

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

PREVAILING PRAYER

A SEVEN PART SERIES ON PRAYER

*“Ask and it SHALL be given
unto you.”*

By
DAN AUGSBURGER

16 TABLE OF CONTENTS

17

18 Prevailing Promises: 3

19

20 Prevailing Authority: 9

21

22 Prevailing Objectives: 17

23

24 Prevailing People: 24

25

26 Prevailing Relationships 27

27

28 Prevailing Remedies 39

29

30 Prevailing Results 55

31

32 Path2Prayer Ministries 63

33

34

35

36

37 “The proof that we have prayed aright is the answer. If we ask and
38 receive not, it is because we have not learned to pray aright....
39 (God) would tell us that we are not to rest without an answer
40 because it is the will of God, the rule in the Father’s family: every
41 childlike believing petition is granted.... If no answer comes, we
42 are not to sit down in the sloth that calls itself resignation, and
43 suppose that it is not God’s will to give an answer. There must be
44 something in the prayer that is not as God would have it.... We
45 must seek for grace to pray so that the answer may come. It is far
46 easier to the flesh to submit without the answer than to yield itself
47 to be searched and purified by the Spirit, until it has learnt to pray
48 the prayer of faith.”

49

50 Andrew Murray,

51 *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pp. 32, 33, 34

52

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING PROMISES

(1 of 7)

“Now Isaac pleaded with the Lord for His wife....” Gen. 25:21

Memory Items: Mark 11:24; Matthew 7:7,8; John 16:23,24; 1 John 5:14,15; Luke 1:37; GC 525

Introduction

1. Encouragements to Pray

*1 John 5: 14,15

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”

*E. M Bounds (1835 - 1913)

In prayer, “God turns Himself over to the will of His people. When Christ becomes our all in all, prayer lays God’s treasures at our feet.” *Prayer*, p. 177.

Christ Object Lessons, p. 173

“If we surrender our lives to His service, we can never be placed in a position for which God has not made provision. Whatever may be our situation, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexities, we have a sure Counselor; whatever our sorrow, bereavement, or loneliness, we have a sympathizing Friend. If in our ignorance we make missteps, Christ does not leave us. His voice, clear and distinct, is heard saying, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." John 14:6. "He shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper." Psalm 72:12. The Lord declares that He will be honored by those who draw nigh to Him, who faithfully do His service. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee, because he trusteth in Thee." Isaiah 26:3. The arm of Omnipotence is outstretched to lead us onward and still onward. Go forward, the Lord says; I will send you help. It is for My name's glory that you ask, and you shall receive. I will be honored before those who are watching for your failure. They shall see My word triumph gloriously. "All things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Matthew 21:22.

95 2. Necessary Bible Conditions & Expectations

96

97 *Charles Finney (1792-1875)

98 “On one occasion, when I was in one of the prayer-meetings, I was asked
 99 if I did not desire that they should pray for me. I told them, ‘No!’ because
 100 I did not see that God answered their prayers. I suppose I need to be
 101 prayed for, for I am conscious that I am a sinner; but I do not see that it
 102 will do any good for you to pray for me; for you are continually asking,
 103 but you do not receive.... You have prayed enough...to have prayed the
 104 devil out of (this town) if there (were) any virtue in your prayers.’ On
 105 further reading of my Bible, it struck me that the reason their prayers were
 106 not answered was because they did not comply with the revealed
 107 conditions upon which God had promised to answer prayer; that they did
 108 not pray in faith, in the sense of expecting God to give them the things
 109 they asked for.” *Memoires*

110

111 3. Sharing Together

112

- 113 • What has been your experience with prayer?
- 114 • What do you hope to gain by this study of prayer?

115

116 4. Singing Together

117 Sweet hour of prayer. (2x)
 118 That calls me from a world of care;
 119 And bids me at my Father’s throne.
 120 Make all my wants and wishes known.
 121 In seasons of distress and grief,
 122 My soul has often found relief;
 123 And oft escaped the tempter’s snare,
 124 By thy return sweet hour of prayer.

125

126 God’s Prevailing Promises

127 *Mark 11: 24

128 “Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them
 129 and you will have them.”

130

131 *Matthew 7: 7,8,11

132 “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock and it will
 133 be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks
 134 finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”

135

136 *Matthew 18: 20

137 “If two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be
 138 done for them by My Father in heaven.”

139
140
141
142
143
144
145
146
147
148
149
150
151
152
153
154
155
156
157
158
159
160
161
162
163
164
165
166
167
168
169
170
171
172
173
174
175
176
177
178
179
180
181
182

Psalm 81: 10

“Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.”—was key promise of George Muller.

James 4: 2

“You do not have because you do not ask.”

2 Cor. 9:8

“And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.”—was key promise claimed by August Francke.

*Luke 1: 37

“With God, nothing is impossible.”

John 14: 12-14

“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, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

Matthew 17: 20

“If you have faith as a mustard seed...nothing will be impossible for you.”

Other Testimonies

*Unknown Christian (1868-1951)

“Prayer is the key that unlocks the door of God’s treasure-house. It is not too much to say that all real growth in the spiritual life — all victory over temptation, all confidence and peace in the presence of difficulties and dangers, all repose of spirit in times of great disappointment or loss, all habitual communion with God — depends upon the practice of secret prayer. It can easily be shown that all want of success (and all failure in the spiritual life and in Christian work) is due to defective or insufficient prayer.... The greatest thing we can do for God or for man is to pray. For we can accomplish far more by our prayers than by our work. Prayer is omnipotent; it can do anything that God can do! When we pray God works.” *Kneeling Christian*, p. 9, 18.

*Great Controversy p. 525

“It is part of God’s plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that which He would not bestow did we not thus ask.”

183 George Muller

184 “Go for yourself, with all your temporal and spiritual wants, to the Lord.
 185 Bring also the necessities of your friends and relatives to the Lord. Only
 186 make the trial, and you will perceive how able and willing He is to help
 187 you. Should you, however, not at once obtain answers to your prayers, be
 188 not discouraged; but continue patiently, believingly, perseveringly to wait
 189 upon God....” A. T. Pierson, *Muller of Bristol*

190
191 *E. M Bounds

192 “How vast are the possibilities of prayer! How wide is its reach! What
 193 great things are accomplished by this divinely appointed means of grace!
 194 It lays its hand on Almighty God and moves Him to do what He would not
 195 otherwise do if prayer was not offered. It brings things to pass which
 196 would never otherwise occur. The story of prayer is the story of great
 197 achievements. Prayer is a wonderful power placed by Almighty God in the
 198 hands of His saints, which may be used to accomplish great purposes and
 199 to achieve unusual results...The only limits to prayer are the promises of
 200 God and His ability to fulfill those promises.” *Possibilities of Prayer*.

201
202 Charles Spurgeon

203 “I have never failed because I have cast myself upon the Lord. I have not
 204 hesitated to challenge our church with large ideas of what we might do for
 205 God, and we have accomplished all that we purposed. I have sought God’s
 206 help in all my manifold undertakings, and though I cannot tell here the
 207 story of my private life in God’s work, yet if it were written, it would be a
 208 standing proof that there is a God that answers prayer. He has heard my
 209 prayers—not now and then—so many times that it has grown into a habit
 210 with me to spread my case before God with the absolute certainty that
 211 whatsoever I ask of God He will give to me. It is not now a perhaps or a
 212 possibility. I know that my Lord answers me, and it would be folly to
 213 doubt it. I am sure of this, for I have reaped it.” *Prayer in the Life of the*
 214 *Believer*

215
216 Making It Simple

- 217 • Miracle Answers of the Past
- 218 • My Journey With Prayer

219
220 Prevailing Certainties221 *Mark 11: 24

222 “Whatever things you ask, when you pray, believe that you have received
 223 them, and you will have them.”

224
225 That I May Know Him, p. 230

226 "We should believe that God will answer our prayers, and not trust to
 227 feeling. We should say, 'My gloomy feelings are not evidence that God
 228 has not heard me....' We are to trust to the promise of God. We are to go
 229 about our business believing that God will do just what He has said He
 230 would do, and that the blessings we have prayed for will come to us when
 231 we most need them. Every petition enters into the heart of God when we
 232 come believing."

233

234

Delayed & "No" Answers

235

Ministry of Healing, p. 474

236 "In the future life the mysteries that here have annoyed and disappointed
 237 us will be made plain. We shall see that our seemingly unanswered
 238 prayers and disappointed hopes have been among our greatest blessings."

239

240

Counsels on Health, p. 380,381

241 "We all desire an immediate answer to our prayers and are tempted to
 242 become discouraged if our prayer is not immediately answered. Now, my
 243 experience has taught me that this is a great mistake. The delay is for our
 244 special benefit. We have a chance to see whether our faith is true and
 245 sincere or changeable like the waves of the sea. We must bind ourselves
 246 upon the altar with the strong cords of faith and love, and let patience have
 247 her perfect work."

248

249

*Unknown Christian

250 "God means every prayer to have an answer. Not a single real prayer can
 251 fail of its effect in heaven.... God's answer to prayer may be 'Yes,' or it
 252 may be 'No.' It may be 'Wait,' for it may be that He plans a much larger
 253 blessing than we imagined, and one that involves other lives as well as our
 254 own." *Kneeling Christian*, p. 87.

255

256

Andrew Murray

257 "He wants to impress deep on our minds this one truth, that we may and
 258 must most confidently expect an answer to our prayer. Next to the
 259 revelation of the Father's love, there is in the whole course of the school
 260 of prayer, not a more important lesson than this: 'Everyone that asketh,
 261 receiveth.'" *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, p. 21.

262

263

*Andrew Murray

264 "It is one of the terrible marks of the diseased state of the Christian life in
 265 these days, that there are so many who rest content without the distinct
 266 experience of answer to prayer. They pray daily, they ask many things,
 267 and trust that some of them will be heard, but know little of direct definite
 268 answer to prayer as the rule of daily life."

269

270 **“The proof that we have prayed aright is the answer. If we ask and*
271 *receive not, it is because we have not learned to pray aright.... (God)*
272 *would tell us that we are not to rest without an answer because it is the*
273 *will of God, the rule in the Father’s family: every childlike believing*
274 *petition is granted.... If no answer comes, we are not to sit down in the*
275 *sloth that calls itself resignation, and suppose that it is not God’s will to*
276 *give an answer. There must be something in the prayer that is not as God*
277 *would have it.... We must seek for grace to pray so that the answer may*
278 *come. It is far easier to the flesh to submit without the answer than to yield*
279 *itself to be searched and purified by the Spirit, until it has learnt to pray*
280 *the prayer of faith.”* *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pp. 32, 33, 34

281

NOTES & PRAYER REQUESTS

282

283

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING AUTHORITY

(2 of 7)

“You do not have because you do not ask.” James 4:2

Introduction

*A. Ask!

*Matthew 7:7,8; James 4:2

“Ask and it shall be given unto you; seek and you will find; knock and it will be opened unto you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”

*Andrew Murray

“It is one of the terrible marks of the diseased state of the Christian life in these days, that there are so many who rest content without the distinct experience of answer to prayer. They pray daily, they ask many things, and trust that some of them will be heard, but know little of direct definite answer to prayer as the rule of daily life. The proof that we have prayed aright is the answer. If we ask and receive not, it is because we have not learned to pray aright.... (God) would tell us that we are not to rest without an answer because it is the will of God, the rule in the Father’s family: every childlike believing petition is granted. If no answer comes, we are not to sit down in the sloth that calls itself resignation, and suppose that it is not God’s will to give an answer. There must be something in the prayer that is not as God would have it.... We must seek for grace to pray so that the answer may come. It is far easier to the flesh to submit without the answer than to yield itself to be searched and purified by the Spirit, until it has learnt to pray the prayer of faith.” *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pp. 32, 33, 34

B. Sharing Together

- Share a little of what you have learned so far.
- Pray together asking God for blessing.

Prevailing Authority

What authority do we find in the Bible relative to prayer? What does it mean to pray correctly?

326

327 *A. The Authority To *Ask*

328

329 *Matthew 7: 11 (see also Heb. 4:16)

330 “If you then being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how
331 much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those
332 who ask Him.”

333

334 *Great Controversy, p. 525

335 “It is part of God’s great plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith,
336 that which He would not bestow did we not thus ask.”

337

338 Andrew Murray

339 “God wills a great deal of blessing to His people, which never comes to
340 them. He wills it most earnestly, but they do not will it, and it cannot come
341 to them. This is the great mystery of man’s creation with a free will, and
342 also of the renewal of his will in redemption, that God has made the
343 execution of His will, in many things, dependent on the will of man.
344 Prayer is the power by which things come to pass which otherwise would
345 not take place. (God) has left it to prayer to say where the blessing is to
346 bring the living water to the desert places; the will of God to bless is
347 dependent upon the will of man to say where the blessing must descend.”

348 *WCSP* p. 167, 168

349

350 *B. The Authority to Ask *Specifically*

351

352 Matthew 7: 7,8

353 “Ask and it will be given unto you; seek and you will find; knock, and it
354 will be opened to you. For everyone that asks, receives; and he who
355 seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened.”

356

357 *Youth Instructor, October 1, 1855

358 “To pray aright, is to ask God in faith for the very things you need....”

359

360 Review & Herald, April 28, 1885

361 “Christ impressed upon his disciples the idea that their prayers should be
362 short, expressing just what they wanted, and no more. He gives the length
363 and substance of their prayers, expressing their desires for temporal and
364 spiritual blessings, and their gratitude for the same. How comprehensive
365 this sample prayer! It covers the actual needs of all. One or two minutes is
366 long enough for any ordinary prayer.”

