

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

[Mark 11:24 KJV]

Prayer

**GOD'S MASTER KEY TO DEAL
WITH IMPOSSIBLE THINGS**



**NOAH SIMPE
BEDIAKO**

Prayer

**GOD'S MASTER KEY TO DEAL
WITH IMPOSSIBLE THINGS**

NOAH SIMPE
BEDIAKO



Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken
from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

Prayer - God's Master Key to Deal with Impossible Things

ISBN: 987-9988-2-1845-4

Copyright © 2018 HighCity Media & Publications

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means, or stored in any database or retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without prior written permission, except in the case of brief quotations embodied in critical articles and reviews.

HighCity Media & Publications

P. O. Box AJ 194 Alajo

Accra North, Ghana

PHONE NUMBER:

(+233) 27 424 461;

027 862 2627;

024 372 9899

WEBSITE:

<https://highcity.org>;

<https://simpebediako.com>

CONTENTS

1. Why Should Men Pray Always?—5
2. What is Prayer?—20
3. Obtaining Answers Through Prayer—23
4. Why Praying Men Fulfill Much in Life—34
5. Will God Answer Us when We Call?—47
6. Principles of Prayer—55
7. The Practice of Prayer—63
8. Making Prayer effective—77



CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

WHY SHOULD MEN PRAY ALWAYS?

Concerning routine prayer, no man aside Christ Himself is a better example than Daniel. Have you read of the famous story of Daniel in the Lion's den? Well it was a result of his commitment to seek God daily and rely on the power of daily prayer.

DANIEL 6:10

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks

before his God, as he did aforetime.

Daniel knew the power and importance of prayer to life, and not even the teeth of hungry lions could deter him from keeping his prayer schedule. In much that same way, today's believer must arise to the practice of daily prayer.

Prayer is actually the breath of the Christian. It is the force on which the Christian life moves and thrives. Without it, the Christian will dry out and wither. This explains why when the Christian quits praying, he dries up. Sincere prayer brings the freshness that life in the Spirit requires. It is our connection to God and to the power of heaven.

JESUS PRAYED

In Luke 18:1, our Lord Jesus taught us to “*pray always, and not to faint*”. Unceasing prayer was His secret to His success on earth - It was His custom to pray daily.

MARK 1:35

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

He actually took time off His busy schedule to pray. A day will not end without Jesus praying. He would sometimes continue in prayer till the next day. He was devoted to daily fellowship and communion with the Father.

LUKE 6:12

And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

PAUL PRAYED

The apostle Paul, a man of prayer wrote to us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 that we should pray without ceasing. He actually taught the church to pray without ceasing.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17-18

Pray without ceasing.

(18) In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Why would this apostle have the church pray without ceasing? Why would he not just have us to pray for 10 minutes every Sunday morning? Why would he not advocate speaking to God just a few words of prayer?

THREE REASONS FOR UNCEASING PRAYER

REASON #1:

CEASELESS PRAYER IS ONE OF THE WEAPONS BY WHICH WE OVERCOME THE KINGDOM OF DARKNESS

There is a kingdom of darkness out there; a power from hell that opposes our life, our assignment, and our purpose to walk in step with the light of God.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-4

*For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war
after the flesh:*

*(4) (For the weapons of our warfare are not
carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling
down of strong holds;)*

Nothing is more explicit than this. Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh. If we do not war after the flesh, then with what do we war? By prayer and supplication and watching thereunto for all the saints.

EPHESIANS 6:10-13

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord,
and in the power of his might.*

*(11) Put on the whole armour of God, that ye
may be able to stand against the wiles of the
devil.*

*(12) For we wrestle not against flesh and blood,
but against principalities, against powers,
against the rulers of the darkness of this world,
against spiritual wickedness in high places.*

*(13) Wherefore take unto you the whole
armour of God, that ye may be able to
withstand in the evil day, and having done all,*

to stand.

We war against a system of darkness: *Principalities, powers, rulers of darkness of this world, and spiritual wickedness.* The agents, powers, and influence of this brutal kingdom of darkness and wickedness stand against you. They are against anything godly and Christian. Beloved, without unceasing prayer, there is very little we can achieve.

REASON #2:

CEASELESS PRAYER IS A SECRET TO RULE AND SUBDUE THE ELEMENTS AND SYSTEMS THAT GOVERN THE WORLD

Secondly, prayer is our secret to overrule the elements and the unhelpful systems of this world. The world, her elements, and the principles that govern her operation sometimes are influenced against the child of God. The devil and his demons try to influence and move the world, her elements, and principles against the saint.

THE WORLD

The world, comprising her glamour, her lust, her deceits, her glories, are often employed as bait to trap the child of God.

THE ELEMENTS

The elements of the world - water, wind, land, nature, etc - could be moved against the church. Think of floods, storms, quakes and tremors, landslides, wild animals, insects; where do they come from? Why are they sent?

THE PRINCIPLES

The principles of the world - time, gravity, money, degeneration - these things sometimes limit how far we can go.

One day, the disciples were sailing on the sea and a storm arose against them. In the midst of the storm, while they shrank and quivered in fear; the Lord Jesus Christ came walking towards them. He was Lord of all because He spent time praying alone.

MATTHEW 14:22-36

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

(23) And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

(24) But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

(25) And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

(26) And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

(27) But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

(28) And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

(29) And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

(30) *But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.*

(31) *And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?*

(32) *And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.*

(33) *Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.*

(34) *And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret.*

(35) *And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased;*

(36) *And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.*

REASON #3:

CEASELESS PRAYER IS OUR SECRET TO OVERCOME HUMAN WEAKNESSES AND FRAILTIES

MATTHEW 26:40-41

And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

(41) Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Many of us have good plans that never materialize because we are not given to prayer. The spirit may be willing but fleshly weaknesses can stop the performance and manifestation.

We must all wake up to;

THE REALITY OF HUMAN LIMITATION:

As men living in the body, we are limited in certain senses. However, prayer lifts us above

those limitations. Prayer can empower you in such a way to overcome the limitations of the flesh.

THE REALITY OF HUMAN ERROR:

Many have died or lost precious goods, all because of human mistakes, oversights, and misinterpretations. Medical practitioners have sent many to an early grave because of human error, but your prayer can eliminate every human error.

THE REALITY OF HUMAN CARNALITY:

This refers to the carnal cravings of the flesh.

