

**The  
Biblical Path  
To An Effective  
Prayer Life**

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# **THE BIBLICAL PATH TO AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE**

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# THE BIBLICAL PATH TO AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE

## INTRODUCTION

### EPHESIANS 6:18

**Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints —... .**

1. A 'fruitful prayer life' is essential to every aspect of a growing relationship with \_\_\_\_\_.

And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. (John 17:3)

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. (II Peter 3:18a)

#### Jesus should be:

- **The Supreme Love Of Your Life**
- **The Sovereign Lord Of Your Life**
- **The Center Of Your Universe That You Might Find And Build Your Identity In Him.**

2. No one's relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ will rise above the \_\_\_\_\_ of their 'prayer life'!
3. The duty and delight of effective prayer should be a common duty and delight of all godly \_\_\_\_\_.



The promises of God found in His word are to be the bow, by which we shoot the arrows of our supplications to heaven.

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. (Acts 2:42)

- (1) **DOCTRINE** – Knowing and applying the scripture.
- (2) **FELLOWSHIP** – Stimulating one another unto love and good works.
- (3) **BREAKING OF BREAD** – Observing the Lord's Supper together.
- (4) **PRAYER** – Both individually and corporately.

4. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods; the Holy Spirit flows through mighty men of \_\_\_\_\_ prayer.

**“Many Christians estimate difficulties in the light of their own resources, and thus attempt little and often fail in the little they attempt. All God's giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His power and presence with them.”**

**HUDSON TAYLOR**

5. You will be fiercely opposed and continually hindered in this matter of prayer, not only by the devil, but also by your own \_\_\_\_\_.
6. On what basis can we come to the throne of the Holy God of the universe with \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer?



### **ARE YOU**

**Setting your affections apart from your flesh's plans and purposes; AND Purposefully setting your affections apart unto God's plans and purposes?**

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# OUR CONFIDENCE IN EFFECTIVE PRAYER

## SECTION ONE

**I JOHN 5:13-15** - These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

### I. OUR CONFIDENCE IN ETERNAL LIFE

**These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, ... . (I John 5:13a)**

**But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name. (John 20:31)**

1. John wrote the 'Gospel of John' to bring unbelievers to faith in Christ; however, John wrote 'I John' so that people might come to a certain confidence that they possess Eternal \_\_\_\_\_.

Spiritual Examination:

- 1) Sanctification – I John 1:6-9
- 2) Submission – I John 2:3-4
- 3) Separation – I John 2:15-17
- 4) Supernatural Love for the Brethren – I John 3:14-17
- 5) Sharing that love with the Lost – I John 4:13-14



Do you see these evidences in your life?  
Are you bearing these fruits?  
Are you following after these road signs?

## II. CONFIDENCE IN ANSWERED PRAYER

**Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (I John 5:14-15)**

**... in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. (Ephesians 3:12)**

1. Because God is our Heavenly Father and we are His adopted children, we can come to the Lord with an open heart, with a confident trust, and with no fear of \_\_\_\_\_.

... He hears us, ... . (I John 5:14c)

2. Confidence in our intimate relationship with the Lord leads to confidence in our \_\_\_\_\_.

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (Romans 8:32)

**ANSWERS TO PRAYERS  
ARE PRIMARILY ROOTED IN  
THE PROMISES OF GOD  
TO HIS CHILDREN!**

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

3. We are called to live our lives with a personal confidence in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

- 
4. These verses promise that we can have the same confidence in 'Answered Prayer', which we already have in 'Eternal \_\_\_\_\_'.

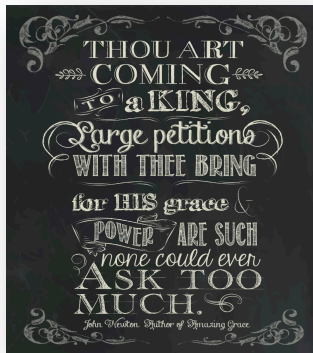
Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, ... . (Hebrews 4:16)

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, ... . (James 1:17a)

5. Therefore brethren having boldness (confidence) to enter the Holiest by the blood of \_\_\_\_\_ . (Hebrews 10:19)

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Hebrews 4:16)

6. He who prays without expecting to see God's answer, mocks the mercy seat and despises the throne of \_\_\_\_\_ .



By: John Newton

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you." (Matthew 7:7)

You will make your prayer to Him, He will hear you, ... . (Job 22:27a)

