

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 1)

14/01/2021

Every prayer a believer makes today should be made in the name of Jesus. The name of Jesus is what gives power to your prayer not your good words. No amount of good words or well-ordered words can move God except the name of Jesus.

Jesus said in *John 16:23-24(KJV)* **And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.**

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

If you look in these scriptures, Jesus said whatever we ask the Father in His name, the Father will do it. When we pray, we do not ask things to Jesus but we ask from the Father in Jesus's name. Many people will pray to Jesus (it is not dangerous to do so) however it is not the correct way of praying. We pray to the Father in the name of Jesus.

Some people pray in the name and the 'blood' of Jesus but that addition is not scriptural...We were never taught to pray in the BLOOD of Jesus but in the NAME of Jesus. The blood and the name are different and plays different roles. Believers should not conflate the two.

The most powerful aspect of Jesus is His name. Remember He was given this name as a reward for His obedience.... The Bible says in *Philippians 2:9-11(KJV)*. **Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:**

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

You see how powerful His Name is?

Some pray 'The Lord's Prayer, the one in *Mathew 6:9-15*. This prayer brethren am sorry to say it has expired. Jesus taught this prayer to people who were not believers. Why do we say the prayer is not for believers? It is because it does not have the name of Jesus in it. Any prayer made to the

Father in the New Testament must always be in the name of Jesus. Also, we do not see apostles praying the prayer in the book of Acts and there is no mention of it in epistles written to the church.

The early church was only praying powerfully in the name of Jesus. We do not have to use the '**Lord's Prayer**' now. All Christian prayers should be or must be in the name of Jesus, all healings, works of power, miracles and faith work must all be done in Jesus's name.

Amen.

Pastors C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 2)

05/01/2021

***Mark 11:24(KJV)* Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

That is one of the major challenges of believers. They pray without believing. They pray and they are not sure of whether their prayers have been heard.

Most believers, even when they have known God and have been believers for many years, they still pray and are not sure they are heard by God. The most dangerous thing in one's life is when he/she begins to doubt his/her own prayers...that is dangerous.

Never live a Christian life where you do not believe in your prayers anymore or you do not believe when you pray. The scripture above taught us clearly that when you pray, you have to believe.

Signs of Unbelief

1. Praying for something more than once.

Most believers do not know that asking God for anything more than once is unbelief. God hears you the first time you ask for anything. God does not sleep or slumber

Psalms 121:4 (KJV) Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord's ears are inclined to hear your prayers. *Psalms 34:15 (KJV)* **The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry.**

God always hears us when we pray. Not a single prayer of a child of God goes without being heard by the Father. God hears all the prayers from His children (born again believers).

Unbelief will tell you that you need to pray again maybe God did not hear you. Unbelief seeks to portray God as a reckless God who goes to sleep or goes on vacation while we are busy praying to Him such that He misses all our prayers and will tell us to pray again/resubmit our prayers because he cannot find the folder/file of all of them. That is why God hates unbelief. Prayers made in doubt (unbelief) disgusts Him.

When you pray and ask God for something, believe you have what you have prayed for...and when you pray again about the same thing, do not ask of it again because He heard you the last time you did but just PRAISE AND THANK God about it until it manifests. It is wrong to ask God a thing every day. That is a prayer of doubt and God does not move in unbelief. Even the devil will know that you are not sure that you were heard when you asked the last time. You cannot do trial and error. Prayer works.

Will talk more tomorrow about unbelief.

Pastor C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 3)

06/01/2021

Mark 11:24 (KJV) **Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.**

Whenever you stand to pray, believe your prayers. In most cases, it is not God that we doubt but we doubt ourselves that God can hear us.

Everyone knows how powerful God is and we all believe that but it is our ability in the very same God that we doubt. Many people shout in prayer, cry and do all sorts of things but still doubt that all those things are being seen/heard by God. That is a tragedy.

Let us look at Peter in the Bible. He saw Jesus walking on water, he said he also wanted to join Jesus on the water and Jesus said 'come'. Immediately he went and started walking on water also (**Mathew 14:22-33**). Few steps later Peter begins to sink because he started to doubt himself or his ability in God. Peter did not even fast or scream to walk on water, he only asked Jesus and he was told to come. Anyone can do that today. God never answers prayers prayed in doubt.

Prayer should be very interesting if we pray with the knowledge that God hears every prayer. The reason prayer seems like a difficult task to perform for you is because you have never seen it work for you before so it is something you cannot voluntarily do. You need to be persuaded for you to pray.

You are a child of God. Prayer should work for you only if you believe it. How many people were told that they are God's children but still do not believe it. That doubt in your relationship with God is the same doubt you have when you pray to Him. If God is your Father, with all the goodness and love that God has why then would He ignore your prayer?

You will be very powerful the day you believe that when you pray, every prayer you say is heard by God and is ready to give you whatsoever you desire. Your only enemy is your unbelief.

After dealing with unbelief then we move to address other things on prayer.

Amen

Pastor C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 4)

11/01/2021

1. Praying for yourself.

When you pray for yourself and for your personal life, the best way to do so is to pray in tongues. Remember the Bible teaches us that in **1 Corinthians 14:2 (KJV) For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.**

Because if you speak in tongues you are speaking directly to God. No one hears you. You will be speaking mysteries in the Spirit. The quickest way of getting your prayer to God is by speaking in tongues.

