

Asking and Receiving from God

What Prayer Is – *Prayer is the offering up our desires for lawful and needful things and things we want that are promised by God, with humble confidence that we will obtain them through Jesus Christ for God's glory and for our good. It is the pleading of our cause in God's court. Prayer is seeking help from God in matters that are beyond our power. It is the personal appeal to a personal and present God based on His will and Word and our lawful desires. It is cooperation with God's willingness to manifest His goodness to all those who have faith in Him and depend upon Him for help.*

General Facts About Asking and Receiving

Commands to Pray

Psalms 50:15 – Offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High: And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and you shall glorify me.

Luke 18:1 – One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up.

2 Chronicles 7:14 – Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and restore their land.

1 Chronicles 16:11 – Search for the Lord and for his strength; continually seek Him.

Isaiah 55:6 – Seek the Lord while you can find Him. Call on Him now while He is near.

Matthew 7:7-11 – “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him?”

Ephesians 6:18 – Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

1 Corinthians 14:18 – I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than all of you.

Philippians 4:6 – Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, with thanksgiving.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Never stop praying.

Heb 4:16 – So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There **we will** receive his mercy, and **we will** find grace to help us when we need it most.

Psalms 105:4 – Search for the Lord and for his strength; continually seek him.



Time To Pray

Daily, in the morning

Psalms 5:3 – Listen to my voice in the morning, Lord. Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait with expectation.

Psalms 88:13 – But I, O LORD, have cried out to you for help, and in the morning my prayer comes before you.

Psalms 143:8 – Let me hear of your unfailing love each morning, for I am trusting you. Show me where to walk, for I give myself to you.

Many Times a Day

Psalms 88:1 – O Lord, God of my salvation, I cry out to you by day. I come to you at night.

Psalms 55:17 – Morning, noon, and night I cry out in my distress, and the Lord hears my voice.

Daniel 6:10 – But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God.

Without Ceasing

Heb 13:15-16 – Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to His name. And don't forget to do good deeds and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Never stop praying.

Luke 2:37 – Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshiping God with fasting and prayer.

Miss Sleep, and Pray Instead

Mark 1:35 – Before daybreak the next morning, Jesus got up and went out to an isolated place to pray. Later Simon and the others went out to find Him.

Luke 6:12 – One day soon afterward Jesus went up on a mountain to pray, and He prayed to God all night.

Night and day

Luke 2:37 – Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshiping God with fasting and prayer.

How Not To Pray

Don't pray to be seen

Matthew 6:5-6 – “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. 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.”

Don't pray using lots of words

Matthew 6:7-8 – “When you pray, don't babble on and on as people of other religions 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!”

Don't pray when you haven't forgiven everyone

Mark 11:25-26 – “But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins too. But if all of you do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your wrongdoings.”

Don't pray when you've treated your spouse badly

1 Peter 3:7 – You husbands, in the same way, live with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor to the woman, as to the weaker vessel, as being also joint heirs of the grace of life; that your prayers may not be hindered.

Don't pray when you lack the mindset of reading God's word regularly

Proverbs 28:9 – If one turns away his ear from hearing the Law, even his prayer is an abomination.

Don't pray if you forget the poor

Proverbs 21:13 – Whoever stops his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

Don't pray if you curse the rulers of your people

Ecclesiastes 10:20 – Curse not the king, no not in your thought; and curse not the rich in your bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which has wings shall tell the matter.

Exodus 22:28 – You shall not revile God, nor curse the ruler of your people.

1 Samuel 10:27 – ... children of Belial said, “How shall this man save us?” And they despised him, and brought him no presents. But he held his peace.

Don't pray if you don't give of your income

II Corinthians 9:7 – You must each choose in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “God loves a person who gives cheerfully.”

Proverbs 22:16 – ... he that gives to the rich, [shall] surely [come] to want.

Don't pray when you have any sin you have not confessed and you are not determined to give up

Psalms 66:18 – If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

1 John 1:9 – If we confess our sins, he is utterly straightforward and just to forgive us [our] sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.



Don't pray if you're not ready to continue to believe God, even though the manifestation of an answer is delayed

Daniel 10:12-13 – Then he said to me, “Don't be afraid, Daniel; since from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard: and I have come for your words' sake. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days. But behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me: and I remained there with the kings of Persia.”

Mark 11:22-24 – Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have a God like faith. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you're receiving it, it will be yours.”

The Purpose of Prayer – Answered Prayer

Answered Prayer – Glorifies God

John 14:13-15 – “You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! If you love me, obey my commandments.”

Answered Prayer – Makes Our Joy Full

John 16:24 – “You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.”

