

# **PRAYER**

The Secret Act

**BOLA OLU-JORDAN**



THE PRAYER SECRET SERIES

# PRAYER

## The Secret Act

**BOLA OLU-JORDAN**

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**Prof. Johnson F. Ojo**

*You heard what they said  
You believed what you saw  
You followed your heart*



## Elegy to a brother

We began with unrounded edges,  
But with each step, each long year,  
An ember was forming.  
Then you caught fire.  
Nothing and no one could extinguish you.

You were a slow burner,  
But once lit, you were a wildfire.  
Steady. Sure. Unmoved.

You were not just my eyes;  
You became my strength when I was at my weakest.  
You stood in for me when I was absent,  
And more than that, you stood with me  
When standing costs you everything.

You laid down what was yours so mine would thrive.  
You silenced the voices that tried to drown you.  
You defied the pressure that came with the face of family.  
You heard what they said,  
But you believed what you saw,  
And you followed your heart.

You were no man's fool.  
You simply chose Christ above comfort,  
And loyalty above logic.  
Blind faith, some called it,  
But I call it seeing deeper than most ever will.

I remember your last words to me: "All is well."  
Even as the shadows gathered,  
You spoke like a man who had seen the light.  
You could have stayed longer,  
But you chose the exit that led to a glorious entry.

You loved your Lord so much that you clung to Him.  
You left believing. You left faithfully.  
You left, my friend. You left.

We, and I, are still shaken by your absence.  
When your mothers and your fathers forsook you

Because of what you saw,  
You allowed the hands of the faithful,  
And the songs of the beloved to take you home.  
Joyfully but painfully, we bid you farewell.  
Now, the empty chair preaches louder than the pulpits.  
Who will believe in me as you did?

Still, I know what you would say: "*These are issues.*"  
Yes, Ojo. These are issues indeed!  
But your life answered them all.

Until we meet again,  
Rest, my brother, my friend.  
"*Well done, good and faithful servant*" (Matthew 25:23).  
"*For precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints*"  
(Psalm 116:15).

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## PREFACE

**HAVE YOU EVER IMAGINED** if every one of your prayers were answered?

I have. The thought is both fascinating and confronting. Yet I discovered that many of our prayers may never follow that route. This is because we often assume that we already know what and how to pray. Most times, we conclude that we have been praying for years; we watched our parents or religious leaders pray, and so it never crossed our mind that prayer is something we must learn. We simply flow with the same traditions that we have inherited through generations.

Many see prayer as a means to get or change anything they want. Others feel like it's a burdensome and distant obligation. However, I have found comfort in the revelation of what prayer truly is through Jesus' model of prayer. This was a deeply personal and rewarding discovery for me, but the burden of sharing it with others has become so heavy and unshakeable.

I have hesitated to go beyond teaching believers in churches and small groups about this wonderful discovery of Jesus' model of prayer to writing a book on it. This is mainly because almost every denomination, religious group, organization, leader, and believer claims to have the "right" understanding or approach to prayer.

However, the motivation I needed came to me in the words of Jesus in Luke 12:47.

*And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.*

Although Jesus spoke these words to His disciples, the passage has never felt more personal to me than it does now. I felt like Jesus was standing at the door of my heart, waiting for my obedience to a commitment I made in a moment of deep communion with Him, to pour out every truth, revelation, and mystery of the kingdom that He has made real to me. Over this book, it is as if He is looking at me and whispering, "This is one of them."

Another compelling reason for this book is Paul's instruction to Timothy, which resonates deeply with my calling as a teacher of the Word:

*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*

**(2 Timothy 4:2)**

What better time to "preach the word" about prayer than now, when many pulpits are filled with spiritual "abracadabra" and formulas of "seven steps to this" and "ten keys to that," rather than sound doctrine that answers the simple but critical question: How do we pray effective prayers that bring results?

Scripture does not leave us guessing about why so many prayers seem to go unanswered. James explains one of the reasons plainly:

*Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss.*

**(James 4:3)**

We often miss the how, what, when, and why of prayer.