367

368 Unknown Christian

369 “We want every Christian to ask, ‘Have I ever fairly tested prayer?’ How
 370 long is it since you last offered up a definite prayer? Most Christians do
 371 not give God a chance to show His delight in granting His children’s
 372 petitions, for their requests are vague and indefinite.” *Kneeling Christian*,
 373 p. 43

374

375 F. B. Meyer (1847-1929)

376 “(Elijah’s) prayer was definite. This is where so many prayers fail. They
 377 are shot like arrows into the air. They are like letters which require no
 378 answer, because they ask for nothing. They are like the firing by artillery
 379 in a mimic fight, when only gunpowder is employed. This is why they are
 380 so wanting in power and interest. We do not pray with any expectation of
 381 attaining definite and practical results. Let us keep a list of petitions,
 382 which we shall plead before God. Let us direct our prayers, as David did
 383 (Psalm V. 3), and look up for the answer; and we shall find ourselves
 384 obtaining new and (unexpected) blessings. Be definite!” *Elijah*, p. 95.

385

386 Andrew Murray

387 “Our prayers must not be a vague appeal to His mercy, an indefinite cry
 388 for blessing, but the distinct expression of definite need. Some cry for
 389 mercy, but take not the trouble to know what mercy must do for them.
 390 Others ask, perhaps to be delivered from sin, but do not begin by naming
 391 any sin from which deliverance may be claimed. Still others pray for
 392 God’s blessing on those around them or on their land, and yet have no
 393 distinct situation where they wait and expect to see the answer. To all the
 394 Lord says: ‘And what is it now you really want and expect me to do?’”
 395 *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, p. 56.

396

397 Mary Slessor

398 “My life is one long, daily, hourly record of answered prayer for physical
 399 health, for mental overstrain, for guidance given marvelously, for errors
 400 and dangers averted, for enmity to the Gospel subdued, for food provided
 401 at the exact hour needed, for everything that goes to make up life and my
 402 poor service. I can testify with a full and often wonder-stricken awe that I
 403 believe God answers prayer. I know God answers prayer” *Kneeling*
 404 *Christian* p 94.

405

406 Rosalind Goforth

407 “I learned that prayer was the secret which overcame every obstacle, the
 408 key that unlocked every closed door. I felt like a child learning a new and
 409 wonderful lesson—as I saw benches, tables, chairs, stove, fuel, lamps, oil,
 410 even an organ coming in answer to definite prayer for these things. But the
 411 best sight of all was when men and women, deep in sin, were converted in
 412 answer to prayer....” *How I Know God Answers Prayer*, p. 21.

413

414 Some Specific Answers to Prayer

415

416

On Your Own

417

418 *Ask God what He would like you to be praying about?

419

420 *C. Authority to Ask in *Jesus Name!*

421

422 *John 16:23, 24

423 “Whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now
424 you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your
425 joy may be full.”

426

427 Php. 4:19

428 “My God shall supply all your need, according to his riches in glory by
429 Christ Jesus.”

430

431 Rom. 5:2

432 “By whom also we have access.”

433

434 Ephesians 3:12

435 “In whom we have boldness and access.”

436

437 Luke 10:17

438 “Even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”

439

440 Proverbs 18: 10

441 “The name of the Lord is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and are
442 safe.”

443

444 Acts 16:18

445 “But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you
446 in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And he came out that
447 very hour.”

448

449 *Signs of the Times, June 18, 1902

450 “Christ has opened the way for us to approach God. He says, ‘Make use of
451 My name. It will be your passport to the heart of My Father and to all the
452 riches of His grace....’”

453

454 *Desire of Ages, p. 667

455 “He explained that the secret of their success would be in asking for
456 strength and grace in His name. He would be present before the Father to

457 make request for them. The prayer of the humble (petitioner) He presents
 458 as His own desire in that soul's behalf.”

459

460 Selected Messages, Vol. 1, 344

461 “The religious services, the prayers, the praise, the penitent confession of
 462 sin ascend from true believers as incense to the heavenly sanctuary, but
 463 passing through the corrupt channels of humanity, they are so defiled that
 464 unless purified by blood, they can never be of value with God. They
 465 ascend not in spotless purity, and unless the Intercessor, who is at God's
 466 right hand, presents and purifies all by His righteousness, it is not
 467 acceptable to God. All incense from earthly tabernacles must be moist
 468 with the cleansing drops of the blood of Christ. He holds before the Father
 469 the censer of His own merits, in which there is no taint of earthly
 470 corruption. He gathers into this censer the prayers, the praise, and the
 471 confessions of His people, and with these He puts His own spotless
 472 righteousness. Then, perfumed with the merits of Christ's propitiation, the
 473 incense comes up before God wholly and entirely acceptable. Then
 474 gracious answers are returned....”

475

476 *Desire of Ages, p. 668

477 “To pray in Christ's name means much. It means that we are to accept His
 478 character, manifest His spirit, and work His works. The Saviour's promise
 479 is given on condition. "If ye love Me," He says, "keep My
 480 commandments." He saves men, not in sin, but from sin; and those who
 481 love Him will show their love by obedience.”

482

483 Andrew Murray

484 “Jesus solemnly gives to all His disciples a general and unlimited power of
 485 the free use of His Name at all times for all they desire. He could not do
 486 this if He did not know that He could trust us with His interests, that His
 487 honor would be safe in our hands.” *With Christ in the School of Prayer* p.
 488 135

489

490 George Müller

491 “On the ground of our own goodness we cannot expect to have our prayers
 492 answered. But Jesus is worthy, and for His sake we have our prayers
 493 answered.... If we trust in Him, if we hide in Him, if we put Him forward
 494 and ourselves in the background, depend on Him and plead in His name,
 495 we may expect to have our prayers answered.” *Narratives*

496

497 In 1874 Muller fed 2,100 people, supported 189 missionaries, sent
 498 £10,000, supported 9,000 day students, and printed 4 million tracts and
 499 thousands of Bibles.

500

501 An Example from Daily life

502

503 *D. Authority to Ask *Expectantly!*

504

505 As we plead in His name, we may expect to have our prayers answered!

506

507 *Mark 11: 24

508 "...Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive
509 them, and you will have them."

510

511 James 1:6

512 "But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a
513 wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man
514 suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-
515 minded man, unstable in all his ways."

516

517 *Mark 9: 23

518 "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."

519

520 Matthew 17: 20

521 "If you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move
522 from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for
523 you."

524

525 *Our High Calling, p. 134

526 We must not pray and then run away as though afraid we should receive
527 an answer. God will not mock us. He will answer if we watch unto prayer,
528 if we believe we receive the things we ask for, and keep believing and
529 never lose patience in believing. This is watching unto prayer. We guard
530 the prayer of faith with expectancy and hope. We must wall it in with
531 assurance and be not faithless, but believing. The fervent prayer of the
532 righteous is never lost. The answer may not come according as we
533 expected, but it will come, because God's word is pledged.

534

535 Testimonies, Vol 7, p. 274.

536 "Pray in faith. And be sure to bring your lives into harmony with your
537 petitions, that you may receive the blessings for which you pray. Let not
538 your faith weaken, for the blessings received are proportionate to the faith
539 exercised. Pray, believe, rejoice. Sing praises to God because He has
540 answered your prayers. Take Him at His word. "He is faithful that
541 promised." Hebrews 10:23. Not one sincere supplication is lost. The
542 channel is open; the stream is flowing."

543

544 The Prevailing Sequence

545 Pray Fact (*Based on Word*)
 546 Believe Faith (*Resting on facts*)
 547 Rejoice Feeling (*Receiving results*)

548

549 James Fraser

550 “I have been impressed lately with the thought...that people fail in praying
 551 the prayer of faith because they do not believe that God has answered,
 552 only that He will answer their petitions. They rise from their knees feeling
 553 that God will answer some time, but not that He has answered already.
 554 (The) full outworking is often in the future, but God’s word is as good as
 555 His bond and we need have no anxiety. Sometimes He gives at once what
 556 we ask, but more often He just gives His promise.” E. Crossman,
 557 *Mountain Rain, p. 75*

558

559 D. L. Moody

560 “Many people would be greatly surprised if God did answer their prayers.”

561

562 *Charles Finney

563 "You must expect to obtain the things for which you ask. You need not
 564 look for an answer to prayer, if you pray without any expectation of
 565 obtaining it.... If you pray without an expectation of receiving the
 566 blessings, you just make God a liar.” *Lectures on Revival*

567

568 D. L. Moody

569 “Unbelief sees something in God’s hand, and says, ‘I cannot get it.’ Faith
 570 sees it, and says, ‘I will have it.’” *Prevailing Prayer, p. 61*

571

572 Examples From History

573 Modern Day Examples

574

575 IV. Conclusion & Appeal

576

577 *Morning Talks, Nov. 1883, p. 14.

578 “If (we) have complied with the conditions upon which these promises
 579 (Eph. 3:20) are based, God’s word is pledged that He will do for (us) more
 580 than (we) ask.” (Note Eph. 3:20)

581

582 Sharing and Praying

583

584 What does it mean to pray in Christ’s name?

585 To what degree do you want to place yourself under Christ’s authority so
 586 far as your prayers go?

587 With these thoughts in mind, pray about the things God put on your heart
 588 earlier in the session.

589

590 A Final Thoughts

591

592 Gospel Workers, p. 113

593 “I saw that the servants of God and the church were too easily
 594 discouraged. When they asked their Father in heaven for things which they
 595 thought they needed, and these did not immediately come, their faith
 596 wavered, their courage fled, and a murmuring feeling took possession of
 597 them. This, I saw, displeased God. Every saint who comes to God with a
 598 true heart, and sends his honest petitions to him in faith, will have his
 599 prayers answered. Your faith must not let go of the promises of God, if
 600 you do not see or feel the immediate answer to your prayers. Be not afraid
 601 to trust God. Rely upon his sure promise, “Ask, and ye shall receive.”
 602 [John 16:24.] God is too wise to err, and too good to withhold any good
 603 thing from his saints that walk uprightly. Man is erring, and although his
 604 petitions are sent up from an honest heart, he does not always ask for the
 605 things that are good for himself, or that will glorify God. When this is so,
 606 our wise and good Father hears our prayers, and will answer, sometimes
 607 immediately; but he gives us the things that are for our best good and his
 608 own glory. God gives us blessings; if we could look into his plan, we
 609 would clearly see that he knows what is best for us, and that our prayers
 610 are answered. Nothing hurtful is given, but the blessing we need, in the
 611 place of something we asked for, that would not be good for us, but to our
 612 hurt. I saw that if we do not feel immediate answers to our prayers, we
 613 should hold fast our faith, not allowing distrust to come in, for that will
 614 separate us from God. If our faith wavers, we shall receive nothing from
 615 him. Our confidence in God should be strong; and when we need it most,
 616 the blessing will fall upon us like a shower of rain.”

617

618

NOTES & NEEDED CHANGES

619

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING OBJECTIVES

(3 of 7)

“Let it be that the young woman to whom I say....” Gen. 24:14

Introduction

Hudson Taylor

“Not only was the poor woman’s life saved, but I realized that my life was saved too! It might have been a wreck — would have been a wreck probably, as a Christian— had not grace at that time conquered, and the striving of God’s Spirit been obeyed. I well remember how that night, as I went home to my lodgings, my heart was as light as my pocket. The lonely, deserted streets resounded with a hymn of praise which I could not restrain. When I took my basis of gruel before retiring, I would not have exchanged it for a prince’s feast.” *Retrospect*, p. 18

Aldous Huxley

"The third petition of the Lord's Prayer is repeated daily by millions who have not the slightest intention of letting anyone's will be done but their own."

Genesis 24:1-67

A Bride for Isaac

A Biblical Foundation

*Numbers 9: 18

“At the command of the Lord the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the Lord they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.”

*Matthew 7:21

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven."

*John 7:17

“If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority.”

*1 John 5: 14,15

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us,

662 whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked
663 of Him.”

664

665 *James 4: 3

666 “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it
667 on your pleasures.”

668

669 What Others Have Said

670 *Education, p. 257,258

671 “Christ... makes it plain that our asking must be according to God’s will;
672 we must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we receive
673 must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise is
674 unequivocal.”

675

676 E. M. Bounds

677 “What is obedience? It is doing God's will: it is keeping His
678 commandments. How many of the commandments constitute obedience?
679 To keep half of them, and to break the other half -- is that real obedience?
680 ... On this point, James the Apostle is most explicit: "Whosoever shall
681 keep the whole law," he declares, "and yet offend in one point, he is guilty
682 of all.”

683

684 *E.M. Bounds

685 “Prayer is obedience. It is founded on the adamant rock of obedience to
686 God. Only those who obey have the right to pray. Behind the praying must
687 be the doing; and it is the constant doing of God's will in daily life which
688 gives prayer its potency, as our Lord plainly taught: "Not every one which
689 saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he
690 that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.”” *The Necessity of*
691 *Prayer*

692

693 E. M. Bounds

694 “The will must be surrendered to God as a primary condition of all
695 successful praying. Everything about us gets its colouring from our inmost
696 character. The secret will makes character and controls conduct. The will,
697 therefore, plays an important part in all successful praying. There can be
698 no praying in its richest implication and truest sense, where the will is not
699 wholly and fully surrendered to God. This unswerving loyalty to God is an
700 utterly indispensable condition of the best, the truest, the most effectual
701 praying.” *The Necessity of Prayer*

702

703 *Thomas Payne

704 “Daniel’s loyalty to the will of God in everything explains more than
 705 anything else the secret of his prevailing power in prayer.” *Power of*
 706 *Intensified Prayer*

707

708 *Andrew Murray

709 “Do understand that there is no surer way, rather, that there is no other
 710 possible way, of getting into God’s love and blessing in prayer, than by
 711 getting into His will. In prayer, give up yourself most absolutely to the
 712 blessed will of God; this will avail more than much asking.” *School of*
 713 *Obedience.*

714

715 Andrew Murray

716 “It is to be feared that often our efforts to believe have been unavailing
 717 because we have not taken up the only position in which a large faith is
 718 legitimate or possible — that of entire surrender to the honor and the will
 719 of God. It is the man who is entirely consecrated to God and His will (to
 720 whom) the power will come to claim everything that His God has
 721 promised to be for him.” *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pp. 129,130.