But know that the Lord has set apart for Himself him who is godly; the Lord will hear when I call to Him. (Psalm 4:3)

"It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear". (Isaiah 65:24)

7. How is it possible after all of these promises that God could refuse to \_\_\_\_\_ us?

### III. THE CONDITIONS FOR EFFECTIVE PRAYER

**... that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (1 John 5:14b)**

1. Supplication – We must personally come to God and \_\_\_\_\_ Him with a personal faith in the goodness of our Father.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God; ... . (Philippians 4:6)

- 
- A. When we come to God in prayer, we must believe that He will bless us, by giving us what is \_\_\_\_\_ for us.
- B. We have not because we \_\_\_\_\_ not. (James 4:32b)

**Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance; but laying hold of God's willingness.**

**Martin Luther – The Great Reformer**

2. Submission – We must be willing to see and discern God's will and discover God's promises in the particular situation; and then we must be willing to align our prayer with the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

... If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (I John 5:14b)

- A. Effective prayer is intimately connected to the will of God; the purposes of God; and the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- B. We are involved in effective prayer when we:
- ❖ Seek God's will,
  - ❖ Embrace God's will;
  - ❖ Surrender to God's will and are
  - ❖ \_\_\_\_\_ with God's will.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (Romans 12:1-2)

- C. Effective prayer does not consist of 'You attempting to make God your \_\_\_\_\_'.

... and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. (I Corinthians 6:19b-20)

A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. (Matthew 10:24)

... so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. (Philippians 1:20)

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"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world". (John 17:24)

You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. (James 4:3)

- D. The purpose of God's answer to an effective prayer is to bring \_\_\_\_\_ to God.

"And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son". (John 14:13)

"Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full". (John 16:24)

- E. The person that lives with a singular objective to live in:
- ❖ Joyful submission to the Lord;
  - ❖ Total dependence upon the Lord; and to live to
  - ❖ Serve the purposes of the Lord, will experience this unlimited prayer \_\_\_\_\_.

Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart. (Psalm 37:4)

"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you". (John 15:7)



**TWO CONDITIONS IN JOHN 15:7**

- 1) IF YOU ABIDE IN ME AND**
- 2) MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU**

... if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (I John 5:14b)

3. Obedience – We must be living a life of 'willing obedience' to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. (I John 3:21-22)

- 
- A. If I regard iniquity in my heart the Lord will \_\_\_\_\_ hear me. (Psalm 66:18)

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. (I Peter 3:12)

One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination. (Proverbs 28:9)

- B. Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be \_\_\_\_\_. (I Peter 3:7)

- C. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your own \_\_\_\_\_. (James 4:3)

- D. You must be certain that there is no un-forgiveness that is poisoning your \_\_\_\_\_ with the Lord and your effectiveness in prayer.

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32)

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. (Matthew 6:12)

- E. One of the great obstacles to 'answered prayer' is a lack of \_\_\_\_\_.

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

Now He could do no mighty work there, ... . (Mark 6:5a)

And He marveled because of their unbelief. (Mark 6:6a)

Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (II Corinthians 5:9)

- F. The righteous person whose prayers are effective is not a perfect person, but a \_\_\_\_\_ person.



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## IV. THE CONFIRMATION OF EFFECT PRAYER

**And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (I John 5:15)**

1. If we will pray according to God's will and under God's conditions, God will move heaven and earth to bring about His \_\_\_\_\_ to this prayer.

...But He hears the prayer of the righteous. (Proverbs 15:29b)

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

'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.' (Jeremiah 33:3)

2. Your Father hears you when you \_\_\_\_\_ according to His will.



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# PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

## SECTION TWO

**EPHESIANS 6:18a** – Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit — ... .

### I. PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

1. Only the prayer that comes from God can move the heart of God and bring down the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit. (Jude 20)

2. Everything in the Christian life must be done in a \_\_\_\_\_ manner.

A. It is the prayer that is birthed in the heart by the energy of the Holy Spirit, which brings mighty \_\_\_\_\_.

... work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. (Philippians 2:12a-13)

To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily. (Colossians 1:29)

And I will pray to the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever... . (John 14:16a)

3. Prayer is the spontaneous response of the heart that has been \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit.

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**[To Paul]** ... Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." (Acts 9:6b)

**[To Ananias]** So the Lord said to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying". (Acts 9:11)

4. Prayer is the spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ of the Christian life.
5. Our prayer is the 'Exhaling of our absolute \_\_\_\_\_ on God'.
6. We are called to live and minister in a manner which cannot be carried out without the grace and power of the 'Spirit of the living \_\_\_\_\_'.

