

# LOF 5 - PRAYER - THE PRAYER THAT WILL BE HEARD

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HOW MANY OF YOU WANTS YOUR PRAYER TO BE HEARD BY GOD?

## HOW CAN WE HAVE CONFIDENCE THAT GOD HEARS US WHEN WE PRAY?

### 1. PRAY ACCORDING TO HIS WILL

- o **1 JOHN 5:14 'AND THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE HAVE IN HIM THAT, IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US**
- o **IF OUR PRAYER REQUEST IS ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD, IT IS ACCORDING TO HIS WILL.**
- o AND THE BIBLE SAYS **HE HEARS US** WHEN WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL.
- o AND WHEN WE PRAY ACCORDING TO HIS WORD, **WE MUST PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE AND BOLDNESS THAT WILL HEAR OUR PRAYER.**
  - o IF WE COME TREMBLING AND FEARFUL, HOPING HE WILL HEAR US, OUR PRAYER WILL NOT BE EFFECTIVE.
  - o PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE.
  - o PRAY WITH BOLDNESS.
  - o WHY? BECAUSE YOU SAID IT GOD. IM JUST DOING WHAT YOU SAID.
- o WE FIRST NEED TO FIND THE WORD/THE PROMISE FOR EVERY PROBLEM THAT WE'RE FACING.
  - o THEN WE CAN PRAY IN FAITH KNOWING THAT HE....WILL....HEAR....US.
  - o **ROMANS 10:17 'SO THEN FAITH COMETH BY HEARING AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF GOD**
  - o **PSALM 119:130 'THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORDS GIVETH LIGHT**
  - o **PSALM 119:105 'THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH'**
- o MANY TIMES WE PRAY IN DARKNESS BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW WHAT GOD'S WILL IS.
- o BUT WHEN WE WALK IN THE WORD, LIGHT ENTERS,
  - o IT GIVES US **DIRECTION**
  - o IT GIVES US **CERTAINTY** OF THE STEPS WE NEED TO TAKE.
  - o IT GIVES US **PEACE** THAT WE CAN STAND ON HIS WORD
  - o IT GIVES US **BOLDNESS** THAT HE HEARD OUR PRAYERS
- o **FOR EXAMPLE - PRAYER FOR SALVATIONS IS GOD'S WILL**
  - o WHEN WE PRAY FOR THE SALVATION OF OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY, WE KNOW WE PRAY ACCORDING TO HIS WILL.
  - o WE CAN PRAY THE SAME PRAYER LIKE APOSTLE PAUL PRAYED
  - o **EPHESIANS 1:17 'THAT THE EYES OF THEIR UNDERSTANDING WILL BE ENLIGHTENED...'**
  - o "OH GOD LET THEM SEE THE LOVE THAT JESUS HAS FOR THEM PERSONALLY."
  - o WE NEED TO BELIEVE THAT EVEN IF WE DON'T SEE CHANGES RIGHT AWAY, THE WORD, AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WORKING ON THEIR HEARTS.
  - o SAVING THE LOST IS GOD'S WILL.
  - o SO WE CAN PRAY WITH CONFIDENCE KNOWING THAT HE HEARS US.
  - o **2 PETER 3:9 'THE LORD IS NOT SLACK CONCERNING HIS PROMISE, AS SOME COUNT SLACKNESS, BUT IS LONGSUFFERING TOWARDS US. NOT WILLING THAT ANY SHOULD PERISH BUT THAT ALL SHOULD COME TO REPENTANCE.**
- o **FOR EXAMPLE - PRAYER FOR YOUR FAMILY IS GOD'S WILL**
  - o **ACTS 16:31 BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND YOU WILL BE SAVED, YOU AND YOUR HOUSEHOLD.**
  - o WHEN WE PRAY ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD. YOU'LL DISCOVER YOUR PRAYERS BECOME EFFECTIVE.
  - o **JAMES 5:16 THE EFFECTIVE, FERVENT PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN AVAILS MUCH (MAKES TREMENDOUS POWER AVAILABLE).**