ROMANS 7:18

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:27

But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I

*have preached to others, I myself should be a
castaway.*

As long as we live in the flesh, there will be a constant struggle between the spirit and the flesh. It takes the force of prayer to subdue human carnality. Without engaging in prayer, the flesh will rule over your spirit.

THE REALITY OF HUMAN NATURE:

There are many evil human tendencies, like ingratitude, ungratefulness, forgetfulness and wickedness. There are also natural tendencies like the urge to sleep, feeling tired, feeling anxious, feeling broken, feeling afraid, etc. Prayer is the only force that can handle these human natures effectively.

Without prayer, many will faint under afflictions.

LUKE 18:1

*And he spake a parable unto them to this end,
that men ought always to pray, and not to
faint;*

Without prayer, many will be anxious and suffer panic attacks in this last days coupled with global warming.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

(7) And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Without prayer many will break down under afflictions.

JAMES 5:13

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

Prayer is the key to impossibilities; many demonic problems will remain unresolved, except by prayer.

MARK 9:28-29

And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out?

(29) *And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.*

PRAYER IS OUR ONLY HOPE

Beloved, life is painful, but with prayer, we are able to overcome. Our prayers connect us to God who, according to Ephesians 3:20, “*is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think*”. He would however wait until we ask.

MATTHEW 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Prayer actually leads the saint to the throne of grace - the place where we go for help in the day of need, when we are overwhelmed by the events of life.

HEBREWS 4:16 DARBY

Let us approach therefore with boldness to the

*throne of grace, that we may receive mercy,
and find grace for seasonable help.*

Many great leaders have found prayer as a helpful resource. Many great people I have read from have shown how prayer has been the greatest resource they have used. Abraham Lincoln, a former president of America, is quoted to have once said;

***“I have been driven many times to my
knees by the overwhelming conviction
that I had nowhere else to go”***

His testimony alludes to the truth that the need to pray is born in the heart of every man whether they are small or great. The secret to successful prayer that moves mountains and produces results has, however, eluded many.



CHAPTER 2

WHAT IS PRAYER?

Prayer is the art of speaking or communing with God. It is not our own effort to get in touch with God for a way but it is part of a deep silent work of God Himself within us to which we need to open up generously and receptively. In my opinion, until we are moved by God to pray, we may be unable to reach out to Him.

Prayer defined as communication with God is the homing of the soul, a sixth and deepest sense that guides us Godwards – in fact, it is friendship with God.

Prayer is not a last resort to turn to during an emergency, but an essential part of our daily life. It is impossible to isolate the practice of prayer from the rest of life. Life itself runs on prayer. There are times when many things fall in place for us and we are ignorant of the truth that someone is in touch with God on our behalf.

Prayer is the means by which men are moved to ask for the will of the immortal God and yield our members as instruments of righteousness.

*Prayer is not a means of getting God to do
what we want on earth*

Remember! Prayer is not a cosmic bell button which we press every day to force God to respond like some cosmic bell boy. It is rather our ministry as servants taking instructions, receiving strength, and staying in communion with our Master and Supreme God.

Prayer is an act in secret that yields public manifestation.

We shall do much more in public if we do more secret praying.

Never forget that manifestation is the public spectacle that results from the practice of secret prayer

If you see a pregnant woman, they did not become pregnant just because they saw you. They are pregnant because of something they have done before. What one thing did Jesus practice in secret that brought Him to such great power?



CHAPTER 3

OBTAINING ANSWERS THROUGH PRAYER

Many years ago, something happened in the Middle East that brought to bear some secrets by which men can move mountains. According to the testimony of Mark, one of the disciples of Jesus Christ, written in Mark chapter 11 verses 12-14, 20-24

(12) And on the morrow, when they were come from Bethany, he was hungry:

(13) And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.

(14) *And Jesus answered and said unto it, **No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever.** And his disciples heard it.*

(20) *And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.*

(21) *And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.*

(22) *And Jesus answering saith unto them, **Have faith in God.***

(23) *For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.*

(24) *Therefore I say unto you, **What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.***

It is clear from the text that there is a place in life where we can possess everything we desire by the power of prayer. The truth projected here is that **once we have the God-kind of faith,**

we can receive whatsoever we desire by simply praying about them.

Therefore, the keys to answered prayer are;

1. Possessing the God-kind of desire
2. Having the God-kind of faith:
3. Praying the God-kind of prayer
4. Pursuing the God-kind of action
5. Exercising the God-kind of patience

DESIRE

Prayer warriors who see answers to their prayers are those who are driven by desire and hunger. Jesus always received answers because He was hungry for change. He was not satisfied with mediocrity even if everyone else accepted it. He was inspired to crave for the best and not just to be like the rest.

Your prayers will make impact if they are driven by desires which are stirred up by the Spirit of God. Learn from the example of how God created the world; He was stirred up by

His spirit to create the universe. At that time, nobody had created a universe, at least none that I know of. Yet God purposed to create the universe. This desire moved the Eternal God to speak the world into being.

Before you ever go into prayer, you must incubate hunger and desire. The motivation for prayer needs to be a strong hunger for the supernatural which refuses to be satisfied with nothing less. Hunger actually spices up prayer and gives it the tenacity and importunity it requires. Our Lord Jesus in His exhortation to the disciples outlining the key to obtaining answers to prayer clearly prefixed His teaching with the preamble, “*What things so ever you desire...*”

Therefore, desire is key and pivotal to answered prayer.

FAITH

This is an unfeigned personal faith devoid of doubt. Doubt is a thief; it steals the potency of faith. To receive answers to prayer, you must

have faith that accepts as true the things it says.

Below are two mysteries about the God-kind of faith that receives answers to prayer;

MYSTERY #1:

YOU CAN RECEIVE THE GOD-KIND OF FAITH ONLY THROUGH THE HEARING OF THE ENGRAFTED WORD OF GOD.

Faith is not actually the word of God but a nature of God that implants itself into the being of a man via the word of grace. In Romans 10:17, we read that “*faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*”. Faith and the word of God are two things. Faith actually is drawn from the word. As we listen, repeatedly to the word of God, faith, which is the seed of God’s nature, implants itself in our being.

MYSTERY #2:

ALTHOUGH ANOTHER PERSON’S FAITH CAN RELEASE THE ANSWERS WE DESIRE, IT WILL TAKE OUR OWN UNFEIGNED PERSONAL FAITH TO RECEIVE THEM.