722

723 *George Müller

724 “In reading about all these answers to prayer, the believing reader may be
 725 led to think that I am spiritually minded above most of the children of
 726 God, and that therefore the Lord favors (me) thus. The true reason is this.
 727 Just in as many points as (I am) acting according to the mind of God, in so
 728 many (am I) blessed and made a blessing.” *Narratives*

729

730 George Muller

731 "I never remember, in all my Christian course, a period now (in March
 732 1895) of sixty-nine years and four months, that I ever SINCERELY and
 733 PATIENTLY sought to know the will of God by the teaching of the Holy
 734 Ghost, through the instrumentality of the word of God, but I have been
 735 ALWAYS directed rightly. But if honesty of heart and uprightness before
 736 God were lacking, or if I did not patiently wait upon God for instruction,
 737 or if I preferred the counsel of my fellow men to the declarations of the
 738 word of the living God, I made great mistakes."

739

740 “*Prevailing prayer is always answered along the pathway of God’s will.*”

741

742 Determining God’s Will

743

744 A Biblical Foundation

745 *Luke 9:23

746 “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his
 747 cross daily, and follow me.”

748

749 *Psalms 32:8

750 “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide
751 you with My eye.”

752

753 *Isaiah 8: 20

754 “To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this
755 word, it is because there is no light in them.”

756

757 *Proverbs 3: 5,6

758 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not to your own
759 understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct
760 your paths.”

761

762 *Colossians 3: 15

763 “Let the peace of God rule in your hearts.”

764

765 What Others Have Said

766 *Ministry of Healing, p. 480

767 “Many who profess to be Christ’s followers have an anxious, troubled
768 heart, because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not
769 make a complete surrender to Him; for they shrink from the consequences
770 that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make this surrender,
771 they cannot find peace.... Worry is blind, and cannot discern the future;
772 but Jesus sees the end from the beginning. In every difficulty He has His
773 way prepared to bring relief. Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to
774 provide for us of which we know nothing. Those who accept the one
775 principle of making the service (and honor—DA 330) of God supreme,
776 will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path before their feet.”

777

778 *George Müller

- 779 1. 90% of knowing God’s will is choosing to have no will of our own.
- 780 2. Anything that is God’s will, will be in harmony with the Scriptures.
- 781 3. Anything that is God’s will, will be accompanied by His opening
782 providences.
- 783 4. Anything that is God’s will, will be accompanied by His peace.
- 784 5. He then shared his plans with a mature Christian.

785

786 F. B. Meyer

787 “God’s impressions within and His Word without are always corroborated
788 by His providence around, and we should quietly wait until these three
789 focus into one point.”

790

791 *Some Practical Examples

792
793
794
795
796
797
798
799
800
801
802
803
804
805
806
807
808
809
810
811
812
813
814
815
816
817
818
819
820
821
822
823
824
825
826
827
828
829
830
831
832
833
834
835

Encouragement to Trust God

Psalms 34: 8,9

“O taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him. O fear the Lord, you His saints, for there is no want to those who fear Him”

Psalms 37: 3,4

“Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and feed on His faithfulness. Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.”

Desire of Ages, p. 208

“The Son of God was surrendered to the Father’s will, and dependent upon His power. So utterly was Christ emptied of self that He made no plans for Himself. He accepted God’s plans for Him, and day by day the Father unfolded His plans. So should we depend upon God, that our lives may be the simple outworking of His will.”

*Sons and Daughters of God, p. 17

We must not study to have our own way, but God's way and God's will. . . . Human beings suffer much because they step out of the path that God has chosen for them to follow. They walk in the sparks of the fire they themselves have kindled, and the sure result is affliction, unrest, and sorrow, which they might have avoided if they had submitted their will to God. . . . Whatever path God chooses for us, whatever way He ordains for our feet, that is the only path of safety. . . . With the eye of faith, with childlike submission as obedient children, we must look to God, to follow His guidance, and difficulties will clear away. The promise is, "I will instruct thee and teach thee."

The “Surrender” Challenge

*James McConkey

“Not only are we to commit our lives to God, but we must also allow Him to have His way with them. The committal of all things must be accompanied by the submission in all things. When we yield our lives, we yield our plans concerning our lives, and accept God’s dealings with them. Not only “commit your way unto the Lord,” but “trust also in Him.” Not only take your hands off, but let Him put His hands on, however He may see fit.” *The Surrendered Life*

Practical Examples

C.T. Studd

836
837
838
839
840
841
842
843
844
845
846
847
848
849
850
851
852
853
854
855
856
857
858
859
860
861
862
863
864
865
866
867
868
869
870
871
872
873
874
875
876
877
878
879

C. T. Studd

“Either (I) had to be a thief and keep what wasn’t mine, or else I had to give up everything to God.”

Hannah Whithall Smith

“When you have surrendered all to God, you have given Him all the responsibility, as well as everything else. It is God who is responsible to look after you and all you have to do is to trust. Put your hand in His and the Lord will lead you.” *Christian’s Secret of a Happy Life*

*Rosalind Goforth

Rosalind Goforth

“We therefore prayed that God would make the new house a means of reaching the people -- a blessing, and not a hindrance. The answer to this prayer, as is often the case, depended largely upon ourselves. We had to be made willing to pay the price that the answer demanded. We came to see that in order that our prayer could be answered we would have to keep open house every day and all day, which was by no means easy. ...The climax in numbers was reached in the spring of 1899, when 1,835 men and several hundred women were received by us in one day.”

Rosalind Goforth

“My eyes seemed suddenly opened to what I had been doing — I had dared to fight against Almighty God. In the moments that followed God revealed Himself to me in such love and majesty and glory that I gave myself up to Him with unspeakable joy. Then I knew that I had been making an awful mistake, and that I could indeed safely trust my children to Him wherever He might lead. One thing only seemed plain, that I must follow where God should lead. I saw at last that God must come first. Was God faithful to the vision He had given me? Or did He allow the children to suffer in the years that followed.... As I write this, eighteen years have passed since we started on that first trip, and none of our children have died. Never had we as little sickness as during that life. Never had we so much evidence of God’s favor and blessing in a hundred ways....” *How I Know God Answers Prayer*, p. 73.

Practical Considerations

*1. The “Next Step” Pathway

880 Psalms 119: 105
881 (Go to the prophet Elisha...")
882 "Your word *is* a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."

883
884 C. T. Studd
885 "God does not deal with you until you are wholly given up to Him,
886 and then He will tell you what He would have you do." *The*
887 *Cambridge Seven*

888
889 *2. Fleeces

890 Judges 6:36-40
891 "...look, I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is
892 dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall
893 know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said."
894 a. Can be misused, and result in misleading.
895 b. They encourage and confirm.

896
897 3. Don't Assume

898
899 Counsels on Health, p. 503
900 "I have been surprised at being asked by physicians if I did not think it
901 would be more pleasing to God for them to give up their medical
902 practice and enter the ministry. I am prepared to answer such an
903 inquirer: If you are a Christian and a competent physician, you are
904 qualified to do tenfold more good as a missionary for God than if you
905 were to go forth merely as a preacher of the word."

906
907 3. Be Patient

908 Hebrews 10: 36
909

910 *NOTES & GOD'S WILL IN MY LIFE*
911
912

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING PEOPLE

(4 of 7)

“Run in such a way that you may obtain it.” 1 Cor. 9:24

Introduction

*My Hitchhiking Friend

Only a little bit won't matter!

*Reasons Given For Lack of Answers

- It's not God's will.
- It's not God's time.
- God is sovereign
- We don't know how to pray
- The person we are praying for has a problem that delays God.

*Frequently overlooked or minimized reasons:

- Sin
- Unresolved Relational Differences
- Lack of Forgiveness

Prevailing People
“If I regard iniquity...”

A Biblical Foundation

*Isaiah 59: 1,2

“Behold the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

*Psalms 66: 16-20 (especially 18)

“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.”

*1 John 3: 22

“And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.”

*James 5:16

“The prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

955
956
957
958
959
960
961
962
963
964
965
966
967
968
969
970
971
972
973
974
975
976
977
978
979
980
981
982
983
984
985
986
987
988
989
990
991
992
993
994
995
996
997

The Testimony of Others

*Steps to Christ, p. 95

“There are certain conditions upon which we may expect that God will hear and answer our prayers.... If we regard iniquity in our hearts, if we cling to any known sin, the Lord will not hear us; but the prayer of the penitent, contrite soul is always accepted. When all known wrongs are righted, we may believe that God will answer our petitions.”

*Testimonies, Vol 2, p. 146

“Fasting and prayer will accomplish nothing while the heart is estranged from God by a wrong course of action.”

Signs of the Times, May 15, 1884

“If we regard iniquity in our hearts, if we cherish any darling sin, we may be assured that no blessing will be given in response to our prayers.”

*D. L. Moody

“If we are regarding iniquity in our hearts, or living on a mere empty profession, we have no claim to expect that our prayers will be answered. There is not one solitary promise for us. I sometimes tremble when I hear people quote promises, and say that God is bound to fulfill those promises to them, when all the time there is something in their own lives which they are not willing to give up. It is well for us to search our hearts, and find out why it is that our prayers are not answered.” *Prevailing Prayer*

*S. D. Gordon

“If I am holding something in my life that the Master does not like, if I am failing to obey when His voice has spoken, that to me is sin. It may be wrong in itself. It may not be wrong in itself. It may not be wrong for another. If that faithful quiet inner voice has spoken and I know what the Master would prefer and I fail to keep in line, that to me is sin. Then prayer is useless; sheer waste of breath.” (James 4:17)

Charles Spurgeon

“If you do not do Christ’s will, He will not do your will.... If anyone should tell me of a man whom God greatly answered in prayer and then inform me that he lived in gross sin, I would not believe it. It is impossible for God to patronize a guilty professor of religion by giving him success in prayer.” *Prayer in the Believer’s Life*, p.161.

George Muller

998 “The promises are particularly for such — for the weak, for the feeblest,
 999 for the ignorant, for the needy; and all such who ask for Christ’s sake are
 1000 warranted to expect their prayers to be answered. But if it means, “I live in
 1001 sin; I go on habitually in an evil course,” the prayer cannot be answered;
 1002 for in the sixty-sixth Psalm we read, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the
 1003 Lord will not hear me.” That is if I live in sin, and go on in a course
 1004 hateful to God, I may not expect my prayers to be answered.”

1005

1006 *E. M. Bounds

1007 “What is obedience? It is doing God's will: it is keeping His
 1008 commandments. How many of the commandments constitute obedience?
 1009 To keep half of them, and to break the other half -- is that real obedience?
 1010 To keep all the commandments but one -- is that obedience? On this point,
 1011 James the Apostle is most explicit: ‘Whosoever shall keep the whole law,’
 1012 he declares, “and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.’ Our Lord
 1013 Jesus Christ was preeminent in praying, because He was preeminent in
 1014 saintliness. An entire dedication to God, a full surrender, which carries
 1015 with it the whole being, in a flame of holy consecration -- all this gives
 1016 wings to faith and energy to prayer. It opens the door to the throne of
 1017 grace, and brings strong influence to bear on Almighty God.... True
 1018 praying, be it remembered, is not mere sentiment, nor poetry, nor eloquent
 1019 utterance. Nor does it consist of saying in honeyed cadences, “Lord,
 1020 Lord.” Prayer is not a mere form of words; it is not just calling upon a
 1021 Name. Prayer is obedience. It is founded on the adamant rock of
 1022 obedience to God. Only those who obey have the right to pray. Behind the
 1023 praying must be the doing; and it is the constant doing of God's will in
 1024 daily life which gives prayer its potency, as our Lord plainly taught.”

1025

1026 *NOTES & OBEDIENCE CONCERNS*

1027

1028

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING RELATIONSHIPS

(5 of 7)

“And the Lord restored Job’s losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.” Job 42:10

Introduction

Three Key Relationships

*Three Key Relations: Christ Our Life: United to Christ
Christ Our Head: United in the Church
Christ Our Example: United to Each Other

1. Christ Our Life: United to Christ

*2 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.”

Review & Herald, September 11, 1883

“When we are united to Christ, his mind is transferred to us. Purity and love shine forth in the character; meekness and truth control the life. The very expression of the countenance is changed. Christ abiding in the soul exerts a transforming power, and the outward aspect bears witness to the peace and joy that reign within.”

*Gospel Workers, p. 414

“Some who come to God by repentance and confession, and even believe that their sins are forgiven, still fail of claiming, as they should, the promises of God. They do not see that Jesus is an ever-present Saviour; and they are not ready to commit the keeping of their souls to him, relying upon him, to perfect the work of grace begun in their hearts. While they think they are committing themselves to God, there is a great deal of self-dependence. There are conscientious souls that trust partly to God, and partly to themselves. They do not look to God, to be kept by his power, but depend upon watchfulness against temptation, and the performance of certain duties for acceptance with him. There are no victories in this kind of faith. Such persons toil to no purpose; their souls are in continual bondage, and they find no rest until their burdens are laid at the feet of Jesus.”

