7 ASPECTS OF PRAYERS

The Disciples saw something in Jesus that they lacked. So one of the disciples asked him: "TEACH ME HOW TO PRAY" (Luke 11:1)

AND God begin to teach them HOW TO PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER. Can we develop this spiritual quality like Jesus? In order for us to stay strong through temptations and trials of life.

Do you know that there is the right way to pray? And the Bible says that: prayer of the righteous is POWERFUL.

JAMES 5: 15- 16 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

The enemy is afraid of prayerful Christians hence they lead God's people into underestimating the power of prayer thinking it doesn't work, dismissing it and downplay it. BUT we are in a war – in the fight of our life.

Prayer is our Spiritual Weapon. Prayerful life is a Winning Life. PRAYER IS THE PORTAL THAT BRINGS THE POWER OF HEAVEN DOWN TO EARTH!

Today we are going to learn how to pray effectively. There are 7 ASPECTS OF PRAYERS – Different ways / angles on expressing our prayer.

1. CONFESSION - begin by acknowledging who God is

• There are two parts to confession.

• Part 1.

1 Kings 18:36 Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God.

Psalms 34:3 Oh, magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt His name together.

The first step is to acknowledge God and His power.

• When we confess who God..... we ENLARGE Him in our hearts and in our lives.

• Confessing Gods majesty, His Authority over all situations, His purpose for our lives.

 \circ Aligning our faith to the word. YOU ARE GREATER THAN ANY.....

We pray not from the point of our problem, but we start from the point of FAITH!.

Part2

• 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.

 \circ As Believers when we confess our sin and failure to the Lord it helps us get our own hearts right and forgive others or ask other to forgive us.

 \circ when we repent, god will begin to hear our prayer again.

2. PETITIONS

We have not because we ask not

• Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; Knock, and it will be opened to you.

• 1 John 14-15 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

• ALWAYS ASK IN FAITH BASED OF GODS PROMISES KNOWING YOUR FATHER WILL ANSWER.

• Mark 11:24 I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

• James 1:6 Let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

A petition is a very powerful thing. A petition is a request without a demand or condition.
If you say God "if you dont heal me now! I will not love or serve you" That is not a petition that is a demand.

A petition looks like this: "God I know that you can heal me and it is your will to heal me as it tells me in your word" Ish 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

• And by His stripes we are healed. So I pray for your healing to be released in me" Amen!!!!

· You are declaring it is Gods will and God can!

3. ADORATION – worship Him like the angels

• 1 Peter 3:13 (MSG) don't give the opposition a second thought. Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ, your Master.

· Always give God what belongs to Him - HIS PRAISE.

• Psalms 24:1 I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Psalms 22:3 God inhabits the praises of His people.

When we adore someone...you glorify them, speak highly.... We magnify, we exalt God. Higher than our problems. Bigger than our mountains.

4. INTIMACY – soaking time

Intimacy talks about close familiarity.

- How well do you know someone?
- o Is determined by how long you have known him, how much time you spent with him.

• Psalms 27: 4-8 (NKJV) One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple. 5 For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His bedroom; In the secret place of His House He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock. 6 And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies and problems all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord. 7 Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice! Have Mercy also upon me, and answer me. 8 When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to you, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."

• HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU ONLY COME WHEN YOU HAVE A NEED? (MONEY, MEDICINE, HELP) – GOD IS NOT A VENDING MACHINE!

• INTIMATE TIME WITH GOD IS EVERYTHING.

- IT BRINGS PEACE, IT BRINGS WISDOM, IT BRINGS STRENGTH, CONFIDENCE,
 - BLESSING AND POWER!!
- YOUR STORY WHY GOD? HOW DO I OVERCOME THIS? IN HIS PRESENCE.

• Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder to those who diligently seek Him.

• Intimacy works when we go after it. God is always waiting to spend time with us. And He rewards those who diligently seek Him.

5. INTERCESSION – Standing before God on behalf of others

• Romans 8:26, 28 (NKJV) For don't know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 28 All things work together for good.

Sometimes we don't know exactly what to pray for others, but the Holy Spirit will reveal /show their needs – we are partnering with His Spirit!

• Ezekiel 22:30 So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.

At that time God was so furious with Israel. The nation has turned to wicked, false prophets, worshipping idols meade of gold silver, unclean defiled life. God is like saying....Just give me one reason, one person....that will stand up and pray for the nation so I can spare them.

Do you know that one person's prayer might be the key for God to save one nation...? Your family. You could be the key for God to save that family.

• Praying for others is Powerful and God uses our prayer to work in others' lives.

• It also keeps us from thinking that our Christianity is all about us.

We pray a Selfless Prayer -- God answers and works.

6. THANKSGIVING – Thanking God for the victory

• 1 Corinthians 15 :57 (NKJV) But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ

• Psalms 110:4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.

- Thanksgiving brings us into the presence of God.
- Thanksgiving reminds us of Gods goodness, and this brings humility and humility brings blessing.
- WHEN WE OFFER THANKSGIVING, WE ARE RECEIVING OUR VICTORY IN ADVANCE.
 - o Its believing that our prayers have been answered.
 - \circ $\,$ We are thanking God in advance as if He has done it / as if we have received it.

7. PRAISE – A song that changes the atmosphere and brings victory and with victory comes prosperity.

• Acts 16:25-26 (NKJV) But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was a great earthquake, and the prison was shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.

BREAKTHROUGH PRAISE

Sometimes at SCWC you will notice we praise God loudly or we lift our hands to God A loud faith-filled praise <u>changes the atmosphere</u> and <u>shifts things in the spiritual realm</u>. When things change in the spirit, a change happens in the natural.

• THE SHOUT OF VICTORY IS YOUR DECLARATION OF FAITH THAT GOD IS FAITHFUL and hands lifted up can be a sign of praise and surrender to our Lord of Lords.

Psalm 98:4 Oh, clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!
Psalm 98:4 Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; Break forth in song and rejoice and sing praises.

When Joshua and the Israelites were facing the wall of Jericho.... The only thing holding between them and their victory was the shout.... "Shout as loud as you can, shout the voice of triumph"..... until the walls came dwn...

YOUR SHOUT OF PRAISE, IS THE THING THAT WILL BREAK FORTH TO GET YOU TO YOUR VICTORY!