This is the default state of many believers, and it explains why so many prayers seem to go unanswered. The disciples of Jesus

understood this struggle. They had been religious before they met Him, just as many of us were. Naturally, they had already been praying, yet with little to show for it. Then they saw John teach his disciples how to pray, and something shifted in them. They went to Jesus and said, "*Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples*" (Luke 11:1).

That simple request reveals a powerful truth. There is a how to pray, a what to pray, a when to pray, and a why to pray.

If we set aside our religious pride and tradition and agree with Paul that "*we know not what we should pray for as we ought*" (Romans 8:26), we can learn to pray according to scripture, using Jesus' own model, just as He taught His disciples.

Many of us can recite what we call "The Lord's Prayer," yet few of us have ever learned how it was applied in Jesus' life and ministry. Instead, we cling to familiar religious practices handed down by parents or denominations, rather than submitting our prayer life to the pattern Jesus actually provided.

The truth is simple: effective prayer that brings results must be learned. If you never learned how to pray, you never truly knew how.

John's disciples learned it. Jesus' disciples learned it. Somewhere along the way, the church lost it, and believers started assuming it. No wonder the church today struggles to turn the world upside down as the early church did (Acts 17:6).

Whether you are a seasoned intercessor or just discovering your voice in prayer, this book will walk you through how to pray effectively using the exact model Jesus provided, allowing scripture to interpret scripture.

As you journey through these pages in this series and the subsequent volumes in the prayer secret series, my desire is that you will discover that effective prayer is a pleasant and

transformative spiritual experience, not the boring and lifeless ritual that religion has often reduced it to.

My prayer is that your prayer life will be transformed, and that you will begin to experience real answers to prayer in a tangible way (2 Corinthians 1:4).

Let us begin this journey together.

## INTRODUCTION

**PRAYER REMAINS BOTH** a divine mystery and a controversial topic for many people and different religions. This is unlikely to change anytime soon.

Why?

Because prayer is the most powerful force in the universe.

God designed prayer to be the bridge between heaven and earth. It is also the system through which God accomplishes His purpose on earth and the only weapon that stops Satan in his tracks.

Satan understands this and works hard to turn prayer into a dull, exhausting routine instead of a living, fulfilling spiritual experience. The result is weak, tired, and disappointed believers. Yet prayer was never meant to be that way.

It is often said that a prayerless church is a powerless church. The same is true of a prayerless Christian.

Few things are as frustrating as praying sincerely and not seeing results. That frustration and desperation for answers have tragically pushed many believers to the doorstep of self-styled “prayer contractors.”

These individuals drag believers into organized prayer frenzy and wild religious gatherings, presenting their methods as a desperate

route to force answers from a brutal God who, in their minds, will not respond until blood is drawn.

Many lead people in what they call prayers, but it is often just a superficial activity, like sitting in a rocking chair. There is motion, but no progress. Yet everything changes when we understand prayer as a real two-way communication between God and man.

The disciples of Jesus once found themselves in this same struggle before Jesus showed them the right way to pray. When they followed His model, their prayers began to shake nations. One man was so amazed at the power of God displayed through Peter that he offered money to receive the same power (Acts 8:18–20).

The ability to pray effectively is not something you buy. It is something you learn. If you do not learn it, you will not walk in it. The disciples learned it. You can too.

This book, *Prayer: The Secret Act*, is Volume 1 in the Prayer Series. It serves as an invitation to explore the hidden power of private communion with God and learn how to pray effective prayers that receive answers from Him.

At the end of this book, I will invite you to join The Prayer Circle, a free online community where we walk out the message of *Prayer, The Secret Act* together. Look for the “Continue the Journey” page near the back for details.

May each volume bring you closer to God’s heart as you engage in the secret act of prayer.

Are you prepared to learn?

Let’s start with the basic truth...

