



WOW: Word Of the Week

CHARGE

March 19, 2025

Previous WOWs included recharge and rechargeable. As I explore the idea of maintaining our spiritual charge, should this week's WOW be charge, charger, or charged?

Charge: loaded; a term used in ammunition loading; a financial term—loading up on debt.

Charger: horse; lightning bolt; platter, device to recharge phones and appliances—even salt/pepper grinders!

Related ideas. Who is in charge? Who is loaded with authority? Or, who is burdened?

To take charge means to take responsibility (not just control).

Thinking of spiritual applications, our WOW this week is charge, our spiritual charge, our prayer charge.

Does Our Prayer Life Help Us Maintain a Spiritual Charge? The strength of a battery depends on its charge. We want to keep our batteries charged up. In the same way, the effectiveness of our spiritual life depends on our spiritual charge – staying charged up by connecting with God. Expecting an immediate answer to a prayer does not always work. Sometimes a great charge—a jolt—is required. Emergency prayers go unanswered for lack of spiritual connection. Sometimes two or more people must pray together. "...if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven." (Matt. 18:19).

The Bible teaches us to call the elders of the church, men who stay charged up by prayer. "Is anyone among you weak and sickly? Let him call the elders of the church, and let them pray over him" (Jas 5:14).

Perhaps Jesus took four days to reach Lazarus because resurrection required a strong prayer charge. Was it just Jesus' command at the tomb that brought Lazarus back to life, or did four days of praying make the miracle possible. "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me" (John 11:41). When had the Father heard Jesus? Most likely, when He was on the other side of the Jordan, upon hearing that Lazarus was sick (John 11:5-6).

Stay Charged with Prayer. Then we can overcome trials and difficulties. Jesus knew His disciples would be shaken when He was arrested, so He asked them to pray in Gethsemane. They slept. "Could you not watch with Me one hour?" (Matt. 26:40). Because they did not pray, they fled when the trial came. Peter denied Jesus. Jesus prayed for Peter. "I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail" (Luke 22:32). Jesus' life was rooted in prayer.

How much should a Christian pray? Jesus may suggest an answer: "Could you not watch with Me one hour?" (Matt. 26:40). One hour? What does it take to maintain a sufficient spiritual charge? Many of us from experience can answer, more than we are doing now!

Maintaining your prayer charge helps you participate in the most powerful prayer—intercession, on a moment's notice, immediately. Praying is communion with God. Interceding is praying for others, powerful indeed, generating a great spiritual charge because it activates the work of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:26-27).