1068
 1069
 1070
 1071
 1072
 1073
 1074
 1075
 1076
 1077
 1078
 1079
 1080
 1081
 1082
 1083
 1084
 1085
 1086
 1087
 1088
 1089
 1090
 1091
 1092
 1093
 1094
 1095
 1096
 1097
 1098
 1099
 1100
 1101
 1102
 1103
 1104
 1105
 1106
 1107
 1108
 1109
 1110
 1111

2. Christ Our Head: United in the Church

*Psalms 133:1-3

“Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like precious oil upon the head running down the beard, the beard of Aaron, running down on the edge of his garments.... For there the Lord commanded the blessing....”

*Ephesians 4: 15,16

“...but speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

1 Cor. 12:18

But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.”

*Let’s think about this matter of the body for a moment.

Let’s consider our hands. Would you be willing to go without one of your hands? Would you be willing to go without both of your hands? What about one of the feet? That’s absurd you say. We need all of our limbs? Do we ever suggest that we can get by without one of our “limbs” so to speak in the church?

Then let’s consider the direction of the body. Does the hand try to convince the other limbs of the body to work in a particular way? Does the right leg try to convince the other limbs to do what it does? Of course not. Success comes as each limb looks to the head for direction. The head working in its amazing way coordinates the work of all the parts. Right? Of course. What do we learn about unity from this “looking to the head for direction” data?

What about this. When you were doing construction last time, and you hammered the end of your thumb instead of the nail, did you nonchalantly say, “That’s okay it’s just a tiny bit of my body.” Of course not. Your whole body reacted to the pain. In fact the whole body spent time protecting that injured limb in a special way for the time it took for it too heal, and took pains to make sure the injury wasn’t repeated.

1112
1113 *Ephesians 4: 30
1114 “For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.”

1115
1116 Review & Herald, December 11, 1888
1117 “(Christ) engages to come into the midst of his church, and to honor their
1118 prayers and decision by the manifestation of his grace and power. They
1119 are members of his mystical body. Christ expects that man will be partaker
1120 of his divine nature while in the world, and thus convey a large amount of
1121 glory from earth to heaven.”

1122
1123 *3. Christ Our Example: United to Each Other

1124
1125 *John 17: 21
1126 “...that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that
1127 they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.”

1128
1129 John 17: 23
1130 “I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that
1131 the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You
1132 have loved Me.”

1133
1134 *Colossians 4:13
1135 “But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection...
1136 called in one body.”

1137
1138 *1 John 2: 10
1139 “Whoever loves his brother lives in the light, and there is nothing in him
1140 to make him stumble.”

1141
1142 *Sons & Daughters of the God, p. 286
1143 “Unity in diversity among God’s children—the manifestation of love and
1144 forbearance in spite of differences of disposition—this is the testimony
1145 that God sent His son into the world to save sinners. This unity is the most
1146 convincing proof to the world of the majesty and virtue of Christ.

1147
1148 Gospel Workers, p. 483
1149 “True religion unites hearts, not only with Christ, but with one another, in
1150 a most tender union. When we know what it means to be thus united with
1151 Christ, and with our brethren, a fragrant influence will attend our work
1152 wherever we go.”

1153
1154 *1 Selected Messages, p. 386

1155 “As living branches of the True Vine, all will be united to Christ, the
 1156 living head. Christ will abide in every heart, guiding, comforting,
 1157 sanctifying, and presenting to the world the unity of the followers of Jesus,
 1158 thus bearing testimony that the heavenly credentials are supplied to the
 1159 remnant church. In the oneness of Christ’s church it will be proven that
 1160 God sent His only-begotten Son into the world.... Satan is determined
 1161 that...oneness shall not be; for it is the strongest witness that can be borne
 1162 that God gave his Son to reconcile the world to heaven. But the union for
 1163 which Christ prayed must exist among God’s people before he can bestow
 1164 on the church the enlargement and power that he longs to bestow on it.”

1165

1166 Ms 44, 1900

1167 “The bonds of unity which unite member with member of the church are
 1168 to be as firm and harmonious in their operation as are the different parts of
 1169 the natural body. The hands, head, and feet are so closely united, and so
 1170 mutually dependent, that one member cannot live and act independently of
 1171 the other members. ...”

1172

1173 Testimonies Vol. 7, p. 16

1174 “The world will be convinced, not by what the pulpit teaches, but by what
 1175 the church lives. The minister in the desk announces the theory of the
 1176 gospel; the practical piety of the church demonstrates its power.”

1177

1178 Review & Herald January 27, 1903

1179 Perfect oneness,--a union as close as the union existing between the Father
 1180 and the Son,--this is what will give success to the efforts of God's workers.
 1181 "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that
 1182 they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent
 1183 me," to bring about this union, this sanctified harmony. "I in them, and
 1184 thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may
 1185 know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."
 1186 It is this union that convinces the world that God has indeed sent his Son
 1187 to save sinners. Christ gives to his true disciples the glory of his character,
 1188 that his prayer may be answered. Through the impartation of his Spirit, he
 1189 appears in their lives. {RH, January 27, 1903

1190

1191 *Selected Messages Vol. 1, p. 175

1192 “When the laborers have an abiding Christ in their own souls, when all
 1193 selfishness is dead, when there is no rivalry, no strife for the supremacy,
 1194 when oneness exists, when they sanctify themselves, so that love for one
 1195 another is seen and felt, then the showers of the grace of the Holy Spirit
 1196 will just as surely come upon them as that God's promise will never fail in
 1197 one jot or tittle. But when the work of others is discounted, that the

1198 workers may show their own superiority, they prove that their own work
1199 does not bear the signature it should. God cannot bless them.”

1200

1201 *Sharing Together

1202 Is such unity even possible?

1203 To what degree do we experience such a unity?

1204

1205 Notice the following thoughts

1206

1207 *Adventist Home, p. 179

1208 “The cause of division and discord in families and in the church is
1209 separation from Christ. To come near to Christ is to come near to one
1210 another. The secret of true unity in the church and in the family is not
1211 diplomacy, not management, not a superhuman effort to overcome
1212 difficulties—though there will be much of this to do—but union with
1213 Christ.”

1214

1215 Paulsen Collection, p. 153

1216 The cause of divisions or discord in the church is separation from Christ.
1217 The secret of unity is union with Christ. Christ is the great center. We shall
1218 approach one another just in proportion as we approach the center. United
1219 with Christ, we shall surely be united with our brethren in the faith.

1220

1221 *Charles Finney

1222 “Nothing tends more to cement the hearts of Christians than praying
1223 together. Never do they love one another so well as when they witness the
1224 outpouring of each other’s hearts in prayer. Their spirituality begets a
1225 feeling of union and confidence, highly important to the prosperity of the
1226 Church. ...It can be doubtful whether Christians can ever be otherwise
1227 than united, if they are in the habit of really praying together. And where
1228 they have had hard feelings and differences among themselves, these are
1229 all done away by uniting in prayer.” *Lectures on Revival*

1230

1231 A. W. Tozer

1232 “Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same
1233 fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by
1234 being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one
1235 must individually bow. So one hundred worshippers meeting together,
1236 each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than
1237 they could possibly be were they to become "unity" conscious and turn
1238 their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship. Social religion is
1239 perfected when private religion is purified.”

1240

1241 Robert Chapman

1242 “Humility is the secret of fellowship, and pride the secret of division.”

1243

1244 *Augustine

1245 “In necessary things, unity; in doubtful things, liberty; in all things,
1246 charity.”

1247

1248 Making it simple

- 1249 • Pray specifically.
- 1250 • Pray with a list.
- 1251 • Pray with a prayer partner
- 1252 • Pray in a small group.

1253

1254 Praying Independently

1255 Talk to God about finding a prayer partner or prayer group to be a part of.

1256

1257

1258 Resolving Relational Differences &
1259 Asking Forgiveness

1260

1261 *Matthew 5: 23, 24

1262 “Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your
1263 brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar,
1264 and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and
1265 offer your gift.”

1266

1267 Matt: 5:43,44

1268 “Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who
1269 hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use and persecute you.”

1270

1271 *1 Peter 3: 7

1272 “Husbands, likewise, dwell with (your wives) with understanding, giving
1273 honor to the wife...that your prayers may not be hindered.”

1274

1275 Review & Herald, January 27, 1903

1276 “Perfect oneness—a union as close as the union existing between the
1277 Father and the Son—this is what will give success to the efforts of God's
1278 workers.... It is this union that convinces the world that God has indeed
1279 sent his Son to save sinners.”

1280

1281 *My Experience

1282

1283 *Unknown Christian

1284 “It would be an immense gain to our spiritual life if we would resolve not
1285 to attempt to pray until we had done all in our power to make peace and

1286 harmony between ourselves and any with whom we have quarreled. Until
 1287 we do this as far as lies in our power, our prayers are just wasted breath.”
 1288 Kneeling Christian

1289
 1290 *Review & Herald, April 15, 1880 (also note Prov. 14:30; Job 5:2)

1291 “One great reason why our brethren and sisters have no more confidence
 1292 toward God in prayer, is, that nearly all neglect to follow the words of
 1293 Jesus in preserving harmony between brethren. They allow various wrongs
 1294 to exist with members of the church, which create bitter envy and strife;
 1295 and while these differences exist, God neither hears nor answers their
 1296 prayers....”

1297
 1298 *Acts of the Apostles, p. 549

1299 “It is not the opposition of the world, that most endangers the church of
 1300 Christ. It is the evils cherished in the hearts of believers that works their
 1301 most grievous disaster and most surely retards the progress of God’s
 1302 cause. There is no surer way of weakening spirituality than by cherishing
 1303 envy, suspicion, faultfinding, and evil surmising. On the other hand, the
 1304 strongest witness that God has sent His Son into the world is the existence
 1305 of harmony and union among men of varied dispositions.”

1306
 1307 *Roy Hession

1308 “The work of the Lord Jesus Christ on the cross was not only to bring men
 1309 back into fellowship with God, but also into fellowship with their fellow
 1310 men. Indeed it cannot do one without the other. Everything that comes as
 1311 a barrier between us and another, be it ever so small, comes as a barrier
 1312 between us and God.” *The Calvary Road*, p. 35.

1313
 1314 *Charles Spurgeon

1315 “If in the church of God there is a lack of love, we cannot expect prayer to
 1316 be heard, for God will say, ‘You ask for success. What for? To add more
 1317 to a community that does not already love itself? You ask for conversions.
 1318 What? To bring in others to join an unloving community?’ Do you
 1319 expect God to save sinners who you do not love and to convert souls
 1320 whom you do not care a bit about?” *PILB*, p. 118

1321
 1322 Charles Spurgeon

1323 “Selfishness cannot be trusted with power in prayer. (Individuals) that
 1324 love neither God nor men cannot be trusted with great broad, unlimited
 1325 promises. If God is to hear us, we must love God and love our fellow
 1326 men.” *Prayer in the Life of the Believer*, p. 112

1327
 1328 What will result?

1329

1330 Testimonies Vol. 6, p. 129

1331 “A few converted souls, uniting for one grand purpose under one head,
1332 will achieve victories in every encounter.”

1333

1334 Count Zinzendorf and the Moravians

1335

1336 *The Moravian’s Condition:

- 1337 • They lived close together on the Count’s Herrnhut estate.
- 1338 • Included Lutheran, Reformed and Baptist members.
- 1339 • Were deeply divided and unhappy.
- 1340 • Argued about predestination, holiness and baptism.

1341

1342 Count Zinzendorf’s Plea:

- 1343 • Seek unity.
- 1344 • Set aside personal differences.
- 1345 • Focus on areas of agreement.
- 1346 • Pursue love.
- 1347 • Repent

1348

1349 *The Immediate Outcome

- 1350 • A group covenanted to pour out their hearts in prayer.
- 1351 • The Holy Spirit was sent down on them August 13, 1727.

1352

1353 *Continuing Efforts

1354 On August 26, 48 members covenanted to continue praying at one hour
1355 intervals; 77 more joined them later. Moravian children soon started their
1356 own groups.

1357

1358 “They had quit judging each other because they had become convinced,
1359 each one, of his lack of worth in the sight of God and each felt himself at
1360 this communion to be in view of the noble countenance of the Saviour. In
1361 this view of the man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, their hearts told
1362 them that He would be their patron and their priest who was at once
1363 changing their tears into the oil of gladness and their misery into
1364 happiness. This firm confidence changed them in a single moment into a
1365 happy people....” (written of the August 13, 1727 experience)

1366

1367 The Long-term Outcome:

- 1368 • Became marvelously united.
- 1369 • Became a world-changing, mission-driven, community.
- 1370 • Began a 100-year continuous prayer meeting!
- 1371 • Sent out one hundred missionaries over the next twenty-five years!

1372

1373 Granting Forgiveness

1374

1375 *Matthew 6:12

1376 “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.”

1377

1378 Mark 11:25,26

1379 “Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone,
1380 forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you.... If you
1381 will not forgive, neither will your Father...forgive your trespasses.

1382

1383 Ephesians 4:32

1384 “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as
1385 God in Christ forgave you.”

