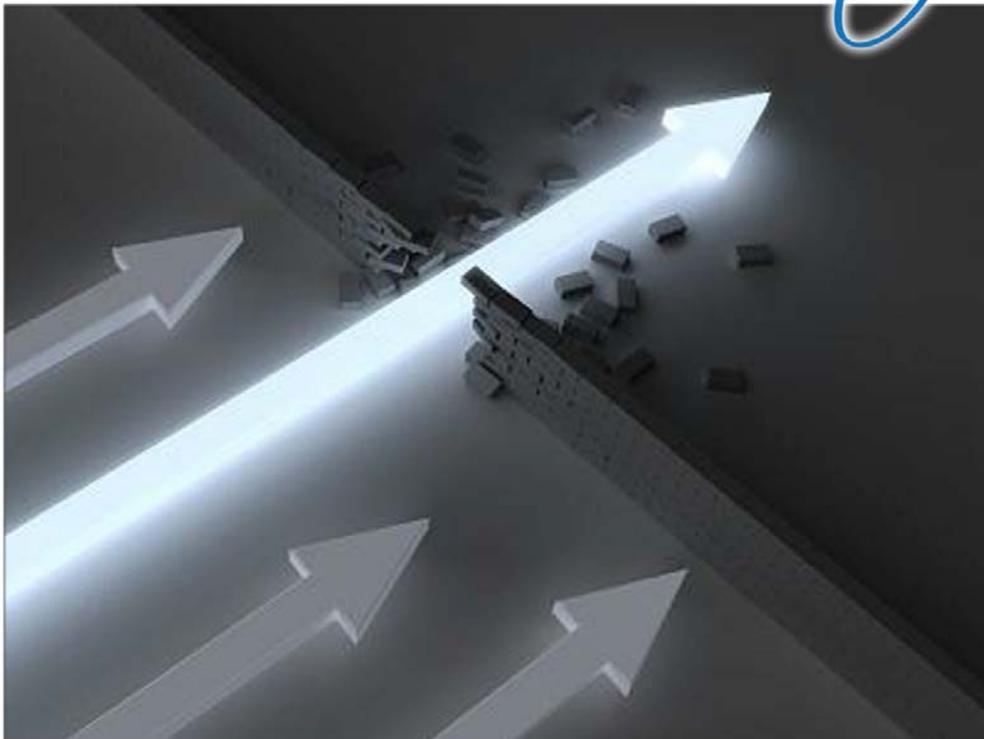


# PRAYING WITH

*Results*



**Stephen Smith**

# CONTENTS

## **Chapter 1**

The Word and Your Prayer Life

## **Chapter 2**

Prerequisites for Answered Prayer

## **Chapter 3**

Promises from a Life of Prayer

## **Chapter 4**

PRAYER: The Master Key to Life

## **Chapter 5**

Ignorance towards the Word of God

## **Chapter 6**

Wholeheartedness and Obedience will bring results

## **Chapter 7**

The Holy Spirit and your Prayer life

## Chapter 1

# THE WORD AND YOUR PRAYER LIFE

### Our Right to Answered Prayer Was Made Available Through the Shedding Of Jesus' Blood

*... The earnest (heart-felt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available – dynamic in its working.*

**James 5:16, Amplified**

### PRAYER PRODUCES POWER

God has created us in such a way that we need to know the purpose and benefit of something if we are going to be motivated to work for that thing. Christians do not really believe that prayer produces power OR if we ask that we can receive. Because of this we are not motivated anymore as to pray. Although we may not like it, we are not able to change easily. If we actually realised the benefits of prayer we would have been praying before now.

Motivation works on the basis of desire. For someone to pray, he must learn to desire prayer. For him to pray as the Scriptures require, he must develop a great desire to pray.

How can you develop a great desire to pray? You must see the eternal and temporal benefits of prayer. When we look in the Bible, we see powerful prayers. In Moses we see a man who had power in prayer. He could speak with authority not only to the enemies of God, but also to God's people. How did Moses develop his prayer power? Moses developed a life of prayer.

Joshua saw the mighty hand of God work through his life and ministry. How did Joshua develop so much power with God? He had learned to pray. While Moses was praying in the mountain, Joshua spent the night at the foot of the mountain in prayer. When Moses departed, God had a trained leader who was familiar with prayer.

David was a man given to prayer. When we look at the power in the kingdom and life of David, we can see the source of his power, a life of prayer.

Elijah was the prophet of God during one of the worst times in the history of Israel. At that time, Israel had turned to the worship of Baal. Elijah prayed powerfully, challenging the prophets of Baal. Elijah was a man of prayer. He would spend hours and even days in prayer. This is why when Elijah was taken up in the whirlwind by the chariot of fire, the sons of the prophets looked for him on the mountaintops of Israel.

However, no one has ever manifested the power of God like the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Jesus was known to have spent seasons of prayer with the Father alone. This was the source of His power. He could do nothing unless the Father revealed it to Him.

Are you tired of the powerless prayers that you hear coming from your lips? Are you ready to enter into a powerful life in prayer? If this is your desire and you will do anything, and then get ready for God to dramatically change your life and ministry, bringing you into a new dimension of power.

I read where a man named Charles Finney passed through a small community in upstate New York. Houghton, New York, was a normal town, yet one day as Charles Finney's train was passing by; the Holy Spirit fell on the sinners in the community. Men in cocktail bars fell on their knees under the conviction of the Holy Spirit and ask Jesus Christ to save them. If the Holy Spirit gave Charles Finney such power, should not He give us the same kind of powerful ministry? Finney rarely shared the key to his power; however, reporter decided to spy on him. The newspaperman finally realised that the source of Finney's power was the hours that he spent in prayer.

*What about me, you may ask. I am not Moses, David, Elijah or even Charles Finney. I just want to see my prayers answered. I want to know that when I pray, I will receive results.*

The Bible contains the solution to every challenge. The Word of God contains your answer. The Lord doesn't need you to remind Him of your circumstances. He already knows about them. In fact, He knew about them before you did. That's why He gave you His Word – the solution handbook – to help you overcome all obstacles. How do I know? Because God said, ***His Word will always accomplish His purpose (Is. 55:11).***

Instead of dwelling on the problem and spending most of your time telling God what's not going right in your life, search the Scriptures and pray for the solution He has already provided. When speaking directly to God, make it personal by praying, *Lord, Your Word says, (Christ) was wounded for (my) transgressions, he was bruised for (my) iniquities: the chastisement of (my) peace was upon him; and with his stripes (I am) healed. Therefore I believe I've received my healing in Jesus' Name!* Remember, always pray the solution!

## **PRAYING THE WILL OF GOD**

Praying according to His will, which is His Word, does get God's attention.

***And this is the confidence (the assurance, the privilege of boldness) which we have in Him: (we are sure) that if we ask anything (make request) according to His will (in agreement with His own plan), He listens to and hears us.***

**1 John 5:14, Amplified**

**Verse 15** assures us that ***if the Lord hears us, we can have whatever we ask.*** In other words, for the Lord to hear us, our prayers must be in line with His will. We have to speak God's language in order to get His attention. Prayer is fellowshiping with the Father – a vital, personal contact with God is more than enough. We are to be in constant communion with Him.

***For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous – those who are upright and in right standing with God – and His ears are attentive (open) to their prayer...***

**1 Peter 3:12, Amplified**

Prayer is not to be a religious form without any power. It is to be effective and accurate and will then produce results. God wants to establish His covenant with us, therefore He ***watches over His Word to perform it (Jer. 1:12)***. Prayer that brings results must be based on God's Word.