## A PERSONAL WORD FROM THE AUTHOR

This book is intended for believers at every stage of their walk with God, but especially for those who are hungry for something deeper than religious routine in their prayer life. It is written for individuals who long for a secret place with God, for couples and families who desire a praying home, and for pastors, leaders, and churches who want to lead God's people back into the holy intimacy of private communion.

That's why you'll see many Scripture passages throughout these pages. This is intentional. I want you to open your Bible as you read, to test every written Word of God, and to let the Holy Spirit speak to you directly through the Scriptures. You are not just reading my thoughts about prayer but walking through what God has already revealed in His Word, allowing Scripture to interpret Scripture.

To help you study and apply these truths, there is a Discussion and Study Guide near the back of this book that can be used by small groups, Bible classes, and whole congregations. Following that, you will find a Seven-Day Devotional Journey, designed to lead you into daily, personal practice of the secret act of prayer.

Use the chapters to learn, the questions to reflect and discuss, and the devotional to meet with God in the secret place, one day at a time. My prayer is that this book does more than inform you, I hope it transforms your prayer life.

May this first volume, and those that follow, bring you closer to God's heart as you engage in the secret act of prayer and rediscover the power of private communion with Him.

*Bala Olu-Jordan,*  
November 2025.



## CHAPTER 3

### Prayer Partners and Sacred Boundaries

*What, could ye not watch with me one hour?*  
(Matthew 26:40)



#### Layers of Prayer Companionship

**T**HERE COMES A POINT in every believer's life, especially for those committed to walking with God, when the burden becomes too heavy, the call too demanding, and the journey too lonely. At such moments, every Moses needs an Aaron, and every Paul needs a Barnabas to stand in the gap for them when the burden is heavy. This is where intercessors and prayer partners become vital.

But as important as prayer partners are, there is an equally urgent need to recognize when and where to draw sacred boundaries and divine perimeters. Jesus demonstrated this in the Garden of Gethsemane.

The contrast between the wilderness, which was the beginning of Jesus' ministry, and Gethsemane, the climax of it, was that, while the Holy Spirit led Jesus to the wilderness, a place of private communion with the Father, Jesus led His disciples to Gethsemane,

a place of private agony and olive pressing. However, Jesus shows us something profound and deeply instructive about prayer warfare in both settings.

Jesus demonstrated how to arrange and organize our prayer defenses in spiritual warfare. He showed us who to place on the front line, who to position on the flanks, and who to keep at the core battle line.

This is not just showing us the act of prayer but also the art of divine mapping in spiritual warfare.

Here, we discover a critical truth about the levels of prayer companionship or partnership in spiritual warfare. We learn that not everyone can go all out with us to the frontline or battlefield, and we must learn how to set boundaries.

Let's examine this further:

*Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder... And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee... and went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed...*

**(Matthew 26:36-39)**

### **Strategies for Personal Prayer and Spiritual Warfare**

In the passage above, Jesus divided His circle of Prayer Partners into three parts, which represent the three strategies for personal prayer and spiritual warfare:

1. The Gatekeepers: those at the entrance.
2. The Watchers: those in the court engaged in prayer warfare.
3. The Seeker: the inner chamber of warfare.

After each stage, Jesus drew a sacred boundary line.

We must recognize who belongs where in our prayer circle so that we can position each person according to their various capabilities, just as in the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:15). This should be our primary defense mechanism in warfare. Otherwise, our prayer partners may quickly turn into conflict partners.

Though it's valuable to have people who are "watching and praying" with us, effective prayer, especially in seasons of crisis, is ultimately a personal and heartfelt connection between you and God, facilitated by His Spirit within you.

Here is a quick overview of the instructions Jesus gave to each group:

- To the Gatekeepers, "*Sit here.*"
- To the Watchers, "*Tarry here and watch with me.*"
- To the Seeker: "*And went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed.*"

Let's examine Jesus' defensive warfare strategy to learn more.