The God kind of faith is the one that is able to create '*the seen*' from '*the unseen*'. The God-kind of faith creates from the unseen. After the heaven and earth were created, the earth was without form and was void, but God continued to speak the word into the situation. The situation and circumstances under which the earth was formed did not discourage God. Rather, He continued to speak the creation which He had foreseen.

The faith that obtains answers is the one that will not weaken in the face of challenges and difficult times, but rather it maintains the confession it inspires. As we stand in prayer, there are times when the conditions are contrary to our expectation. Sometimes, the more we pray, the worse the situation seems to get, but faith remains strong even under difficulties to secure the results we anticipate.

EARNESTNESS

This is the act of asking or speaking to situations, and accepting without doubt

that whatsoever you have asked will happen without fail.

JAMES 5:16-18

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

(17) Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.

(18) And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Below are three features of the God-kind of prayer;

THE GOD-KIND OF PRAYER IS EFFECTUAL

It is free from vanity and superfluity (See Matthew 6). God disdains vain repetition and overabundance of dramatization.

THE GOD-KIND OF PRAYER IS FERVENT

It is ardent, passionate, fanatical, importunate - will stay until something happens. It does not take no for an answer (See Luke 18).

THE GOD KIND OF PRAYER IS RIGHTEOUS

It is of faith. It is biblical. It is driven by the nature of God.

ACTION

Although God has promised to feed us as He feeds the ravens, and clothe us as He clothes the lilies, He will not bring the food or clothes to our homes, in the same way that He does not deliver the food of the ravens to them as they sleep in their nests. Faith must have her own works. Faith without works is dead.

JAMES 2:19-26

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

(20) But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

(21) Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar?

(22) Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

(23) And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

(24) Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

(25) Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?

(26) For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

WAIT FOR HIS APPOINTED TIME

When Jesus Christ cursed the fig tree, it did not wither away there and then; they did not see any effect on the tree until the next day. You

have need of the patience of God to see many of the answers you're seeking. One thing praying men should never ignore in life is times and seasons. This is because there is a relationship between time and fulfillment. Certain things happen;

IN DUE TIME

1 PETER 5:6

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:

AT THE APPOINTED TIME

HABAKKUK 2:3

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.

ACCORDING TO THE TIME OF LIFE

2 KINGS 4:17

And the woman conceived, and bare a son at that season that Elisha had said unto her, according to the time of life.

BY THE CHRONOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT OF TIME

Night follows the day.

With these keys in hand, you are entering the realm of possibilities. If you have not yet seen the manifestation of many of your prayers, then don't give up, and don't lose heart, wait for them. Because your answers are on the way. The Lord will open the windows of heaven and release the answers. Be consistent with your confession and hope against all hope that your season is on the way.



CHAPTER 4

WHY PRAYING MEN FULFILL MUCH IN LIFE

Praying men fulfill more because prayer is not just a medium to get things done or released. Prayer is more than a means of making requests in the life of a saint. For me, I think it is erroneous to think of prayer as a means of getting things done. We will soon see why praying men are enabled to achieve more.

THEY HAVE A STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Praying men achieve much in life because they have a stronger relationship with God - who

is everywhere, knows everything, can do all things, and will help all those who trust in Him always.

Prayer strengthens the relationship that men have with the Father. The Lord Jesus taught us to pray saying “*Our father who art in heaven...*” (See Matthew 6:9). Each time we pray this prayer, we are reassured that we have a relationship with God and are heirs to the throne of heaven. This is not an ordinary relationship. It is a relationship that imparts to us the ability to do the works of God.

THEY HAVE THE ANOINTING

Praying men achieve much in life because as men commune with God, we literally begin to receive His mindset, His power and His strength.

We become anointed to do the things God does. The longer we stay in God’s presence, the more we begin to look like Him. It is like a piece of iron in a prolonged contact with a

magnet. After some time in the magnetic field, it becomes a magnet too. Praying men become godly and powerful.

THEY HAVE THE MIND OF GOD

Praying men achieve much in life because they never lack revelation, understanding and knowledge even into unsearchable things

A natural man only knows what is discovered, revealed and unveiled. Human knowledge is very limited in scope. Because of this, there is the need to receive God's revelation. Without this revelation, we shall grope about as in darkness. Information gathered from libraries and encyclopedias is limited and shall be unable to show us the things freely given us. Only God can show these things to His children. As we pray, the Lord will reveal to us every good treasure that is hidden in the heart of the earth. God has promised to show us the location of these treasures.

JEREMIAH 33:3 DARBY

Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and I will shew thee great and hidden things, which thou knowest not.

Prayer unveils or reveals great, mighty and unsearchable things. It positions us to buy into the mind of God and releases us from the darkness of uncertainty. Praying men are never confused. They understand many things from a realm that most men cannot access.

In this life, there are great and mighty things for and against us which we do not know. As we pray, God will show us the things that are freely given to us, and things that are working against us.

The Bible says;

1 CORINTHIANS 2:9-11 DARBY

but according as it is written, Things which eye has not seen, and ear not heard, and which have not come into man's heart, which God has prepared for them that love him,

(10) but God has revealed to us by his Spirit;

for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

(11) For who of men hath known the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? thus also the things of God knows no one except the Spirit of God.

As we pray, the Lord opens our understanding so that we might know the great and mighty things reserved for us. He does this by His spirit. Even university professors are limited in knowledge, because there is a dimension of knowledge that can only be available by the enablement of the Holy Spirit.

THEY ARE EXEMPTED AND SPARED

Praying men achieve much in life because they escape certain things that come upon the earth.

Christ has clearly stated that in these last days, *“the hearts of men shall be overcharged with surfeiting, gluttony, and drunkenness. The*

hearts of men shall be overcharged by the cares of life”

The Bible says this will be a snare, trap, device or con of the enemy to steal away the hearts of men, so that the day of the Lord shall come upon them suddenly. This snare of cares and anxiety comes upon all men on earth, and only prayer offers us a way of escape.

LUKE 21:34-36 DARBY

But take heed to yourselves lest possibly your hearts be laden with surfeiting and drinking and cares of life, and that day come upon you suddenly unawares;

(35) for as a snare shall it come upon all them that dwell upon the face of the whole earth.

*(36) Watch therefore, **praying at every season**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things which are about to come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.*

These days are already upon us today; multiple of brands of liquors, wines, juices, drinks and food joints are now flooding our societies. Centers of pleasure and fun are springing up

like mushrooms; faster than the church is spreading out. Men are busy chasing the cares of their life. Appetites are left unrestrained, worldliness, excesses and drunkenness is the order and the norm of the day. It is a snare that we can escape only by the strength of prayer.