***For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analysing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart.***

**Hebrews 4:12, Amplified**

Prayer is this "living" Word in our mouths. Our mouths must speak forth faith, for faith is what pleases God (Heb.11: 6). We hold His Word up to Him in prayer, and our Father sees Himself in His Word.

## **PRAYER IS CONTACT WITH GOD**

God's Word is our contact with Him. We put Him in remembrance of His Word (Is. 43:26) placing a demand on His ability in the name of our Lord Jesus. We remind Him that ***He supplies all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (Phil. 4: 19)***.

***That Word does not return to Him void – without producing any effect, useless – but it shall accomplish that which He pleases and purposes, and it shall prosper in the thing for which He sent it.***

**Isaiah 55:11**

God did not leave us without His thoughts and His ways, for we have His Word – His bond. ***God instructs us to call Him, and He will answer and show us great and mighty things (Jer. 33:3)***. Prayer is to be exciting – not drudgery. God moves as we pray in faith – believing. He says that ***His eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are blameless toward Him (2 Chron. 16:9)***.

***We are blameless (Eph. 1:4). We are His very own children (Eph. 1:5). We are His righteousness in Christ Jesus (2 Cor. 5:21). He tells us to come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need – appropriate and well-timed help (Heb. 4:16).***

## APPLYING THE ARMOUR IN PRAYER

The prayer armour is for every believer, every member of the body of Christ, who will put it on and walk in it, ***for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty through God for the pulling down of the strongholds of the enemy (Satan, the god of this world, and all his demonic forces) (2 Cor. 10:4)***. Spiritual warfare takes place in prayer.

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

Ephesians 6:12

***Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all (manner of) prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose and perseverance, interceding in behalf of all saints (God's consecrated people).***

Ephesians 6:18, Amplified

There are many different kinds of prayer, such as the prayer of thanksgiving and praise, the prayer of dedication and worship, and the prayer that changes situations. All prayer involves a time of fellowshiping with the Father. In Ephesians 6, we are instructed to take the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God and pray at all times – on every occasion, in every season – in the Spirit, with all (manner of) prayer and entreaty. Prayer is our responsibility.

## PRAYER BRINGS FORTH FRUIT

Prayer must be the foundation of every Christian endeavour. Any failure is a prayer failure. We are not to be ignorant concerning God's Word. God desires for His people to be successful, to be filled with a full, deep, and clear knowledge of His will (His Word), and to bear fruit in every good work.

***For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, into all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son.***

Colossians 1: 9-13

We then bring honour and glory to Him (John 15:8). He desires that we know how to pray ***the prayer of the upright which is His delight*** - Proverbs 15:8.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT PRAYS WITH US

Our Father has not left us helpless. Not only has He given us His Word, but also He has given us the Holy Spirit to help our infirmities when we know not how to pray as we ought.

***And in the same way by our faith [in like manner] the Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how to pray as we should; but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.***

**Romans 8:26, Living Bible**

We pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, according to the Word!

## USING THE WORD IN PRAYER

Using God's Word on purpose, specifically, in prayer in one means of prayer, is a most effective way of prayer. Jesus said, ***the words (truth) that I have been speaking to you are spirit and life (John 6:63 AMP).***

Using the Word in prayer is not taking it out of context, for His Word in us is the key to answered prayer – the prayer that brings results.

***Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the (action of His) power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams].***

**Ephesians 3:20, Amplified**

The power lies within God's Word. The Holy Spirit anoints it. The Spirit of God does not lead us apart from the Word, for the Word is of the Spirit of God. We apply that Word personally to ourselves and to others – not adding to or taking from it – in the name of Jesus. We apply the Word to the now – to those things, circumstances, and situations facing each of us NOW!

## PRAYING FOR ONE-ANOTHER

In 2 Corinthians 1:11, and 2 Corinthians 9:14 we see examples of how believers prayed one for another – putting others first in their prayer life with JOY!

***In every prayer of mine I always make my entreaty and petition for you all with joy (delight).***

**Philippians 1:4, Amplified**

Our faith does work by love (Gal. 5:6). We grow spiritually as we reach out to help others – praying for and with them and ***holding out to them the Word of Life (Phil. 2:16).***

## **GOD'S WORD AND PRAYER IS FOOD FOR OUR SPIRIT**

Man is a spirit, he has a soul, and he lives in a body (1 Thess. 5: 23). In order to operate successfully, each of these parts must be fed properly. The soul or intellect feeds on intellectual food to produce intellectual strength. The body on physical food, and the spirit – the heart or inward man – is the real you, the part that has been reborn in Christ Jesus. It must feed on spirit food, which is God's Word in order to produce and develop faith. As we feast upon God's Word, ***our minds become renewed with His Word, and we have a fresh mental and spiritual attitude*** (Eph. 4:23, 24).

***Likewise, we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God (Rom. 12:1)***, and not let that body dominate us but bring it into subjection to the spirit man (1 Cor. 9:27). God's Word is healing and health to all our flesh (Prov. 4:22). Therefore, God's Word affects each part of us – spirit, soul, and body. We become vitally united to the Father, to Jesus, and to the Holy Spirit – one with Them.

***Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.***

***He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.***

***All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you.***

**John 16:13-15**

***That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.***

**John 17:21**

***And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power.***

**Colossians 2:10**

God's Word, this spirit food, takes root in our hearts, is formed by the tongue, and is spoken out of our mouths. This is creative power. The spoken Word works as we confess it and then apply the action to it.

## **THE WORD, FAITH, and PRAYER**

***Be doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.***

**James 1:22**

***Faith without works or corresponding action is dead.***

**James 2:17**

Real faith is acting on God's Word now! We cannot build faith without practising the Word. We cannot develop an effective prayer life that is anything but empty words unless God's Word actually has a part in our lives. We are to hold fast to our confession of the Word's truthfulness.

***Our Lord Jesus is the High Priest of our confession***

Hebrews 3:1.

***He is the Guarantee of a better agreement – a more excellent and advantageous covenant***

Hebrews 7:22.

Prayer does not cause faith to work, but faith causes prayer to work. Therefore, any prayer problem is a problem of doubt – doubting the integrity of the Word and the ability of God to stand behind His promises or the statements of fact in the Word.

We can spend fruitless hours in prayer if our hearts are not prepared beforehand. Preparation of the heart, the spirit, comes from meditation in the Father's Word, meditation on what we are in Christ, what He is to us, and what the Holy Spirit can mean to us as we become God-inside minded. As God told Joshua in **Joshua 1:8**, ***as we meditate on the Word day and night, and do according to all that is written, then shall we make our way prosperous and have good success.*** We are to attend to God's Word, submit to His sayings, keep them in the centre of our hearts, and put away contrary talk (Prov. 4:20-24).

The Word says, the just shall live by faith (Heb. 10:38) and not by sight, we walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). But, a lot of Christians are walking by sight, and not by faith.

When we use God's Word in prayer, it is not something we just rush through uttering once, and we are finished. We are holding God's Word before Him. We confess what He already said. We expect His divine intervention while we consider and look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen, for the things that are visible are temporal, but the things that are invisible are deathless and everlasting, hallelujah! (2 Cor. 4:18).

Apply that when the storms of life come against you and the devil says, *Look here, you will never be able to get over that.* Just ignore him and say, *thank God, I believe the Word. It will not be there when I get there.*

That kind of faith will move mountains. Jesus said, *Say to the mountain be removed and cast into the sea.*

Prayer based upon the Word rises above the senses, contacts the Author of the Word and sets His spiritual laws into motion. It is not just saying prayers that gets results, but it is spending time with the Father, learning His wisdom, drawing on His strength, being filled with His quietness, and being lost in His love that bring results to our prayers!

