



CELL GUIDE 2016

Theme	Living in the Kingdom of God
Topic	Prayer-Altar Covering
Speaker	SP Daniel Foo
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Message Summary

A Godly Prayer Altar Must Prevail

SP opened by pointing to world events symptomatic of the pervasive spirits of lawlessness and defiance against God. These events were founded on faulty premises and evil altars that pockets of prayer could not conquer, resulting in ungodly principalities ruling in those nations. However, in Singapore, where there has been half a century of prayer covering for a godly altar, we continue to see God's intervention and victories. In this message, SP highlighted the need for us to always repair and maintain the prayer-altar to God in our home, community, church, and Singapore.

Arise to Build Prayer-Altar Coverings

We must first understand the **ways** of God. There are three main streams of God's character and attributes: His simultaneous loving kindness, judgment and righteousness (Jeremiah 9:24). In God's sovereignty, amongst other things, He has given to man a free will, laws and principles of life. As such we need to pray that His will be done on earth, as it may be thwarted by Man's doing. We also need to know that things will happen according to the laws and principles of life. We will reap blessings when we obey His will, but curses if we disregard His commandments.

The state of affairs of a nation depends on **legal grounds** given either to the evil one or to God. There are **courts** in heaven that decide the **verdicts** of nations (Daniel 7:9-10). As how the Archangel Michael oversees Israel, there is an angel watching over Singapore, because of our prevailing prayer altar. To maintain this altar, we must continually build the fire under it, by not allowing sins to abound in our country, nor taking our blessings for granted.

The **atmosphere** over our home, church, community and nation depends on the kind of **prayer-altars** that have been established. When the people of God build an altar to the Lord, they give God the legal right to come and bless them. God always wants to love and bless people, and He does so legally, as He is just and righteous. However, blatant sins and iniquities that build evil altars separate us from God (Isaiah 59:2), and provide legal ground for demonic spirits to act accordingly.

God is seeking for His people to build **prayer-altars** to Him. The story of Abraham tells of how he set up an altar and called upon the name of the Lord, in order to reclaim the land (Genesis 12:6-8, 13:7-18). Likewise, Isaac sustained the claim over the land from the gods of the Canaanites by building and maintaining altars to God (Genesis 26:23-25, 33:18-20, 35:6-7). The practice of building altars to the Lord was carried down from one generation to the next (e.g. Moses, Joshua, Gideon, and so on). Where the Lord was encountered, altars were built. Here in Singapore, we have had continual altar-building through a network of unity prayer; for example, the Pastors' Summit, Love Singapore network, etc.

The **prevailing** altar controls the atmosphere of the home, church, community and nation. Whichever priesthood is stronger in the land will rule it. The prevailing altar is not dependent on physical



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number of altars, but rather on the quality of the altar. James 5:16 states, "...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much". Through the examples of Elijah (1 Kings 18:30) and King Manasseh (2 Chronicles 33:12-16), we learn that we must first humble ourselves before God and repair the altars in our lives, to service and maintain it as ought to be. We need to rid ourselves of things that dishonour God and block His grace from entering our lives. In doing so, as Exodus 14:19-20 describes, the presence of God will come as a "pillar of cloud" breaking through the darkness, so that there is open heavens over our lives, homes, and nation.

We – the church – are the prevailing priesthood (1 Peter 2:9-10). With this duty, we need to have continual breakthroughs in our lives, in the process learning how to pray and take authority over the issues that we face. We are also called to pray for members of our families, cell groups, and clusters by name. Laying the foundation of repairing and building our prayer altars requires us to pray over a sustained period. Our prayers must be persistent. SP explained three of its purposes: asking, seeking, and knocking (Luke 11:9-10). Specifically, asking God for all we need (Luke 11:3-4), seeking His face (2 Chronicles 7:14) in scriptures and finding His promises, and knocking for doors to open (Matthew 16:19), so that barriers to the kingdom of God will be broken down. A personal application would be to pray for the salvation of loved ones (2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 6), asking God to reveal the strongholds that are blinding them, and then praying for these stumbling blocks to be torn down. We do this with the reassurance that God responds to those who earnestly seek him.

Conclusion

Let us reflect: Is our altar to God in disrepair? Will we repair and maintain the altar to the Lord in our home, community, church, and for Singapore? May we always seek to build our prayer-altar, covering our loved ones and our nation in prayer, and standing in the gap on their behalf.

Questions

What are the ways in which Singapore has been blessed through the many years of prayer altar covering? Compare and contrast the state of Singapore with regional and/or other parts of the world.

(Fill In Answer Here)



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In our personal lives, how have we given legal ground to the demonic spirits to wreak havoc? Why is it important for us to repair and maintain our personal prayer altars?

(Fill In Answer Here)

As the church and prevailing priesthood, we are called to intercede for our families, cell members, communities and oikos. What are some specific steps you will take to pray for their salvation and reach out to them?

(Fill In Answer Here)