

PRAYER (II) (Phil. 4:6)

PRAY IN GOD'S WILL

I John 5:14-15 How wonderful to pray and know God is listening since we are asking according to His will. To be successful in our prayers and have faith to believe we will receive the things we ask for, it would seem only logical to find out God's will for us and then pray for those things: See (**Jn. 11:42**).

Psalms 37:4 Here is a misunderstood verse. It says that if we so delight ourselves in God's Word, we will be so like minded that we will be fully surrendered to His will, His Word, and His work that His will becomes our will and we will pray only for those things that would please Him.

John 15:7 Here Jesus is teaching us that if we abide in Him along with His Word abiding in us that we can pray and receive the things that we pray for. The key is that His Word abides in us, because if we know His Word inside and out we will only pray for those things that He wants for us.

John 14:13-14 This verse along with others teach us to pray in Jesus name that we might get our prayers answered. The problem is that many times we ask and try to attach Jesus credentials to prayers that He would not put His name on. Praying in Jesus name is not a magic formula. We should not pray in Jesus name or for Jesus sake without first knowing if it is what Jesus wants or know it is God's will.

Mark 9:23 Having faith in what we ask for is a basic doctrine taught throughout the bible. Remembering that faith is a gift from God (**I Cor. 12:9**), we must understand that if we have bible faith in our prayer, we must be asking for something that pleases God otherwise we would not have true bible faith about the matter. If prayers go unanswered it may be that it contained a 'faith' that was not given by God but a 'faith' that was conjured up in order to 'hope' our prayer will be answered.

THE POWER OF FAITH

Heb. 11:1 According to the bible faith is a conviction, an assurance, and evidence that one can receive the things we hope for and ask for.

Heb. 11:6 It is clear throughout the bible that we cannot please God without faith in Him.

John 3:19-21; Heb. 3:12 Unbelief is a terrible sin. Many Christians think that some people were given great amounts of faith while others not so much. The bible clearly teaches that in all situations every Christian can have faith in all that God offers.

Heb. 12:1 The Holy Spirit tells us to "lay aside every sin...and *the sin which doth so easily beset us.*" I finally understand what that particular sin is. The context of what is being discussed is in the previous chapter which is FAITH! We are commanded to be like those that are spoken of and we are told to lay aside the *besetting sin* which is UNBELIEF! See (**Mark 16:14**).

Rm. 12:3 According to Paul's writings, every person has been gifted with a measure of faith, so why don't Christians get their prayers answered?

Mt. 17:20; Mk. 9:23; 11:24 The scriptures are clear that if we believe and have faith then we can have our prayers answered. However, the bible is also clear that we must have faith about each particular thing that we are asking; See **Mt. 16:13-16; Rm. 10:13; Mt. 14:25-31; Mk. 4:36-40**.

I Jn. 4:1 True faith in God regarding prayer is this; knowing a promise from God in His Word and trusting God to fulfill that promise for you, ie. Salvation, Soul Wining, Tithing, Serving Him, Meeting daily needs, Helping Missionaries and Church members, etc. God is obligated to answer His promises.

HOW MUCH FAITH IS NEEDED



(Little)-Mt. 17:20; Luke. 18:13; (Some) - Mk. 9:17-24 ; (Great) - Mt. 8:5-10; Mt.

15:21-28.