Prayer is your legal right to use faith filled words to bring God on the scene in your behalf, or for another that your joy may be full. It is the Word abiding in you that causes faith to be present in your words. ***If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples (John 15:7-8).*** Notice it glorifies the Father when you get your prayer answered and your needs met! **Verse 11 says, *These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.*** Your joy can be full if the Word of Mark 11:24 abide in you, ***...When you pray believe...***

FAITH WILL MAKE PRAYER WORK. PRAYER WILL NOT WORK WITHOUT FAITH! FAITH WILL WORK WITHOUT PRAYER. Prayer is one of the means of releasing faith, so if we will line ourselves up with the Word of God and release our faith when we pray, we will see the power of God come alive in our lives!

## Chapter 2

# THINGS THAT HINDER ANSWERED PRAYER

A lot of times people pray, and they don't get answers to their prayers. What is it that hinders prayer? You are praying, but you are not getting any results. Do you have a hard time believing that God hears you, or even desires to answer your petitions? Are your prayers being hindered today by doubt, unbelief, or apathy?

There are some prayer promises that we need to look at before we look at the things that can hinder your prayer. It is time for us to begin to learn how to trust God! It is more than just saying: "Well I believe." No, do you trust Him? Do you trust Him with your life? Do you trust Him with the next step that you take? He is a rewarder to those who diligently seek Him. Those who believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder to those that diligently seek Him. If you do not believe that He IS, you won't take time to seek Him. You will always allow the circumstances and situations in this life to question your trust and belief in the reality of the Almighty God.

There are many places in the Bible where the people prayed and received answers to their prayers. When they began to seek the Lord and the Lord made his appearance. Then we move up to this current age, and we hardly hear Christians receiving answers to their prayers. That is something we are going to get rid of quickly. Every born-again believer, you are going to trust that God hears you, and because He hears you, He will answer your prayer!

Speak the following out aloud: ***God will hear and answer my prayer!*** You have to expect that! When you know that He answer you when you pray, you are not going to walk around trying to get somebody to pray FOR you. The reason why you go round is because you don't have confidence in your own prayer.

**Let's examine the... Promises of God:**

### SEEK GOD

***Seek the Lord and His strength, seek his face continually.***

**1 Chronicles 16:11**

***Keep on asking and it will be given you; keep on seeking and you will find; keep on knocking [reverently] and [the door] will be opened to you.***

**Matthew 7:7**

Ask and... what? (Given you) That's what you should expect when you ask. When you ask according to the Word of God, it shall be given unto you.

**Prayer is just saying to God what God already said in His Word!**

The language that God speaks and understands is His Word. When you don't know His Word, then you can't speak (pray) His Word. So, when you are not speaking His Word, then He is not hearing you. When the Christian can get this in his slingshot, he will know that he is NOT facing a giant.

My daughter is not surprised when she receives the bicycle she asked for. Why? Because she diligently seeks me (relationship) and she knows that when she asks me what she desires, I will give it to her! So she expects it in other words! I am supposed to give it to her. But she cannot expect a car when she asks for it now as she is still a child. When you ask God for guidance, be clear with your request and don't expect answers you know will not be given to you because of where you are at in your faith walk!

*...Knock, and it SHALL be opened unto you.* Some of you are knocking on the door of debt release; of healing; of provision; of breakthrough - *it SHALL...be opened unto you.*  
Ask – Seek - Knock

*For everyone who keeps on asking receives; and he who keeps on seeking finds; and to him who keeps on knocking, [the door] will be opened.*

**Matthew 7:8, Amplified**

Prayer is very important in our lives. We see Jesus going from one place of prayer to another place of prayer, and in-between He is working miracles. And that is exactly what is supposed to be happening in our lives. Miracles and prayer is a way of life for a Christian.

### **KEEP ALERT, so that may not come into temptation**

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

**Matthew 26:41**

Of course this comes from the situation where Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. He asks some of the disciples to pray with Him. He came back and finds them asleep. **Verse 40, what, could you not watch with me one hour?** Let us combine verse 41 in Living Bible, and the Amplified. *Keep alert, keep awake [give strict attention, be cautious] and pray”.*

Be alert from what? From the temptations of the flesh. Prayer will equip you against temptation. When you spend time praying, you are spending time equipping yourself against temptation.

### **If a child of God remains connected with God, he cannot fall**

Prayer is the way out of temptation, and it is the way not to get into temptation. It is the vitamin, the strength that you need not to give in to that temptation. Prayer will weaken the effect of that temptation.

This is what Jesus was saying; *if you would have prayed, instead of sleeping, you would have overcome the weaknesses of the flesh.* That is why the church is in such a state of sin,

poverty, no vision, and no miracles because she has been overcome by temptations of the flesh because of a lack of prayer, daily contact with God! God is a daily God, not a Sunday God.

### **Every failure in life is a prayer failure!**

Be alert, watch, and see what is going on around you. Judge **yourself**, be honest with **yourself** – why? So you can defeat those things in prayer. I have never seen people so ignorant to things as the Christians. Oh, but we are very alert to the things our brothers and sisters are doing. Stop accusing your brothers and sisters and start looking at yourself, be alert to yourself, and bring yourself before God in prayer so He can purify and heal YOU!

Go in the most secret place with God, praying in English, Afrikaans, and especially in tongues. Maybe it will take three more days or even one more month, but **STAY IN THE SECRET PLACE**, because in the secret place you will find the answer to the secret of being delivered from that temptation!

The temptation is not the problem. You must just make sure you don't enter into it. There are many things tempting you, but prayer is your weapon. Sometimes if we are not careful, we will give the temptation more of an opportunity to work with us than we do the Spirit of God. We spend more time trying not to yield to the temptation and by doing so we give more room for the temptation instead of going right into a time of prayer and spending time with God. That time with God is equipping and strengthening us to fight against the temptation. Deal with temptation by praying the Word over it. If you stay in front of temptation long enough, it will begin to weaken you.

### **DO NOT FAINT**

***Also [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not to turn coward (faint, lose heart, and give up).***

**Luke 18:1, Amplified**

*Men ought always to pray, and not faint.* The most powerful thing a Christian can do is pray. It is not an option, but a way of life. Success is not determined by status, but by a life of prayer. Communion with God is essential for the overcoming Christian.

Pray so you won't faint, lose heart, and give up! *Yes, but I don't feel anything.* Keep on praying. Prayer is your seedtime, preparing you for your harvest. God gives strength to the faint. Where? In His presence. God doesn't faint, lose heart, and give up. Pray so you won't quit. Pray so you won't lose heart. Pray so that you can become an **OVERCOMER!** We need to cultivate (work on our part) this relationship with Jesus.

If you and I are going to live a life of prayer. We are not going to quit, we won't give up, cave in, lose heart, and grow weary in the things of God.

### **ASK, so that your joy may be full and complete**

***Up to this time you have not asked a [single] thing in My Name [as presenting all that I AM]; but now ask and keep on asking and you will receive, so that your joy (gladness, delight) may be full and complete.***

**John 16:24**

The Name of Jesus - the endorsement. Going to the Father, and asking in the Name of Jesus. Something happens when I say, *in the Name of Jesus*. Demons tremble when I say, *in the Name of Jesus*. Heaven takes notice when I say, *in the Name of Jesus*. Jesus has given us the authority to use His Name as if He is using it Himself.

ASK Him to get you out of debt. Not wishing. Not just mentioning it, but seriously taking the time in prayer to ASK the Father in the Name of Jesus. You HAVE NOT, because you ASK NOT the Bible says. *But Stephen, I thought it was unbelief if we keep on asking*. If you ask, and walk out of there doubting if anything has changed, THEN it is unbelief. The problem in our asking is that we faint and lose heart too easily. Believe that you receive! Some of you have asked to be out of debt. Remember when your last account is going to be paid, your joy will be full too.

