



THE MEANING OF THE CROSSHAIRS SYMBOL

AS WE BEGIN OUR JOURNEY TO PRAY MORE BIBLICALLY AND STRATEGICALLY ... AS WE APPROACH GOD'S THRONE OF GRACE WITH FREEDOM AND FAITH ... AS WE ASK GOD TO HELP US TO PRAY WITH GREATER POWER AND PRECISION — WE TAKE AIM THROUGH THE CROSSHAIRS OF PRAYER THAT WILL HELP US: 1) TO KNOW PRAYER'S BENEFITS, PURPOSES, AND WAYS; 2) TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND LIVES TO APPROACH GOD RIGHTLY; AND 3) TO LEARN SPECIFIC PRAYER STRATEGIES WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS.

THE CROSS in the middle reminds us that successful prayer begins with a relationship with God through Jesus Christ and faith in His shed blood on the cross.

John 14:6 - Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Eph. 3:12 - In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Col. 1:14-20 - ¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

THE VERTICAL LINES in the cross, as well as above and below it. Remind us to stay vertically aligned with God and His Word in prayer.

John 14:13 - And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 15:7 - If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

1 John 5:14 - This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

THE HORIZONTAL LINES in the cross and on both sides remind us to stay right with others. This includes forgiving, apologizing, and also praying in agreement with others.

Matt. 5:23-24 - ²³ "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift

Matt. 18:19-20 - ¹⁹ "Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Mark 11:25 - And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins."

THE INNER CIRCLE means to maintain a pure heart in prayer. When you pray, you should keep no unconfessed sin or bitterness in your heart and you should approach God humbly, repentantly, submissively, and in faith.

Ps. 66:18 - If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

Mark 11:24 - Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.

James 4:7-10 - ⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

THE CROSSHAIRS remind us to aim our intercession and to pray specifically, strategically, and persistently.

Matt. 7:7-8 - ⁷ "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

John 15:7 - If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.



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