But Jesus looked at them and said, "With men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible." (Mark 10:27)

7. Your level of spiritual maturity is revealed by the level and \_\_\_\_\_ of your prayer life.

## **II. WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR 'PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT'?**

1. You must be \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit.

Now we know that God does not hear sinners... . (John 9:31a)

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

2. You must be \_\_\_\_\_ with the Spirit.

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, ... . (Ephesians 5:18)

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*Be filled with the Spirit is a command. This phrase, "be filled", indicates that a believer is to be 'being filled in a continuous tense'.*



The word 'filled' describes a believer who is living a life that is:

Being directed by the Holy Spirit, in the same way that the wind fills the sails of a sailboat; for the purpose of controlling and directing the boat according to the will of the wind.

A. God is calling for a 'moment by moment' submission to the Holy Spirit's \_\_\_\_\_.

... for without Me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

3. We must be \_\_\_\_\_ in the Spirit.

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

A. When we are walking in intimacy and unity with the Spirit, then 'praying in the Spirit' becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ consequence.

- **ACKNOWLEDGE** - our need for Him to infuse us with His power and wisdom.
- **ASK** - Him to assist us.
- **ACCOUNT** - ourselves to be dead to sin and alive unto Him, to be led by Him, in prayer.
- **ACT** - in accordance with the Word that He has inspired in prayer.
- **ACKNOWLEDGE HIM** - in an attitude of gratitude for any spiritual good, which is produced in us and through us to others, by our prayer.

4. Tragically nothing decays faster in our spiritual lives than the passion to pray in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit.

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5. 'Praying in the Spirit' means that the Holy Spirit:

- A. **Prompts** the prayer within us, through His omniscient leadership.
- B. **Directs** us to pray particular prayers, through His perfect guidance and influence.
- C. **Empowers** us to offer that prayer to the Father with His omnipotent assistance.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (I Corinthians 2:12)

6. To 'Pray in the Spirit' also means that the Holy Spirit is able to give us great \_\_\_\_\_ in prayer.

**More Light on This Essential Truth!**

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:26-27)

1. **His Assistance** - As we pray in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit gives us assistance in prayer.

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. (Romans 8:26a)

A. There is nothing more important than our ability to speak to God and \_\_\_\_\_ to God, in difficult situations.

And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, ... . (II Corinthians 12:7a)

Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. (II Corinthians 12:8)

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." (II Corinthians 12:9a)

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Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (II Corinthians 12:9b-10)

B. Likewise the Spirit also \_\_\_\_\_ us in our weaknesses.

"... For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You." (II Chronicles 20:12b)

Then the Spirit of the Lord came ... . (II Chronicles 20:14a)

C. The Holy Spirit gives us specific thoughts and directions in our prayers and \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **HIS ADVOCACY** - As we 'pray in the Spirit', He comes to us as an advocate and \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

... because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. (Romans 8:27b)

A. The Holy Spirit prays for you concerning your sanctification and the Father's divine and perfect \_\_\_\_\_.

... but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (Romans 8:26b)

B. These 'groanings' are divine exchanges between the Trinity that cannot be vocally expressed in human \_\_\_\_\_.

For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. (I Corinthians 2:11)

**The desires are ours and the groanings are ours. But not apart from the Spirit producing them in our hearts. They are His groanings, wrought in us by Him.**

**B.B. Warfield**

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Now He who searches the hearts knows... . (Romans 8:27a)

" ... For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (I Samuel 16:7)

O Lord, You have searched me and known me. (Psalm 139:1)

- C. God is the only One who can search our hearts, for He is the only One who knows what \_\_\_\_\_ within our hearts.
- D. The Holy Spirit produces these groanings in our hearts, and the Father knows why the Spirit has \_\_\_\_\_ them.



IS YOUR LIFE  
BEING MOVED ALONG  
BY  
THE HOLY SPIRIT?

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# PERSEVERANCE IN PRAYER

## SECTION THREE

**EPHESIANS 6:18** - ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints — ... .

### **I. WE MUST APPRECIATE THE PRIVILEGE OF 'PERSEVERING PRAYER'**

1. You are welcomed to enter into the 'THRONE ROOM' of the living God at \_\_\_\_\_ times.
2. We always have the wonderful privilege and precious permission to pour out our \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.