Grounds for Asking and Receiving – Right relationship with God our Father

Right relationship with God our Father – Confession and Cleansing from All Sin

Isaiah 59:2 – But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.

1 John 1:9 – But if we confess our sins to Him, He is utterly straightforward and faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

Acts 2:38 – Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Acts 3:19 – “Repent now of your sins and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped away.”

Right relationship with God our Father – When We Walk in Humility

Matthew 23:12 – For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Isaiah 66:2 – I will look favorably on this kind of person: one who is humble, submissive in spirit, and trembles at my word.

Isaiah 57:15 – For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a broken and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

2 Samuel 22:28 – And the afflicted people you will save: but your eyes [are] on the arrogant, [that] you may bring [them] down.

Right relationship with God our Father – When We Receive the Righteousness of God by Faith, and Not by Works

Ephesians 2:8-9 – Because by grace you have salvation through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is given by God: Not by works, so that no man may take glory to himself.

Romans 3:22 – Even the righteousness of God [which is] by faith of Jesus Christ to all and on all them that believe: for there is no difference:

Romans 10:10 – With the heart one believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth one confesses, resulting in salvation.

Romans 4:24-26 – For which reason it was put to his account as righteousness. Now, it was not because of Him only that this was said, but for us in addition, to whose account it will be put, if we have faith in Him who made Jesus our Lord come back again from the dead

2 Corinthians 5:21 – For He has made Him [to be] sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

Galatians 3:13-14 – Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed [is] every one that hangs on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Right relationship with God our Father – When We Believe in and Obey Jesus, We Have Good Works to go with Our Faith

James 2:17-18 – ...Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

John 14:12-15 – “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! If you love me, obey my commandments.”

Hebrews 4:10 – For all who have entered into God’s rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world. So let us do our best to enter that rest. But if we disobey God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall.

1 John 2:29 – Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God’s children.

1 John 3:7-10 – Dear children, don’t let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

John 15:16 – “You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.”

Galatians 6:7-8 – Don't be misled: you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature, will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good deeds to everyone, especially to those in the family of faith.

John 16:23-26 – “At that time you won't need to ask me for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask the Father directly, and He will grant your request because you use my name. You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy. I have spoken of these matters in figures of speech, but soon I will stop speaking figuratively and will tell you plainly all about the Father. Then you will ask in my name. I'm not saying I will ask the Father on your behalf, For the Father Himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from God.”

1 John 3:20-24 – Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and He knows everything. Dear friends, if we don't feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from Him whatever we ask because we obey Him and do the things that please Him. And this is His commandment: We must believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us. Those who obey God's commandments remain in fellowship with Him, and He with them. And we know He lives in us because the Spirit He gave us lives in us.

1 John 5:13-15 – I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for.

Jude 21 – Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ towards eternal life.

Right relationship with God our Father – When We Keep Trusting Him and Looking to Him for Help

Matthew 7:7-11 – “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. You parents: if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him?”

Luke 11:1-13 – Once Jesus was in a certain place praying. As He finished, one of his disciples came to Him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” Jesus said, “This is how you should pray: ‘Father, may your name be kept holy, and may your Kingdom come soon. Give us each day the food we need, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And don't let us yield to temptation.’ Then, teaching them more about prayer, He used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend's house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don't bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can't help you.’ But I tell you this—though he won't do it for friendship's sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give

them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

Right relationship with God our Father – by Faith

Rom 4:18-25 – Even when there was no reason for hope, Abraham kept hoping—believing that he would become the father of many nations. This is because God had said to him, “That’s how many descendants you will have!” And Abraham’s faith did not weaken, even though, at about 100 years of age, he figured his body was as good as dead—and so was Sarah’s womb. Abraham never wavered in believing God’s promise. In fact, his faith grew stronger, and in this he brought glory to God. He was fully convinced that God is able to do whatever he promises. And because of Abraham’s faith, God counted him as righteous. And when God counted him as righteous, it wasn’t just for Abraham’s benefit. It was recorded for our benefit, too, assuring us that God will also count us as righteous if we believe in him, the one who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead. He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

Hebrews 11:1-6 – [Now faith means confident assurance of coming rewards, despite what our senses tell us, putting our full confidence in the unseen God sending the things we pray for behind the scenes, being certain we are receiving from a God we cannot see working.] It was by this kind of faith that the saints of old earned their good reputation. And after all it is only by faith that our minds accept as fact that the whole scheme of time and space was created by God’s command—that the world which we can see has come into being through invisible principles. It was because of his faith that Abel made a better sacrifice to God than Cain, and he had evidence that God looked upon him as a righteous man, whose gifts he could accept. And though Cain killed him, by Abel’s faith Abel still speaks to us today. It was because of his faith that Enoch was promoted to the eternal world without experiencing death. He disappeared from this world because God promoted him, and before that happened, his reputation was: “he pleased God”. And without faith it is impossible to please Him. The man who approaches God must have faith in two things: 1) God exists 2) God definitely rewards those who diligently look for God’s perfect will, and do it.