### 2. PRAY IN PRIVATE.

- o "When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites who love to pray publicly on street corners and in the synagogues where everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, that is all the reward they will ever get.
- o But when you pray, go away **by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then** your Father, who sees everything, **will reward you (OPENLY).** Matthew 6:5-6
- o WHEN IT COMES TO PRAYER
- o WHEN YOU DO IT PUBLICLY, MAN WILL REWARD PUBLICLY.
- o WHAT YOU DO IN PRIVATE, GOD WILL REWARD PUBLICLY.
- o SHUT THE DOOR.
  - o ONE DAY I WAS PRAYING AND I LEFT THE DOOR ALMOST CLOSED.
  - o AND YOU SEE THE MOMENT I'M ABOUT TO PRAY, MY THREE KIDS CAME IN....DADDYYYYY!!!
  - o YOU SEE....
  - o WHEN YOU SHUT THE DOOR OF YOUR PRAYER ROOM, YOU SHUT YOUR DOOR TO DISTRACTIONS.
  - o YOU ARE SAYING TO GOD, GOD THIS IS THE TIME BETWEEN JUST **YOU AND ME**
  - o YOU SPEAK TO ME, AND IM LISTENING.
  - o MY WHOLE ATTENTION IS FOR YOU.
  - o MY WHOLE TIME IS FOR YOU.
  - o AND THE MOMENT I SAID THAT, I CAN FEEL THAT GOD RAAAN AND HUGGED ME.
  - o YOU SEE...DO YOU KNOW THAT GOD MISSES SPENDING TIME WITH YOU.
  - o BUT SO OFTEN, WE SHUT OUR PHYSICAL DOOR, BUT WE DON'T SHUT OUR DIGITAL DOOR. NOBODY KNOCKS YOUR PHYSICAL DOOR, BUT EVERYBODY KNOCKS YOUR DIGITAL DOOR.
  - o WHEN YOU PRAY, IT VIBRATES.
  - o YOU SHUT ONE DOOR, BUT YOU ALLOW THE OTHER DOOR OF DISTRACTIONS.
  - o KILL ALL NOTIFICATIONS, GOD IS FIGHTING FOR YOUR ATTENTION.
  - o BECAUSE WHO GETS YOUR ATTENTION, GETS YOUR FUTURE.
  - o CHURCH, ITS TIME TO SHUT THE DOOR OF DISTRACTIONS!!!
  - o **WHEN YOU SHUT THE DOOR OF YOUR PRAYER ROOM, YOU OPEN THE DOOR OF HEAVEN.**
  - o **GOD WILL HEEAAR AND ANSWER YOUR PRAYER!!!**

### 3. PRAY WHOLEHEARTEDLY

- o "When you pray, don't babble on and on as the Gentiles do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don't be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him Matthew 6:7
- o GOD DOESN'T WANT A.....REHEARSED, POLISHED, PERFECTLY SCRIPTED PRAYER
- o HE IS LONGING FOR A IMPERFECT YET PURE, GENUINE, THAT CAME FROM INNERMOST PLACE.
  - o "OH GOD I REALLY HATE MY MANAGER, HE IS SOOO MEAAAAN, HE MADE ME FELT SOOOO SMALLLLLLL.....OOO GOOD HELP ME"
  - o "Arise, O Lord! Punish the wicked, O God! Do not ignore the helpless! Break the arms of these wicked, evil people! Go after them until the last one is destroyed." Psalms 10:12, 15 NLT
- o JUST TALK TO HIM LIKE A FRIEND.
- o IN YOUR CAR ON THE WAY TO WORK.
- o 'O GOD, I REALLY LIKE HIM, HE IS SOOOO HOOOT! WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM'
- o HE WANTS TO TALK WITH YOU.
- o ADAM AND EVE'S WERE WALKING TOGETHER WITH GOD IN THE GARDEN.
- o **GOD CREATED US TO HAVE AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.**
- o "BUT HOW COME ITS HARD TO 'FIND' HIM IN MY PRAYER PASTOR?"
- o THIS IS HIS PROMISE OF GOD
- o **If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me. ...."I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes. I will gather you out of the nations where I sent you and will bring you home again to your own land."** Jeremiah 29
- o HIDE AND SEEK - HE WANTS TO BE FOUND
  - o YOU KNOW ONE OF THE MOST FAVOURITE GAME FOR THE MARCELLUS HOUSEHOLD IS 'HIDE AND SEEK'
  - o DAD, GIVE US A CLUE! GIVE US A CLUE!
  - o AGAIN AGAIN DAD.
  - o YAAAAAAY DAD WE FOUND YOU. OH DAD WE FOUND YOU.
  - o AND I DIDN'T SAY 'OH NOOOOOO WHY DID YOU FIND ME
  - o BUT I LOOOVE IT WHEN MY GIRLS JUMP OVER ME AND SAID WE FIND YOU DAD.
  - o ITS THE SAME THING WITH OUR GOD, **HE WANTS US TO FIND HIM, HE WANTS TO BE FOUND.**