1386

1387 Matthew 18:35

1388 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart,
1389 does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

1390

1391 *Testimonies, Vol. 3, p. 95

1392 “In the prayer Christ taught his disciples was the request, "Forgive us our
1393 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." We cannot repeat
1394 this prayer from the heart and dare to be unforgiving, for we ask the Lord
1395 to forgive our trespasses against him in the same manner we forgive those
1396 who trespass against us. But few realize the true import of this prayer. If
1397 those who are unforgiving did comprehend the depth of its meaning, they
1398 would not dare to repeat it, and ask God to deal with them as they deal
1399 with their fellow-mortals. And yet this spirit of hardness and lack of
1400 forgiveness exists, even among brethren, to a fearful extent. Brother is
1401 exacting with brother.”

1402

1403 *Sons and Daughters of God, p. 144

1404 “Let us not think that unless those who have injured us confess their
1405 wrongs, we are justified in withholding from them our forgiveness. We
1406 should not accumulate our grievances, holding them to our hearts until the
1407 one we think guilty has humbled his heart by repentance and confession. .
1408 . . . However sorely they may have wounded us, we are not to cherish our
1409 grievances and sympathize with ourselves over our injuries.”

1410

1411 *D. L. Moody

1412 “(Lack of forgiveness)...is keeping more people from having power with
1413 God than any other thing —they are not willing to cultivate the spirit of
1414 forgiveness. If we allow the root of bitterness to spring up in our hearts
1415 against someone, our prayer will not be answered.” *Prevailing Prayer*

1416

1417 Thom Rainer

1418 “A lack of unconditional forgiveness is perhaps Satan’s greatest weapon.
1419 Many churches have divided over members not willing to forgive one
1420 another.”

1421
1422 Making It Simple: Forgiveness can bring wonderful spiritual and physical
1423 results!

1424
1425 What will result?

1426 Testimonies Vol. 6, p. 129

1427 “A few converted souls, uniting for one grand purpose under one head,
1428 will achieve victories in every encounter.”

1429
1430 *D. L. Moody

1431 “Where there is union, I do not believe any power, earthly or infernal, can
1432 stand before the work. When the church, the pulpit and the pew, get
1433 united, and God’s people are all of one mind, Christianity is like a red hot
1434 ball rolling over the earth, and all the hosts of death and hell cannot stand
1435 before it.”

1436
1437 *Testimonies Vol. 9, p. 187

1438 “We have a character to maintain, but it is the character of Christ. Having
1439 the character of Christ, we can carry on the work of God together. The
1440 Christ in us will meet the Christ in our brethren, and the Holy Spirit will
1441 give that unity of heart and action which testifies to the world that we are
1442 children of God.”

1443
1444 *Signs of the Times, February 7, 1900

1445 “He in whose heart Christ abides recognizes Christ abiding in the heart of
1446 his brother. Christ never wars against Christ. Christ never exerts an
1447 influence against Christ. Christians are to do their work, whatever it may
1448 be, in the unity of the Spirit, for the perfection of the whole body. There is
1449 a vast power in the church when the energies of the members are under the
1450 control of the Spirit, gathering good from every source, educating,
1451 training, and disciplining self. Thus is presented to God a powerful
1452 organization through which He can work for the conversion of sinners....”

1453
1454 Making it Simple
1455 • Spiritual Healing
1456 • Physical Healing

1457
1458 *A Writing Assignment

1459 Ask God to impress you who you need to visit or write relative to
1460 resolving differences or forgiving.

1461

How Shall We Proceed?

1462
1463
1464
1465
1466
1467
1468
1469
1470
1471
1472
1473
1474
1475
1476
1477
1478
1479
1480
1481
1482
1483
1484
1485
1486
1487
1488
1489
1490
1491
1492
1493
1494
1495

Acts 1: 14

“These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication....”

Acts 2: 42,43

“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.”

Mount of Blessing p. 128

Not until you feel that you could sacrifice your own self-dignity, and even lay down your life in order to save an erring brother, have you cast the beam out of your own eye so that you are prepared to help your brother. Then you can approach him and touch his heart. No one has ever been reclaimed from a wrong position by censure and reproach; but many have thus been driven from Christ and led to seal their hearts against conviction. A tender spirit, a gentle, winning deportment, may save the erring and hide a multitude of sins. The revelation of Christ in your own character will have a transforming power upon all with whom you come in contact. Let Christ be daily made manifest in you, and He will reveal through you the creative energy of His word--a gentle, persuasive, yet mighty influence to re-create other souls in the beauty of the Lord our God.

What is your response to the need to have good relationships?

Do you want your way; do you want to follow God’s way, like the Moravians?

- Unity
- A passion for prayer
- Amazing love
- Abundant power

REVIEWING HINDERING FACTORS

1495
1496
1497
1498
1499
1500
1501
1502
1503
1504
1505
1506
1507
1508
1509
1510
1511
1512
1513
1514
1515
1516
1517
1518
1519
1520
1521
1522
1523
1524
1525
1526
1527
1528
1529
1530
1531
1532
1533
1534
1535
1536
1537
1538
1539

Reviewing reasons prayers go unanswered...

1. We don't ask. (Matt. 7:7,8)
2. We haven't asked in faith. (Mark 11:24)
3. We are not looking for God's answer. (Acts 12:13-15)
4. We are not asking in Jesus' name. (John 14:13,14; 16:23,24)
5. We haven't fully surrendered to God. (Mal. 1:14; Rev. 3:20)
6. We are asking for things outside of His will. (1 John 5:14,15)
7. God is waiting for us to accept a greater answer. (1 Sam. 1:9-12)
8. His answer is being delivered in a "rough packing case." (Gen. 45:3-8; Daniel 3:13-15)
9. We are disobeying God. (1 John 3:22; Ex. 20:8-11; Mal. 3:7-10; Mal. 2:14,15)
10. We must FULLY obey before the answer comes. (1 Kings 18:44; 2 Kings 5:14)
11. We limit God by our half-hearted obedience. (2 Kings 13:18,19)
12. We limit God by our half-hearted prayers. (Dan. 9:3; Matt. 17:21)
13. We are cherishing something outside of God's will. (Isa. 59:1,2)
14. We are forgetting to first "go, then come" so far as forgiveness goes. (Matt. 5:23,24)
15. We are lagging behind God's directing. (Luke 9:23; Ps. 119:105)
16. We are seeking a supernatural remedy when a natural remedy—granted a remedy requiring dying to self—is available. (2 Kings 20:7)
17. He is unable to answer at this time (Daniel 10:12-14)
18. It is better that things stay the same (2 Cor. 12:7)
19. We refuse God's "No" answer. (Deut. 1:40,41)
20. The "Prayer Warriors" you are praying with are not in relationship with God and therefore not obtaining answers to prayer. (Mark 9:18)

Suggestions for praying and obtaining answers:

1. Look for a promise to claim. (2 Peter 1:4; 2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Cor. 1:20)
2. Find someone to pray with you locally. (Matt. 18:20)
3. Prayerfully consider hindering factors. Are any present?
4. Prayerfully seek God's face. (2 Chron. 7:14)
5. Prayerfully make changes; immediately is best! (Matt. 4:22)
6. Thank Him for answering regardless of circumstances or appearances. (Daniel 6:10)
7. Keep praying until answers. (Dan. 10:2,3; Col. 1:9)
8. Live out your prayer. (2 Sam. 12:13)

1539
1540
1541
1542
1543
1544
1545
1546
1547
1548
1549
1550
1551
1552
1553
1554
1555
1556
1557
1558
1559
1560
1561
1562
1563
1564
1565
1566
1567
1568
1569
1570
1571
1572
1573
1574
1575
1576
1577
1578
1579
1580
1581

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING REMEDIES

(6 of 7)

“Now When Ezra prayed....” Ezra 10:1

Introduction

Biblical Examples of Intercessors

*Abraham: Genesis 18:20-33

Isaac: Genesis 25:21

Moses: Exodus 17:10-12

Jesus: Luke 22:31,32

God’s Intentions

*Isaiah 62: 6

“I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night; ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence.”

*Isaiah 59: 16

“And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor....”

*Lamentations 2:19

“Arise cry out in the night. At the beginning of the watches; pour out your heart like water before the Lord. Lift your hands towards Him for the life of your young children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street.”

*2 Corinthians 10: 4,5

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”

Luke 10: 19

“Behold, I give you authority to trample on serpents and on scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

1582 1 John 3: 8

1583 “For this purpose the son of God was manifested, that He might destroy
1584 the works of the devil.”

1585

1586 Colossians 2: 15

1587 “Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle
1588 of them, triumphing over them in it.”

1589

1590 *Isaiah 62: 1

1591 “For Zion’s sake I will not hold My peace, and for Jerusalem’s sake I will
1592 not rest until her righteousness goes forth as brightness and her salvation
1593 as a lamp that burns.”

1594

1595 Isaiah 42: 16

1596 “I will bring the blind by a way they did not know; I will lead them in
1597 paths they have not known. I will make darkness light before them, and
1598 crooked places straight.”

1599

1600 *Matthew 17: 21

1601 “This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

1602

1603 *2 Thessalonians 3: 1

1604 “Pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified,
1605 just as it is with you, and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and
1606 wicked men, for not all have faith.”

1607

1608 Prevailing Remedies: Intercession

1609 *Maranatha, p. 38.

1610 “I remember in Battle Creek when there were those who felt the burden
1611 for the unconverted, and those who were in darkness and saw no light;
1612 then prayer meetings were appointed that they might make the strength of
1613 God their strength. In every case the heavenly intelligences worked with
1614 these efforts, and souls were saved.”

1615

1616 Testimonies to Ministers, p. 19.

1617 “Jesus sees His true church on the earth, whose greatest ambition is to
1618 cooperate with Him in the grand work of saving souls. He hears their
1619 prayers, presented in contrition and power, and Omnipotence cannot resist
1620 their plea for the salvation of any tried, tempted member of Christ’s
1621 body.”

1622

1623 *Samuel Zwemer

1624 "The history of missions is the history of answered prayer. From Pentecost
1625 to the Haystack meeting in New England and from the days when Robert

1626 Morrison landed in China to the martyrdom of John and Betty Stam,
 1627 prayer has been the source of power and the secret of spiritual triumph."
 1628

1629 *Unknown Christian

1630 “The Lord Jesus is as powerful today as ever before. The Lord Jesus is as
 1631 anxious for men to be saved as ever before. His arm is not shortened, but
 1632 He cannot stretch forth His arm unless we pray more and more.” *The*
 1633 *Kneeling Christian* p. 35

1634
 1635 *Sidlow Baxter

1636 “Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments,
 1637 despise our person — but they are helpless against our prayers.”

1638
 1639 E. M. Bounds

1640 “If men would pray as they ought to pray, the marvels of the past would be
 1641 more than reproduced. The Gospel would advance with a facility and
 1642 power it has never known. Doors would be thrown open to the Gospel,
 1643 and the Word of God would have a conquering force rarely if ever known
 1644 before.”

1645
 1646 *James Fraser

1647 “Can it be that a great work for God involving thousands of souls devolves
 1648 upon our prayer life, half a world away? I am feeling more and more that
 1649 it is, after all, just the prayers of God’s people that call down blessing
 1650 upon the work, whether they are directly engaged in it or not. Paul may
 1651 plant and Apollos water, but it is God who gives the increase; and this
 1652 increase can be brought down from heaven by believing prayer, whether
 1653 offered in China or in England.” *Mountain Rain*, p. 35.

1654
 1655 *Andrew Murray

1656 “Oh, when will Christians learn the great truth, that what God in heaven
 1657 desires to do needs prayer on earth as its indispensable condition. It is as
 1658 we realize this that we shall see that intercession is the chief element in the
 1659 conversion of souls.” *The Secret of Intercession*, p. 53.

1660
 1661 Charles Spurgeon

1662 “There is nothing that intercessory prayer cannot do. Believer, you have a
 1663 mighty engine in your hand—use it well, use it constantly, use it now with
 1664 faith, and you shall surely prevail.” *PIBL*

1665
 1666 *Some Bible Examples

- 1667 • Abraham: Genesis 18:20-33
- 1668 • Moses: Exodus 17:10-12
- 1669 • Solomon: 2 Chronicles 6:13-42)

- 1670 • Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:3-13)
- 1671 • Hezekiah (2 Kings 19:14-20)
- 1672 • Daniel (Daniel 9:1-21)
- 1673 • Ezra (Ezra 9;5-10:4)
- 1674 • Nehemiah (Nehemiah 1:4-11)
- 1675 • Jesus (John 17:1-26)
- 1676 • The Early Church (Acts 12:5)
- 1677 • Paul (Ephesians 3:14-21)

1678

1679 Some Examples

- 1680 • Hudson Taylor’s mother interceding through the afternoon for her
- 1681 son.
- 1682 • Daniel Nash praying for Charles Finney
- 1683 • The invalid woman praying for Moody
- 1684 • The Students at Knox College interceding for Jonathan Goforth
- 1685 • Praying Hyde & revival in India
- 1686 • Fraser praying for 100 Lisu Families
- 1687 • The Work in Vietnam
- 1688 • My Experience

1689

1690 How does intercessory prayer work?

1691

1692 *1. Take up your God-given role.

1693 1 Samuel 7:8 “Do not cease to cry out to the Lord....”

1694 “God is waiting for those whom He can trust and use, who will have
 1695 the discernment to foresee His steppings and the faith to command
 1696 His power. Authoritative intercessors are men and women, whose
 1697 eyes have been opened to the full knowledge of their place in Christ.
 1698 To them the Word of God has become a battle chart on which is
 1699 detailed the plan of campaign of the hosts of the Lord. They realize
 1700 that they have been appointed by Him for the oversight of certain
 1701 sections of the advance, and they have humbly accepted His
 1702 commission. ...” J. A. MacMillan

1703

1704 *2. Make up a prayer list.