Right relationship with God our Father – when we believe the Bible and God, believing & saying we are new creatures and therefore have already died to sin at the cross, and freed into a new life

Romans 6:2 – We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

Galatians 2:20 – I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Romans 6:18 – You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

Romans 6:22 – But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life.

Romans 6:4 – We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Romans 6:3 – Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Colossians 2:11 – In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ ...

2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 10:5 – We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

Right relationship with God our Father – We Live New Holy Lives

1 Thessalonians 2:10 – You yourselves are our witnesses and so is God, that we were devout and honest and faultless toward all of you believers.

Acts 26:20 – “... all must repent of their sins and turn to God—and prove they have changed by the good things they do.”

The Certainty of Answered Prayer

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – Asking is receiving

Matthew 7:7-8 – “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – Ask Without Wavering

James 1:5-9 – If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

Heb 11:6 – And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that that God rewards those who sincerely seek Him.

Mark 11:22-24 – Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have a God like faith. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you’re receiving it, it will be yours. But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.”

Daniel 10:12-13 – Then he said to me, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel; since from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard: and I have come for your words’ sake. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days. But, behold Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me: and I remained there with the kings of Persia.”

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – God Loves To Give

Matthew 7:9-11 – “You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him?”

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – in Proportion to Faith

Matthew 8:10-13 – When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to those who were following him, he said, “I tell you the truth, I haven’t seen faith like this in all Israel!” ... Then Jesus said to the Roman officer, “Go back home. Because you believed, it has happened.” And the young servant was healed that same hour.

Matthew 9:29 – Then he touched their eyes and said, “Because of your faith, be it done.”

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – It’s Promised

John 14:12-15 – “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it!”

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

John 15:16 – “You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.”

John 16:23-26 – “At that time you won’t need to ask me for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask the Father directly, and he will grant your request because you use my name. You haven’t done this before. Ask, using my name, and *you will receive*, and you will have abundant joy. I have spoken of these matters in figures of speech, but soon I will stop speaking figuratively and will tell you plainly all about the Father. Then you will ask in my name. I’m not saying I will ask the Father on your behalf, for the Father himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from God.”

Mark 16:16-20 – “Anyone who believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone who refuses to believe will be damned. These miraculous signs will accompany those who believe: They will cast out demons in my name, and they will speak in new languages. They will be able to handle snakes with safety, and if they drink anything poisonous, it won’t hurt them. They will be able to place their hands on the sick, and they will be healed.” When the Lord Jesus had finished talking with them, he was taken up into heaven and sat down in the place of honor at God’s right hand. And the disciples went everywhere and preached, and the Lord worked through them, confirming what they said by many miraculous signs.

The Certainty of Answered Prayer – Nothing is Impossible, Anything is Possible

Mark 9:23 – “What do you mean, ‘If I can’?” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.”

Matthew 17:20 – “Because of your unbelief,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

Matthew 21:21-22 – “Then Jesus told them, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and don’t doubt, you can do things like this and much more. You can even say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

The Unguarded Secrets of Asking and Receiving

The Unguarded Secrets of Asking and Receiving – Ask in Love

Galatians 5:6 – For when we place our faith in Christ Jesus there is no benefit in being circumcised or being uncircumcised. What is important is faith expressing itself in love.

The Unguarded Secrets of Asking and Receiving – Learn to Pray Right

Our Father – Pray to the Father, since we have a NEW relationship to God by the new birth which makes us new creatures

John 3:1-8 – There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. “Rabbi,” he said, “we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you.” Jesus replied, “I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God.” “What do you mean?” exclaimed Nicodemus. “How can an old man go back into his mother’s womb and be born again?” Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. So don’t be surprised when I say, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can’t tell where it comes from or where it is going, in the same way you can’t explain how people are born of the Spirit.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 – This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Galatians 5:24 – Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the passions and desires of their sinful nature on His cross.

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

1 John 2:29 – Since we know that Christ is righteous, we also know that all who do what is right are God’s children.

1 John 3:7-10 – Dear children, don’t let anyone deceive you about this: When people do what is right, it shows that they are righteous, even as Christ is righteous.