### **1. The Gatekeepers: Present But Not Participating**

These are the "Sit here" people. These are those at the gate, the first to engage with the outsiders. Notice that Jesus didn't dismiss them outright. They were His friends, His followers, His chosen. But he knew they could go no further with Him in His hour of agony.

This group represents those in your lives who care but are not called to walk with you into deep spiritual battle. They may be moral, helpful, or even spiritually inclined, but they are not equipped to carry the burden of intercession beyond a certain perimeter. These are the people who text, "Praying for you," but rarely do. They may truly care, but they're not your prayer warriors; they are your public mouthpiece, broadcasters, and cheerleaders. They can engage with others on your behalf to let them know how much you need their help and prayers, which they may or may not do themselves. They can assure you that all is well

and encourage you to press forward on your journey. And they mean it. Jesus found purpose for them, and you should, too.

This is the mistake many believers make: They expect every “Christian friend” to understand and carry the weight of their burden, to intercede fervently with them, to discern what they themselves can barely express. But Jesus teaches us to know how to set sacred boundaries; otherwise, our prayer life will shipwreck before it takes off.

### **The Cheerleaders**

The Gatekeepers cannot help you achieve the miracles you need, but they can cheer you on and spread the news. They can mourn with you, but they can’t groan with you in prayer.

Sadly, this reflects the spiritual state of many believers today, both followers and leaders. They are the “ambassadors,” the “face” of the ministry. Some pastors see only these people as members. All they do is shout and create organized noise in the name of the Holy Ghost, making the pastor feel like he’s accomplishing something when, in reality, nothing spiritual is gained. Plenty of displays, drama, and shows, but no presence of the Holy Spirit, no true passion.

As leaders, be mindful of these people in your congregation. They swell attendance at every meeting and create a false sense of success in ministry for deceived leaders.

**Emotionally supportive but not spiritually engaged.** These are always the majority. Vision sympathizers. Led by sentiments, not by the Spirit.

There are people like this you cannot force into your prayer life or act; they can only mourn with you or cheer you up, and that is enough. Don’t crucify them if they can’t do more.

Jesus stopped telling them about His passion, mission, vision, or even the mysteries of the kingdom. You should, too. He simply told them to sit out, mourn, or cheer as long as they could.

There may be pastors and prayer partners willing to pray with us, but ultimately, no one can pray as effectively for you as you can.

It is time to leave those who can only mourn and weep with you, but do not pray with you. Those who rush to you at your time of need to say how sorry they are and how tragic the situation is, without necessarily providing the spiritual energy you need. They talk about the problem, not about the solution. They are willing to sit with you for as long as you want, providing a gloomy atmosphere that exacerbates the problem.

Do not depend on this group of people for your spiritual life, the growth of your ministry, or to stand by you in your time of need. Otherwise, you deceive yourself.

You don't have to abandon them or break away from them; keep them "in a far place" as Jesus did. Keep them at arm's length so you can go far. The time saved from these types of people is the time gained in the presence of God!

### **The Mixed Multitude**

Aside from the Gatekeepers, there is also the mixed multitude.

In John 6, a large crowd followed Jesus, not because they truly loved Him or believed His message, but because they ate and were filled. They gathered by the thousands and wanted to make Jesus king, but Jesus saw through them and responded:

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.*

**(John 6:26)**

When He began to tell them the truth, especially the mystery of the kingdom, that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood, they took offence (John 6:41-43). They accused Him of having a demon and wanted to stone Him (John 8:59, 10:31-39). They soon abandoned Him and dispersed, one after another, even some of His own disciples (not the twelve). From thousands of multitudes to zero membership!

This is not a strange phenomenon. If the church today preached the same truth that Jesus preached and commanded us to preach, many pews would be empty, just as they were in His time. But how many pastors can afford to let their cheerleaders, who are also their patrons, leave?

## **2. The Watchers: Willing But Weak**

Next are the Watchers, the willing but weak ones.