THEY ARE DELIVERED FROM TEMPTATION

Praying men achieve much in life because they are delivered from entering into temptation.

Mark 14:38 Darby

Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh weak.

Many times, we are unable to do the things we say and so desire. We fall into the temptation of disloyalty. Why is this so? It is because our bodies lack the strength to discharge the sincere desires of our spirit. The flesh shows weakness. When we pray however, we release strength and protection from temptation.

Praying daily inoculates you against the pain and temptations of life. Our Lord Jesus was a leader in daily personal prayer. He prayed when it mattered most and repeatedly admonished us to pray too.

LUKE 22:40-46 DARBY

*And when he was at the place he said to them,
Pray that ye enter not into temptation.*

(41) And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and having knelt down he prayed,

(42) saying, Father, if thou wilt remove this cup from me: --but then, not my will, but thine be done.

(43) And an angel appeared to him from heaven strengthening him.

(44) And being in conflict he prayed more intently. And his sweat became as great drops of blood, falling down upon the earth.

*(45) And rising up from his prayer, coming to the disciples, **he found them sleeping from grief.***

(46) And he said to them, Why sleep ye? rise up and pray that ye enter not into temptation.

THEY ARE OFTEN STRENGTHENED

Praying men achieve much in life because they do not grow weary even in the face of great challenges and adversities.

Prayer strengthens, edifies, invigorates, revitalizes and salvages the faith of praying men. Praying men never crumble under pressure or the heat of affliction.

JAMES 5:13-15 DARBY

Does anyone among you suffer evil? let him pray.

Prayer generates power and strength. Prayer averts evil and soothes pain. Prayer strengthens us to forbear in the face of serious affliction. In the book of Luke, we see how prayer and intercession is able to save our faith from failing. After several admonishing that Peter should pray, which he did not heed, the devil came to try him. The only thing that saved him was Jesus' prayer for him.

LUKE 22:31-32 DARBY

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded to have you, to sift you as wheat;

*(32) but *I* have besought for thee that thy faith fail not; and *thou*, when once thou hast been restored, confirm thy brethren.*

In Jesus' parable of the widow and the unjust judge, we learn that when men pray they do not easily faint or get easily discouraged. Men ought to pray always and not to faint.

LUKE 18:1 DARBY

And he spoke also a parable to them to the purport that they should always pray and not faint,

Anxiety and cares are thieves. They do not add anything to our lives, but rather, they steal our health and well being. Many people have worried and suffered heart attacks, yet they could not add even an inch to their height nor were they able to turn one hair to grey. But prayer, on the other hand, has done much good. Beloved, be anxious for nothing

LUKE 12:22-32 DARBY

And he said to his disciples, For this cause I say unto you, Be not careful for life, what ye shall eat, nor for the body, what ye shall put on.

(23) The life is more than food, and the body than raiment.

*(24) Consider the ravens, that they sow not nor reap; which have neither storehouse nor granary; and God feeds them. How much better are *ye* than the birds?*

(25) But which of you by being careful can add to his stature one cubit?

(26) If therefore ye cannot do even what is least, why are ye careful about the rest?

(27) Consider the lilies how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; but I say unto you, Not even Solomon in all his glory was clothed as one of these.

(28) But if God thus clothe the grass, which to-day is in the field and to-morrow is cast into the oven, how much rather you, O ye of little faith?

*(29) And *ye*, seek not what ye shall eat or what ye shall drink, and **be not in anxiety**;*

(30) for all these things do the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that ye have need of these things;

(31) but seek his kingdom, and all these things shall be added to you.

(32) Fear not, little flock, for it has been the good pleasure of your Father to give you the kingdom.

The Lord makes it clear that to add a cubit to your height is one of the least things to do, yet anxiety cannot do it. Why is the point then in being anxious?

THEY EAT HEALTHILY

Praying men achieve much in life because they eat any food or meat. Prayer sanctifies the food and meat we receive.

1 TIMOTHY 4:3-5 DARBY

forbidding to marry, bidding to abstain from meats, which God has created for receiving with thanksgiving for them who are faithful and know the truth.

(4) For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, being received with thanksgiving;

(5) for it is sanctified by God's word and freely addressing him.

THEY ARE PARTNERS WITH GOD

Praying men achieve much in life because they are partners with God, hence they are stewards of God's heritage.

The act of prayer reinforces our sense of stewardship. When I pray, it always reminds me that I received everything I have from heaven. It therefore reinforces my sense of stewardship.

THEY ARE ABLE TO DEAL WITH IMPOSSIBILITIES

Praying men achieve much in life because they are able to deal with the impossible. *“Such as this do not go unless by prayer and fasting”.*



CHAPTER 5

WILL GOD ANSWER US WHEN WE CALL?

*If you ask anything in my name, I will do
it [JOHN 14:14].*

Beloved we can rely on these words. I have seen how God turns seemingly impossible needs into wondrous answers for prayer. Ask and you shall receive. Do not ask the president, do not speak to the minister, do not turn to your mum or dad. It is useless to trust in men. Before you make that mistake read this Psalm.

PSALMS 62:5-9

*My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my
expectation is from him.*

(6) *He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved.*

(7) *In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God.*

(8) *Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us. Selah.*

(9) *Surely men of low degree are vanity, and men of high degree are a lie: to be laid in the balance, they are altogether lighter than vanity.*

It is fatal to depend on men. Their ability to discharge on their promises comes from God. It therefore makes sense to ask from the I AM Himself. The word says in Jeremiah 33, “*call unto me*”. Who is the “*me*”? It is the “*I AM*”. Jehovah says that He is all ears and willing to listen to your pleading voice. He is God, the person of integrity. His name is Faithful and Holy. His native language is truth. Call to Him and He will answer.

Trust these words, we are 100% sure of answers when we call. Often, we do not receive because we have not asked.

MATTHEW 7:7

Ask, and it shall be given you.

The word of God gives us great assurance of great answers when we pray to the God. The teaching of Christ reveals a great mystery about the secret to answered prayer. In Jesus' exposition in Mark 11:24, it was clear that "*What things soever we desire, when we pray, believe that we receive them, and we shall have them*".

MARK 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

I must say, however, that our experience in the church shows that many of our prayers have not yet received answers. And the question is, why? Lorenzo Scupoli, a 15th Century Italian and Catholic author, once said,

“unless there is some impediments on our part, we shall infallibly obtain what we ask or something more expedient for us or it may be both”.