1 John 5:1-4 – Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has become a child of God. And everyone who loves the Father loves his children, too. We know we love God’s children if we love God and obey his commandments. Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. For every child of God defeats this evil world and we achieve this victory through our faith.

1 John 5:13-15 – I have written this to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know you have eternal life. And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

Who Is In Heaven – *where everything is glorious*

Phil 3:20-21 – But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

Honor to your name – *adoration, worship for past and future blessings*

Philippians 4:6 – Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, with thanksgiving.

Heb 13:15-16 – Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name. And don't forget to do good deeds and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

Thy Kingdom Come – *Interests of God and kingdom first, needs of others before own*

Philippians 2:3-4 – ... doing nothing through rivalry or through conceit, but in humility, each counting others better than himself; each of you not just looking to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others.

John 13:3-7 – Jesus, knew that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he came forth from God, and was going to God. He rose from dinner, and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel, and wrapped a towel around his waist. Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven – *This accepts and agrees with the Father's will in all things. It is submission in prayer to the will of God, yet refuses to be denied concerning all that is promised as God's will. If we would be just as dogged in refusing failure in prayer as we are in accepting failure, there would be very little failure.*

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

Give us this day our daily bread – *We love God with all out heart, soul, strength, and mind with interests of Kingdom, and we accept our needs and wants as the will of the Father as children of the Kingdom.*

2 Kings 4:3-7 – And Elisha said, “Borrow as many empty jars as you can from your friends and neighbors. Then go into your house with your sons and shut the door behind you. Pour olive oil from your flask into the jars, setting each one aside when it is filled.” So she did as she was told. Her sons kept bringing jars to her, and she filled one after another. Soon every container was full to the brim. “Bring me another jar,” she said to one of her sons. “There aren't any more!” he told her. And then the olive oil stopped flowing. When she told the man of God what had happened, he said to her, “Now sell the olive oil and pay your debts, and you and your sons can live on what is left over.”

When Charles Page, a millionaire of Tulsa, Oklahoma, prayed for the healing of his wife and bargained with God to help the poor if He would do it, he did not get an answer. We went back to God and confessed trying to bargain with God to get something personal; he promised to help the poor because it was right, not because he wanted his wife healed. She was instantly healed, and he gave millions to the poor through many years.

... and forgive us our sins, as we freely forgive every one that has sinned against us ... – *Confession of sins and personal wrongs to others goes far in getting answers to prayers. One cannot expect to keep sinning or have the wrong attitude toward others and still be heard of God. If men would quit the sin business and live in peace, and love all men as the Gospel teaches, answers from God could be expected without going through a long process of building up faith again.*

Matthew 6:14 – “For if you forgive other people their failures, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you will not forgive other people, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive you your failures.”

... and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. – *Guidance and deliverance from God should be part of our prayer life, and it can be expected when we have faithfully met all the conditions mentioned above of asking and receiving.*

The Unguarded Secrets of Asking and Receiving – The Boldness of God’s Friends

Heb 4:14-16 – So then, since we have a great High Priest who has entered heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe. This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same tests we do, yet he did not sin. So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.

Luke 11:5-8 – Then, teaching those listening more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.”

Hebrews 4:10 – For all who have entered into God’s rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world. So let us do our best to enter that rest. But if we disobey God, as the people of Israel did, we will fall.

The Unguarded Secrets of Asking and Receiving – We Can’t Fail to Get Answers with Such a High Priest

Romans 8:34 – Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God’s right hand, pleading for us.

1 Tim 2:4-6 – ... who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. There is only one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity, the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time.

Heb 10:19-23 – And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven’s Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God’s house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. We can fully trust him since our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ’s blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water. Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise.

Attitudes Towards Prayer

Prayer – The Power of Persevering

Luke 18:1-8 – One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. “There was a judge in a certain city,” he said, “which neither feared God nor cared about people. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy! I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’ ” Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a

just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth that have faith?"

1 Kings 18:42-46 – So Ahab went to eat and drink. But Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees. Then he said to his servant, "Go and look out toward the sea." The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah and said, "I didn't see anything." Seven times Elijah told him to go and look. Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, "I saw a little cloud about the size of a man's hand rising from the sea." Then Elijah shouted, "Hurry to Ahab and tell him, 'Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don't hurry, the rain will stop you!'" And soon the sky was black with clouds. A heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm, and Ahab left quickly for Jezreel. Then the Lord gave special strength to Elijah. He tucked his cloak into his belt and ran ahead of Ahab's chariot all the way to the entrance of Jezreel.

Prayer – Humility

Luke 18:9-14, "...would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but punched his own chest, saying, 'God be merciful to me a sinner!'"

