


*Prayer is the spiritual lifeline of the Christian. It is the avenue through which the believer communicates with God and obtains spiritual power. As we open our heart and talk to God as our dearest friend, our prayers will assuredly ascend to our heavenly Father in the matchless name of Jesus. Indeed, the prayer of faith moves the arm of God and positions the believer to receive divine guidance and unimaginable blessings from above. It also enables us to receive fresh supplies of power that will help maintain our vital connection with God and insulate us against the targeted assaults of the enemy. We should never grow weary of prayer nor abandon this vital spiritual weapon. Satan trembles when sinners pray! He knows that He cannot defeat a praying Christian. Therefore, he seeks to distract our attention and obstruct our way to the mercy seat. Christians should remain vigilant, pray without ceasing, and experience the mighty power of prayer that neutralizes and defeats the enemy. Let's open our Bible and gain deeper insights into What God Says About…"The Power of Prayer."*

## PRAYER IS POWERFUL

1. **According to James, what type of prayer avails much?**

   "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The _____ _____ _____ of a righteous man availeth much." *James 5:16*

   ***Note:*** *According to James 5:16, the effectiveness of prayer increases when we confess our faults to one another in an effort to resolve strained relational conflicts and pray for one another.*

2. **How long did the heavens withhold rain when Elijah prayed? What did the heaven give and the earth bring forth when Elijah prayed again?**

   17"Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the

earth by the space of _____ _____ _____ _____ _____. [18]And he prayed again, and the heaven gave _____, and the earth brought forth _____ _____." *James 5:17, 18*

***Note:*** *The prophet Elijah's prayer for a drought demonstrated that God controlled the elements rather than the false god Baal. God withheld the rain for three and a half years and then sent the rain again in response to Elijah's prayer of faith.*

3. **Joshua prayed for what to stand still when Israel fought against the Amorites? How long did the sun refuse to go down?**

[12]"Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon. [13]And _____ _____ stood still, and _____ _____ stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. Is not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down _____ _____ _____ _____. [14]And there was no day like that before it or after it, that the LORD hearkened unto the voice of a man: for the LORD fought for Israel." *Joshua 10:12-14*

***Note:*** *According to Joshua 10, God caused the sun and moon to stand still for nearly a whole day. This mighty miracle was a direct response to Joshua's prayer while Israel was engaged in battle against the Amorites. Praying Christians should never underestimate the power of the prayer of faith. It is important to understand that prayer has the ability to dramatically alter circumstances regardless of the situation with which we may be confronted.*

## GOD HEARS AND ANSWERS PRAYER

4. **What does God promise to do when we call upon Him in prayer?**

"Call unto me, and _____ _____ _____ _____, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." *Jeremiah 33:3*

5. **How did God reveal King Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel when he and his friends prayed for an answer?**

[17]"Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions: [18]That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. [19]Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel _____ _____ _____ _____. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven." *Daniel 2:17-19*

**6. How will our heavenly Father reward us when we pray to Him in secret?**

"But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee _____." *Matthew 6:6*

## CONDITIONS TO ANSWERED PRAYER

**7. What does Jesus instruct us to do when we pray?**

[13]"And whatsoever ye shall _____ _____ _____ _____, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14]If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it." *John 14:13, 14*

***Note:*** *An important condition to answered prayer is to pray in the name of Jesus, our great high priest. The matchless name of Jesus provides efficiency to our prayers when we offer our petitions to our heavenly Father.*

**8. Specifically, how should we pray when we petition God's throne?**

[5]"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. [6]But let him _____ _____ _____, _____ _____. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. [7]For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." *James 1:5-7*

***Note:*** *Faith is another important condition to answered prayer. Christians are to pray in faith without wavering. Our faith in God and His promises is to remain strong in spite of the appearance of our circumstances.*

**9. According to the Gospel of Luke, what should we always do?**

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought

always to _____, _____ _____ to _____." *Luke 18:1*

**10. According to the apostle John, God answers our prayers because we do what? In addition, He answers because we do the things that are what?**

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we _____ _____ _____, and do those things that are _____ _____ _____ _____." *1 John 3:22*

***Note:*** *Another very important condition of prayer is obedience to God's Ten Commandment law. According to 1 John 3:22, our prayers are answered because we keep the commandments and do what is pleasing in God's sight. Disobedience clogs the prayer line, interrupts the channel, and hinders our ability to receive answers to our prayers.*

**11. We can be confident that the Lord will answer our prayers when we ask in what way?**

[14]"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing _____ _____ _____, he heareth us: [15]And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." *1 John 5:14, 15*

## HOW SHOULD WE APPROACH GOD IN PRAYER?

**12. According to the Psalmist, how are we to approach God in prayer?**

"Enter into his gates _____ _____, and into his courts _____ _____: be thankful unto him, and bless his name." *Psalm 100:4*

***Note:*** *Offering thanksgiving and praise to God is another vital condition of answered prayer. According to the Psalmist, we are to approach God with thanksgiving and praise. If we offer more praise and thanks to God, we would receive more power in prayer.*

**13. According to the apostle Paul, how are we to approach God in prayer?**

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication _____ _____ let your requests be made known unto God." *Philippians 4:6*

**14. According to Hebrews 4:16, in what way are we instructed to approach God's throne?**

"Let us therefore come _____ unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." *Hebrews 4:16*