### **II. WE MUST APPREHEND THE PRECEPTS OF 'PERSEVERING PRAYER'**

1. The Lord is encouraging you to never \_\_\_\_\_ prayer.
2. When Satan says to your mind, "Stop wasting all of your time, you are praying in vain", you must \_\_\_\_\_ him and persevere in prayer.

... above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. (Ephesians 6:16)



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And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. (Galatians 6:9)

3. The phrase 'praying always' also means that you must be ready and willing to pray in all situations and at \_\_\_\_\_ times.
4. You must make certain that all of your actions are consistent with your prayers; and that all of your actions become a \_\_\_\_\_ of your prayers.

### **III. WE MUST APPLY THE PRACTICE OF 'PERSEVERING PRAYER'**

1. You must attempt to prevent any sinful \_\_\_\_\_ to persevering in prayer.



- Be Attentive
- Be On The Alert
- Be Vigilant
- Be A Watchman

2. If you are going to persevere in prayer, you must constantly fight negligence and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. We need to ask God to give us a fervency that will carry us through the long periods when God does not seem to \_\_\_\_\_.

Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, ... . (Colossians 4:12a)

4. There can be many different purposes when God delays His answer; but if we continue to be fervent, our prayer will be \_\_\_\_\_.

And there is no one who calls on Your name, who stirs himself up to take hold of You; ... . (Isaiah 64:7a)

- 
5. God is calling you to be a person who will have the patience to 'wait on Him' and the \_\_\_\_\_ to continue to seek Him.

**ILLUSTRATION OF PERSISTENT PRAYER**

**LUKE 11:5-13**

And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'; and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs".

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, 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!"

1. The Lord is teaching that we need to learn how to pray with a
- full surrender to His will,
  - a full assurance of faith, and with a
  - persistence that refuses to be \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Lord Jesus begins the chapter, by giving us our \_\_\_\_\_ for effective prayer.

**"OUR FATHER"**

**As Believers, we have a personal relationship with the God of the universe:**

- **BY BIRTH**
- **BY BLOOD**
- **BY THE SPIRIT!**

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**And He said to them, "Which of you shall have a friend ... ."**  
**(Luke 11:5)**

3. The word 'friend' is describing a close intimate friend or \_\_\_\_\_.

**"... and go to him at midnight ... ." (Luke 11:5b)**

4. Midnight was the worst possible time of the night to be looking for \_\_\_\_\_.

**" 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him'. ..." (Luke 11:5c-6)**

**" ... and he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you'? ... !" (Luke 11:7)**

**"I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs". (Luke 11:8)**

5. This man continued persistently to ask his friend with the fervency and urgency of a desperate \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Lord Jesus is inviting you to be boldly aggressive in your praying; and is inviting you to storm the gates of \_\_\_\_\_ with your persistent prayer.

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. (1 John 5:14)

**"So I say to you, ... ". – Luke 11:9a**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life... ." (John 14:6a)

God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken and will He not make it good? (Numbers 23:19)

7. The Lord Jesus did not make a \_\_\_\_\_, when He declared this promise.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth". (Matthew 28:18)

- 
8. If you were being persistent with a man, he may be displeased with your continued asking; but when we are persistent with God in prayer, He is \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Asking, seeking and knocking are ascending levels in the \_\_\_\_\_ of effective prayer.

- **ASKING**
- **SEEKING**
- **KNOCKING**



- A. To Ask - To go to God with confidence in Him and ask what you desire from the One who is \_\_\_\_\_ to give.
- B. To Seek - This is picturing a more concentrated urgency and effort in your prayer.
- C. To Knock - This is even a more intensified persistence and fervency, as if you are continually \_\_\_\_\_ at the door.

**You may have waited a long time for an answer to prayer, but you are waiting and persevering at the right door.**

**Jeremiah Burroughs - Puritan**

**"... If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?**

**If you then, being evil, 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!" (Luke 11:11-13)**



*When you are seeking for a particular answer, God gives you to the HOLY SPIRIT!*

You ask for a Gift!

**God gives you the Giver!**

10. The problem is that God's children often make the mistake of thinking that the stones are bread; the serpents are fish; and the scorpions are \_\_\_\_\_.

