

Outline:**I. Promises of Answer**

- A. Anything you ask in agreement – Matt. 18:19
- B. Whatever you ask in faith– Matt. 21:22, Mk. 11:24
- C. Whatever you ask in His name – John 14:13; 15:16; 16:23
- D. According to His will – 1 John 5:14

II. Key verses

- A. Persistence – Matt 7:7-11; Gen 18:32; 32:26; Matt 15:27; Luke 22:44
- B. Joining with others – Matt 18:19
- C. Being connected with God – John 15:5
- D. All types of prayers – Eph 6:18
 - 1. Short – Neh. 2:4; Matt 6:7
 - 2. Long – Jesus - All night – Luke 6:12
 - 3. Silent – Hannah - 1 Sam. 1:13
 - 4. Loud cries and tears – Jesus – Heb. 5:7
 - 5. Simple – Daily bread – Matt. 6:11
 - 6. Profound – Kingdom come – Matt. 6:10
 - 7. In private – In your room – Matt. 6:6
 - 8. In public – Acts 1:14; 4:31; 14:23
 - 9. Evening, morning, noon – Ps. 55:17
 - 10. Jesus praying in morning – Mark 1:35
 - 11. Praying at midnight – Ps. 119:62
- E. God’s Heart – Luke 11:13
- F. He spares nothing – Rom 8:32
- G. Prayer with confidence – Eph 3:12, Heb 4:16

III. Specifics to pray for

- A. Government – 1 Timothy 2:1-2
- B. Healing – James 5:16
- C. Food – Prov. 30:8; Matt. 6:11
- D. Church – John 17:20, Rom. 1:9,10; Eph. 1:16; 6:18
- E. Gospel – Eph. 6:19; Col. 4:3

IV. Famous prayers

- A. Abraham for Sodom – Gen. 18:23
- B. Abraham’s servant – Gen. 24:12-14
- C. Moses – Exo. 32:11; 33:12
- D. Jabez – 1 Chron. 4:10
- E. Asa – 2 Chron. 16:12, 19 (missed prayer)
- F. Elijah at Carmel – 1 Ki. 18:36-37
- G. Jehoshaphat – 2 Chron. 20:12
- H. Hezekiah – 2 Ki. 19:15
- I. Nehemiah – Neh. 1:4; 2:4
- J. Daniel’s delayed answer – Daniel 10:12-13
- K. The Lord’s Prayer – Matt. 6:9
- L. Jesus’ intercession – John 17

- M. Thief on cross – Luke 23:42
- N. Jesus in garden – Matt 26:44
- O. Paul’s thorn – 2 Cor 12:8

V. Hindrances to Effective Prayer

- A. Prayerlessness
 - 1. John 16:24 - You have not asked for anything
 - 2. James 4:2 - You do not ask.
- B. Unrighteousness
 - 1. 1 Peter 3:7 – Husbands and wives
 - 2. Malachi 2:13,17 – Wearied Lord with words
 - 3. 1 Peter 3:12 – Against those who do evil
 - 4. James 5:16 – Prayer of righteous powerful
- C. Secret sin
 - 1. Ps. 66:18-19 If I had cherished sin...
- D. Unbelief
 - 1. Matt. 21:22 - If you believe, you will receive
 - 2. James 1:5-8 – double-minded man
 - 3. Matthew 17:20 – Mustard seed (Lk. 17:6)
 - 4. Heb. 11:6 – Anyone who comes must believe
 - 5. Luke 18:1-8 – Will He find faith?
- E. Selfish Motives
 - 1. James 4:3 – You ask with wrong motives
 - 2. Matt. 6:5-8 – The hypocrites praying for show
- F. Duplicity
 - 1. Mark 11:24-25 - Forgive so you can be forgiven
 - 2. Prov. 21:13 - Don’t shut your ears if you want to be heard
- G. Disobedience and Sin
 - 1. Deut. 1:45 - He paid no attention
 - 2. 1 Sam. 14:37 – Saul’s prayer for guidance
 - 3. 1 Sam. 28:6 – Saul’s prayer for guidance
 - 4. 1 John 3:21-22 – If we obey
 - 5. Proverbs 28:9 – Detestable prayers
 - 6. Isaiah 59:2 - Your sins have separated
 - 7. Isaiah 1:15-17 - I will not listen.
 - 8. Micah 3:4 - He will hide His face
 - 9. Zec. 7:13 - They did not listen; so I would not listen
- H. Not his will
 - 1. 1 Jn. 5:14-15 – Anything according to His will
- I. Guilty conscience
 - 1. James 5:16 – Confess your sins to each other
- J. Complacency
 - 1. Proverbs 1:28-33 - Complacency of fools
 - 2. Jeremiah 14:10-12 - Love to wander
- K. Self-righteousness
 - 1. Luke 18:9-14 – Thanks I’m not like others!

Supporting Material:

Verses:

Deuteronomy 4:7 What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him?

Psalms 5:3 In the morning, O LORD, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait in expectation.

Psalms 34:17 The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

Psalms 50:15 “and call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

Psalms 55:17 Evening, morning and noon I cry out in distress, and he hears my voice.

Psalms 145:18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Proverbs 10:24 ...what the righteous desire will be granted.

Proverbs 15:8 ...the prayer of the upright pleases him.

Proverbs 16:3 Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and your plans will succeed.

2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Jeremiah 29:12 Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.

Jeremiah 33:3 ‘Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.’

Zephaniah 3:9 “Then will I purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder.”

Matthew 6:5-8 “And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites...

‘But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. ⁷And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

Matthew 7:7-11 “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find;

knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

⁹“Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”

Matthew 17:20 ...“Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.” (compare to Luke 17:6)

Matthew 18:19 “Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.”

Matthew 21:13 “It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’”...

Matthew 21:22 “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

Mark 11:24-25 “Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. ²⁵And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

Luke 11:13 “If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

John 14:13-14 “And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.”

John 15:7 “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.”

John 15:16 “...[I] appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”

John 16:23-24 “... I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name. ²⁴Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.”

Romans 8:26 ...We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit

himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.

Romans 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Romans 10:12 ...The same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,

Ephesians 3:12 In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.

Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests...always keep on praying for all the saints.

Philippians 4:6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray continually;

1 Timothy 2:8 I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer...

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 5:7 During the days of Jesus’ life on earth, he offered up prayers and petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

James 5:13 Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.

James 5:16-17 “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.” ¹⁷Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

1 John 5:14-15 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

1 Peter 3:12 “For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer...”