Religion teaches that sinfulness is the number one cause of unanswered prayer. It is, however, not exactly true. This is because the sin problem has been dealt with by the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The sacrifice of Christ was not just for the church but also for the world.

1 JOHN 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 2:1-2

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

(2) And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Lord requires us to confess our sins and ask for forgiveness, and He is merciful and just to forgive, or else when we spread forth our hands He would hide His face and if we make many prayers, He would not hear;

ISAIAH 1:15

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

PROVERBS 15:8

The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight

Unconfessed sin therefore inhibits our prayer from ascending before the Throne of Grace. The good news however, is that immediately the sinner finds a pleading tongue and a contrite heart, heaven finds a hearing ear and a forgiving heart.

The following are the prominent causes behind unanswered prayers, according to the New Testament theology;

PRIDE

Like corks, pride stops the ears of God. Take a look at an account of Jesus about two men who went into the temple to pray.

LUKE 18:9-14

(9) *And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:*

(10) *Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.*

(11) *The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.*

(12) *I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.*

(13) *And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.*

(14) *I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

One went to brag, the other to pray; One stands up close and walks on high, the other dares not send his eyes up; One went to the altar of God and the other went to the God of the altar.

Guess what, humility and the sincere plea for mercy is a supreme guarantee to have the ears of heaven.

SELFISH DESIRES - LEADS TO PRAYING AMISS

This usually manifests as covetousness, lust, and fear. A man prayed concerning his neighbors “O Lord, take away this wicked person” and God asked “which?”. Selfish desires make Heaven confused. Pray for our common good and your answers will always be assured.

DOUBT

Doubt steals your faith, which is the drive to be importunate.

UNFORGIVENESS, WICKEDNESS AND UNMERCIFULNESS

This is because mercy and grace is the rule of the New Testament. When we forgive others,

then we also obtain mercy and find grace.

HEBREWS 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

SPOUSAL ABUSE

1 PETER 3:7

Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.



CHAPTER 6

PRINCIPLES OF PRAYER

There are three simple principles that govern the routine of prayer. Respect for these principles makes the practice of prayer effective. There is no hard and fast rule as to how prayer might be done. The most important thing is to observe the protocol of heaven. Christ admonishes us with the following keys;

DON'T PRETEND

Avoid standing in street corners pretending to pray just to seek the praise of men.

MATTHEW 6:5-6 DARBY

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites; for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets so that they should appear to men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

*(6) But *thou*, when thou prayest, enter into thy chamber, and having shut thy door, pray to thy Father who is in secret, and thy Father who sees in secret will render it to thee.*

SAY WHAT YOU MEAN AND MEAN WHAT YOU SAY

Avoid the use of senseless repetition.

MATTHEW 6:7-8 DARBY

But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as those who are of the nations: for they think they shall be heard through their much speaking.

(8) Be not ye therefore like them, for your Father knows of what things ye have need before ye beg anything of him.

God will not answer us just because of our many words.

PROVERBS 10:19

In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.

When you stand in His presence, do not just speak, know what you want and why you are there, be very specific with your purpose, and pray with a desire and an expectation to receive answers. Speak in any language you want but for best results, be polite, importunate, or pray in the heavenly tongue.

JAMES 3:2-4

For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

(3) Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

(4) Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.

Believe that you shall receive what you ask and do not doubt. The Bible says he that comes to the Lord must primarily know that the LORD exists and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

HEBREWS 11:6 DARBY

*But without faith it is impossible to please him.
For he that draws near to God must believe
that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them
who seek him out.*

Abraham received a son in his old age. He had been waiting for this blessing for nearly 24 years. Bible says he did not consider his body that was weak, or the deadness of his wife, Sarah's womb. He hoped against hope in believing Him that had promised. He was assured that He is able to do what He had said.

ROMANS 4:16-21

*(16) Therefore it is of faith, that it might be
by grace; to the end the promise might be sure
to all the seed; not to that only which is of the
law, but to that also which is of the faith of
Abraham; who is the father of us all,*

(17) (As it is written, I have made thee a

father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

(18) Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

(19) And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

(20) He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

(21) And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

We do not receive things from God just because we deserve the blessing, prayed long prayers for it, or have a very desperate need, but because we have faith in Him.

How then does faith operate? Faith never

looks for conditions and symptoms. Faith contemptuously rejects the physical symptoms of the problem. Faith does not depend on anything that the natural senses can discern. Faith is faith when it sees nothing. The faith we need to move a mountain is not too large, but importantly, it must be persistent and sustainable; one that does not weaken under testing. Exercising this faith is like planting a mustard seed and being patient enough to water and nurture it even for years, and never digging up to see what is happening, because it is rest assured that it will doubtlessly grow into a mighty tree.

COME ON THE BASIS OF A COVENANT RELATIONSHIP

This relationship begins with believing in the only begotten Son

JOHN 1:11-13

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

(12) But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

(13) Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

God is not a principle, mathematical formula, or a concept. He is the living and Sovereign God who wants men to know Him through a relationship. A relationship based on truth, spirit, and faith. I must therefore say that there are neither formula nor magical words by which prayer may be made effective other than on the strength of a loyal, faithful, and loving relationship with the Father.

APPROACH THE THRONE OF GRACE WITH BOLDNESS

When you come to Him, whether you see Him or not, approach Him with the knowledge that He exists and that He is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

1. Enter His gates with thanksgiving in your heart and into His courts with praise.
2. Come into His presence with boldness but also with a broken spirit and a contrite heart.

PSALMS 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.



CHAPTER 7

THE PRACTICE OF PRAYER

All men at one time or the other practice prayer. All classes of men pray but only a few pray right. The main object of Christ is to teach men how to pray right. The most difficult part of prayer is to start praying. Usually once you start praying you get engrossed in the whole exercise. The art of prayer get easier when done on a daily basis and is consistently.

WHEN SHOULD WE PRAY?

Pray always, especially in the **morning, afternoon, evening, and in the night.** “*Pray*

without ceasing and in everything give thanks because this is the will of God". It however important to choose a time;

- When the body is well rested
- When interruptions will be minimal
- When God may be found

WHERE SHOULD WE PRAY?

EVERYWHERE:

Pray at the bus stop, at the restaurant, the field, the forest, in the hotel room, office, in fact, everywhere. However, it is usually better to choose a solitary places, for three main reasons;

1. So that we will not be a nuisance to reasonable people.
2. So that we may not expose ourselves to unreasonable danger and quarrels.
3. So that we may have some privacy and minimal interruption.