**15. According to Hebrews 10:22, how are we instructed to draw near to God?**

[21]"And having an high priest over the house of God; [22]Let us draw near _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. [23]Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)." *Hebrews 10:21-23*

## PRAYER AND FASTING

**16. According to Jesus, the kind of demon referred to in Mark 9 could only be cast out through what spiritual means?**

[28]"And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? [29]And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but _____ _____ _____ _____." *Mark 9:28, 29*

***Note:*** *Prayer and fasting are powerful spiritual weapons for the Christian. Fasting strengthens our effectiveness in prayer. According to Mark 9, certain demonic strongholds can only be broken through prayer and fasting. Therefore, in order to achieve intense spiritual victories, it would do us well to pray more fervently and fast more frequently.*

**17. According to Acts 14:23, Paul and Barnabas appointed whom in the church after they had prayed and fasted?**

"And when they had ordained them _____ in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed." *Acts 14:23*

***Note:*** *According to Acts 14:23, elders were appointed in every church after a period of prayer and fasting had occurred. It is evident that the Lord provides a greater depth of spiritual clarity when spiritual leaders and believers, in general, fast and pray in pursuit of His divine will.*

## PRAYER AND HEALING

**18. According to the apostle James, those who are sick are instructed to call for whom? What are the elders to do in the name of the Lord?**

13"Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. 14Is any sick among you? let him call for _____ _____ _____ _____; and let them _____ _____ _____, _____ _____ _____ _____ in the name of the Lord: 15And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him." *James 5:13-15*

**19. According to the Psalmist, what did God do when He sent His Word in response to prayer?**

19"Then they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saveth them out of their distresses. 20He sent his word, and _____ _____, and _____ _____ _____ _____ _____." *Psalm 107:19, 20*

**20. According to 2 Chronicles 7:14, what does God promise to heal if the conditions are met?**

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall 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 _____ _____." *2 Chronicles 7:14*

## BARRIERS TO ANSWERED PRAYER

***Note:*** *Often, there are barriers that hinder our prayers from being answered. We should only expect our prayers to be answered when we have met the conditions and removed every sin barrier.*

**21. According to the apostle James, we have not because we do what? For what reason do we ask but receive not?**

2"Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye _____ _____. 3Ye ask, and receive not, because _____ _____ _____, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." *James 4:2, 3*

***Note:*** *In order for our prayers to be answered, we must actually pray and present our petition to the Lord. However, if we ask amiss or ask with wrong or selfish motives, we erect barriers that will surely prevent our prayers from being answered.*

**22. Our prayers will not be answered if we regard what in our heart?**

[18]"If I regard _____ in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: [19]But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. [20]Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me." *Psalm 66:18-20*

***Note:*** *If we harbor sin in our hearts, it is certain that our prayers will not be answered. If we refuse to forgive, God will not forgive and we should not expect our prayers to be answered (Matthew 6:15).*

**23. According to Proverbs 28:9, how does God consider the prayers of those who refuse to hear the law?**

"He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be _____." *Proverbs 28:9*

## PRAYER AND THE SANCTUARY

***Note:*** *Christians are to direct their prayers to our heavenly Father in the name of Jesus Christ, our great high priest and mediator in the heavenly sanctuary. As our fervent prayers ascend, Jesus mingles His merits and righteousness with our petitions and presents our requests before His Father as fragrant incense. Indeed, Christ's merits and righteousness adds efficiency to our prayers.*

**24. According to 2 Kings 19, Hezekiah prayed to God who dwells between what two beings in the heavenly sanctuary?**

[14]"And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD. [15]And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between _____ _____, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth. [16]LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God." *2 Kings 19:14-16*

**25. According to Psalm 18:6, from where in heaven did God hear the voice of David when he prayed in distress to Him?**

"In my distress I called upon the LORD, and cried unto my God: he heard my voice out of _____ _____, and my cry came before him, even into his ears." *Psalm 18:6*

**26. According to Psalm 141:2, our prayers ascend to the heavenly sanctuary as what?**

"Let my prayer be set forth before thee as _____; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice." *Psalm 141:2*

**27. According to John the Revelator, what is offered with the prayers of the saints?**

"And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him _____ _____, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne." *Revelation 8:3*

***Note:*** *In Revelation 8:3, Christ is symbolized as the angel that adds much incense to the prayers of the saints. Indeed, Christ's merits and righteousness enables our prayers to be effectual and acceptable to God.*

**28. According to Hebrews 7:25, Christ ever lives to make what for those who come unto God by Him?**

"Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make _____ for them." *Hebrews 7:25*

## SUMMARY

*Prayer is the spiritual lifeline of the Christian. It is the avenue through which the believer communicates with God and obtains spiritual power. Indeed, prayer is powerful. God hears and answers prayer and openly rewards those who pray to Him in secret. There are certain conditions to receiving answers to our prayers. Some of these conditions include praying to our heavenly Father in Jesus' name, exercising faith without wavering, and obeying the Ten Commandments. If we offer more praise and thanksgiving to God, we would receive more power in prayer. Intense spiritual victories are achieved through prayer and fasting. As our prayers ascend as incense to the heavenly sanctuary, Jesus, our great high priest, mingles His merits and righteousness thereby providing efficiency to our prayers. Without question, the prayer of faith moves the arm of God, neutralizes, and defeats the enemy.*

**29. Dear friend, are you willing to experience the power of prayer that moves the arm of God? _____**

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