We need to get rid of the questions like, *is He real? Did He hear me? Did I say it loud enough? Did I pray long enough?* There is nothing like getting answers to your prayers! Everyone ought to SEE that your prayers are answered!

## **PRAY AT ALL TIMES**

***Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.***

**Ephesians 6:18**

*All manner, kinds of prayer...* That simply means there are different kinds of prayer. Prayer of intercession; prayer of thanksgiving; petition prayer; praying in the Spirit; etc.

***And in the same way by our faith [in like manner] the Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how to pray as we should; but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.***

**Romans 8:26 Living Bible**

In English or Afrikaans you can only pray about the things you know about. Paul is urging us to *always keep on praying* (1 Thessalonians 5:17). *Lord how can I always just pray?* Prayer is not just prayer because you get on your knees, fold your eyes and close your eyes. Every time you speak a WORD, you either release a prayer to the glory of God, or one for the devil. If we start doing well in our confession, we will do well in our prayer life. We have made prayer a set aside religion. Every word that comes out of your mouth that contradicts what you said in your prayer closet, just cancels what you started praying.

You can't pray, *Father I pray in the Name of Jesus that I have 365 days of the glory of God*, and then walk out and confess that living today is tough times. Let your words get in line with what you believe the Word says about the situation.

God is not talking about the mechanics of prayer when He says: *Pray without ceasing*. He is talking about the LIFE OF PRAYER! The intimate relationship - the dialogue of prayer. The dialogue of speaking His language - the Word. Sometimes I will pray for one hour and out of that hour I only speak for 10-15 minutes. *Well Stephen, I have to speak, otherwise I fall asleep*. What do you say, see, and hear when you pray?

## Chapter 3

# PROMISES FROM A LIFE OF PRAYER

We are talking about *praying with results*, and particular looking at things that hinder your prayer. If you can find out the things that hinder your prayer, start changing your thinking where you EXPECT God to answer your prayers. Expectation is so important in your prayers. Your expectation is His invitation!

I want to take these scriptures and concentrate on the fact that the Bible gives us evidence that we are to expect answers to our prayers. Not just praying, but expecting answers! When you draw near to God, He will draw nearer to you. *First*, don't become disconnected from God. Stay in touch with Him. When you don't receive an answer, it can only be because you are not praying according to the Word of God, which of course reveals His will, and *secondly* praying the prayer of faith, having confidence in God. When I pray, I believe that I receive.

***He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.***

**Psalm 91:15**

When you call upon Him in trouble – He will ANSWER! Of course, when you stay connected with God, you won't get into trouble. But when you do, He will deliver you. That's the promise.

The most powerful thing a Christian can do is to pray. It's foundation for every successful endeavour in life. But we first need to get rid of the religion that is associated with prayer. It is not the mechanics that is important in prayer, but it is what you live from out your prayer closet. Most of us cancel our prayers, because of what we say and do after we have prayed. We get out and talk doubt and unbelief, and that stop the miracle working power of the Word of God that was released through our prayer. We mustn't see prayer as some hourly activity. We must see it as a daily walk with God! God is not a Sunday God. What you do throughout the day, will either support your prayer or cancel it out.

Your mouth and your words together will eventually be responsible for the success you achieve in this life – not waiting on God for the answer. What you say praying to God, and what you say talking to others will determine your outcome. *I will call upon the Lord, and He will answer me: He will be with me in trouble; He will deliver me and honour me.* Playing this religious game by only acting as if you know God on Sunday. That is not going to be good enough to give you the insurance of answered prayer.

God weighs the heart, not the outer appearance. Whatever you do, make sure you do it from the heart. We need God's support more than that of man. We WORK harder for the approval of man, than we do to please God. Promotion comes from the Lord. God is my support, He is my life, He is my reason for living, and He is my being. LEARN TO TRUST GOD! People say it can't be done – God says, *"I'll support you. I will never leave you, nor forsake you."*

God says, *Anything you ask*. When God is speaking, He says, *Whosoever believes*. **So I have an extravagant God with extravagant language to make me an extravagant person.**

- *Smith Wigglesworth*

What can and can't be done is not based on man. God says, *Nothing is impossible for Him*. He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ASK or think. Impossibilities only exist so that anointed people can come and overcome them! Get hold of every challenge you have in life and begin to live a life of prayer and make your mind up; with God I can do everything! **Luke 18:1 says; "Men ought always to pray, and not faint"**. PRAY so you won't faint, give up; cave in, and quit! It IS NOT a matter of IF it comes, but WHEN it comes. But until then I am in preparation and ready to receive it. The foundation for success is walking in His presence in a lifestyle of prayer. The success of a ministry, family, business will be because of people praying. Your success will be because you are praying!

Prayer is like cutting a key. For the first few years of my ministry I prayed and ask God where the growth is, where the money is? Then I learned that it is my responsibility to unlock these things through prayer. BUT! An unformed, uncut key, cannot unlock anything.

God wants us to be like a key that has been cut. First thing is to place that key in a vice grip with the MASTER key so it won't move. We need to be unmoveable when pressure is applied.

***Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers) hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind.***

***For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks for] from the Lord, [for being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels decides].***

**James 1:6-8, Amplified**

When you continue to move (waver), the pressure won't be able to duplicate the copy. As Christians we have pressures in our lives. Now we can either let this pressure benefit us to prepare us to unlock locks. When we move too much or become uncomfortable in that position, we won't be cut like the MASTER key who is God.

The same things that the MASTER key can do – we will be able to do. **We need to be tied up with the MASTER in prayer!** But as soon as pressure is applied, we separate ourselves from the master, and we wonder why things are not working for us. Then we blame God, the pastor, church, and others except ourselves. It is "natural" to do that, because you do not "fit". Jesus said, ***If you will abide in me, and my words (Word) abide in you, you shall ASK what you will, and it shall be DONE UNTO YOU.*** In times of pressure it is the opportunity to make a copy made of the Word of God. It is the opportunity to get yourself dipped in the fire, but you will come out of that fire pure without even smelling like smoke, lacking nothing and ready for a promotion.

I am not saying let us glorify hard times. There is something called: *Faith pressure*. That is what prayer is all about. Putting faith pressure on the Word of God to the point where in your prayer time you have cut so many copies of *healing keys, deliverance keys, prosperity*

keys, and when you come out of that time of prayer, you have unlocked so many doors because your keys fit.

We walk around saying that God is great. As Christians we confess that we serve a great God. My question is: *Why do we not position ourselves so that we can get more of His greatness?*

***Now to Him Who, by (in consequence of) the [action of His] power that is at work within us, is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly, far over and above all that we [dare] ask or think [infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, hopes, or dreams].***

**Ephesians 3:20, Amplified**

There is more inside you than you know! The Spirit of The Almighty God dwells in you. In all that is said concerning this "key", it is now vital that we should look into the following Scriptures.

***Praise be to God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.***

***For He chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.***

***In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfilment – to bring all things in heaven and on earth together under one head, even Christ.***

***In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will, in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory. And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of his glory.***

***For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.***

***And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.***

**Ephesians 1:2-23, Life Application Bible**

***But you have not so learned Christ; if so be that you have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: that ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; and be renewed in the spirit of your mind; and that you put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.***

**Ephesians 4:20-24**

This is how the MASTER key looks like, and He has already predestined for us to look the same. Therefore when we pray, speak, think, communicate, we must do according to this! If not, you will not be able to function like Him and fall short in your covenant rights! We keep bouncing back to the less, trying to get to the greater. God's success is not based where you are in the natural, but where you are in the Spirit. Where you are in the Spirit will eventually catch up in the natural.