WHAT DO I NEED IN PRAYER

1. A rested, awake and relaxed body
2. A purpose: why I am there to pray
3. A table
4. A pen
5. A watch
6. A note book
7. A Bible

IS THERE A PARTICULAR POSTURE FOR PRAYER?

There are no hard and fast rules that I know of, but certain postures make prayer effective, and are seen being used in Scripture;

1. Standing with hands lifted
2. Lying on your face
3. Kneeling
4. Pacing up and down
5. Sitting behind a table

Sometimes it is much easier to pray if there is music in the background, a preaching tape, or

as you are reading a good Christian book.

A MODEL OF DAILY PRAYER

The prayer of Jesus Christ is a good pattern or model for routine or daily prayer. This model can be adopted for daily quiet time with God. This is the daily prayer offered in the secret chambers of power.

MATTHEW 6:9-15 DARBY

*Thus therefore pray *ye*: Our Father who art in the heavens, let thy name be sanctified, let thy kingdom come,*

(10) let thy will be done as in heaven so upon the earth;

(11) give us to-day our needed bread,

(12) and forgive us our debts, as we also forgive our debtors,

(13) and lead us not into temptation, but save us from evil.

(14) For if ye forgive men their offences, your heavenly Father also will forgive you yours,

(15)but if ye do not forgive men their offences, neither will your Father forgive your offences.

These simple steps can help us to begin and continue in prayer. Sometimes we are unable to have our quiet time because we do not know how. You may spend one to ten minutes on each of the following sections;

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND PRAISE

Remember that a worship-filled atmosphere is always obnoxious to the devil. Acknowledge God as supreme, vocalize His attributes, and ascend into pure adoration and worship.

PSALM 149:1, 5-9 DARBY

(1) Hallelujah! Sing unto Jehovah a new song; sing his praise in the congregation of the godly.

(5) Let the godly exult in glory; let them shout for joy upon their beds.

*(6) Let the high praises of *God be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand:*

(7) To execute vengeance against the nations,

and punishment among the peoples;

(8) To bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron;

(9) To execute upon them the judgment written. This honour have all his saints.

Hallelujah!

Praise and adoration is an effective tool in spiritual warfare. We shall understand its potency when we study the story of Saul –the King of Israel. We learn from that story that the music of David created an atmosphere that drove away the evil spirits that came to torment the king.

We can see that praise and worship creates the mood for men to respond to the Holy Spirit and creates terror for demons. Our moments of adoration simulate an atmosphere for the prophetic. If we tune ourselves, in the atmosphere of adoration the revelations of God will come to us.

QUIET TIME

- Pause and remain silent before God for a

while, just thinking about the Lord.

- Right after singing the praises of God, pause and listen to Him minister to your heart. By this time our hearts would have been tuned to connect with God. The atmosphere of adoration would have set the tone for God to speak. All you will need to do is to listen as your heart beat synchronizes with that of God.
- In these quiet moments take these few minutes during prayer and watch for methods Satan may try to use to hinder;
 1. Your Christian walk and that of your family and brethren
 2. Programs, projects, and plans of your church
 3. The progress of evangelism and missions

We can discern these by pondering international news and any spiritual fact that is of significance usually gotten by the following means;

1. Reading journals and magazines
2. Paying attention to history

3. Talking to mature Christians

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Pray for the kingdom of God, the lost world, the church, and for leaders.

Pray about some of the things the Spirit of God has revealed to you. Remember the kingdom business. Have a global vision for the work of the kingdom of heaven. The kingdom business needs massive support;

1. Pray for the leaders of the kingdom on earth,
2. Pray for Christian work around the world: Ask God to send more labourers to specific harvest fields. Ask Him to open doors for these workers and to bless them with fruits as a result of their effort and with finances to expand their work.
3. Pray for the partners who support the kingdom business financially, and
4. Enquire to know of how you could be of help to the progress of the kingdom of God.

QUIET TIME

- Ask yourself these simple questions; In your candid and sincere opinion, what change must occur to improve the quality of life you live?
- What does God's word say about the issues, problems, and the situations in which we find ourselves?

PRAYER OF SUBMISSION

Pray for the will of God to be done on earth; in your life, family, vocation, community, nation, and in the lives of your neighbours.

Enquire to know the will of God on earth, and how it should be accomplished. The will of God must be done on earth and it must be done by us, the children of the kingdom.

PRAYER OF PETITION AND SUPPLICATION

Plead for daily providence and supply. Plead

for daily supply of needs. Our Father is faithful to make that provision. If He takes care of the sparrows, then He will not deny you your daily ration. He will supply your need.

1. Make a mental list of things that you need for that day, and offer those needs to God one after the other in prayer.
2. Be careful to let God know that you desire answers to your requests.
3. Frequently examine your motives and be sure that they are pure in the sight of God.

PRAYER ON CONFESSION

Ask for mercy and forgiveness. Mercy is unmerited favour. It is what runs the world and keeps it revolving. It is therefore important to ask for mercy. Remember that supremely, God has the power of both judgment and mercy. He can condemn and pardon. However, He wants to show mercy. He is a God of second chances.

1. Ask God to search your heart for any unconfessed sin and bring it to mind.
2. Mentally examine your recent activities to

uncover possible areas of spiritual failure that need to be confessed.

3. Confess your sins and ask God for forgiveness, while you forgive those who have wronged you.
4. Ask for the grace to accept pardon. Sometimes the greatest problem of the saint is that we are unable to forgive ourselves, even after God forgives us. Always remember that He has promised to forgive us when we confess our sins, and to cleanse us from all spiritual and fleshy pollutions.
5. Ask God to cleanse your heart, mind and conscience of the stain of sin and blood guiltiness

PRAYER OF GUIDANCE AND DELIVERANCE

Plead for guidance to avoid temptation. We should always plead for deliverance from evil. Beloved, we live in a dark world; a world that lies in wickedness and pain. We are surrounded by evil and wickedness,

and it takes only God to keep us from evil.
Prevention, they say, is always better than cure.

1 CHRONICLES 4:9-10 DARBY

(9) And Jabez was more honoured than his brethren; and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, Because I bore him with pain.

(10) And Jabez called on the God of Israel saying, Oh that thou wouldest richly bless me, and enlarge my border, and that thy hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God brought about what he had requested.