1705 “Nash had remarkable power in prayer and was in the habit of
 1706 making a ‘praying list’ of persons for whose conversion he daily
 1707 prayed in secret. The answers to his prayers sometimes seemed
 1708 almost miraculous, for he did not confine his ‘list’ to those whom he
 1709 thought might be reached by the revival, but the most (challenging)
 1710 and unlikely cases were made the subjects of prayer, with results that
 1711 were truly astounding.... He prayed more and more; he used to take
 1712 the map of the world before him, and pray, and look over the

1713 different countries and pray for them, till he expired in his room,
1714 praying.” Daniel Nash

1715

1716 *3. Seek to understand the battle.

1717 “Satan is ever ready to insinuate that prayer is a mere form, and
1718 avails us nothing. He cannot bear to have his powerful rival appealed
1719 to. At the sound of fervent prayer, the hosts of darkness tremble.
1720 Fearing their captive will escape, they form a wall around him, that
1721 heaven’s light may not reach his soul. But if in his distress and
1722 helplessness the sinner looks to Jesus, pleading the merits of His
1723 blood, our compassionate Redeemer listens to the earnest,
1724 persevering prayer of faith, and sends to his deliverance a re-
1725 enforcement of angels that excel in strength. And when these angels,
1726 all-powerful, clothed with the armor of Heaven, come to the help of
1727 the fainting, pursued soul, the angels of darkness fall back, well
1728 knowing that their battle is lost, and that one more soul is escaping
1729 from the power of their influence.” *Signs of the Times*, November 18,
1730 1886

1731

1732 “There is a mighty power in prayer. Our great adversary is
1733 constantly seeking to keep the troubled soul away from God. An
1734 appeal to heaven by the humblest saint is more to be dreaded by
1735 Satan than the decrees of cabinets or the mandates of kings.” *Signs of*
1736 *the Times*, October 27, 1881

1737

1738 “Every soul that refuses to give himself to God is under the control of
1739 another power. He is not his own. He may talk of freedom, but he is
1740 in the most abject slavery. He is not allowed to see the beauty of
1741 truth, for his mind is under the control of Satan. While he flatters
1742 himself that he is following the dictates of his own judgment, he
1743 obeys the will of the prince of darkness. Christ came to free the
1744 shackles of sin-slavery from the soul. ‘If the Son therefore shall make
1745 you free, you shall be free indeed.’” *Desire of Ages*, p. 466

1746

1747 * “Have you stood with Christ on the mount of transfiguration? Down
1748 in the plain there are souls enslaved by Satan; they are waiting for the
1749 word of faith and prayer to set them free.” *Mount of Blessing*, p. 43

1750

1751 *4. Don’t be afraid to disagree with God.

1752 “Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may wax hot against
1753 them, that I may consume them.” Exodus 32: 10

1754

- 1755 • Golden Calf (Exod. 32: 31-34)
- 1756 • Korah’s Rebellion (Num. 16: 20-22)

- 1757 • Miriam (Num. 12: 9-14)
 1758 • Marah (Exod. 15: 23-25)

1759

1760 *5. Plead the promises of God (2 Pet. 1:4; 2 Cor. 1:20)

1761 “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye
 1762 will, and it shall be done unto you.” John 15: 7

1763

1764 “Lay hold upon God’s word and upon all the helpful agencies He has
 1765 appointed. Thus your faith will be strengthened and will bring to
 1766 your aid the powers of heaven. ...The obstacles piled across your
 1767 path by Satan, though apparently as insurmountable as the eternal
 1768 hills, shall disappear before the demand of faith. Nothing shall be
 1769 impossible to you.” *Desire of Ages*, p. 431

1770

1771 *“The Word of God is a great help in prayer. If it is lodged and
 1772 written in our hearts, it will form an out-flowing current of prayer,
 1773 full and irresistible. Promises, stored in the heart, are to be the fuel
 1774 from which prayer receives life and warmth.” E. M. Bounds

1775

1776 *6. Add fasting as directed by God.

1777

1778 Matthew 17: 21

1779 “‘This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.’”

1780

1781 *a. Examples of people who fasted

1782

- 1783 • Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:3)
- 1784 • Esther (Esther 4:16)
- 1785 • Daniel (Daniel 9:3)
- 1786 • Jehoiakim (Jeremiah 36:9)
- 1787 • Early Church: (Acts 14:23; 27:33)

1788

1789 *b. Fasting has varied objectives

1790

- 1791 • When seeking revival. (Nehemiah 9:1; Joel 2:12)
- 1792 • When seeking wisdom. (Daniel 9:3; Acts 10:30)

1793

1794 “God would have all the bearings and positions of truth
 1795 thoroughly and perseveringly searched, with prayer and
 1796 fasting. Believers are not to rest in suppositions ... of what
 1797 constitutes truth. Their faith must be firmly founded upon
 1798 the word of God, so that when the testing time shall come,
 1799 and they are brought before councils to answer for their
 1800 faith, they may be able to give a reason for the hope that is

1801 in them, with meekness and fear.” *Colporteur Workers*, p.
1802 40

1803
1804 *“If you cannot all see alike on every subject, do not allow
1805 hard feelings to arise. When the cause was young, if there
1806 was one who did not view some point of truth as the body
1807 viewed it, a day of fasting and prayer was observed. We did
1808 not then try to see how far apart we could get; but we
1809 prayed, and searched the Scriptures until the light of truth
1810 illuminated the darkened mind, and all could see eye to
1811 eye.” *Historical Sketches of Foreign Missions*, p. 125

1812
1813 “The Scriptures were opened with a sense of awe. Often we
1814 fasted, that we might be better fitted to understand the
1815 truth.” *Counsels on Diet & Foods*, p. 187

- 1816
1817 • When seeking blessings. (Acts 14:23)
1818 • When seeking healing (Mark 9:29)
1819 • When seeking deliverance. (Jonah 3:5; Esther 4:16)
1820 • When repenting (1 Sam. 7:6)

1821
1822 *c. Fasting takes different forms.

- 1823
1824 ■ To be combined with prayer. (Matt. 17:21)
1825 ■ Often it meant going without food. (Acts 27:33)

1826
1827 “Our brethren would receive a blessing in dispensing with or
1828 deferring one meal of the day, if necessary, in order that an hour
1829 or more might be devoted to testimony meeting. We used often
1830 to make the Sabbath a day of fasting and prayer, and we were
1831 greatly blessed in our worship.” *Manuscript Releases*, p. 96

- 1832
1833 ■ Sometimes it meant temporarily giving up marital relationships
1834 (1 Cor. 7:5)
1835 ■ Sometimes it meant doing something for others. (Isaiah 58:5,6)

1836
1837 *d. Fasting doesn’t automatically bring blessings.

1838
1839 Zechariah 7:5-7
1840 “Speak to all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying,
1841 When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh months,
1842 even those seventy years, did you truly fast to Me, *even* to Me?
1843 And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for
1844 yourselves, and drink for yourselves? Should ye not hear the

1845 words which the LORD hath cried by the former prophets, when
 1846 Jerusalem was inhabited and in prosperity, and the cities thereof
 1847 round about her, when men inhabited the south and the plain?”

1848
 1849 “Prayer and fasting, that laborers may be sent into the harvest-
 1850 field, will avail nothing, while the spirit of evil surmising and
 1851 criticism exists in the hearts of those to whom laborers are to be
 1852 sent. We are to be doers of the words of Christ; then our fasts
 1853 and prayers will be effectual in bringing upon the church the
 1854 Holy Spirit.” *Review & Herald, October 31, 1893*

1855
 1856 “Fasting and prayer will accomplish nothing while the heart is
 1857 estranged from God by a wrong course of action. Read Isaiah
 1858 58:6, 7, 9-11.” *Counsels on Diet & Foods, p. 377.*

1859
 1860 “Fasting or prayer that is actuated by a self-justifying spirit is an
 1861 abomination in the sight of God. The solemn assembly for
 1862 worship, the round of religious ceremonies, the external
 1863 humiliation, the imposing sacrifice, proclaim that the doer of
 1864 these things regards himself as righteous, and as entitled to
 1865 heaven; but it is all a deception. Our own works can never
 1866 purchase salvation.” *Desire of Ages, p. 280*

1867
 1868 *e. Fasting can be practiced in an unhealthy way.

1869
 1870 “I have been informed that you have taken but one meal a day
 1871 for a period of time; but I know it to be wrong in your case, for I
 1872 have been shown that you needed a nutritious diet, and that you
 1873 were in danger of being too abstemious. Your strength would
 1874 not admit of your severe discipline. . . . I think that you have
 1875 erred in fasting two days. God did not require it of you. I beg of
 1876 you to be cautious and eat freely good, wholesome food twice a
 1877 day. You will surely decrease in strength and your mind become
 1878 unbalanced unless you change your course of abstemious diet.”
 1879 *Counsels on Diet & Foods, p. 191*

1880
 1881 “It is true that there are unbalanced minds that impose upon
 1882 themselves fasting which the Scriptures do not teach, and
 1883 prayers and privation of rest and sleep which God has never
 1884 required. Such are not prospered and sustained in their voluntary
 1885 acts of righteousness. They have a pharisaical religion which is
 1886 not of Christ, but of themselves. They trust in their good works
 1887 for salvation, vainly hoping to earn heaven by their meritorious
 1888 works instead of relying, as every sinner should, upon the merits

1889 of a crucified, risen, and exalted Saviour. These are almost sure
 1890 to become sickly. But Christ and true godliness are health to the
 1891 body and strength to the soul.” *Testimonies, Vol. 1*, p. 556

1892

1893 *f. Other thoughts on fasting

1894

1895 “Whenever it is necessary for the advancement of the cause of
 1896 truth and the glory of God, that an opponent be met, how
 1897 carefully, and with what humility, should they [The advocates of
 1898 truth] go into the conflict. With heart searching, confession of
 1899 sin, and earnest prayer, and often fasting for a time, they should
 1900 entreat that God would especially help them, and give His
 1901 saving, precious truth a glorious victory, that error might appear
 1902 in its true deformity, and its advocates be completely
 1903 discomfited.” *Testimonies, vol. 1*, p. 624

1904

1905 *7. Expect an answer.

1906 Acts 12:5,15-16

1907 “...constant prayer was offered to God for (Peter) by the church. ...
 1908 But they said to her, ‘You are beside yourself!’ Yet she kept insisting
 1909 that it was so. So they said, ‘It is his angel.’ Now Peter continued
 1910 knocking and when they opened the door and saw him, they were
 1911 astonished.”

1912

1913 "I desire that all the children of God, who may read these details, may
 1914 thereby be lead to increased and more simple confidence in God for
 1915 everything which they may need under any circumstances, and that
 1916 these many answers to prayer may encourage them to pray,
 1917 particularly as it regards the conversion of their friends and relatives,
 1918 their own progress in grace and knowledge, the state of the saints
 1919 who they may know personally, the state of the church of God at
 1920 large, and the success of the preaching of the Gospel. Especially I
 1921 affectionately warn them against being led away by the device of
 1922 Satan, to think that these things are peculiar to me, and cannot be
 1923 enjoyed by all the children of God; for though, as has been stated
 1924 before, every believer is not called upon to establish Orphan-Houses,
 1925 Charity Schools, etc., and trust in the Lord for means, yet all
 1926 believers are called upon, in the simple confidence of faith, to cast all
 1927 their burdens upon Him, to trust in Him for everything, and not only
 1928 to make every thing a subject of prayer, but to expect answers to their
 1929 petitions which they have asked according to His will, and in the
 1930 name of the Lord Jesus.” George Muller

1931

1932 *8. Unite your efforts with Christ.

1933 “All that Christ was to do in heaven was to be in fellowship with His
 1934 people on earth.” Andrew Murray *Secret of Intercession*
 1935

1936 *9. Be prepared to live out your prayers.

1937 “Do not mark out some particular way that the Lord must work for
 1938 you before you believe you receive the things you ask of Him; but
 1939 trust His word, and leave the whole matter in the hands of the Lord,
 1940 with full faith that your prayer will be honored, and the answer will
 1941 come at the very time and in the very way your heavenly Father sees
 1942 is for your good; and then live out your prayers. Walk humbly and
 1943 keep moving forward.” *God’s Amazing Grace*, p. 289
 1944

1945 “We must not make the fatal mistake of not moving in the direction
 1946 of our own prayer. Go to the one for whom the heart yearns and
 1947 reveal the anxiety. Plead with him as well as plead with God for him.
 1948 This is to live as we pray.” Courtland Myers, *Read Prayer*, p. 84
 1949

1950 Some Examples:

- 1951 • Francis Havergal in the boarding house in England.
- 1952 • Sarah at her school.
- 1953 • My own experience

1954
 1955 *10. Join others in interceding.

1956 “I remember in Battle Creek when there were those who felt the
 1957 burden for the unconverted, and those who were in darkness and saw
 1958 no light; then prayer meetings were appointed that they might make
 1959 the strength of God their strength. In every case the heavenly
 1960 intelligences worked with these efforts, and souls were saved.”
 1961 *Maranatha*, p. 38.
 1962

1963 *11. Overcome the varied results (Ex. 2:23-25)

- 1964 • Complacent “Bless Me in Egypt” Prayers
- 1965 • Self-Centered “Survive in the Wilderness” Prayers
- 1966 • Conquering “Take Canaanite Strongholds” Prayers

1967

1968

1969 Prevailing Remedies: Healing Prayer

1970

1971 *Blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-52)*

1972

1973 *Mark 16: 15-18

1974 “These signs will follow the believers: In My name they will ...lay hands
 1975 on the sick and they will recover.”
 1976

1977 Matt. 10:1,8

1978 “He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all
1979 kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease... Heal the sick, cleanse the
1980 lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received freely
1981 give.”

