

BY ARLYN LAWRENCE

Strategic Prayers for Marketplace Influencers

The marketplace may be one of the most effective places to minister for Jesus Christ today. As believers work in their regular businesses, jobs, or professions, they can have a huge practical and spiritual influence on their communities and on society as a whole. Use these Scripture-based prayers to pray for the people you know whom God has strategically called to the marketplace. Pray that God would move powerfully in and through their lives in these areas:

Inspiration: I praise You, Creator God, for making men and women in Your own image. Give creativity and good ideas to Your children who serve You in the marketplace. Fill them with your Holy Spirit, granting them the skills, abilities, and knowledge needed to accomplish their tasks. (Gen. 1:27; Ex. 31:3)

Decision making: God, please give Christians in the marketplace a spirit of wisdom and revelation so they can know and follow You in their work. Prompt them to seek You regularly and in all their decisions, and remind them not to depend on human understanding. Guide them through Your Holy Spirit, and give them Your strategies for every undertaking. (Eph. 1:17; Prov. 3:5-6; Is. 30:21)

Favor: God, You hold the hearts of kings in Your hands. We ask that our Christian brothers and sisters in the workplace will find favor with key people. Guide them into divinely appointed relationships and strategic connections that will accomplish Your purposes. (Prov. 21:1; Dan. 1:9; Eccl. 4:9-12)

Harmonious Relationships: Lord, help Christians in the marketplace to pursue peaceful relationships. May they work hard for, submit to, and respect those in authority over them. Help them to be cooperative and gracious toward their coworkers, and to be sensitive and compassionate toward their subordinates. May employers be generous, rewarding their employees with fair pay and a pleasant work environment. (Ps. 34:14; Eph. 6:5-6,9; Prov. 11:25)

Fellowship: Bring Christians together with others of like minds in their industries or workplaces. Guide them to pray for and encourage each other in their spheres of influence, and to see each other as partners in the gospel. (Heb. 10:25; Phil. 1:4-5)

Witnessing for Christ: Father, give marketplace believers open doors to share Jesus in their work environment. Help them make the most of every opportunity. Make them the fragrance of Christ wherever they are, sharing You with gentleness and respect. May Your light shine so brightly in them that the testimony of their lives would point others to You and cause them to grow in faith. (Col. 4:3,5; 2 Cor. 2:14; 1 Pet. 3:15; Mt. 5:16)

Integrity: Father, guide Christians in the marketplace to avoid even the appearance of evil. Let them be advocates for their companies without accepting ungodly counsel or betraying Your ways. May they always be honest, ethical, and upright. Give them undivided hearts so they will fear Your name and walk without hypocrisy in all areas of their lives. (1 Thess. 5:22, *KJV*; 3 Jn.11; Ps. 1:1-3; 2 Cor. 6:6-7; Ps. 86:11)

Strength in Temptation: Help marketplace believers to stand against the strong temptations of power, popularity, money, and sex. When they are tempted, show them Your way of escape, and grant them the courage to take it. Give them a spirit of endurance to withstand temptation and to receive the crown of life. (1 Jn. 2:16; 1 Pet. 5:8; 1 Cor. 10:13; Jas. 1:12)

Family: Help marketplace Christians to stand firm against the enemy's schemes against their marriages and children. Help mothers to balance work responsibilities with loving their husbands and children and caring for their homes. Help fathers to prioritize wisely so they can manage their households well, be considerate of their wives, and bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord. (Eph. 6:11; 1 Tim. 3:4,5, 5:8; Titus 2:4-5; 1 Pet. 3:7; Eph. 6:4)

Trust: Lord, give marketplace believers peace of mind as they trust in You. Lead them away from anxiety and worry. Assure them of what You have called them to, and enable them to walk in the confidence of Your power and authority. Strengthen them, especially when they are faced with trials or persecution, with the certainty that You are their sole provider and vindicator. (Phil. 4:6-7; Eph. 1:18-21; Phil. 4:19; 1 Pet. 2:23)

Success: Jehovah Jireh, our Provider, please prosper believers in the marketplace. Grant their businesses and organizations success, allowing them to be financially sound and influential in their field so they can support God's purposes in ministering to others. (Gen. 22:14; Jer. 29:7; 2 Cor. 9:10-13)

Heart of service: Lord Jesus, give our brothers and sisters in the marketplace a service-oriented perspective in dealing with their clients, customers, and colleagues. Show them how to have the same attitude You had when You gave up all your rights, humbling Yourself to become a servant. May they model the principle that You taught us: seeking not to be served, but to serve others. (Phil. 2:5-7; Mk. 10:45)

Contentment: Father, guard those who labor in the marketplace from selfish ambition. Give them a heart of contentment, even when they seem to be in less than an ideal work situation. Remind them that You are the one who promotes, and that if they humble themselves, You will lift them up at the proper time. (Phil. 2:3; 1 Tim. 6:6; Lk. 14:11, 1 Pet. 5:6)

Excellence: May marketplace believers always think about and pursue excellence. May they act in such a way that everyone who observes them sees You in them. In everything they do, help them to keep in mind that it is really You that they work for and not for men. (Phil. 4:8; 1 Pet. 2:12; Col. 3:23)

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