Peter, James, and John were part of Jesus' inner circle. These were His closest allies, the ones who had seen His transfiguration, witnessed His miracles, and heard His most intimate teachings. He trusted them deeply.

At His hour of sorrow, Jesus said to them:

*Tarry ye here, and watch with me.*

**(Matthew 26:38)**

When Jesus returned, He found these sincere and trustworthy friends, whom He had asked to pray with Him in His hour of need, weighed down by their own struggles, fast asleep. Not once.

He said to them,

*Could ye not watch with me one hour?*

**(Matthew 26:40)**

Just one hour! They could not.

These are the people in your life who truly love God and love you. They want to pray with you. They say they'll fast with you, even die with you, just like Peter told Jesus! They mean it, but the weight of

their own lives becomes too much. They sleep instead of stand. They yawn when they should intercede. They struggle with the flesh and their own personal burdens.

However, Jesus knew their sincerity and saw through their weakness. He knew that their spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak (Matthew 26:40-41).

That is still true today.

Understanding of this will save you a lot of finger-pointing, judgment, disappointment, and taking offense when your trusted “prayer partners” fail you.

How did Jesus deal with them?

*He went away again the second time and prayed.*

**(Matthew 26:42)**

Jesus understood that the situation, the circumstances, and the burden of their own condition weighed so heavily on them that it weakened them and defeated their sincere heart to pray with Him at His crucial time.

Even your closest prayer partners will have limitations, including your pastors and prayer warriors.

It is always good to know that someone has your back at a crucial hour, but don't build your hope on people, even those who are spiritual.

Spiritually inclined, but fleshly restrained. These are the willing, sincere ones, but still dealing with flesh. The carnal Christians.

Neither of these categories can pray effectively as you can for yourself. Let people be who they are.

Don't be disappointed when your “prayer partner” falls asleep on you. Jesus experienced it, too. Instead, recognize who they are so that you will not be disappointed or offended by what they do or don't do with you. Develop your own altar. Build your secret place.

Prayer without passion is pointless, and prayer without purpose is powerless.

We all carry our own burdens. Sometimes, your strongest intercessors will fail you out of weakness. Jesus didn't disown His disciples. He just prayed again. Alone.

Learn this secret!

### **3. The Solitary Seeker: You Alone With God**

There is a Yoruba proverb that effectively captures this truth:

*It is he who steps on a sharp object that must seek the healer.*

Simply put: you are the one who feels the pain and must seek relief.

This was exactly what Jesus did in His strategy for spiritual warfare in Gethsemane. After He strategically mapped out His defense line, from the Gatekeepers to the Watchers, He Himself went further. Alone. To seek the face of God.

*And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed...*

**(Matthew 26:39)**

You alone can go into the deep place of prayer to meet with God and lay the burden of your heart at His feet. That is the secret act and the secret power of prayer.

*But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.*

**(Matthew 6:6)**

Jesus prayed with passion in Gethsemane, “*in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground*” (Luke 22:44).

## Dull of Hearing

There are times we do everything by the book, yet it appears that nothing worked. Jesus was there too, but it could be a sign of something.

Despite all His prayer strategies and spiritual warfare tactics, despite His agonizing prayers, what He *feared* most and prayed against so passionately eventually came to pass. His one prayer was “*Let this cup pass over me,*” but the cup did not pass.

But does that mean that, despite the power of Jesus’ prayer, God did not answer it as He eventually took the cup He had prayed to pass over him?

Jesus knew the cup was the Father’s will for Him from the start, but His humanity took over at the hour of death, and that’s why He prayed that the cup might pass from Him.

That is what sometimes happens to us. Even when we already know God’s will, we still pray, perhaps hoping God will change His mind.

Several times, Jesus tried to tell His disciples about His impending death so that they could pray with Him, but He said that they were “*dull of hearing*” (Matthew 13:15).

Why did Jesus accuse them of being “dull of hearing?”

