

Altar/Prayer Team Ministry Training

When GOD'S Word is preached, the church should give people a chance to respond to GOD. As they respond, it is our desire that each altar worker will become a channel of God's blessing. Our prayer is that all who come to the altar will receive a transforming touch from Almighty GOD.

In order to achieve this goal, the church should effectively train a team of altar workers who will have a passion to impart the anointing to people. It should be the church's objective and goal for the altar workers to effectively operate in the gifts of the Spirit at

the altar resulting in many lives being powerfully touched and transformed.

Jesus said, *"I am telling you the truth: those who* believe in me will do what I do—yes, they will do even greater things, because I am going to the Father." (GNT)



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Introduction

What makes the altar holy?

Only God can make the altar holy! We can only be the recipients of God's Holiness and Power revealed via His Anointing.

- The altar is where people in the Old Testament met with God. Leviticus 9:23-24

"Moses and Aaron then went into the tent of meeting. When they came out, they blessed the people; and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. ²⁴ Fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the fat portions on the altar. And when all the people saw it, they shouted for joy and fell facedown."

In churches today, the church members should recognize the altar as the primary place where people meet God. As an altar ministry worker, YOU WILL BE HELPING PEOPLE EXPERIENCE GOD'S PRESENCE AND POWER. Note: It is imperative that the church and individuals understand that the altar is not to be left at the church; the home can and should be a

place to commune openly with God.



Altar/Prayer Team Ministry Training Guidelines and Principles:

General Information:

 Those who serve on the Altar/Prayer Team must be invited by the Senior Pastor or his appointed representative to do so.

> The Holy Spirit will approve those appointed by the Pastor assuming the Pastor is prayed up and empowered to choose.

- The Altar/Prayer Team members must be properly trained and must abide by the guidelines and principles as outlined by the approved instructions of the Senior Pastor.
- Humility, Loyalty, and Integrity must be the moral and personal criteria for an effective Altar/Prayer Team Ministry.

Zechariah 4:6, So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: '**Not by might nor by power**, **but by my Spirit**,' says the Lord Almighty," (NIV).

Luke 1:17, And he will go on **be**fore the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make **ready a people prepared for the Lord**, (NIV).



Altar/Prayer Team Ministry Training Guidelines and Principles:

General Information Continued:

- The Altar/Prayer Team member should:
 - \checkmark Always be prepared to minister,
 - Be in unity with those in authority (Sr. Pastor or a person authorized and appointed by the Sr. Pastor),
 - \checkmark Be living a life above reproach,
 - ✓ Be consistent in his/her prayer life and the study of the Word of God,
 - \checkmark Be filled and led by the Holy Spirit,
 - ✓ Be willing to yield to the Holy Spirit's prompting in every situation.

Remember:

The Holy Spirit does not force any issue or action/reaction on any person without first dealing with the spirit of that person. This includes both the Altar worker and the person being ministered to (responding to the Invitation).

Luke 12:35, Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, (NIV).



Altar/Prayer Team Ministry Training Guidelines and Principles (Continued)

The Altar/Prayer Team member should:

- Realize the serious nature of what is happening when someone responds to an altar call.
- Realize that the enemy and human flesh are interested in subverting what the Holy Spirit is doing during an altar call.
- Always ask for permission to pray for them.
- Allow people the liberty to pray alone at the altar if they desire to do so.
- You must know how to lead someone to salvation, recommitment, or those seeking the Baptism of the Holy Spirit..
- Remove or lead people to the prayer room who are becoming a disturbance to the congregation; even if they have come to the altar for prayer or counsel.
- Always seek the direction of those over you if a situation arises with which you are not prepared to handle.
- Know exactly where to find the anointing oil and use when necessary (recipient ready/you are ready).
- Obtain information that will be needed for follow-up.



Physical Readiness: Important for the Altar Team to be Appropriately Ready for Service

- Be neat, clean, and well groomed.
- Be appropriately dressed.
- Speak pleasantly and SMILE.
- Don't be shocked by what you are told or what you see.
- Don't give advice or counsel outside spiritual areas. You are a prayer team member, not a lawyer or professional counselor.
- Always treat each person with respect and dignity.
- Be brief and don't let the conversation be a life history lesson.
- Always point them to Jesus. He is the

Savior, Healer, and Deliverer

- Don't share your problems drawing attention to you instead of Jesus.
- Use the Word of God in lieu of your ideas or thoughts as to how to deal with the problem.

Remember...You will be blessed for allowing the Holy Spirit to use you!