It is like a silk plant without a root, what you see is what you get. It is not real. In a person who has a root, the sky is the limit. That root is called character. In prayer character is developed. When the root develops, you don't see it because it goes the other way down before it comes up. Somebody may come and cut you down. But because you have rooted yourself, you just grow back up! This comes by being rooted in the Word through prayer.

It is not a matter of what shall I do? *I don't know how I am going to make it.* No! *Keep on asking and it will be given; keep on seeking; keep on knocking. Call those things which are not as though they were.* Keep on calling and praying until your joy is full. Pay-day is coming, it is here. If God did it once, He will do it again! Let's get together and pray!

***Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, here I am. If you take away from your midst yokes of oppression [wherever you find them], the finger pointed in scorn [toward the oppressed or the godly], and every form of false, harsh, unjust, and wicked speaking.***

**Isaiah 58:9, Amplified**

Notice, that here are some things that will hinder your prayer. He says when you call He will answer, but under some conditions first. Most of the sins in the Bible are dealing with a man's misuse of his tongue.

***I will answer them before they even call to me. While they are still talking to me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!***

**Isaiah 65:24, Living Bible**

So far we have learned that *WHEN YOU CALL*. But here God is dealing with something that can only be obtained by covenant relationship and faithfulness. This doesn't happen to someone that's only wearing a Christian T-shirt or a fish sticker on his car - but only through intimacy, times spent with God in fellowship, talking to God. In times listening to Him. In times just enjoying Him.

***Your Father knows what you need before you ask Him.***

**Matthew 6:8**

***And therefore the Lord [earnestly] waits [expecting, looking, and longing] to be gracious to you; and therefore He lifts Himself up, that He may have mercy on you and show loving-kindness to you. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed (happy, fortunate, to be envied) are all those who [earnestly] wait for Him, who expect and look and long for Him [for His victory, His favour, His love, His peace, His joy, and His matchless, unbroken companionship]!***

**Isaiah 30:18-21, Amplified**

The question is: *Do you please God?* How can I? Through walking in faith with the Father. Praying, talking His Word and ONLY His Word.

***[For my determined purpose is] that I may know Him [that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him, perceiving and recognizing and understanding the wonders of His Person more strongly and more clearly], and that I may in that same way come to know the power out flowing from His resurrection [which it exerts over believers], and that I may so share His sufferings as to be continually transformed [in spirit into His likeness even] to His death, [in the hope].***

**Philippians 3:10, Amplified**

Success without pleasing God is failure. Be careful how you measure success.

***And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, it is my people: and they shall say, The Lord is my God.***

**Zechariah 13:9**

What do you say of Him when you are tested?

***Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known into God.***

**Philippians 4:6**

***I am the Vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him bear much (abundant) fruit. However, apart from Me [cut of from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.***

***If a person does not dwell in Me, he is thrown out like a [broken-off] branch, and withers; such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, and they are burned.***

***If you live in Me [abide vitally united to Me] and My words remain in you and continue to live in your hearts, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.***

***When you bear (produce much fruit, My Father is honoured and glorified, and you show and prove yourselves to be true followers of Mine.***

**John 15:5-8, Amplified**

## Chapter 4

# PRAYER: THE MASTER KEY TO LIFE

Prayer is not supposed to be a religious issue. It is the master key issue to life. It is the master key to life. I believe we will be able to see what God's purpose for prayer is, and why is it so important. There are things that God has been trying to get to us but we would not take it. There are things that God had built for us like houses, cars, family, destiny and many more. Why is it then that Christians always settle for second best? The devil THINKS that the money, possessions, and stuff belong to him. The earth belongs to the Lord and the fullness thereof.

*Who do you belong to? Where is the problem?* The problem is that we have tried to use the world's method to obtain that which God has already given to us, and we have to come back to the correct posture and BELIEVE - if we would only reach out and get what rightfully belongs to us in the first place.

We need to get hold of our inheritance; all the things that are covered through your policy called the blood covenant. The way we do it is through seeking God.

***Also Jesus told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not to turn coward (faint, lose heart, and give up).***

**Luke 18:1, Amplified**

The word "faint" means to; *give up, cave in, and quit.* So! In order not to give up, cave in and to quit means that we always need to pray! **The Dakes Reference put it this way:** *Do not give in to doubt, fear, unbelief, discouragement, or use excuses for unbelief when prayer is not answered immediately. Rebuke and resist all opposition to the answer and all suggestions of a failure. It is a divine blood-bought right to get an answer, so do not lose heart.*

***Pray without ceasing.***

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**

There is something I want you to see and understand. When we hear the word "pray," it is more than getting in your closet on your knees, folding your hands and to pray for one hour. Don't misunderstand me. It is very important – closet time. We call that time communion with God. But then the Bible talks a lot about seeking God. In the book of Hebrews it says that; *he that comes to God must believe that God is and that He is a rewarder of them who will diligently seek Him.*

What is it that God asks us to do so we won't give up, cave in, and quit? It must be more than that time spent in the closet, or most private room. Understand that this is important, but we need to understand that the box we put our so-called prayer in is much larger than that hour. There is something that God is trying to get to us, and the only way we will be able to get it is by **seeking** Him.

## What is Prayer?

- We do know that prayer is communicating with God the way God is communicating to us.
- We also know that prayer is saying to God what God has already said to us in His Word.
- We also know that the prayer system has a language, which is the Word of God. In establishing a prayer life without the Word will be ineffective. If we are going to get effective results then the Word of God is the principle foundation.

Getting the Word becomes very vital now. Without the Word I am ineffective in my faith, ineffective in my prayer, ineffective in everything I do. *What is the prayer of faith?* It is the prayer based on God's Word. I have heard us saying this so many times; *I am putting my faith out for this and that.* Where is the scripture backing it? It is not hoping and praying. Prayer involves the Word! Without the Word of God you cannot pray the prayer of faith. Faith comes by hearing and studying the Word. Carnal people have reduced this prayer system down to: *just talk to God like you talk to anybody else.* That's not right. It produces ineffective results. God is NOT LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE. You can talk to God as much as you want to, but if you want results, you better pray the Word (God's language).

There is a protocol coming into the presence of God. *Come into His presence with thanksgiving. Enter into His courts with praise.* Make sure that before you come into His presence, you do not enter with wrath or doubt. Then you enter by way of the blood of Jesus.

*What is that?* You have the right to enter His presence with boldness because it is part of your inheritance. You have the right to take authority over situations because it is your right to do it, because of your blood covenant with God. You have the right to cry "Abba Father." To ask forgiveness for your sins. By the blood of Jesus you have the right to the ever presence of the Holy Spirit. This is all in my covenant coverage. I have the blood-bought right to have healing in my body. I have a blood-bought covenant right to get answers to every one of my prayers that I pray in the Name of Jesus when I pray the Word of God! I have a blood-bought right to declare what I want Him to be in my life. To go before God and declare: You are:

- Jehovah Shammah – *The Lord*
- Jehovah Shalom – *The Lord my Peace*
- Jehovah Jireh – *The Lord will Provide*
- Jehovah Nissi – *The Lord my Victor*
- Jehovah Tsidkenu – *The Lord my Righteousness*
- Jehovah Rapha – *The Lord my Healer*
- Jehovah Raah – *My Shepherd*

**You do not have to be defeated by the devil not one split second .**

**– Kathryn Kuhlman**

Yet there are thousands of people who have Christian on there for head who are defeated by the devil. We claim we are Christians, yet we do not have power. We are not prospering;

we are broke, depressed, and sick. We claim we are Christians, and yet we do not have the fruit of the Spirit.

Your prosperity is in your mouth. You are the prophet of your own life! Your healing is in your mouth. It is one thing for the Lord to declare that NOW is the time of overflow, abundance, and another for you to possession yourself to receive overflow. We are walking around breaking the rules, not ready to receive.