Jabez understood that evil grieves men, hence he prayed that God would keep him from evil. The Lord shall keep you also. He shall be as a shield and a buckler to you. He will hide you in His pavilion and preserve your life. Amen!

One thing you should not forget is to ask God for spiritual nourishment. Ask for strength to walk the day's journey and to confront the sufficient evil of the day.

MATTHEW 6:34

Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

QUIET TIME

- In a quiet moment, select a theme, a challenge or a situation that is confronting you in the progress of your faith.
- Let your mind wander and explore your thoughts to make a list of what you think concerning the situation.
- Then search the Scriptures for specific answers to your questions. God speaks through His word.
- Make a mental evaluation of all the circumstances that relate to the challenge. Ask God to show you His plan through those circumstances.
- Write down any ideas the Lord gives you. If they are unclear, discuss them with a more matured Christian that you trust.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

End your session by thanking God and blessing Him for an answered prayer.



CHAPTER 8

MAKING PRAYER EFFECTIVE

It may not be enough just to pray right but also to make your prayer effectual. The word says that “*the effectual fervent prayer of the righteous availeth much*”. This is the level of prayer that achieves results.

JAMES 5:16-18 DARBY

Confess therefore your offences to one another, and pray for one another, that ye may be healed. The fervent supplication of the righteous man has much power.

(17) Elias was a man of like passions to us, and he prayed with prayer that it should not rain;

*and it did not rain upon the earth three years
and six months;*

*(18) and again he prayed, and the heaven gave
rain, and the earth caused its fruit to spring
forth.*

Is this level of prayer possible? Is it achievable? Yes it is. Recall that Elijah, the man iconized by the Apostle James in the passage above for effectual prayer, was neither an angel nor a perfect man. He was a man with like or comparable passions to those we have. He only understood certain truths which we can also learn.

To make your prayer effective;

1. Prepare your heart - have the right heart attitude
2. Pray in faith
3. Pray the word
4. Pray all kinds of prayer

PREPARE YOUR HEART - HAVE THE RIGHT HEART ATTITUDE

JAMES 4:3 DARBY

*Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask evilly,
that ye may consume it in your pleasures.*

There are times when we ask amiss because we are ignorant of God's merciful divine provision. Jesus Christ rightly said in John 4:10, that "*if only we knew the gift of God ...*".

JOHN 4:10

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

Clearly the woman did not ask because she did not know the gift of God. "*For the lack of knowledge my people perish*" (Hosea 4:6). Knowing the promises also makes prayer effective.

Pray with a contrite and humble heart. What is humility? Humility is the ability to say "I am

just like you” and not “you are like me”.

PSALM 34:18 DARBY

Jehovah is nigh to those that are of a broken heart, and saveth them that are of a contrite spirit.

You must come into prayer with your trust in the mercies of the Lord rather than in your works or prayer.

LUKE 18:9-14 DARBY

And he spoke also to some, who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and made nothing of all the rest of men , this parable:

(10) Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a tax-gatherer.

(11) The Pharisee, standing, prayed thus to himself: God, I thank thee that I am not as the rest of men, rapacious, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax-gatherer.

(12) I fast twice in the week, I tithe everything I gain.

(13) And the tax-gatherer, standing afar off, would not lift up even his eyes to heaven, but

smote upon his breast, saying, O God, have compassion on me, the sinner.

(14) I say unto you, This man went down to his house justified rather than that other . For every one who exalts himself shall be humbled, and he that humbles himself shall be exalted.

The publican had his request granted because he pleaded with a contrite and humble heart. This is what God says He will not despise.

PSALM 51:17 DARBY

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

The Lord moves on behalf of people who have a contrite heart. He shows them mercy on their days of anxiety and trouble, that He may revive their hearts and spirits.

ISAIAH 57:15 DARBY

For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, and whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place , and with him that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

The Lord is watching to find a man with a contrite spirit; one who trembles at the word of the God. Contrition and humility provokes God to move in mercy.

ISAIAH 66:1-2 DARBY

Thus saith Jehovah: The heavens are my throne, and the earth is my footstool: what is the house that ye will build unto me? and what is the place of my rest?

(2) Even all these things hath my hand made, and all these things have been, saith Jehovah. But to this man will I look: to the afflicted and contrite in spirit, and who trembleth at my word.

PRAY THE WORD

Continually abide in Christ and let His word abide in you.

JOHN 15:7 DARBY

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall come to pass to you.

It is better we understand that God will do nothing unless by His word. If we reject the word, our prayers become an abomination instead of a sweet smelling savour.

PROVERBS 28:9 DARBY

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination.

If we want our prayers answered, then we must stay in the word daily. These are the words of Christ and cannot be bent.

One key that makes prayer from even the most feeble knee, or from the most sinful heart still a mighty tool, is to understand that **prayer is a mighty instrument, not in getting man's will done in heaven, but getting God's will done on earth.** When our needs and that of God's coincides, then our answers are inevitable. Therefore, to pray is to ask what God wants and not to insist on what you desire. Jesus said to the Samaritan woman, *"If you knew you would have asked ...and I would have given"*

JOHN 4:10 KJV

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou

knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water.

Men always ask what they know but how little our knowledge can be, is no secret to you and I.

Most often than not, we are driven to pray based on what we know, and this accounts for why most prayers go unanswered. It is therefore written;

PROVERBS 29:8

He that turneth his ear from the reading of the law even his prayer is an abomination unto God

Our unanswered prayers are often as a result of our limited knowledge. Praying by the Spirit of God however, enables us to access an unlimited realm of mystery. The power to pray comes with praying. You know of yourself that we don't know what to ask for, but the Spirit helps our infirmities. In any case, He helps us when we are trying to pray, not when we are not trying.

In Matthew 6:9, we are taught to pray for the will of God to be done. Again, the object of prayer is not to persuade God to do something different from what He intended, but to free His hands to do that which can only be done for free men with their co-operation. Therefore, prayer is to desire what God would have us desire. In fact, to pray to effect a private and a selfish desire is theft and meanness if not treason against heaven.

As I stated earlier, God is not a cosmic bell boy by whom we can get things done at the press of a button. It is therefore necessary to be sure that you are praying for the will of God and for the benefit of the entire globe.

PRAY ALL KINDS OF PRAYER

FASTING PRAYER

The synergy created by the combination of prayer and fasting is enormous. Jesus said that there is nothing that prayer and fasting cannot

deal with. Prayer with fasting can bulldoze every kind of barrier.

