



# The Church That Thrives in Crisis

## Part 5 of 5

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*"And also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."  
Ephesians 6:19-20*

**Crisis:** An emotionally significant event that radically changes our lives; a turning point for better or for worse.

The greater the crisis, the greater the opportunity for the Church to pour the redemption of Christ into the wounds of humanity. **Days of crisis are days of unprecedented opportunity.**

**PRINCIPLE 1:** Churches that thrive in crisis see things other people don't see—they see the reality of heavenly places and discern the hidden causes behind the visible effects.

**PRINCIPLE 2:** Churches that thrive in crisis have a battle ready mindset.

**PRINCIPLE 3:** Churches that thrive in crisis walk in Christ's authority and function out of His ability.

**PRINCIPLE 4:** Churches that thrive in crisis pray prayers that only God can answer; they shift from self-reliance to Holy Spirit-reliance.

**PRINCIPLE 5: Churches that thrive in crisis fulfill a ministry they never knew possible. They join Christ in gathering the harvest of the final unreached people on earth, gathering their neighbors, and gathering the nations.**

A kingdom leader never loses sight of the goal line—the reaching of the final unreached people on earth.

A crisis changes the spiritual atmosphere faster than anything and causes people to recognize their own mortality.

*"And also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."  
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The Apostle Paul is asking for prayer as an evangelist and church planter for two things:

1. For courage - *"That I may declare it boldly."*
2. For clarity - *"That words may be given to me...to proclaim the mystery of the Gospel."*

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