



Faith and Prayer

Faith

(Matthew 10:9,10)

⁹ Provide neither gold nor silver nor copper in your money belts, ¹⁰ nor bag for *your* journey, nor two tunics, nor sandals, nor staffs; for a worker is worthy of his food.

(John 14:12)

12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do.

**The Bible is full of stories of heroes of faith and God's work through them.
The number of God's servants is not important, for Gideon overcame the army of the Midians and the Giants with only three hundred men**

(Judges 7:2-7).

² And the LORD said to Gideon, “The people who *are with you are* too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’ ³ Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, ‘Whoever *is* fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.’” And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.

⁴ But the LORD said to Gideon, “The people *are* still *too* many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, *that* of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall go with you,’ the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ the same shall not go.” ⁵ So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, “Everyone who laps from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink.” ⁶ And the number of those who lapped, *putting* their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water. ⁷ Then the LORD said to Gideon, “By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand.

At the wedding in Cana of Galilee, when St. Mary noticed that they needed wine, she told the servants, “Whatsoever He says to you, do it” (John 2:5). We, too, need to obey the voice of faith till the end. The servants obeyed, and the Lord Jesus performed His first miracle. When we obey God, submitting in complete faith, we shall see miracles in our service, also.

How can we have faith?

II Corinthians 5

17 Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Is believing in God make you a Christian?

Revelation 3:20

**²⁰ Behold, I stand at the door
and knock. If anyone hears
My voice and opens the door,
I will come in to him and dine
with him, and he with Me.**

Prayer

What Does the Bible Say About Prayer?

The first mention of prayer is found in Genesis, chapter 4.

Genesis 4:26

And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD. [\(NKJV\)](#)

What is the Correct Posture for Prayer?

There is no correct or certain posture for prayer.

⁵⁴ And so it was, when Solomon had finished praying all this prayer and supplication to the LORD, that he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from **kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven. ([1 Kings 8:54](#)),**

³¹ So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they **bowed their heads and worshiped. ([Exodus 4:31](#)),**

Should I Use Eloquent Words?

Your prayers need not be wordy or impressive in speech.

Matthew 6:7

And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

Why Should I Pray?

Prayer Develops Our Relationship with God.

Zechariah 13:9

***I will bring that group through the fire and make them pure, just as gold and silver are refined and purified by fire. They will call on my name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'These are my people,' and they will say, 'The LORD is our God.' "* (NLT)**

John 15:7

***But if you stay joined to me and my words remain in you, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted!* (NLT)**

The Lord Instructed Us to Pray.

One of the simplest reasons to [spend time in prayer](#) is because the Lord instructed us to pray. Obedience is a natural by-product of discipleship.

What If I Don't Know How to Pray?

The [Holy Spirit](#) will help you in prayer when you don't know how to pray.

Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will. [\(NIV\)](#)

Are There Requirements for Successful Prayer?

Yes, there are some requirements found in the Bible for successful prayer.

Successful prayer requires:

- **A humble heart**

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. (NIV)

- **Faith**

Mark 11:24

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. (NIV)

- **Righteousness**

James 5:16

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. (NIV)

- **Obedience**

1 John 3:22

And we will receive whatever we request because we obey him and do the things that please him.

(NLT)

Does God Hear and Answer Prayer?

Yes, God hears and answers prayer. Here are examples of this promise from the Bible.

Psalm 34:17

The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles. [\(NIV\)](#)

Why Are Some Prayers Not Answered?

Sometimes our prayers are not answered. The Bible gives several reasons or causes for failure in prayer:

- Disobedience - [Deuteronomy 1:45](#); [1 Samuel 14:37](#)
- Secret Sin - [Psalm 66:18](#)
- Indifference - [Proverbs 1:28](#)
- Neglect of mercy - [Proverbs 21:13](#)
- Despising the Law - [Proverbs 28:9](#)
- Iniquity - [Isaiah 59:2](#); [Micah 3:4](#)
- Stubbornness - [Zechariah 7:13](#)
- Instability or Doubt - [James 1:6-7](#)

Sometimes our prayers are refused. Prayer must be in accord with God's divine will.

1 John 5:14

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. (NIV)

Should I Pray Alone or with Others?

God wants us to pray together with other believers.

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. [\(NIV\)](#)

God also wants us to pray alone and in secret.

Matthew 6:6

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. (NIV)

God's commandment to his disciples after his crucifixion was not to leave Jerusalem until they had received power from above (Luke 24:49). These words were a warning for them that they should not dare to serve without this power. God's promise to them was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. The writer of the Book of Acts showed how to receive this power when he said; "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His" (Acts 1:14).

When the social service increased due to the increased number of apostles, they did not forget prayer. When they gathered to discuss the matter, they said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

Devil is so smart, trying to find a good way and make you over doing it, so you forget the main thing.