O You who hear prayer, ... . (Psalm 65:2a)

You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, and give Him no rest... . (Isaiah 62:6b-7a)

11. Sometimes God manifest His character by answering our prayer \_\_\_\_\_.

It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking, I will hear. (Isaiah 65:24)



**NOTICE WHAT APPEARS TO BE  
A PARADOX IN LUKE 18.  
(BUT IT IS NOT!)**

And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? (Luke 18:7)

I tell you that He will avenge them speedily... . (Luke 18:8a)

But beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. (II Peter 3:8)

12. When God chooses to delay His answer, it is always for your \_\_\_\_\_.

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# THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

## SECTION FOUR

**EPHESIANS 6:18** - ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints — ... .

1. The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, but the prayer of the upright is His \_\_\_\_\_ . (Proverbs 15:8)

Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. (II Corinthians 5:9)

My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him. (Psalm 62:5)

2. The greatest expression of our total dependence on the Lord is our believing \_\_\_\_\_ .

He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy. (Psalm 147:10-11)

3. Effective prayer is that majestic transaction in which the wealth of the glory of God's provision is magnified and the needs of God's people are \_\_\_\_\_ .

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

4. Effective prayer includes much more than merely making our request known to \_\_\_\_\_ .

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5. There are general patterns in our prayer that are biblical and can serve us as basic \_\_\_\_\_ for effective prayer.

## I. THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

**Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)**

**Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; ... (Colossians 4:2)**

1. Every time that we come to God, we need to come with a sincere attitude of praise, adoration, thanksgiving and \_\_\_\_\_.

Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, ... . (Lamentations 3:22a)

... not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, ... . (Titus 3:5a)

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ... . (Ephesians 2:4a)

2. For you, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in mercy to all those who call upon You. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; and attend to the voice of my \_\_\_\_\_. (Psalm 86:5-6)
3. More than anything, God desires your sincere thanksgiving to Him, your genuine praise of Him, and your \_\_\_\_\_ worship of Him.



Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name. (Psalm 100:4)

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Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfies the longing soul, and fills the hungry soul with goodness. (Psalm 107:8-9)

4. Therefore by Him let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to \_\_\_\_\_ name. (Hebrews 13:15)

Offer to God thanksgiving, ... . (Psalm 50:14a)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, ... . (Psalm 92:1a)

Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. (Psalm 106:1)

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift. (II Corinthians 9:15)

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



We give thanks to You, O God, we give thanks! For your wondrous works declare that Your name is near. (Psalm 75:1) "

5. Nothing builds your faith and prepares you to pray like praising God for who He is and thanking God for all of the \_\_\_\_\_ prayers in your life and ministry.

..."I am Almighty God; ... ." (Genesis 17:1b)

... the Father of lights, immutable, unchangeable, no shadow of turning. (James 1:17b)

... "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ... ." (Matthew 28:18)

... "The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; ... ." (II Samuel 22:2)

"I AM" (Exodus 3:14 & in John's gospels)

And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6b)

" ... They shall call His name Immanuel", which is translated, "God with us." (Isaiah 7:14 & Matthew 1:23)

He is the Good Shepherd. (John 10)      He is the Door. (John 10)



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Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life... ." (John 14:6a)

6. When you take time to meditate on 'Who God Is' and 'All He Has Done' for us, thanksgiving and praise becomes \_\_\_\_\_ and spontaneous.
7. The most profound worship in your life may occur at the time of your greatest \_\_\_\_\_.

Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. (Job 1:20)

And he said: "Naked I came from mother's womb, and naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." (Job 1:21)

In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong. (Job 1:22)

- A. When we demonstrate an attitude of praise and thanksgiving in the middle of a great adversity, this is a tremendous testimony to \_\_\_\_\_ people.

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. (James 1:2-3)

And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. (Romans 5:3-5)

8. Thanksgiving and praise prepares your heart for \_\_\_\_\_ and dynamic prayer.

... in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. (I Thessalonians 5:18)

9. This 'Attitude of Gratitude' in your prayer is well pleasing in the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

*Are You*  
of *Thanksgiving*



*Planting Seeds*  
and *Praise* in

*Your Prayer Life?*

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# CONFESSION OF SIN

## SECTION FIVE

**JOHN 13:1-15** - Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him. "Lord, are You washing my feet?" Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean." So when he had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you".

### I. CONFESSION OF SIN

1. The cleansing that Jesus Christ performs at salvation never needs to be \_\_\_\_\_.

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Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean but not all of you." (John 13:10)

Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin. (Romans 4:7-8)

2. Even though we have been positionally cleansed by God's gracious work of justification, we need a \_\_\_\_\_ washing in a practical sense, as we live in this sinful world and in this wicked flesh.