Luke 17:1-10, "So likewise when all of you have done all those things which are commanded you, say, 'we are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.'"

Romans 3:22 –We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are.

Prayer – Get Alone With God

Matthew 6:5-6 – "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. 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 in private, will reward you openly.

Prayer – Take God at His Word That You Can Ask and Receive Since God is Not a Liar

Numbers 23:19 – God [is] not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: has he said, and shall he not do [it]? Or has he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Matthew 8:8 – But the officer said, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come into my home. Just say the word from where you are, and my servant will be healed."

John 15:7 – "But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!"

John 10:35 – If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken ...

Prayer – The Faith That Takes: Believe That You Have Already Received, and You Shall Have it

Mark 11:23 – "For verily I say unto you, that whosoever SAYS to this mountain, 'Be you removed, and be you cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he SAYS shall come to pass; he shall have whatever he SAYS.'"

Heb 11:6 – But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is one who rewards them that diligently seek him.

James 1:5-9 – If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all men liberally, without an unkind word; and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

Mark 9:23 – “What do you mean, ‘If I can?’ ” Jesus asked. “Anything is possible if a person believes.”

Matthew 17:20 – “You don’t have enough faith,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

Matthew 21:21-22 – Then Jesus told them, “I tell you the truth, if you have faith and don’t doubt you can do things like this and much more. You can even say to this mountain, ‘Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

Matthew 9:27-29 – After Jesus left the girl’s home, two blind men followed along behind him, shouting, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” They went right into the house where he was staying, and Jesus asked them, “Do you believe I can make you see?” “Yes, Lord,” they told him, “we do.” Then he touched their eyes and said, “Because of your faith, it will happen.” Then their eyes were opened, and they could see!

Prayer – Use Faith, and it Will Increase

Luke 8:18 – “So pay attention to how you hear. To those who listen to my teaching, more understanding will be given. But for those who are not listening, even what they think they understand will be taken away from them.”

Rom 10:17 – So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Galatians 6:7-8 – Don’t be misled: you cannot mock the justice of God. You will always harvest what you plant. Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature, will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit. So let’s not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don’t give up. Therefore, whenever we have the opportunity, we should do good deeds to everyone, especially to those in the family of faith.

Prayer – Doubt Irritates God

Matthew 17:14-21 – “Lord, have mercy on my son. He has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. So I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn’t heal him.” Jesus said, **“You faithless and corrupt people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.”** Then Jesus rebuked the demon in the boy, and it left him. From that moment the boy was well. Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, “Why couldn’t we cast out that demon?” “You don’t have enough faith,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

Prayer – Believe God that Help is on the Way no Matter the Demonic Delays, Do Not Believe Demon Lies or Your Eyes or Ears, Believe God!

Daniel 10:12-13 – Then he said to me, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel; since from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard: and I have come for your words’ sake. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days. But, behold Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me: and I remained there with the kings of Persia.”

Prayer – Fasting: The Cure for Unbelief During Prayer

Mark 9:29 – Afterward, when Jesus was alone in the house with his disciples, they asked him, “Why couldn’t we cast out that evil spirit?” Jesus replied, “This kind can be cast out only by prayer and fasting.”

Isaiah 58:6 – Isn’t this the fast that I have chosen? To release the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, and to let the oppressed go free and that you break every yoke? Isn’t it to distribute your bread to the hungry; and that you invite the poor who are cast out to your house? When you see the naked, that you cover him; and that you not hide yourself from your own flesh?

Esther 4:16 – Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast all of you, for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in to the king, which [is] not according to the law: and if I die, I die.

Ezra 8:21-23 – Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, so we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek of him a straight way for us, and for our little ones, and for all our substance. For I was ashamed to ask of the king a band of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the way, because we had spoken to the king, saying, “The hand of our God is on all those who seek him, for good; but his power and his wrath is against all those who forsake him.” So we fasted and begged our God for this: and he answered our prayer.

Matthew 4:1-19 – Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry ... Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!”

2 Corinthians 6:5 – In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in watchings, in fastings;

2 Corinthians 11:27 – In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness.

Prayer – The Power of United Prayer

Leviticus 26:8 – Five of you shall chase a hundred, and a hundred of you shall chase ten thousand; and your enemies shall fall before you by the sword.

Matthew 18:18-20 – “I tell you the truth, whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.”

Acts 2:1-4 – On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Spirit gave them this ability.