1982

1983 *James 5: 13-16

1984 “... Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church,
1985 and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the
1986 Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise
1987 him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”

1988

1989 *Psalms 103:3

1990 “Who forgives all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases....”

1991

1992 Jeremiah 17:14

1993 “Heal, O Lord, and I shall be healed; Save me, and I shall be saved.”

1994

1995 *Jeremiah 30:17

1996 “For I will restore health to you, and heal you of your wounds, says the
1997 Lord....”

1998

1999 *3 John 1:2

2000 “Beloved. I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as
2001 your soul prospers.”

2002

2003 *Selected Messages, Vol 3, 295

2004 “It has often been my privilege to pray with the sick. We should do this
2005 much more often than we do. If more prayer were offered in our
2006 sanitariums for the healing of the sick, the mighty power of the Healer
2007 would be seen. Many more would be strengthened and blessed, and many
2008 more acute sicknesses would be healed.”

2009

2010 *Medical Ministry, p. 195

2011 “When you neglect to pray for the sick, you deprive them of great
2012 blessings; for angels of God are waiting to minister to these souls in
2013 response to your petitions....”

2014

2015 *Matthew 10: 1,7,8

2016 “...He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal
2017 all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.” “As you go, preach saying,
2018 ‘the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers raise
2019 the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

2020

2021 *Counsels for the Church, p. 303

2022 “His disciples in this time are to pray for the sick as verily as the disciples
 2023 of old prayed. And recoveries will follow; for "the prayer of faith shall
 2024 save the sick." We have the Holy Spirit's power, the calm assurance of
 2025 faith, that can claim God's promises. The Lord's promise, "They shall lay
 2026 hands on the sick, and they shall recover" Mark 16:18, is just as
 2027 trustworthy now as in the days of the apostles. It presents the privilege of
 2028 God's children, and our faith should lay hold of all that it embraces.
 2029 Christ's servants are the channel of His working, and through them He
 2030 desires to exercise His healing power. It is our work to present the sick
 2031 and suffering to God in the arms of our faith. We should teach them to
 2032 believe in the Great Healer. The Saviour would have us encourage the
 2033 sick, the hopeless, the afflicted, to take hold upon His strength.”

2034

2035 Some Experiences

- 2036 • Dad
- 2037 • Aaron Prayer Group
- 2038 • Seminar Healings
- 2039 • HOP Healing
- 2040 • Lance in South Pacific
- 2041 • Pastor S.
- 2042 • Ben L and his healings
- 2043 • Lance’s healing
- 2044 • Buddhist woman who was healed after the Buddhist stuff was
 2045 removed and burned.

2046

2047 Why Doesn’t God Always Answer?

2048

2049 God’s response to our prayers, or lack thereof, is sometimes a frustrating
 2050 mystery. Charles Spurgeon, famed London preacher, found some
 2051 individuals were immediately healed in response to his prayers, others
 2052 were healed after a time; while other individuals immediately became
 2053 more sick and died. He carefully studied the subject of healing prayer as a
 2054 result, hoping to better understand the subject, but was never satisfied with
 2055 the answers give by the various authors. According the following list is
 2056 shared to explain some of the variability when praying for healing. It
 2057 should also be noted that longevity and spirituality are not related (Gen.
 2058 5:23,24).

2059

2060 *1. Sometimes the Great Controversy is being played out in the person’s
 2061 life. (Job 1:8-12)

2062

2063 *2. Sickness can be a disguised blessing and teach ongoing dependence. (2
 2064 Cor. 12:7)

2065
2066
2067
2068
2069
2070
2071
2072
2073
2074
2075
2076
2077
2078
2079
2080
2081
2082
2083
2084
2085
2086
2087
2088
2089
2090
2091
2092
2093
2094
2095
2096
2097
2098
2099
2100
2101
2102
2103
2104
2105
2106
2107
2108

*3. Sickness can be for God’s glory. (John 9:1-12)

*4. Sickness can bring a knowledge of God that would not otherwise be possible (2 Kings 5:1-27)

*5. Sickness allows a person to experience and promote God’s power in a personal way. (Daniel 4:29-35)

*6. Lack of answers can be due to a failure to believe. (Matt. 8:13; Luke 17:11-19)

“Our Lord has given us definite instruction, through the apostle James, as to our duty in case of sickness. When human help fails, God will be the helper of His people. If the professed followers of Christ would, with purity of heart exercise as much faith in the promises of God as they repose in satanic agencies, they would realize, in soul and body, the life-giving power of the Holy Spirit....”
Counsels on Health, p. 457

*7. Healing is not always in the person’s best interest. (Hezekiah, 2 Kings 20:1- [but especially 15-18])

“All that can be done in praying for the sick is to earnestly importune God in their behalf, and rest their case in his hands, in perfect confidence.... When we come to him we should pray that we might enter into, and accomplish, his purpose, and that our desires and interests might be lost in his.... We have united in earnest prayer around the sick bed of men, women and children, and have felt in regard to our earnest prayers, they were given us back from the dead. In these prayers we thought we must be positive, and if we exercised faith, we must ask for nothing less than life. We dared not say, If it would glorify God, fearing it would admit a semblance of doubt. We have interestedly and anxiously watched these cases, which have been given back, as it were, from the dead. We have seen some of these, especially youth, raised to health, and forget God, become dissolute in life, causing sorrow and anguish to parents and friends. They lived not to honor and glorify God, but to curse him with their life of vice, and a shame to those who feared to pray. If their life can glorify Thee, let them live, nevertheless not as we will, but as Thou wilt. We no longer mark out a way, nor seek to bring the Lord to our wishes. Our faith can be just as firm, and more reliable, by committing the desire to the all-wise God, and trusting, with unfeverish anxiety, all in perfect confidence with him. We have the promise. We know that he hears us if we ask according to his will.”
Testimony for Battle Creek Church, p. 64

2109
 2110
 2111
 2112
 2113
 2114
 2115
 2116
 2117
 2118
 2119
 2120
 2121
 2122
 2123
 2124
 2125
 2126
 2127
 2128
 2129
 2130
 2131
 2132
 2133
 2134
 2135
 2136
 2137
 2138
 2139
 2140
 2141
 2142
 2143
 2144
 2145
 2146
 2147
 2148
 2149
 2150
 2151

*“I repeatedly prayed with sick believers until they were restored. I asked...for the blessing of bodily health unconditionally(which I could not do now), and almost always had the petition answered.”
 George Müller

*8. Failure to follow a natural law prevents a supernatural remedy. (Ex. 15:25,26; 1 Cor. 6:15,19,20)

“It is labor lost to teach people to look to God as a healer of their infirmities, unless they are taught also to lay aside unhealthful practices. In order to receive His blessing in answer to prayer, they must cease to do evil and learn to do well.” *Ministry of Healing*, p. 226

*9. Failure to confess sin stands in the way. (Matt. 9:2-6; James 5:15,16)

“In order for the child of God to receive divine healing, the following usually must take place: sin must be confessed and renounced, one must completely surrender to the Lord, self must be yielded up to be wholly in His hands, and that Jesus desires to take charge of the body must be firmly believed. Then, the healing becomes the commencement of a new life of intimate communion with the Lord.”
 Andrew Murray *Divine Healing*, p. 52

“To those who desire prayer for their restoration to health, it should be made plain that the violation of God’s law, either natural or spiritual, is sin, and that in order for them to receive His blessing, sin must be confessed and forsaken.” *Ministry of Healing*, p. 226

*10. Trouble making or withholding God’s due is preventing healing. (Ps. 34:12-13)

Deut. 7:11-15; Ps. 34:12-13; Prov. 6:12-19; 1 Cor. 10:10; Num. 12:1,2,10,13-15; 1 Kings 13:6; 2 Kings 5:26-27; Acts 5:1-5

*11. Too much healing might lead to ungodly pride. (2 Chron. 26:16)

“God desires us to trust implicitly in Him, and if it is for our good and His name’s glory to do the work, it will be done. We are to wait. The power of the Lord is limitless. We poor mortals need to purify our souls, that when the Lord works for us, it will not ruin us. This is the reason that so few of the sick are healed. If they were [healed], men would be elevated in self-esteem. We must learn from Jesus to be meek and lowly of heart, and we shall find rest unto our souls.”
The Upward Look, p. 375

2152 812. Sickness can serve as a major wakeup call to the church. (1 Cor.
2153 11:28-30)

2154
2155 Faith & Setting Affairs in Order; Making Use of Remedies

2156
2157 *Ministry of Healing, p. 231

2158 “Often there is danger of error here. Believing that they will be healed in
2159 answer to prayer, some fear to do anything that might seem to indicate a
2160 lack of faith. But they should not neglect to set their affairs in order as
2161 they would desire to do if they expected to be removed by death. Nor
2162 should they fear to utter words of encouragement or counsel which at the
2163 parting hour they wish to speak to their loved ones.”

2164
2165 *Manuscript Releases, p. 387

2166 “In regard to the matter of prayer for the sick, many confusing ideas are
2167 advanced. One says, ‘He who has been prayed for must walk out in faith,
2168 giving God the glory, and making use of no remedies. If he is at a health
2169 institute he should leave it at once.’ The path of faith lies close beside
2170 the path of presumption. Satan is ever seeking to lead us into false paths.
2171 He sees that a misunderstanding of what constitutes faith will confuse and
2172 disappoint. He is pleased when he can persuade men and women to reason
2173 from false premises.... It is no denial of faith to use rational remedies
2174 judiciously..”

2175
2176 *Rosalind Goforth

2177 “In all cases of divine healing cited in this record it will be noted that God
2178 healed in answer to prayer either when the doctors had done all in their
2179 power and hope had been abandoned, or when we were out of reach of
2180 medical aid.” *How I Know God Answers Prayer* p. 31

2181
2182 *Methods...

2183 1. Is it always necessary to do a laying on of hands?

2184 In the book of Acts there are instances recorded where the mere
2185 shadow of the Apostles falling on the person brought healing. At
2186 other times, a piece of clothing seemed to be sufficient.

2187
2188 2. Should oil be used?

2189 Oil wasn’t always used, but one should remember that the oil
2190 represents the work of the Holy Spirit that brings about the healing.

2191
2192 3. Should elders be present?

2193 Healing isn’t a solo sport. To safeguard against this danger, I believe
2194 God has directed the calling of the “elders.” However, I have seen
2195 people other than elders used to bring healing to another person.

2196

2197 Books: Ministry of Healing, Counsels on Diet and Foods

2198 The China Study, T. Collin Campbell

2199

2200 *NOTES & INTERCESSORY PRAYERS*

2201

2202

PREVAILING PRAYER

PREVAILING RESULTS

(7 of 7)

“Giving thanks always, for all things....” Eph. 5:20

Introduction

*The Mystery of Delayed Answers

Continuing to pray in spite of limited results is one of the major challenges of the prayer life. Many an individual has struggled over the lack of answers and wondered, “Why isn’t God responding?” This is also the most challenging part of putting on seminars. This session we want to look at the all important connection between perseverance and praise.

*Andrew Murray

“Of all the mysteries of the prayer world, the need of persevering prayer is one of the greatest. That the Lord, who is so loving and longing to bless, should have to be supplicated time after time, sometimes year after year, before the answer comes, we cannot easily understand. It is also one of the greatest practical difficulties in the exercise of believing prayer.”

Persevering Prayer

*It was practiced by Elijah

1 Kings 18:42,43

“... And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground and put his face between his knees, and said to his servant, ‘Go up now, look toward the sea.’ So he went up and looked, and said, ‘There is nothing.’ And seven times he said, ‘go again.’”

*It was instructed by Jesus!

Luke 18: 1-5

“That men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: ‘There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her lest by her continual coming she weary me.’”

2245
2246
2247
2248
2249
2250
2251
2252
2253
2254
2255
2256
2257
2258
2259
2260
2261
2262
2263
2264
2265
2266
2267
2268
2269
2270
2271
2272
2273
2274
2275
2276
2277
2278
2279
2280
2281
2282
2283
2284
2285
2286
2287

Luke 11: 5-9

“And He said to them, ‘Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; and he will answer from within and say, ‘Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you’? I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.”

*It was requested by Paul

1 Thessalonians 5: 17

“Pray without ceasing.”

Romans 12: 12

“Steadfastly continuing in prayer.”

Ephesians 6: 18

“...praying always...with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”

Colossians 4: 2

“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving...”

Biblical Examples

*Hannah: God needed prophet (1 Sam. 1:11)

*Elijah: Needed heart work: (1 Kings 18:43)

SDABC Vol. 2, pp, 1034,1035

“When upon Mt. Carmel he offered the prayer for rain, his faith was tested, but he persevered in making known his request unto God. Six times he prayed earnestly, and yet there was no sign that his petition was granted, but with a strong faith he urged his plea to the throne of grace. Had he given up in discouragement at the sixth time, his prayer would not have been answered, but he persevered till the answer came.... God does not always answer our prayer the first time we call upon Him; for should He do this, we might take it for granted that we have a right to all the blessings and favors He bestowed upon us...”