### **HE WHO IS BATHED NEEDS ONLY TO WASH HIS FEET**



Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (II Corinthians 7:1)

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. (Galatians 5:16)

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

3. We find ourselves in the midst of a daily battle of our flesh lusting against the Spirit and the Spirit warring against our \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The apostle Paul personally testified of this tremendous war within his \_\_\_\_\_.

For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; ... . (Romans 7:15-18a)

Oh wretched man that I am! ... ? (Romans 7:24a)

5. It is absolutely necessary for us to experience a frequent, personal and practical \_\_\_\_\_, by our Lord.

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**Our natural tendency is to attempt to appear to be something that we are not!**

**But the Lord will not stand with us on the grounds of false appearances. He will only stand with us on the grounds of daily confession and forsaking of our sins vs. Him.**

**Charles Spurgeon**

6. As I come to the Lord in bible study and prayer, the Holy Spirit brings sins to my mind; and I realize that I need my Master to wash my \_\_\_\_\_, once again.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139:23-24)

I acknowledged my sin to you, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah (Psalm 32:5)

7. It is impossible to live a 'spirit-empowered' life without a consistent pattern of daily confession and \_\_\_\_\_.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear. (Psalm 66:18)

8. He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have \_\_\_\_\_. (Proverbs 28:13)

9. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all \_\_\_\_\_. (I John 1:9)

But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. (I John 1:7)

10. When God's people are genuinely cleansed through authentic confession of sin, then God fills them with power to \_\_\_\_\_ effectively.

11. Because we are experiencing the mercy and forgiveness of the Lord, we must walk in mercy and forgiveness toward \_\_\_\_\_.

And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. (Ephesians 4:32)

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And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. (Mark 11:25)

“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses”. (Matthew 6:14-15)

12. The believer who develops an ‘unforgiving attitude’ can expect the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.

For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives. (Hebrews 12:6)

**OBSERVE MATTHEW 18:21-35**

13. “ ‘Pay me what you owe!’ So his fellow servant fell down and begged, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ And he \_\_\_\_\_, but went and threw him into prison, till he should pay the debt.” (Matthew 18:28b-30)

A. “And His master was angry and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was \_\_\_\_\_ to him”. (Matthew 18:34)

14. “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to \_\_\_\_\_ one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.” (John 13:14-15)

**JOSEPH – GENESIS 50:19-20**

**STEPHEN – ACTS 7:60**

Joseph said to them, “Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. ... .” (Genesis 50:19-20)

Then he knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not charge them with this sin.” (Acts 7:60a)

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# THE TRIANGLE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

## SECTION SIX

**I TIMOTHY 2:1-6** – Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, ... .

1. The faithful intercessor identifies with the needs of another to the degree that he is willing to get \_\_\_\_\_ in their situation.

... a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. (I Peter 2:5b)

2. Intercession is one of the highest privileges and holiest exercises involved in our \_\_\_\_\_ with God.

### I. AN EXHORTATION TO FAITHFUL INTERCESSION

1. The story of Jesus' death on the Cross, for the redemption of our souls, is a story of \_\_\_\_\_.

... and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. (Isaiah 53:12)

- 
2. The entire life that Jesus lived on the earth was a life of \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

"I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them". (John 17:9-10)

"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; ...". (John 17:20)

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (II Corinthians 5:21)

Then Jesus said "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do." (Luke 23:34a)

It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. (Romans 8:34b)

3. Every believer has an essential responsibility to be a faithful intercessor, in the gathering in of the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, ... . (Luke 19:41)

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, ... ! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing". (Matthew 23:37a and 37c)

4. As Jesus saw this city of eternal souls that were headed toward wrath and condemnation, His eyes affected His heart; and then His Heart affected His \_\_\_\_\_.

"Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says the Lord God, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live"? (Ezekiel 18:23)

"I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn from your evil ways! For why should you die, ... ? (Ezekiel 33:11b)

5. Certainly we should express His broken heart for the lost around us; and this should inspire us to intercede compassionately and consistently for their \_\_\_\_\_.

6. If the great Ambassador from Heaven entered into Jerusalem with tears, certainly we as ambassadors for Christ should enter into intercession with \_\_\_\_\_.