YOU WANT YOUR PRAYER TO BE HEARD? **PRAAAAAAY WHOLEHEARTEDLY.**

### 4. PRAY PERSISTENTLY

- o **Never stop praying. 1 Thes 5:17**
- o NEVER EVER EVER EVER STOP PRAYING.
- o Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. **2** He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. **3** And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.'
  - o **"For some time he refused. But finally** he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, **yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!"**
  - o **6** And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. **7** And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? **8** I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. **However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" LUKE 18**
- o SOME OF YOU ARE NOT GETTING WHAT YOU'RE PRAYING FOR BECAUSE YOU GAVE UP TOO EASILY.
- o YOU STOP PRAYING FOR IT.
- o YOU STOP ASKING FOR IT.
- o ITS TIME TO BRING YOUR PETITION TO GOD AGAIN.
- o MAN IF YOU REALLY WANT IT THAT BAD, WHY DID YOU STOP SO EASILY!!!
- o KEEP AT IT.
- o KEEP KNOCKING!
- o KEEP BELIEVING!
- o NEVER EVER STOOOOP PRAYING!

CLOSING:

- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR YOUR HUSBAND TO COME BACK TO JESUS.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR A NEW JOB.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR A LIFE PARTNER.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR HEALING.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR YOUR STUDY.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR SALVATION OF YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.
- SOME OF YOU ARE PRAYING FOR YOUR CONNECT GROUP MEMBERS.
- BUT WHATEVER YOU'RE PRAYING FOR.
- I WANT TO DECREE AND DECLARE TO YOU.
- THAT IF YOU DO THIS WORD OF GOD.
- YOUR PRAYER WILL ALWAYS BE HEARD.
- YOUR PRAYER WILL BE ANSWERED IN JESUS MIGHTY NAME.
- IN THE NEXT 3 MONTHS, YOU WILL SHARE YOUR TESTIMONY OF YOUR HEALING, OF YOUR BREAKTHROUGH.

1. PRAY ACCORDING TO HIS WILL
2. PRAY IN PRIVATE
3. PRAY WHOLEHEARTEDLY
4. PRAY PERSISTENTLY

#### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **TODAY WE'VE LEARN THAT FOR OUR PRAYERS TO BE HEARD, WE NEED TO:**
  1. PRAY ACCORDING TO HIS WILL
  2. PRAY IN PRIVATE
  3. PRAY WHOLEHEARTEDLY
  4. PRAY PERSISTENTLY
- **FIRSTLY, WHAT ARE YOU PRAYING FOR THIS SEASON?**
  - o SHARE YOUR INNERMOST HOPE AND DESIRE TO YOUR GROUP
  - o SO WE CAN PRAY TOGETHER FOR YOU.
  - o WHEN 2 OR 3 PEOPLE GATHER IN MY NAME, I WILL BE IN THE MIDST OF YOU.
- **SECONDLY, HOW AM I GOING TO PRAY DIFFERENTLY FROM TODAY ONWARDS.**
  - o **AS A GROUP, LETS MAKE A COMMITMENT TO HAVE A DEDICATED 30 MINS PRAYER TIME EVERYDAY.**
    1. TO HAVE AN INTIMATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM.
    2. TO READ THE WORD OF GOD DAILY.
    3. TO INTERCEED FOR:
      - o YOUR FAMILY HEALTH AND PROTECTION.
      - o YOUR CAREER
      - o YOUR UNSAVED FRIENDS.
      - o YOUR COACH/CONNECT PASTOR/SENIOR PASTOR.