Because they couldn’t comprehend why a supposed Savior would die when He was supposed to take over the government, fight their battles, win their wars, kill their enemies, and give them positions in the new kingdom. That was the only reason some followed Him, perhaps one of the reasons Judas betrayed Him when reality hit.

But spiritual things are spiritually discerned.

Just as with Jesus, God may have already revealed to us what we are praying for, but because we are dull of hearing or we want God’s permissive will, as Jesus did at Gethsemane, we still continue to pray, hoping that God will change His mind.

Rather than changing His mind about Jesus, God was silent. However, God did not leave or abandon Him, not yet. Not until the cross when He cried “*Eli, Eli, Lama sabachtani.*”

But at this time, still in Gethsemane, the Bible says,

*And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven,  
strengthening him.*

**(Luke 22:43)**

There is hope for everyone at every stage, but what hope is there for someone “dull of hearing?” Telling them one thing a million times is like telling them nothing.

Jesus knew the will of God before He dispatched His disciples into strategic warfare. He knew He would go to the cross and be crucified. He told His disciples several times, referring to Himself as the “Son of man” who would suffer many things in the hands of sinners. He even prophesied that He would rise after three days.

So, why the *circus*? Why did He try to abandon the purpose and abort the plan?

The Bible says,

*For whatsoever things were written aforetime were  
written for our learning, that we through patience and  
comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*

**(Romans 15:4)**

Paul states it further:

*Now all these things happened unto them for  
ensamples: and they are written for our admonition,  
upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

**(1 Corinthians 10:11)**

All these are written so that we may learn from them.

Stop telling those who are *dull of hearing* about your spiritual need; they will not understand your passion, mission, and vision.

Stop casting your pearls before swine in the name of seeking prayer partners. They will take it lightly and trample on it, and that would still be better than spreading it out for the world to see.

### **The Martha Moment**

The story of Martha and Mary is a handy example of the Gatekeepers and mourners in real life.

When their brother, Lazarus, died, the Bible records:

*Many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort [mourn with] them concerning their brother.*

**(John 11:19, 31)**

That is the best mourners can do, but mourning will not bring the miracle you need, just as it did not bring Lazarus back to life.

Leave the mourners outside your life! You need miracles, not sympathy!

Don't be like Mary! The Bible says that Mary "*sat still in the house*" with mourners so long that she missed Jesus's arrival (John 11:20). But as soon as Martha heard that Jesus had arrived, she went to meet him.

Get out of the midst of those who only mourn with you, and go meet your miracle!

Do not stay with mourners; they will not help your spiritual life. Break away from them as Martha did and go all the way to meet with Jesus in the place of prayer for your miracle.

It was not Mary's mourning that gave Lazarus back his life; it was Martha's solitary and secret act of passion that produced the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus.

Mary sat with the mourners, but Martha went all alone *by herself* to meet with Jesus. She prayed to Jesus alone, even when her sister, her supposed prayer partner, was not there. But she learned to leave

the mourners alone, even if they are as close as spiritual or physical sisters. She left her alone, went to Jesus and prayed:

*Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.*

**(John 11:21-22)**

Just as the woman with the issue of blood determined in her own heart and said, “*If I can but touch the hem of His garment, I would be made whole*” (Matthew 9:21), Martha also determined to seek Jesus for a miracle, leaving the mourners behind.

In the end, Jesus said to her:

*Thy brother shall rise again*

**(John 11:23)**

Lazarus surely rose again!

It is your turn to hear the word of miracle from Jesus, but you must go all alone by yourself to meet with Jesus alone!

You have stayed too long with the mourners; it’s time to break out, to go *solo* and find Jesus walking into that situation. If you don’t get up, you won’t find Jesus.

## **A New Name**

The Bible says in Acts 10:38:

*How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.*

Let me introduce you to another person in the Bible who, rather than sit and mourn, decided to rise and meet with Jesus for a miracle. I hope it will inspire you to also get up and go to meet Jesus for the miracle that you need.