Acts 2:42-47 – All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all,

and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity, all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Acts 4:23-37 – As soon as they were freed, Peter and John returned to the other believers and told them what the leading priests and elders had said. When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God ... After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

Acts 5:12-16 – The apostles were performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers were meeting regularly at the Temple in the area known as Solomon's Colonnade. But no one else dared to join them, even though all the people had high regard for them. Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women. As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed.

Prayer – Forgiveness Precondition

Matthew 6:14-15 – “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Mark 11:24-25 – “I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you are receiving it, it will be yours. But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins, too.”

Prayer – The All-Inclusive Condition of Asking and Receiving

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

Matthew 17:20 – “You don't have enough faith,” Jesus told them. “I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.”

Matthew 21:22 – “You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.”

Mark 11:22-25 – Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, ‘May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,’ and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you are receiving it, it will be yours. But when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive your sins too.”

John 14:12-15 – “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! If you love me, obey my commandments.”

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

John 15:16 – “You didn’t choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name.”

John 16:23-26 – “At that time you won’t need to ask me for anything. I tell you the truth, you will ask the Father directly, and he will grant your request because you use my name. You haven’t done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy. I have spoken of these matters in figures of speech, but soon I will stop speaking figuratively and will tell you plainly all about the Father. Then you will ask in my name. I’m not saying I will ask the Father on your behalf, for the Father himself loves you dearly because you love me and believe that I came from God.”

1 John 5:14-15 – And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

Prayer – The All-Prevailing Plea

Rom 8:31-32 – What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won’t he also give us everything else?

Prayer – Kingdom Children’s Right for Expectation

Matthew 15:21-28 – A Gentile woman who lived there came to him pleading, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is possessed by a demon that torments her severely.” But Jesus gave her no reply, not even a word. Then his disciples urged him to send her away. “Tell her to go away,” they said. “She is bothering us with all her begging.” Then Jesus said to the woman, “I was sent only to help God’s lost sheep, the people of Israel.” But she came and worshiped him, pleading again, “Lord, help me!” Jesus responded, “It isn’t right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.” She replied, “That’s true, Lord, but even dogs are allowed to eat the scraps that fall beneath their masters’ table.” “Dear woman,” Jesus said to her, “your faith is great. Your request is granted.” And her daughter was instantly healed.

Five Steps to Answered Prayer After All Your Sin Is Confessed and Repented Of, and You Have Forgiven Everyone

*1) Decide what you want from God and get the Scriptures that definitely promise you these things. Get the promises firmly fixed in the heart and not only in the mind. **Be ready to use them against demons who will try to make you doubt God and rob you of what you want.***

*2) Ask God for the things you want and believe that you have got them. Believe God and not Satan; the truth, not a lie. Let every single thought and desire affirm that you have got what you asked. Never permit a mental picture of a failure to be in your mind. Never doubt for one second that you have the affirmative answer from God. **If doubts persist, rebuke them and get your mind on the answer and constantly affirm that the promises are true and that prayer has been answered.** Eradicate every suggestion, image, vision, dream, impression, feeling; in fact, extirpate all thoughts that do not contribute to your faith that you have what you have asked.*

Thoughts are governed by observations, associations, and teachings. Guard against every evil thought that comes into the mind. Stay away from all places and things that will not support your affirmation that God has answered your prayer. Meditate constantly on the promises upon which you base the answer to your prayer. See yourself with what you have asked for and make plans accordingly as if it were already a reality. Do not forget what you have asked of God and hold on until the full answer is materialized.

3) *Pray constantly and look heavenward. In your waking moments think on the greatness of God and His goodness. Count your blessings and faith will increase. Breathe deeply the life of God in your inner spirit. Lift your heart to God constantly in gratitude and increasing praise for what God has done and for what God is doing for you now. Maintain that all things are possible for the believer.*

4) *Make every prayer relative to what you have asked a statement of faith instead of unbelief. You can say, "I do have faith" or "I do believe that I have what I have prayed for" just as easily as you can make statements of unbelief. You can think thoughts of faith as easily as you can think thoughts of doubt and unbelief. The answer from God is never "no" to any lawful request from a repented child of God. Do not give up. It is your family right, your redemptive right, your Gospel right, and your creative right to have what God has promised.*

5) *It will come. It is yours now, so accept it and it will become a reality.*

Summary of Prevailing Prayer

Right Relationship – with both God and man

Matthew 5:23 – “So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.”

Matthew 6:9-15 – “Pray like this: ‘Our Father in heaven, may your name be kept holy, and your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us today the food we need, and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us. And don’t let us yield to temptation, but rescue us from the evil one.’ If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Matthew 18:15 – “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won’t accept the church’s decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector. I tell you the truth, whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.”