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He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him. (Psalm 126:6)

Rivers of water run down from my eyes, because men do not keep Your law. (Psalm 119:136)

**IT IS BETTER TO HAVE A  
HEART WITH NO WORDS;  
THAN TO HAVE  
WORDS WITHOUT A HEART.**

**JOHN BUNYAN**

7. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires \_\_\_\_\_ men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. (I Timothy 2:3-4)

**"GIVE ME SCOTLAND OR I DIE!"**

**JOHN KNOX**

**"O LORD, GIVE ME SOULS  
OR TAKE MY SOUL!"**

**GEORGE WHITFIELD**

**"I CARE NOT WHERE OR HOW I LIVE OR  
WHAT HARDSHIP THAT I AM CALLED  
UPON TO ENDURE, JUST SO I GAIN  
SOULS FOR CHRIST!"**

**DAVID BRAINARD**

**"YOU CANNOT BRING SOULS TO THE  
LORD IF YOU DO NOT GO TO THE LORD  
YOURSELF ON BEHALF O THOSE  
SOULS."**

**CHARLES SPURGEON**

**"IF SINNERS BE DAMNED, AT LEAST LET  
THEM LEAP TO HELL OVER OUR BODIES.  
LET THEM PERISH WITH OUR ARMS  
ABOUT THEIR KNEES, IMPLOING THEM!  
IF HELL MUST BE FILLED, LET NO ONE  
GO THERE UNWARNED AND  
UNPRAYED FOR!"**

**CHARLES SPURGEON**



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## II. AN EXAMPLE OF FAITHFUL INTERCESSION

**EXODUS 32:1-14** - Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord." Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. And the Lord said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'This *is* your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!' " And the Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it *is* a stiff-necked people! Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation."

Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, and said: "Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit *it* forever.' " So the Lord relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.

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Come, make us gods that shall go before us; ... (Exodus 32:1b)

"...Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them." ... (Exodus 32:10a)

Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, ... . (Exodus 32:11a)

1. The exceeding wickedness of their \_\_\_\_\_ could have been a major obstacle.

"...for as for Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." (Exodus 32:1c)

A. Even though Moses was shocked and angered with their wickedness, he still continued to \_\_\_\_\_ with passionate intercession for these transgressors.

2. Sometimes the obstacle may be the \_\_\_\_\_ obstinance of the sinner.

And the Lord said, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! ... ." (Exodus 32:9b)

A. Even though God Himself had told Moses that this was a 'stiff-necked' people, Moses continued to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord in intercession.

3. Another obstacle may be the fact of God's just \_\_\_\_\_ that is fixed against this particular person.

"Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. ... ." (Exodus 32:10a)

Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ... ." (Exodus 32:11)

A. If you would have been Moses, would you have said at this point, "It is no use in continuing to \_\_\_\_\_ for these idolaters"?

- 
- B. Never allow your righteous indignation against sin, to hinder you from \_\_\_\_\_ for sinners.
4. God presented an obstacle to Moses by 'requesting for his prayers to cease', for the purpose of \_\_\_\_\_ his sincerity and His perseverance.

"... Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them ... ." (Exodus 32:10a)

- A. The Lord said, "Let Me alone", but Moses would \_\_\_\_\_ let Him alone.
5. Sometimes the obstacle may be the fact that you must pray in contrast to your own personal \_\_\_\_\_.

" ... I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation." (Exodus 32:10b)

- A. Moses demonstrated that he was a faithful intercessor by \_\_\_\_\_ himself.

For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 2:20-21)

6. Sometimes the only reason that you can continue to faithfully intercede is because of what you see in the character of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Then Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, and said, "Lord, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with your great power and with a mighty hand? ... ." (Exodus 32:11)

- A. The faithful intercessor can appeal to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
- B. The faithful intercessor can appeal to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.

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"... Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; ... .' " (Exodus 32:13a)

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)

7. The faithful intercessor must be willing to \_\_\_\_\_ himself with the one for whom he is praying.

Then Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Oh these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! Yet now, if You will forgive their sin—but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written." (Exodus 32:31-32)

For I could wish that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh. (Romans 9:3)

8. The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ from the harm, which He said He would do to His people.

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# OUR PERSONAL PETITIONS

## SECTION SEVEN

**EPHESIANS 6:18** - ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints— ... .

1. As infants are totally dependent on their parents, we are totally dependent on God for our physical and spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

Give us this day our daily bread. (Matthew 6:11)

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:19)

2. God's promise of provision is made to those who 'seek first His kingdom and His righteousness'. It is to them that He has made the promise that 'all these things shall be \_\_\_\_\_ to you'.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you". (Matthew 6:33)

"Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on". (Matthew 6:25a)

3. We need to mature to the place where our personal petitions reflect the \_\_\_\_\_ of our Lord.

... while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. (II Corinthians 4:18)

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But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; ... . (I Peter 2:9)

4. Since God's priorities are focused on eternal issues, shouldn't the priority of our petitions be focused on \_\_\_\_\_ issues?