***Rise [from the depression and prostration in which circumstances have kept you – rise to a NEW LIFE!] Shine (be radiant with the glory of the Lord), for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!***

**Isaiah 60:1, Amplified**

Maybe you are saying to yourself right now: *I have been believing God for this thing that He has promised me in the Word and I have yet to receive it?* **I want to show you how to get it.**

*First*, make sure that what you have believed for comes from the Word. Whatever you believe for, make sure that you have a scripture based for what you believe for. Your evidence for what you believe for and the evidence for what you can have comes from the Word of God. The Bible talks and refers to the Word of God as being incorruptible seed. So the seed for what you believe God for is that word from the Bible. The **thing** that you are hoping for comes out of that seed that's in the Word of God. No Word of God – no potential of having or possessing that thing that you want to have. Claim your rights in God's order. Do not give up lose heart, cave in or quit.

*Secondly*, you have to take that seed which you received from the Bible and plant it in your heart and keep it there. *Keep your heart for out of it flows the issues or influences of life (Prov. 4:23).* This seed will only grow when it is in the ground, good ground that is your heart.

Are you ready? For what? That you may move and be moved by the mighty power of God that cannot be moved, and so chastened and built up till you are in the place where it doesn't matter where the wind blows or what difficulties arise. You are fixed on God.

Are you ready? For what? To come into the plan of the Most High God, believing what the Scripture says and holding fast to that which is good, believing no man shall take your crown.

God can change us by His Word that we are altogether different day by day. David knew this. He said, ***Thy word hath quickened me (Ps. 119:50). He sent his word, and healed them (Ps. 107:20).*** How beautiful it is that God makes His Word abound!

*If you will receive the Word of God, you will always be in a big place. If you pray ABOUT the Word of God, the devil will be behind the whole thing. Never pray about anything which is Thus saith the Lord. It has to be yours to build you on a new foundation of truth.*

**- Smith Wigglesworth**

**PRAYER:**

Lord, grant me the strength and boldness to stand firm on Your Word, receiving Thy Word for all my needs - Amen

## Chapter 5

# IGNORANCE TOWARDS THE WORD OF GOD

IGNORANCE towards the Word of God becomes one of the things that will hinder your prayer. Prayer time is not a waste of time. It is your investment for your future. The time you spend with God in prayer, the time you spend sowing your seed (confessing the Word), is time where you make an investment for a successful future and then you don't have to worry about giving up, cave in, or quitting.

*How do we get this seed (the Word) in the ground (our heart)?*

## YOUR MOUTH IS THE MASTER KEY TO LIFE

*First of all: Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God (Rom. 10:17.)* If I never heard that is was in the Book, then I would not be able to get it in the first place. But! There is a part where I have to open my mouth and SPEAK these words. *Faith is CALLING those things which are not, as thou they are (Rom. 4:17.)* In other words; praying those Words! That is why I am saying that prayer is more than merely getting on your knees, folding your hands.

***But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach.***

**Romans 10:8**

*Lord according to your Word, I am praying Your spoken Word; I am talking your language. You say in your Word that; **through your stripes, I am healed.** Therefore Lord, according to your Word, I ask for my healing, and you say **whatsoever I ask according to your will, it shall be granted unto me.** Therefore I believe that I am healed – Amen.*

What is the difference between what I just said in prayer and now that I am finished praying? I confess and I say it out loud: *Lord I thank You that through the blood of Jesus I have my right to healing. Lord I declare that I walk in perfect wholeness - today!*

What is the difference between my PRAYER TIME and my CONFESSION TIME? Most of the time the Lord doesn't speak to me while I am praying, but ANY time. In the car, shower, or in conversation with someone else. If prayer does not become a LIFE, it will NEVER become a REALITY! The prayer that doesn't continue on in confession (*confessing the Word*) doesn't continue. I have heard many people praying a powerful, effective Word based prayer in their closet time, but cancel everything when they get out of their by means of their confession. We have to get BEYOND the prayer closets if we want results.

***Truly I tell you, whoever says to this mountain, be lifted and thrown into the sea! And does not doubt at all in his heart but believes that what he says will take place; it will be done for him.***

***For this reason I am telling you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that it is granted to you, and you will get it.***

**Mark 11:23-24**

Speak to the mountain; don't try to climb it! Nothing is going to change until you are going to speak to it. Death and life are in the power of the tongue. **SPEAK THE WORD OF GOD!** Your LIFE is in your mouth! Your victory, your deliverance, your healing, your unsaved friend, and your ministry are in your mouth. If you believe that, then it would be no problem to set up prayer time and confession times every day of your life because you know that it is working. *Do you need a miracle?* It is right there in your mouth!

When you PRAY or when you SAY (confess), believe that you receive. In other words, whether I say the Word in prayer or confession, I believe that I will receive.

***Trust and be confident – that you shall HAVE what you are saying. ...And if you believe, you have it; it's yours! (L.B)***

If you are not saying and praying anything, then you won't have anything. **There is a key:** you have to set time aside to pray and say. Then you can add to that by praying in tongues. The Holy Spirit will help you pray about things you don't know of.

We need to get serious about it. If not, we get religious about it. Religion is just a mechanical motion with no heart. It is an outward form with no power. After prayer and confessing time, when you enter into praying in the Spirit, the Spirit of God will allow your eyes to see what you didn't see before, your ears to hear what you didn't hear before, your heart to comprehend what you couldn't comprehend before. **That's why you pray in the Holy Ghost**, because He brings those things to the eye, the ear and to the HEART.

***...men ought always to pray, and not to faint.***

**Luke 18:1**

Your communion time with God will be the #1 reason for you not fainting. The word "faint" again means to; *give up, cave in, and quit*. So! In order not to give up, cave in and to quit means that we always need to pray!

***Do not give in to doubt, fear, unbelief, discouragement or use excuses for unbelief when prayer is not answered immediately. Rebuke and resist all opposition to the answer, so do not lose heart! (Dakes Reference).***

It is one thing to say: *well I know I need to pray, I need to live by faith, I know I need to do all these things*, BUT never doing it and just talking about it. **It is time to press in on it!** Put pressures wherever you need to put pressure to, break the walls which is hindering and stopping you from receiving answers, and start living that victorious life in Christ Jesus. You're going to have to press in on the promises of God by means of adding pressure to your confession, your prayer life, and your conversations.

## **SETTING UP A DWELLING PLACE**

Your circumstances are just your circle that you stand in. You are going to have to make sure that the circumstances of your life are determined by your faith walk. Don't allow

yourself to stand in the circle of sinners, or people that are constantly making excuses, and complaining about their circumstances. You draw your own circle by the Word of God and you stand in that circle and those will be your circumstances.

***Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not faint or grow weary; there is no searching of His understanding.***

***He gives power to the faint and weary, and to him who has no might He increases strength.***

**Isaiah 40:28-29**

The key to get the power is PRAYER! How do we know? Luke 18:1.

***If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, you shall ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.***

**John 15:7**

The word "abides" means to ***set up a dwelling place***. This scripture makes it very clear that you cannot separate God from His Word. Abiding in God is abiding in His Word. ***If you abide in His Word, living in His Word, and living BY His Word, you are abiding in God, living in God. My prayer life is going to be effected by my Word life.*** A lot of people are praying, but they have no Word relationship. The end results, they are praying prayers of doubt and unbelief. Prayers that are not lining up with the Word of God.

### **Prayer is saying to God what God already said**

God is waiting for your will to line up with His will so you can have whatever you are praying for. The Word is conducting your life. This is your constitution for life. The Word of God regulates us. We raise our children by the Word of God. We conduct our marriage by the Word of God, everything we do; we do it by the Word of God. When this becomes the #1 priority of your life, you are going to see some great changes and results in your prayer life because it is going to be a reflection of your Word life. Then you do not have to go around seeking God's will concerning your marriage, your healing etc.