## Meet Bartimaeus.

Bartimaeus was a blind man who stayed on street corners begging for alms. No one could help him, but he heard something:

*And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me.*

**(Mark 10:47)**

The unfortunate thing, however, is:

*And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me.*

**(Mark 10:48)**

This verse tells us how the world tried to silence Bartimaeus. They even gave him a name neither God nor his parents gave him, “*blind Bartimaeus*,” because of his condition.

But despite all that, Bartimaeus ignored the crowd and the chorus against him, and he cried out all the more, all alone by himself, until he got the attention of Jesus.

You are supposed to ignore the world and its negative chorus against you. You are to shout and cry out all the more, all alone by yourself to Jesus concerning your matter until something happens.

Something happened to Bartimaeus.

In a twist, the same people who tried to silence him were the same ones who said:

*Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.*

**(Mark 10:49)**

Why did they just suddenly become nice to the same Bartimaeus they had been mean to?

Because of the next verse:

*And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called.*

Until Jesus hears your voice, the world will not stop trying to shut you down. Until God intervenes in your matter, the world will call you names that neither God nor your parents gave you.

Keep calling the name of Jesus until you have a new name!

While the crowd followed Jesus, Bartimaeus quietly received the miracle he needed because he was relentless in calling out to Jesus. Not all those who follow Jesus call on the name of Jesus.

**Learn the secret and the power in the name of Jesus.**

There is a hymn I love!

*The name, the name of Jesus  
Is greater and higher than all names  
It is not an ordinary name  
It's the name that's full of power and grace.*

Bartimaeus could have explained himself to the crowd that tried to shut him down. He could have told them how callous and mean they were, not even considering his condition. He could have been emotional and started to cry. But he knew he did not owe them any sermon. He must keep shouting till Jesus heard him, and He did.

That is supposed to be your strategy. Don't stop calling the name of Jesus till He hears you!

Why are you still trying to be psychedelic in your prayer and with your worship of Jesus? Let the world accuse you of calling His name too much, but don't stop calling His name! If anyone tells you that you are taking the name of Jesus too seriously, tell them He took you too seriously when He went up the cross and died for you.

Don't mix emotion with reality! God watches over His words, not your tears, without the word.

Leave the crowd who are merely following Jesus. They throng around Him, hail and may even become His mouthpiece (remember, they were the ones who told Bartimaeus that Jesus was

calling him), but they never received any miracle from Jesus. Make sure you receive your miracle from Jesus, as Bartimaeus did. They called him blind, yet he received a miracle, but they didn't. So, who is truly blind?

Everyone thronged around Jesus, but only the woman with the issue of blood touched Him. Only she received the miracle, as many as touched Him and called His name received a miracle, because she touched Him with a purpose.

What will you do: touch Him or call his name, or both?

Don't stop calling the name of Jesus; it is a beautiful name. It is a miraculous name! What a beautiful name it is! What powerful name it is. The name of Jesus! Call Him when the world or situation tries to silence you. Cry out the more until He hears you. His ears are not deaf to your cries.

Let me close this chapter with one of my favorite high school hymns:

*Take the name of Jesus with you,  
Child of sorrow and of woe;  
It will joy and comfort give you;  
Take it then where'er you go.*

***Refrain:***

*Precious name, oh how sweet!  
Hope of Earth and joy of Heav'n.  
Precious name, oh how sweet!  
Hope of Earth and joy of Heav'n.*



*The Secret Place* is knocking.... Volume 2

## **Other Books by the Author**

- The Mystery of Union in Marriage
- The Great Possession
- The Mystery of the Two Churches
- The Normal Christian Cycle
- Unveiling The Mysteries of the Ages
- I Know Your Works

## **Upcoming Books**

- Prayer: The Secret Place Volume 2
- The Passion of Nehemiah
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- The Anointed Prodigals
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## **Share Your Testimony**

If this book has impacted your prayer life, I want to hear about it. Your testimony could encourage others who are just beginning their journey.

