BEGIN BEFORE PRAYING.

Stay alert.

Pray ahead.

Guard through prayer.

Use the authority of Jesus.

Trust Him completely.

To be continued — Royal Prayer Guards Teaching 4 of 5

The central movement in part 3 is, **Jesus was spiritually alert → Jesus prayed ahead → Jesus prayed specifically → Jesus guarded others → Jesus operated in the Father's authority → we follow His example.** Royal Prayer Guards Part 3 site

[Click here.](#) Main resources.

