

GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

1 John 5:14-15

Confidence: Firm belief, trust, reliance

We have free access and freedom of speech when we come into the Father's presence to present our petitions.

A heart that doesn't condemn us. 1 John 3:21,22

Solution: Clear conscience with God and man.

1 Pet. 3:1-7; Matt. 5:23,24; Jn 15:7

1. We must ask.

E.M.Bounds: *Prayer is the channel through which all good flows to men. Prayer is a privilege, a sacred princely privilege. Prayer is a duty, an obligation most binding, and most imperative, which should hold us to it. But prayer is more than a privilege, more than a duty. It is the appointed condition of getting God's aid. It is the avenue through which God supplies man's wants.*

S.D.Gordon: *The greatest thing anyone can do for God and man is pray. It is not the only thing; but it is the chief thing. The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer; nor those who say they believe in prayer; not yet those who can explain about prayer; but I MEAN THOSE PEOPLE WHO TAKE TIME TO PRAY.*

G. Campbell Morgan: *Any discussion of prayer which did not issue in the practice of prayer was not only not helpful but dangerous!*

Jn 14:13,14; 15:16; 16:23-24; Mat 7:7-8; 21:22 ; Ja 1:5-6; 4:2

Moses--Ex. 15:24-25

Hannah--1 Sam 7:9-10

Elijah--1 Kings 18:37-38

Early church--Acts 4:31

Isa 55:6; Lk 18:1; Eph 6:18; 1 Tim 2:1; 2:8

Robert Murray McCheyne: *What a man is, he is alone on his knees before God, and no more.*

2. According to His will In agreement with His Word and His plans.

Robert Law: *Prayer is a mighty instrument, not for getting man's will done in heaven, but for getting God's will done on earth.*

George Mueller: *Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, it is laying hold of God's willingness.*

Jackman: *Answers to prayer do not depend on a right diagnosis or analysis of the problem by us as we pray, but on a childlike submission to the Father, knowing that he will give what is best according to his will. If He were to answer on any other basis, which of us would ever dare to pray again? We do not have that sort of wisdom.*

Wiersbe: *Because prayer is the way God wants His children to GET what they need. God not only ordains the end, but He also ordains the means to the end – Prayer. Prayer is really the thermometer of the spiritual life. God has ordained that I maintain a close walk with Him if I expect Him to meet my needs.*

James 4:3

... *he heareth us*: He is very attentive to them and listens favorably to them.

Jn 9:31; Psa 66:18; Prov 15:29; 28:9

3. He will answer. 1 John 5:15

Petitions: Requests, things asked for

Wiersbe: *The pages of the Bible and the pages of history are filled with reports of answered prayer. Prayer is not spiritual self-hypnosis. Nor do we pray because it makes us feel better. We pray because God has commanded us to pray and because prayer is the God-appointed means for a believer to receive what God wants to give him. Prayer keeps a Christian in the will of God and living in the will of God keeps a Christian in the place of blessing and service. We are not beggars; we are children coming to a wealthy Father who loves to give His children what they need.*

So What?

1. Prioritize prayer in your schedule.

Plan your day around prayer and not prayer around your day.

2. Establish a schedule of prayer

Quoting Scripture---praise---petition

3. Develop a prayer list.

4. Learn to Pray without ceasing (1 Thess 5:17)