***Ask whatever you want and it shall be done for you.*** We are connected with the Creator of heaven and earth, but we can't break the rules and expect for it to be done. Our life and how we conduct our life is a big part of how we are going to get results in our prayer life. It SHALL be done!

***And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he hears us: And if we know he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.***

**1 John 5:14-15**

His plan, His will is His WORD! Don't go the Lord and tell Him that you need a job. Go to His plan and His will for your life. ***Is it His will for you to prosper?*** Yes! Then it is His will for you to have a job. You need to go to His manual (the Word) and speak His language concerning your job that already exists! *What is the next step?*

***Faith is the assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead.***

**Hebrews 11: 1**

My confidence in answered prayer is the Word of God.

***Yet we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, I have believed, and therefore have I spoken. We to believe, and therefore we speak.***

**2 Corinthians 4: 13**

**When you go into prayer. Make sure you take...**

- The Word
- The name of Jesus
- The Holy Spirit
- The angels, with you.

**And not with...**

- Pity
- Emotional problems
- Oh Lord I need you!
- Oh Lord help me!

You cannot allow your emotions to dictate and change the rules. Don't allow your emotions to govern your life. The rules from the Word of God will change your emotions and get them back in line. Remember the circle? Stand in the circle of the rules, the Word. Set up a dwelling place!

When it is going rough, I take the Word and I take it through my ears, speak it out of my mouth and live by it and my soul becomes stable. I have the confidence that God's Word is true. Therefore when I pray, I have the confidence that my prayers are answered because I have confidence in the language (Word) that I pray.

*What is this confidence that John is speaking about? Gr. Parrhesia, **outspokenness.***

Translated:

1. Boldness/freedom of speech
2. Plainness of speech
3. Freely
4. Openly
5. Boldly
6. Boldness
7. Confidence

*Why do we have this? Because of Jesus who established His covenant with us. We have been made righteous. He established His Word. Therefore we have this confidence in the Word, that whatever we ask according to His will, it shall be granted! *And if we know he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him* (2 Cor. 4:15).*

The key to this prayer confidence is in the Bible. Instead of searching the Internet, search the Word of God. Who said your eyes must be closed when you pray.

**Praying without the Word will HINDER your prayer!**

## Chapter 6

# WHOLEHEARTEDNESS AND OBEDIENCE WILL BRING RESULTS

*Then will you call upon Me, and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear and heed you. Then you will seek Me, inquire for, and require Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.*

Jeremiah 29:12-13

*What are the right conditions of finding God? When you search for Me with all your heart.*

### **WHOLEHEARTEDNESS will get results in your prayer life.**

Your whole heart is the truth of the matter. When you really want something so badly, you will look and seek for it with everything you have. Some will seek Him because they are lost, and He will give them salvation. Others will seek Him because they are sick, and He will give them healing. Some will seek Him for guidance, and He will show them the way. Some will seek Him for wisdom, and He will grant it. Some will seek Him for a breakthrough, and He will deliver them, and others will seek Him for finances, and He will give them wealth!

The key here is wholeheartedness. Don't wait until you are overwhelmed with problems and circumstances. Find Him before the trouble overwhelms you. You may read this and you know that you have been going back and forth – back and forth and you desperately need to find God. Stop wondering! Get into prayer, a place of solitude and seek God, because you will find Him and hear from Him. God is the only one that can tell you what you need to know. Start seeking God; get your face on the carpet (the Word). God is not a mystery; He wants to have a PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP with you.

### **OBEDIENCE is a vital key to results**

*And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight. And this is the commandment that we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he who keeps his commandments dwells in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit, which he has given us.*

1 John 3:22-24

This is probably the biggest thing that will hinder your prayer. It is not the things you do and don't do while you are praying that is going to determine your success. LIFE determines your success in prayer! If you are not going to **obey His orders – observe His suggestions, follow His plan for you – and practice what is pleasing to Him**, you

will fail. How can you expect God to answer your prayer if you are not even obedient to His Word? Christians are doing what they want, and what is pleasing unto them – and not what God wants, and is pleasing unto Him.

**Don't forget to judge yourself were your obedience is concerned.** The more I abide in Him, the more He shapes my life, and I need to discipline myself to CHANGE! It is a quality decision to decide to obey Him. Obedience pays! Not only does he hear you; He answers because of your obedience. That is why people that are not tithing do not receive answers to their prayers. That is a direct rebellion against God! Money is an eliminatory thing. *Why do Christians get stuck on the money matter?* Because that is exactly where the devil wants to keep them – immature! God wants you to get past it so your prayers can be answered and you can grow to maturity.

## **MISUNDERSTANDING or INSENSITIVITY TO YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS is a hindrance to prayer.**

*The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].*

**James 5:16, Amplified**

Righteousness will be a prerequisite to answered prayer. Of course righteousness was made possible through our covenant (Jesus). Paul said in **1 Corinthians 15:34, *Awake to righteousness, and sin not. Awake to righteousness.*** Become aware that you have been made the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ, that you have been placed in right-standing with God through the sacrifice of Jesus at Calvary. When you do, it will stop the sin in your life.

You have been thoroughly equipped to handle every situation which comes your way. You reign in life as a king by Jesus Christ. You are to live in conformity with the Father. The Almighty God, Creator of the universe, chose to come down on your level in the form of Jesus Christ, to dwell in your heart by the Holy Spirit, and to give you His righteousness, His ability, and His strength...***greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4).*** Praise God!

**Ephesians 3:20** says ***He is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us.*** When I fully understood the significance of this scripture, I began to have some confidence in the ministry of the Holy Spirit in my life. We will cover more of this in the next chapter.

How do you become righteousness-minded? **Romans 8:5** says, ***For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh.*** **Proverbs 4:20** instructs us to ***attend to the Word of God.*** In the past we have not done this. We have thought *sickness* instead of **healing** ... *weakness* instead of **strength** ... *trouble* instead of **victory** ... *poverty* instead of **prosperity** ... *sin* instead of **righteousness**. We have attended to these other things, almost completely ignoring the power of the Word of God to deliver us from the flesh.

## **PRAYER:**

In the Name of Jesus I declare right now; I have a blood-bought right to get answers to my prayers. I abide in the Word, and the Word abides in me. Whatever I ask, it shall be done unto me. I will have a successful prayer life. I will be wholehearted in my prayer, I release my faith, and I will obey God's Word. I fully expect, with confidence that when I pray the Word of God, God hears me. And because I know He hears me, I have the petitions that I pray. Thank you Lord that my life will change drastically because of my prayer life. In Jesus Name – Amen.

## Chapter 7

# THE HOLY SPIRIT AND YOUR PRAYER LIFE

*Also [Jesus] told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not to turn coward (faint, lose heart, and give up).*

Luke 18:1

"Faint" again means to: *give up, cave in, and quit*. In order for us not to give in, cave in, and quit, means that we always need to pray! The key to success is prayer. In this chapter we are going to look at the:

## HOLY SPIRIT AND YOUR PRAYER LIFE

*And in the same way by our faith the Holy Spirit helps us with our daily problems and in our praying. For we don't even know what we should pray for, nor how to pray as we should; but the Holy Spirit prays for us with such feeling that it cannot be expressed in words.*

Romans 8:26, Living Bible

The Holy Spirit helps us with our DAILY problems, or bears us up in our weakness. The Holy Spirit is the best kind of support that you can get. Have you been in situations where you don't know what kind of prayer to offer? Well, the Holy Spirit will help you in your daily praying.