1 John 3:20-22 – Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if we don’t feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.

1 John 5:14-15 – And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

Adoration – worship God and love all men

Matthew 6:9 – “Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be your name ... For if you forgive men their sins, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, neither will your Father forgive your sins.”

1 John 3:18-22 – Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions. Our actions will show that we belong to the truth, so we will be confident when we stand before God. Even if we feel guilty, God is greater than our feelings, and he knows everything. Dear friends, if we don't feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from him whatever we ask **because we obey him and do the things that please him.**

Phil 4:6 – Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, with thanksgiving.

Heb 13:15 – Therefore, let us offer through Jesus a continual sacrifice of praise to God, proclaiming our allegiance to his name.

Unselfishness – *put the interests of God and others first*

Matthew 6:10 – “May your Kingdom come soon. May your will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.”

Restitution – *where possible*

Matthew 5:23 – “So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.”

Matthew 18:15 – “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won't accept the church's decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.”

Forgiveness – *be merciful to others*

Matthew 6:14-15 – “If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

Matthew 18:21 – Then Peter came to him and asked, “Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Up to seven times?” “No, not seven times,” Jesus replied, “but seventy times seven!”

Ephesians 5:32 – In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as they love their own bodies. For a man who loves his wife actually shows love for himself. No one hates his own body but feeds and cares for it, just as Christ cares for the church. And we are members of his body. As the Scriptures say, “A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.” This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

Boldness – *be free from fear and doubt*

Heb 10:19-23 – And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. This is because our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Unmeritorious – *base the right to an answer upon the work of Christ only, not upon personal merits*

John 14:12-15 – “I tell you the truth, anyone who believes in me will do the same works I have done, and even greater works, because I am going to be with the Father. You can ask for anything in my name, and I will do it, so that the Son can bring glory to the Father. Yes, ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it! If you love me, obey my commandments.”

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

Faith – *believe in the certainty of answered prayer*

Luke 11:9-13 – “And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. “You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.”

Spirituality – *live in the Spirit*

Ephesians 6:18 – praying at all times in the Spirit

1 Thessalonians 5:17 – Pray without ceasing.

Heb 13:15 –Through him, then, let us offer up a sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of lips which make confession to his name. (WEB)

Philippians 4:8 – Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Colossians 3:9-10 – Don't lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old man with his doings, **and have put on the new man** that is being renewed in knowledge after the image of his Creator

Rom 8:1-26 – So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. **He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.** Those who are dominated by the sinful nature think about sinful things, but those who are controlled by the Holy Spirit think about things that please the Spirit. So letting your sinful nature control your mind leads to death. But letting the Spirit control your mind leads to life and peace. For the sinful nature is always hostile to God. It never did obey God's laws, and it never will. That's why those who are still under the control of their sinful nature can never please God. But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if it is so that the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if any man doesn't have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his. And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful

slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children. Now we call him, "Abba, Father." For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. **But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering.** Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

Galatians 5:16-26 – So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! **Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to his cross and crucified them there.** Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives.

Perseverance – don't lose heart

Luke 18:1-8 – One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. "There was a judge in a certain city who neither feared God nor cared about people. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.' The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!'" Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth with faith?"

Humility – *realize you are nothing*

Luke 18:9-14 – Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: "Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised and traitorous tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer to himself: 'I thank you, God, that I am not a sinner like everyone else. I don't cheat, I don't sin, and I don't commit adultery. I'm certainly not like that tax collector! I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.' But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed."

Instead, he beat his own chest in sorrow saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner!’ I tell you this tax collector, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For the arrogant will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Galatians 6:3 – If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

Unpretentious – *make no outward show before others*

Matthew 6:5-8 – “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. 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. When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions 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!”

Sacrificial – *deny personal pleasures and feeling and concentrate upon the answer until it comes*

1 Corinthians 7:5 – Do not deprive each other of sexual relations, unless you both agree to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time so you can give yourselves more completely to prayer. Afterward, you should come together again so that Satan won’t be able to tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

Matthew 4:2,11 – When he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was hungry afterward ... Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

Unity – *oneness with both God and man*

Matthew 18:15-20 – “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back. But if you are unsuccessful, take one or two others with you and go back again, so that everything you say may be confirmed by two or three witnesses. If the person still refuses to listen, take your case to the church. Then if he or she won’t accept the church’s decision, treat that person as a pagan or a corrupt tax collector.”

Acts 2:1-4 – On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Spirit gave them this ability.