MATTHEW 17:21 DARBY

But this kind does not go out but by prayer and fasting.

The question that usually comes up then is, how long should a fast be in order to be effective?

SHORT AND FREQUENT:

Cornelius fasted until 3:00pm and Paul fasted for 3 days.

ACTS 10:30

And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,

ACTS 9:8-9

And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

(9) *And he was three days without sight, and neither did eat nor drink.*

Short and frequent fasts should have a place in a Christian's life.

LONG AND ISOLATED:

Long fast were undertaken because of overwhelming needs. Moses for forty days, Daniel for 3 full weeks, eating no pleasant food, and Paul fasted for a fortnight.

EXODUS 34:28

And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.

DANIEL 10:2-3

In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks.

(3) *I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.*

PRAISING PRAYER

Let praise and thanksgiving accompany your prayer. We may draw many lessons from the experience of Paul and Silas. They were mobbed and beaten by a whole market yet they found reason to praise God and pray. The Bible says that as they prayed and praised God the chain was loosed. Your praise can move you from prison to freedom.

Act 16:22-26 Darby

And the crowd rose up too against them; and the praetors, having torn off their clothes, commanded to scourge them.

(23) And having laid many stripes upon them they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely;

(24) who, having received such a charge, cast them into the inner prison, and secured their feet to the stocks.

(25) And at midnight Paul and Silas, in praying, were praising God with singing, and the prisoners listened to them.

(26) And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of

the prison shook, and all the doors were immediately opened, and the bonds of all loosed.

IMPORTUNATE PRAYER

Pray importunately, consistently and persistently

LUKE 18:1-8 DARBY

And he spoke also a parable to them to the purport that they should always pray and not faint,

(2) saying, There was a judge in a city, not fearing God and not respecting man:

(3) and there was a widow in that city, and she came to him, saying, Avenge me of mine adverse party.

(4) And he would not for a time; but afterwards he said within himself, If even I fear not God and respect not man,

(5) at any rate because this widow annoys me I will avenge her, that she may not by perpetually coming completely harass me.

(6) And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust

judge says.

(7) And shall not God at all avenge his elect, who cry to him day and night, and he bears long as to them?

(8) I say unto you that he will avenge them speedily. But when the Son of man comes, shall he indeed find faith on the earth?

The Lord wants us to draw great lessons out of this text. He contrasted the judge and God. The judge was unjust and neither feared a man nor God, but God is just; however the judge did what the woman wanted because he feared being worn out by her importunity.

AGREEMENT PRAYER

The effectiveness of prayer increases when we pray together with other people in total agreement.

MATTHEW 18:19-20 DARBY

Again I say to you, that if two of you shall agree on the earth concerning any matter, whatsoever it may be that they shall ask, it

shall come to them from my Father who is in the heavens.

(20) For where two or three are gathered together unto my name, there am I in the midst of them.

To pray together and in agreement in whatever tongue or ritual is the tenderest brotherhood of hope and sympathy that men can contract in this life. *“If two of you shall agree as touching anything, and pray, it shall be done for you”*

DEUTERONOMY 32:30 DARBY

How could one chase a thousand, And two put ten thousand to flight, Were it not that their Rock had sold them, And Jehovah had delivered them up?

SPIRIT PRAYER

Lastly, praying in the Spirit increases the effectiveness of prayer. When we pray in the Holy Spirit, we cannot pray amiss, rather we pray by the help of the Spirit. The Holy Spirit helps our infirmity and helps us to pray right.

ROM 8:26 DARBY

And in like manner the Spirit joins also its help to our weakness; for we do not know what we should pray for as is fitting, but the Spirit itself makes intercession with groanings which cannot be uttered.

In fact, praying in the Spirit affords us the opportunity to pray about the mysteries concerning issues. There are times when we have no idea what to pray for, or how to pray about it. Prayer is easy when we already know the will of God. In that case we just plead on the will, but the difficulty is in when the will of God is obscure.

Thankfully, the Spirit helps our infirmities, and prays with us, with groaning that cannot be uttered with words. When we pray with tongues, our spirits pray but our understanding is unfruitful (See 1 Corinthians 14:14).

1 CORINTHIANS 14:2

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

When we pray in the Holy Ghost we need not know what to pray about because the spirit of God helps us to pray perfectly about things we do not even know.

BOOKS BY NOAH SIMPE BEDIAKO

Available at simpebediako.com/shop

4. Back to the Bible
5. That You Might Be Rich
6. Developing Your Prophetic Ministry
7. The Most Important Decision Every Man Should Make
8. The Most Important Call Every Man Should Heed
9. The Most Important Secret Every Man Should Know
10. Walking in Deliverance
11. Walking in Signs and Wonders
12. Walking in the Supernatural
13. Teaching the Nations
14. Healing the Sick
15. Casting out Devils
16. Overcoming the Influence of Darkness in Everyday Life
17. Overcoming the Influence of Darkness with

Light

18. Living a Wide Life on the Narrow Path
19. Steps to Total Victory
20. Finding Love You can Enjoy
21. Prayer - God's Master Key to Deal with Impossible Things

Prayer

GOD'S MASTER KEY TO DEAL WITH IMPOSSIBLE THINGS

One key that makes prayer from even the most feeble knee, or from the most sinful heart still a mighty tool, is to understand that prayer is a mighty instrument, not in getting man's will done in heaven but getting God's will done on earth.

Many great leaders have found prayer as a helpful resource. Many great people I have read from have shown how prayer has been the greatest resource they have used. Abraham Lincoln, a former president of America is quoted to have once said; *"I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go"*

Discover how to pray, and receive actual answers.

"Once we have the God-kind of faith, we can receive whatsoever we desire by simply praying about them"



NOAH SIMPE BEDIAKO

Reverend Noah Simpe Bediako is the Senior Pastor of HighCity Church, a thriving and fast growing Bible-based church with a mission to gather men unto eternal life. He was originally trained as a Civil Engineer at Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi - Ghana, and obtained a Masters Degree in Water Supply and Environmental Sanitation, also from KNUST. He is married to his wife, Pastor Sandra and they are blessed with three children; Daniel, Judah-Joel and Michelle.

ISBN 978-9988-2-5370-7



9 789988 253707

This ebook version is published by HighCity Media & Publication, and is available at: simpebediako.com
E-mail: highcityinfo@gmail.com

highcity
media &
publications