*For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God. Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit.*

*For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.*

1 Corinthians 14:2, 14-15

*Praise the Lord.* God has given you a language where you can talk directly to Him. There is no other type of prayer as perfect as praying in tongues. When you pray in tongues you pray the will of God for your life. The Holy Spirit will prepare you for things you did not even know of. I am nothing, but I can do ALL THINGS through God who strengthens me.

## BENEFITS OF PRAYING IN TONGUES

1. Praying in line with **God's perfect will** for your life. Where the perfect will is for your life that is where the power and anointing is for your life (Rom. 8:27.)
2. Praying in tongues stimulates your **faith**, and develops your **trust** in God (Jude 1:20, L.B). Trust determines how you act and react. Trust in the Lord with all your heart. How? By trusting His Word.

3. Praying in tongues is a mean of keeping free from **worldly contamination**. **1 Cor. 14:28; Talk to yourself (not others) and God.**
4. Praying in tongues enables us to pray for the unknown, **intercession** (Rom. 8:26). When do you stop? When you have victory. Don't say I am going to pray for 30 minutes or an hour. **Pray UNTIL...** Don't get legalistic, mechanical. **BUT!** If you are still young in the Lord, set a specific time out in order to discipline you to pray. Get fit!
5. Praying in tongues makes our spirit a **refreshed** (Isaiah 28:11-12). God wants us to have the availability of speaking in tongues to ourselves, and to keep ourselves fresh anytime we want ourselves refreshed. I don't believe a Christian ought to burn out. Why? We have the Holy Spirit to refresh us, and to keep us in rest.
6. By praying in tongues you are able to give **perfect thanks to God** (1 Cor. 14:15-16).
7. When you pray in the Spirit, pray all the time to **interpret** (1 Cor. 14:2-5). Don't ever leave a time of praying in tongues without asking the Lord to give you an interpretation of what you pray for. Remember! **Whatever you ASK for, it shall be...granted!** So every time to pray in tongues, say; *Lord I believe I receive the interpretation of that what I prayed for in tongues.*

## FAITH

*Lay hold of the eternal life... 'Eternal life' = Zoë life or God-Kind of Life.*

**1 Timothy 6:12.**

*I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*

**John 10:10**

*For as the Father hath life in Himself, so hath he given to the Son to have life in Himself.*

**John 5:26**

In John 1:4 we get the first intimation of what this life will do for us: ***In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.*** Light stands for development. In other words, ***In him was life; and the life was the development of men.*** Or, ***in him was Zoë; and the Zoë was the development of men.***

The church has majored on "manner of life" or "behaviour" rather than eternal life, which determines in a very large way the manner of life. Receiving eternal life is the most miraculous incident in life. Often we call it conversion or the new birth. Some call it "getting religion," but that's not what it is, really. It is, in reality, **God IMPARTING** His very nature, substance, and being to our human spirits.

**Lay hold on...**

- Healing
- Deliverance

- Peace
- Promotion
- The anointing
- Joy
- Your calling
- The promises of God

*How do you lay hold on these things?* By fighting the good fight of faith! My concern is not so much the fact that you **know WHAT FAITH IS** – but do you know **HOW TO LAY HOLD OF IT?** Do you know how to get it to happen for you? Do you know how to GET healing, prosperity, and victory instead of only knowing about it? Get them as realities in your life.

Fighting the GOOD fight of FAITH! When there is a fight, it means a contest is involved. In this contest it is good – why? There is only one thing that makes a contest GOOD – you are WINNING – NOT LOSING! In other words: **Win with faith**. This fight is not just going to be a little pushover. But in everything that you try to lay hold on, there is going to be opposition of what you are trying to lay hold on. There are going to be opposing forces. Fight!

That means there has to be a consented effort from me in order to lay hold on the promises, the Zoë life even being opposed by an opposing force. Listen! Many times that opposing force is not the devil (so I am not talking about the prayer of spiritual warfare), but the opposing force IS YOU!

Laying hold of fighting the good fight of faith simply means this: Jesus died to obtain the victory; my job is to maintain the victory. The fight of faith is fighting the fact vs. faith. You are receiving the Word and receiving it as real and yet having a fight, a contest in your mind as it challenges you towards the reality of what you receive.

I receive my provision – and yet you feel you are going to lose everything. Here is the good fight of faith: **Ephesians 6:14** says, **Stand therefore – hold your ground**. The Bible says, *You are laying hold of the eternal life, of that which has become a visible, tangible reality*. Laying hold of debt freedom is through standing in opposition of the reality of those accounts; you stand in the faith of the Word that has declared your deliverance from debt, and by standing there with your **mouth**, with your **ear** receiving the Word that has declared your deliverance. By standing there, how you **act**, how you **govern** your life is the fight that you win, despite the fact that accounts are opposing you! I am here to tell you: You will lay hold, you WILL WIN! You are not going to pray your problems anymore! *Oh Lord I am sick, broke, and sad. What are you laying hold of? The eternal life – the Zoë life!* So keep on fighting, stand your ground!

## THE PRAYER OF AGREEMENT

Go to the Lord in prayer in come in agreement with Him. **How do get in agreement with God?** *Lord I add my agreement with your Word. I agree with you. You say I am healed – I agree with you. You say I am delivered from debt – I agree with you. You say I have peace – I agree with you. According to your Word also where it says that;*

***If two of you AGREE on earth about anything that they may ASK, it SHALL be done for them.***

**Matthew 18:19**

*Lord I add my agreement with your Word. I stand firmly in my faith and I fully expect to lay hold what I am standing on, in the Name of Jesus."*

It has to be practised. It has to be worked-out in you. It has to be lived. It cannot be a last minute thing. It has to be something you have become accustomed to. When you pray, have your meditation time, confession time, and lay hold on the Zoë-life, the God-Kind of life.

**Have faith in your prayers!!**

### **PRAYER:**

In the name of Jesus, I declare that I have a blood-bought right to answered prayer. The Word of God is my guarantee. By prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, I can make my requests known to you. You hear the prayer of the righteous and answer them. Your eyes are upon me and Your ears are open to hear my prayers.

I am connected to Christ Jesus, and I am anointed. In everything I do I am more than a conqueror. Because I abide in you, and Your words abide in me, I see the manifestation of answered prayer. When I speak Your Word, it does not return without accomplishing what it was sent to do.

I thank You that I walk in favour with man and with You. Wherever I go and whatever I do, Your favour goes before me. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous person avails much. Therefore, I believe I receive what I pray for right now. In Jesus name. Amen

### **Prayer for salvation and baptism in the Holy Spirit**

Heavenly Father, I come to You in the Name of Jesus. Your Word says, *...whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved* (Acts 2:21). I am calling on You. I pray and ask Jesus to come into my heart and be Lord over my life according to **Romans 10:9-10**. ***If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*** I do that now! I confess that Jesus is Lord, and I believe in my heart that God raised Him from the dead.

I am now reborn! I am a Christian – a child of Almighty God! I am saved! You also said in Your Word, *if ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: HOW MUCH MORE shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?* (Luke 11:13). I am also asking You to fill me with the Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues as You give me the utterance (Acts 2:4).

Amen.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**If you would like:**

- To order books and tapes from Soteria Lifestyle Centre
- To become a partner or supporter of Soteria Lifestyle Centre
- To become an e-mail subscriber and receive the latest information concerning ministry events, new releases and special offers

**Contact us at**

SOTERIA Lifestyle Centre  
P.O Box 4882  
Rietvalleirand  
0174

**or**

Visit our Web site: [www.soteria.org.za](http://www.soteria.org.za)

E-mail: [soteria.admin@soteria.org.za](mailto:soteria.admin@soteria.org.za)

Tel: 082 940 7675