Share your story:

- By email: [info@cryoreach.org](mailto:info@cryoreach.org)
- On social media: #PrayerTheSecretAct

With your permission, we may feature selected testimonies on our website, in future editions, or in promotional materials for Volume 2.

## **Stay Connected**

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## **VOLUME 2 TEASER: PRAYER: THE SECRET PLACE**

*Coming Soon*

Volume 1 taught you **how** to pray, Volume 2 will teach you **where** to pray, and the “where” is not a physical location.

### **Enter the Secret Place**

*“But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.” (Matthew 6:6)*

Jesus spoke of a “closet,” a “secret place” that every believer must discover. It’s not a room in your house. It’s not a prayer mountain or a church building. It’s a spiritual dimension, a place in the heart where heaven meets earth, where the veil is thin, where God’s presence dwells.

### **Pre-Order Information | Advance Reader's Copy**

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Visit: [www.cryoutreach.org/secretplace](http://www.cryoutreach.org/secretplace)



## **A Word to Pastors and Ministry Leaders**

You carry a unique burden. You're expected to pray for everyone else while your own soul quietly starves. You're so busy teaching others to pray that you barely have time to pray yourself. You're shepherding sheep while your own spirit wanders in the wilderness.

Please hear this: you cannot give what you don't have. You cannot lead others in the secret act or secret place of prayer if you don't dwell there yourself. Your church doesn't need another program, another sermon series, or another vision statement. It needs you to be a person of prayer.

Consider using *Prayer: The Secret Act* as a teaching tool. Lead your congregation through the study guide. Create space for your leaders to practice these principles. Most importantly, model it yourself.

The church will never rise higher than its leadership's prayer life. If you want a praying church, become a praying pastor. The transformation starts with you, in secret, where no one sees but God.

## **A Word to Intercessors and Prayer Warriors**

You already know what this book teaches. You've lived it. You've climbed the mountain, waited until evening, and prayed through to surrender. You've discovered the secret place long before reading about it.

This book is both a validation of your journey and a tool for mentoring others. Use it to train the next generation. Give it to young believers who are hungry for more. Recommend it to those who are frustrated with powerless prayer.

And keep doing what you're doing. The church needs you. The world needs you. Hell fears you. Heaven celebrates you. Don't grow weary. Your labor is not in vain.

***Shalom!***









## END OF VOLUME 1

### CONTINUE THE JOURNEY: JOIN *THE PRAYER CIRCLE*

If this book has stirred a deeper hunger for God in you, I do not want you to walk that journey alone.

**The Prayer Circle** is a free online community of believers who are learning to live in the secret place together.

Inside the Prayer Circle, you get access to:

- Free Download of *How to Build a Powerful Prayer Life*
- Taster edition of 7-Day Jericho March Warfare Prayer
- Pray around simple monthly themes
- Share weekly prayer prompts and Scriptures
- Gather for live online prayer calls
- Support one another with honest requests and real testimonies

To join us, visit: [cryoutreach.org/prayercircle](http://cryoutreach.org/prayercircle)

You will find a short invitation, a way to receive emails from me, and a link to our private community space.

You are welcome.



Scan the QR code with your phone camera or visit the link above to begin.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bola Olu-Jordan, often called *Pastor Bo*, is an ordained pastor and Bible teacher with nearly thirty years of active ministry service. An architect by training, he is a Bible scholar, prolific author, and trusted voice in the discipleship community. He has written several books, including *What God Forgot to Say*, *The Mystery of the Two Churches*, among others. His book, *The Normal Christian Cycle*, is being widely used by churches and small groups as a discipleship manual. Through CRYOUT Ministry Outreach, Pastor Bo's teaching equips believers around the world with prophetic blueprints and apostolic roadmaps for returning to the simplicity and power of the New Testament church.

### Connect with the Author

For pastoral counseling, prayer, speaking engagements, visit:

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To learn more about upcoming books, teaching resources, and ministry updates, visit the ministry website or follow Pastor Bo on social media: #Bosvoice.