**Examples of Paul's  
Prayer Life**

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:14-19)

Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (II Thessalonians 1:11-12)

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; ... . (Colossians 1:9-11)

5. You must co-operate with the Lord to transform your 'personal petitions' so that they might more biblically reflect 'God's priority', which is to conform you into the image of His \_\_\_\_\_.

... till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; ... . (Ephesians 4:13)

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. (Romans 8:29)

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I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.  
(Philippians 3:14)

- **The Purpose** – Always to be conforming into His image!
  - **The Prize** – Christ-likeness!

**Examples of Making Personal Petitions  
More Spiritually Focused**

- A. You can regularly pray through each 'Fruit of the Spirit' and ask the Lord to produce the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus in your life.



**Galatians 5:22**

**For Example:**

**LOVE – LORD, GROW ME IN YOUR LOVE!**

1. Give me a deep and passionate love for You, Lord.
2. Grant me a burning flame of love for Your Kingdom.
3. Cultivate within me a supernatural love, a servant love, a sacrificial and sharing love in and through my life, for Your people and for a lost and dying world.

**JOY – LORD I WANT TO MANIFEST YOUR JOY IN MY HEART AND LIFE!**

1. Give me Your Joy, so that I may rejoice in You no matter the circumstances.
2. Reveal to me and convict me in the times that I fail to rejoice in You.
3. Mature me and grant me Your power through the Holy Spirit to make a conscious commitment to count it all joy when I fall into the storms of life.

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- B. You can regularly pray through the \_\_\_\_\_ characteristics of 'The Beatitudes'. (Matthew 5:3-12)
- C. As we read the Word of God, in our daily personal devotional life, we will encounter numerous spiritual realities which we can ask the Lord to produce in our \_\_\_\_\_.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7)

## ANXIOUS

1. The word 'anxious' means to be pulled in different \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The Greek word for 'anxious' can also mean — 'to strangle' —, which is exactly what worry does to our \_\_\_\_\_.
3. For I have learned in whatever state I am, to be \_\_\_\_\_. (Philippians 4:11)

I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:12-13)

4. When we become anxious about the earthly needs of life, that can easily turn into a sinful lack of \_\_\_\_\_ in our heavenly Father!

The attitude of worry and anxiety demonstrates a:

- Lack of confidence in the Lord and a
  - Lack of contentment with the Lord!
5. 'Your worrying' is manifesting that you have forgotten that the Lord Jesus is \_\_\_\_\_ to you.

The Lord is at hand. (Philippians 4:5b)



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6. The fact that the 'Lord is at hand' can also mean that the Lord is near to all that \_\_\_\_\_ upon Him.

" ... and lo, I am with you always... ." (Matthew 28:20b)

"I will never leave you nor forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5b)

But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God, ... . (Psalm 73:28a)

7. Turn your cares into \_\_\_\_\_.

Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. (I Peter 5:7)

- A. Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall \_\_\_\_\_ you. (Psalm 55:22a)

## *IN EVERYTHING*

8. The word 'everything' means everything without \_\_\_\_\_.

*If you look around you will be distressed.*

*If you look inside you will be depressed.*

*If you look to Jesus you will be at rest.*

*Corrie Ten Boom*

## *BY PRAYER*

9. The word 'prayer' is a more general word, which means to set your \_\_\_\_\_ on God.

## *AND SUPPLICATIONS*

10. To make known your specific need, by conveying a humble and

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urgent request, to meet that specific \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. God delights to have the personal expression of our reliance and confidence in Him, which results in sharing our needs in detail, while in \_\_\_\_\_ with Him.

## *LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN TO GOD*

11. Testify to the Lord about your desires and your \_\_\_\_\_.

## *THE PEACE OF GOD*

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. (Isaiah 26:3)

12. God will grace you with an inner calm and tranquility based on your unwavering confidence that He is both able and willing to accomplish what is \_\_\_\_\_ for you concerning this specific request.

## *THE PEACE OF GOD WILL GUARD YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS*

13. God's peace will guard our heart, which is susceptible to wrong feelings; and will guard our mind, which is susceptible to wrong \_\_\_\_\_.