Acts 2:42-47 – All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Acts 4:23-33 – When they were released, they went to their friends and reported what the chief priests and the elders had said to them. And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them, who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit, ‘Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together, against

the Lord and against his Anointed.’ For truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. Now all of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

1 Corinthians 1:10 – I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

Ephesians 4:3-6 – Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.

Consecration – *be all and all for God*

John 15:7 – “But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!”

2 Corinthians 5:17 – This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Confession – *acknowledge own faults*

James 5:14-16 – Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you, anointing you with oil in the name of the Lord. Such a prayer offered in faith will heal the sick, and the Lord will make you well. And if you have committed any sins, you will be forgiven. Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Holiness – *have a pure life and motives*

Psalms 66:18 – If I had not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But God did listen! He paid attention to my prayer.

Inspiration – *depend on the Holy Spirit*

Rom 8:26-27 – And the Holy Spirit helps us with our shortcomings. For example, we don’t know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God’s own will.

Petition – *make requests known*

Philippians 4:6 – Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, with thanksgiving.

1 John 5:14-16 – And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for. If you see a Christian brother or sister sinning in a way that does not lead to death, you should pray, and God will give that person life. But there is a sin that leads to death, and I am not saying you should pray for those who commit it.

Whole Heartedness – *put whole life into worship*

Matthew 22:37 – Jesus replied, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.

Earnestness – *be sincere*

1 Thessalonians 3:10 – Night and day we pray earnestly for you, asking God to let us see you again to fill the gaps in your faith.

James 5:17 – Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results. Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years! Then, when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops.

Heb 5:7 – [Jesus] in the days of his flesh, having offered up prayers and petitions with strong crying and tears to him who was able to save him from death, and having been heard for his godly fear. (WEB)

Importunity – *press claims before God*

Luke 11:5-8 – Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ But I tell you this, though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.

Stubbornness – *refuse to give up*

Luke 18:1-8 – One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. “There was a judge in a certain city who neither feared God nor cared about people. A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, ‘Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy.’ The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, ‘I don’t fear God or care about people, but this woman is driving me crazy. I’m going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!’ ” Then the Lord said, “Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don’t you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth with faith?”

Matthew 15:21-28 – Then Jesus left Galilee and went north to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Gentile woman who lived there came to him, pleading, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is possessed by a demon that torments her severely. But Jesus gave her no reply, not even a word. Then

his disciples urged him to send her away. “Tell her to go away,” they said. “She is bothering us with all her begging.” Then Jesus said to the woman, “I was sent only to help God’s lost sheep, the people of Israel.” But she came and worshiped him, pleading again, “Lord, help me!” Jesus responded, “It isn’t right to take food from the children and throw it to the dogs.” She replied, “That’s true, Lord, but even dogs are allowed to eat the scraps that fall beneath their masters’ table.” “Dear woman,” Jesus said to her, “your faith is great. Your request is granted.” And her daughter was instantly healed.

Confidence – *never doubt*

1 John 3:21-22 – Dear friends, if we don’t feel guilty, we can come to God with bold confidence. And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.

1 John 5:14-15 – And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.

Joy – *be happy that you are going to receive*

Luke 24:52-53 – So they worshiped him and then returned to Jerusalem filled with great joy. And they spent all of their time in the Temple, praising God.

Acts 16:25-26 – And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one’s bands were loosed.

Trust – *be anxious about nothing*

Phil 4:6 – Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, with thanksgiving.

Right Relationship – with both God and man

Adoration – worship God and Love all men

Restitution – where possible

Forgiveness – be merciful to others

Boldness – be free from fear and doubt

Unmeritorious – prayer answered upon the work of Christ only, not on personal merits

Faith – believe in the certainty of answered prayer, speak positive

Spirituality – live in the Spirit

Perseverance – don’t lose heart

Humility – realize you are nothing

Unpretentious – make no outward show before others

Sacrificial – deny personal pleasures and feeling and concentrate upon the answer until it comes



Unity – oneness with both God and man

Consecration – be all and all for God

Confession – acknowledge own faults

Holiness – have a pure life and motives

Inspiration – depend on the Holy Spirit

Petition – make requests known

Whole Heartedness – put whole life into worship

Earnestness – be sincere

Importunity – press claims before God

Stubbornness – refused to be denied

Confidence – never doubt you have it

Trust – be anxious about nothing

Remember:

1. God tests your faith
2. Daniel's answer was delayed 21 days by a devil, so bind the devil when you pray.
3. Unless you are faithless and corrupt, boldly ask for anything in Jesus' name, and for the glory of God, and since God loves you and wants your joy full, and since God is pleased to save you, dwell in you, sanctify you, **and therefore God is pleased to honor your words**, so have expectation that it will be done.