2288 We (would) become careless and fail to realize our dependence was
 2289 on Him.”

2290

2291 *Joseph: He needed to die to self (Gen. 45:7,8)

2292

2293 *Israel: Needed deliverance (Ex. 2:23,24)

2294

2295 *Daniel: A battle was waging (Daniel 10:12)

2296

2297 Daniel: “Do not fear Daniel, for from the first day that you set your
 2298 heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your
 2299 words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the
 2300 prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days....”

2301

2302 *Paul: Deliverance wasn’t for his good (2 Cor. 12:7)

2303 Heavenly Places, p. 83

2304 “When Paul prayed that the thorn in his flesh might be removed, the
 2305 Lord answered his prayer, not by removing the thorn, but by giving
 2306 him grace to bear the trial. ‘My grace,’ He said, ‘is sufficient for
 2307 thee.’ Paul rejoiced at this answer to his prayer, declaring, ‘Most
 2308 gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of
 2309 Christ may rest upon me.’”

2310

Why Persist?

2312 *Andrew Murray

2313 “When, after persevering supplication, our prayer remains unanswered, it
 2314 is often easiest for our slothful flesh, and it has all the appearance of pious
 2315 submission, to think that we must now cease praying, that God may have
 2316 His secret reason for withholding His answer to our request. It is by faith
 2317 alone that the difficulty is overcome. When once faith has taken its stand
 2318 upon God’s word and the Name of Jesus, and has yielded itself to the
 2319 leading of the Spirit to seek God’s will and honor alone in its prayer, it
 2320 need not be discouraged by delay. It knows from Scripture that the power
 2321 of believing prayer is simply irresistible; real faith can never be
 2322 disappointed.” *With Christ in the School of Answered Prayer, p. 87*

2323

2324 *Christ Object Lessons, p. 175

2325 “Christ desires nothing so much as to redeem His heritage from the
 2326 dominion of Satan. But before we are delivered from Satan’s power
 2327 without, we must be delivered from his power within. The Lord permits
 2328 trials in order that we may be cleansed from earthliness, from selfishness,
 2329 from harsh, unchristlike traits of character. He suffers the deep waters of
 2330 affliction to go over our souls. There is no danger that the Lord will

2331 neglect the prayers of His people. The danger is that in temptation and trial
 2332 they will become discouraged, and fail to persevere in prayer.”

2333

2334 *George Müller

2335 “The great point is never to give up until the answer comes. I have been
 2336 praying for fifty-two years, every day, for two men, sons of a friend of my
 2337 youth. They are not converted yet, but they will be! The great fault of the
 2338 children of God is ... they do not go on praying; they do not persevere. If
 2339 they desire anything for God’s glory, they should pray until they get it.”
 2340 *Delighted in God*, p. 186

2341

2342 *Review & Herald, October 30, 1888

2343 “The enemy holds many of you from prayer, by telling you that you do not
 2344 feel your prayers, and that you would better wait until you realize more of
 2345 the spirit of intercession, lest your prayers should be a mockery. But you
 2346 must say to Satan, “It is written” that “men ought always to pray, and not
 2347 to faint.” We should pray until we do have the burden of our wants upon
 2348 our souls; and if we persevere, we shall have it.”

2349

2350 Shall we persevere?

2351 But it’s hard to persevere when we don’t seem to see results? What are we
 2352 to do? What provision has God provided to remedy our dilemma?

2353

2354

Praise

2355 *Andrew Murray

2356 “Between the ‘have received’ in heaven, and the ‘shall have’ of earth,
 2357 believe—believing praise and prayer is the link.” *With Christ in the School*
 2358 *of Prayer*, p. 64

2359

2360 *Why Praise?

2361 It’s our natural response to God

2362 Psalm 34: 1

2363 “I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in
 2364 my mouth.”

2365

2366 *It’s our response to His keeping!

2367 Ps 118: 5, 6, 14, 21, 29

2368 “I called upon the Lord in distress; the Lord answered me, and set me
 2369 in a large place. The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can
 2370 man do to me? The Lord is my strength and song and He has become
 2371 my salvation.”

2372

2373 *Romans 8: 28

2374 “And we know that all things work together for good to those who
2375 are the called according to His purpose.”
2376

2377 Romans 5:3

2378 “We rejoice in tribulations.”
2379

2380 *We are commanded to praise.

2381 *Ephesians 5:20

2382 “Giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of
2383 our Lord Jesus Christ.”
2384

2385 *Philippians 4: 6,7

2386 “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and
2387 supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to
2388 God.”
2389

2390 Prov. 17:22

2391 “A merry heart does good like a medicine, but a broken spirit dries
2392 the bones.”
2393

2394 Prov. 16:24

2395 “Pleasant words are like honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health
2396 to the bones.”
2397

2398 *Review & Herald Vol. 3, p. 139

2399 “Those who follow inclination and judge from appearances, are not
2400 good judges of what God is doing. They are filled with discontent.
2401 They see failure where there is indeed triumph, a great loss where
2402 there is only gain.”
2403

2404 Review & Herald Vol. 3, p. 125

2405 “I testify to those who love and serve God, that we miss very much
2406 because we do not grasp the blessings that may be ours in afflictions.
2407 All our sufferings and sorrows, all our temptations and trials, all our
2408 sadness and grief, all our persecutions and privations, and in short all
2409 things, work together for our good. All experiences and
2410 circumstances are God’s workmen whereby good is brought to us.”
2411

2412 Review & Herald May 7, 1908

2413 “ All trials that are received as educators will produce joy. The whole
2414 religious life will be uplifting, elevating, ennobling, fragrant with
2415 good words and works.”
2416
2417

2418 *Youth Instructor, January 10, 1901

2419 “Let us educate our tongues to speak forth his praise, not only when
2420 we feel gladness, but at all times.”

2421
2422 *It enables God’s miracles.

2423 *Testimonies Vol. 5, p. 317

2424 “We do not pray any too much, but we are too sparing of giving
2425 thanks. If the loving kindness of God called forth more thanksgiving
2426 and praise, we would have far more power in prayer. We would
2427 abound more and more in the love of God and have more bestowed to
2428 praise Him for. You who complain that God does not hear your
2429 prayers, change your present order and mingle praise with your
2430 petitions. When you consider His goodness and mercies, you will
2431 find that He will consider your wants.”

2432
2433 Charles Spurgeon

2434 “The kind of prayer that kills care is a prayer that asks cheerfully,
2435 joyfully, thankfully. ‘Lord, I am poor. Let me bless You for my
2436 poverty,’ and then, ‘O Lord, will You not supply all my needs?’ That
2437 is the way to pray.... ‘Supplication with thanksgiving.’ Mix these two
2438 things, rub them well together, and they will make a blessed cure for
2439 care.” *Prayer in the Believer’s Life*, p. 174, 175.

2440
2441 *Unknown Christian

2442 “Nothing so pleases God as our praises, and nothing so blesses the
2443 man who prays as the praises he offers! “Delight thyself also in the
2444 Lord; and he shall give thee the petitions of thine heart. Do we praise
2445 enough to get our prayers answered? If we truly trust Him, we shall
2446 always praise Him.” *Kneeling Christian*, p. 117

2447
2448 Charles Spurgeon

2449 “Sweeten your lips with the pleasant confection of praise. If anyone
2450 should confess to me that he has sinned by going too far in blessing
2451 God, I would for once become a priest and give him absolution.
2452 Praise God extravagantly if you can. Try it. Say to yourself, ‘I will
2453 go beyond all boundaries in this matter,’ for there are no limits to
2454 what God deserves, for He ever blesses.” *Prayer & Spiritual*
2455 *Warfare*, p. 405

2456
2457 *Praying Hyde

2458 “Mr. Hyde used to say that at any time when he noticed few souls
2459 being led by him to Christ, he invariably found it was all due to his
2460 lack of the spirit of praise. He would then confess his sin, ask pardon,
2461 and take the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. His

2462 experience then invariably was that Christ would again draw souls to
 2463 Himself through him.” *Praying Hyde*, p. 143, 144.

2464

2465 *George Muller

2466 “I have been a believer in the Lord Jesus for forty-four years, but I
 2467 have invariably found that my greatest trials have proved my greatest
 2468 blessings; they have worked for my good.” *Jehovah Magnified*, p. 50

2469

2470 F. B. Meyer

2471 “I have a beloved friend, who has made it the habit of her life to obey
 2472 this injunction literally. When her husband’s factory was in flames,
 2473 when her children were pronounced to be seriously ill, and when
 2474 other apparent disasters befell her, she went alone into her chamber,
 2475 and knelt down to thank God for all, because she knew that He was a
 2476 Father still; that He loved her too well to give her anything but the
 2477 best; and that He must love her very much to be willing to bless her
 2478 at the cost of so much pain. We may not always feel like thanking
 2479 God for all things; but let us always will and dare to do it. Let us not
 2480 look at the providence, but at the Father behind it. Let us not examine
 2481 the crate, but let us search within for the gift of love. Though at first
 2482 sight we may be disappointed and sad, whatever the Father sends
 2483 must be the very best. Dare to believe it, and you will come to find it
 2484 so.” Ephesians. P. 14

2485

2486 Mary Winslow

2487 "Beloved fellow traveler in the kingdom of God, it is through much
 2488 tribulation we are to enter into His kingdom of glory above. I have
 2489 heard of the severe trial your Father has sent in much love. When we
 2490 arrive at home, and trace our steps through this wilderness, we shall
 2491 see that every trial, cross, and disappointment was needful, and that
 2492 the work would not have been complete without all, even the least.
 2493 Our loving God and Father takes no pleasure in afflicting us; but it is
 2494 by these things we are brought to be better acquainted with ourselves
 2495 and with Him. He does it all. Can anything happen to us but what
 2496 God does in love to our souls? Are we not in His heart, and can
 2497 anything happen to us but what He designs? Cast all your cares on
 2498 Him, for He cares for you. He is better able to bear the burden than
 2499 you are. Lie contented in His loving hands, and let Him take His own
 2500 way with you.” *Her Letters*

2501

2502 Some Experiences

2503 Red Sea Adventures

2504 Daniel’s “Thanksgiving”

2505 Peter’s Emancipation

2506 George Muller and Delays
 2507 North Atlantic Crossings
 2508 God’s Perfect Timing When Moving
 2509 God’s Perfect Timing with Power Point.
 2510 God’s Perfect Timing With a Computer
 2511 God’s Perfect Timing When Traveling
 2512 God providing funds for trips.

2513
2514 *CONTINUING RESULTS*

- 2515
- 2516 1. Be intentional in your prayers.
 - 2517 • Regular time
 - 2518 • Use prayer lists.
 - 2519 • Maintain a journal for answers.
 - 2520 2. Maintain a life-changing devotional experience.
 - 2521 3. Keep Studying.
 - 2522 4. Pray with others.
 - 2523 • Prayer Partner
 - 2524 • Prayer Group
 - 2525 • Midweek Prayer Services.

2526
2527
2528
2529
2530
2531
2532
2533
2534
2535

2536 This copyrighted syllabus was developed by Dan Augsburg, and is
 2537 referred to in the Prevailing Prayer Series presented in Nashville, TN in
 2538 January, 2009. Printed copies may be obtained by writing: Path2Prayer
 2539 Ministries, PO Box 244, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or by emailing Dan
 2540 via path2prayer@yahoo.com. A pdf of the syllabus can be downloaded
 2541 free of charge at path2prayer.com. Any size donation is appreciated to
 2542 cover development and printing costs. The syllabus is intended for private
 2543 use; any commercial use is prohibited!

2544
 2545 11/23/05; 2/11/06; 8/22/2008; 11/5/2008, 12/29/2008 1/5/2009 1/21/2009
 2546 5/2/2009 7/29/2009 8/19/2009 12/18/2009 12/26/2009 1/20/2010
 2547 3/8/2010 booklet

2548

2548 Dan Augsburger's Background

2549

2550 Dan has degrees in religion and communication from Andrews University
2551 and a Masters in Religious Education from Andrews Theological
2552 Seminary. Dan's varied background includes work as a pastor, chaplain,
2553 hospital and nursing home administrator, executive search in which he
2554 owned his own firm, and teaching church history. Having an acute need
2555 for answers to prayer when his personal circumstances were changing,
2556 Dan began to carefully study the science of prayer. As a result of putting
2557 what he was learning into practice, he began obtaining wonderful answers
2558 to prayer. He accordingly began sharing what God was doing with others.
2559 Invitations began coming to speak and teach on prayer. What began as an
2560 occasional weekend retreat, has now become a ministry that takes him to
2561 churches and organizations throughout the world. Dan also teaches the
2562 History of Christian Spirituality at the Andrews Theological Seminary.

2563

2564 Path2Prayer Ministries

2565

2566 Path2Prayer Ministries was developed to support Dan's seminar and web
2567 efforts. A faith effort, Path2Prayer Ministries depends on the blessings of
2568 God and the support of God's friends who value the ministry. Dan lives a
2569 dependent life which he speaks of in his seminars. Almost everything
2570 provided through the ministry is offered at no cost, enabling individuals
2571 throughout the world to have hard to find ministry resources.

2572

2573 Contact Information

2574

2575 Email:

2576 path2prayer@yahoo.com (to contact Dan)

2577 path2prayer@gmail.com (to subscribe to newsletter)

2578

2579 Web Site:

2580 Path2prayer.com (his website)

2581 Twitter: [path2prayer](https://twitter.com/path2prayer)

2582 Facebook Friend: Find Dan by searching path2prayer@yahoo.com

2583 Facebook: Christian Witnessing Works (his group on witnessing)

2584

2585 Mailing Address:

2586 PO Box 244

2587 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

2588