In crisis moments like these ones, we are in, praying in tongues helps to strengthen your spirit. It is very easy to hear stories of sick friends, family or even their deaths so you need to know how to strengthen your spirit and there is not any better way to do so than praying in the Spirit (praying in tongues).

Quoting scriptures from your mind will not work. Most believers declare scriptures out of their minds, that one will not make the scripture work for you. It does not matter how relevant or powerful that scripture is as long as you are not saying it FROM YOUR SPIRIT, it will not help you. So, when you declare scriptures, let it come from your spirit not from your senses or mind.

In this time of crisis, a believer has to be strong from the inside. A believer has to pray in the spirit always as is taught in **Ephesians 6:18 (KJV) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.**

Never stop praying in the Spirit. It strengthens you and builds your faith up.

When you are strengthened from within, your outer man (your body) will respond as well to the strength of the inner man (your spirit) such that you can withstand any negative news that you can hear or even if the virus comes to you, your body will have the strength to fight it away but if you are weak from inside, it is easy to give in and your immune system collapses. Lastly, desire fellowship with God when you pray more than telling him your need. When you are always praying for needs, at some time you will feel that you have exhausted all your needs and have nothing more

to pray for (reason why most people's prayer life is erratic), but if it is fellowship that you seek, you will always want to be back again in the presence of God.

Pastor C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY AGAINST COVID-19 (PART 1)

12/01/2021

(I will do a series very soon about what all this Covid-19 thing means for the church and the nations)

There is no solution for Covid-19 which is safe except prayer. If the church prays, it can stop this nonsense. It starts with one person willing to pray, then a family willing to pray, then a community willing to pray, until the whole nation is calling upon the Lord, then this scourge will back off from us.

You can play your part and pray the few minutes you can. Who knows maybe that makes the 1 million of us who will be praying against this disease? Do not think your prayer does not count or do not think you are praying alone. Many other believers across the world are praying with you.

PRAYER BULLETS AGAINST COVID-19

Father God, have mercy upon the people of the world and save them.

Father your word says in **Isaiah 59:19** that "**when the enemy comes in form of a flood, the Spirit of the Lord raises a standard against him,**" Father may your Spirit raise a standard against this pandemic in Jesus Name.

We call upon the mighty Spirit of God to blow away the virus from atmosphere and from bodies of your people in Jesus Name. We call upon the virus to back off from the streets and from the homes of people all the world in Jesus Name.

- May the means that the virus uses to spread fail in Jesus's Name.

- With the authority given to us as the Church of Jesus Christ, we take away the power behind the spread of the virus, the power in the virus to cause sickness and death in Jesus Name.

- Father we pray that our old people be protected and their lives be counted worthy in Jesus's Name.
- We command our atmosphere, our wind to reject spreading this virus in Jesus Name.
- Let any conspiracy about this virus be exposed and let anyone behind it be shamed and exposed in Jesus Name.
- We know our God is a consuming fire (**Hebrews 12:29**). May the same fire burn across the nations of the world today, destroying evil in high places that is causing the suffering of people in Jesus Name.
- Father God you said in your word that in **2 Chronicles 7:14 (KJV) If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.**
- Thank you, Father, for healing our land as we pray in Jesus Name.
- Let everything being planned by evil men and evil women against the people fail in Jesus's Name.
- Father God, healing and deliverance comes from thee alone, thank you for healing us from this scourge in the Name of your Son Jesus Christ.
- Surely, we serve a mighty God. How can we fear, for indeed He will rescue us from this evil scheme in Jesus?
- We know that because the church, the elect of God are still here on earth, so whatever was planned by evil agents of satan for this world will fail in Jesus's Name because of the church.

PART TWO OF PRAYER POINTS COMING TOMORROW

Pastor C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 5)

19/01/2021

Romans 8:26 (KJV) Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

The scripture above is widely quoted in the Christian faith but has never been clearly understood. Apostle Paul is teaching us how the Holy Spirit helps us in prayer. This does not mean the Holy Spirit has to do the whole job without us participating, no. The one to pray is ourselves, the Holy Spirit only helps us.

The scripture said for we do not know what we ought to pray for...In many situations, believers pray not knowing what they have to pray for. They pray for the sake of it. For you to be able to pray effectively for something, the Holy Spirit should release a burden in your own spirit about what you need to pray for. This burden is like a motivation or a drive to pray for a certain item such that when you try to pray for any other thing that is not that, you feel dryness but when you go back to that subject you feel very connected, that's how the burden of the Holy Spirit works.

When we pray in the Spirit always, the Holy Spirit releases a burden in your own spirit to pray. Did we understand? Your own human spirit should receive a burden from the Holy Spirit of God and it is that burden that will give you motivation to pray. Remember, we do not know what we should pray for, so effective praying is when we allow the Holy Spirit to pick up prayer items for us. Sometimes we may pray and our prayer is in line with what the Holy Spirit wants but sadly in most cases we pray from our own minds going the opposite direction to what the Spirit wants.

Have you ever noticed in many instances that you may see yourself in a big problem but not having enough strength to pray for it? Or there might be a problem in your family and you know it, you worry about it but you have no strength or motivation to pray for it...Some will just pray three minutes for such a huge problem. Another good example is we have Covid-19 ravaging the nations of the world now and someone has never prayed about it for more than five minutes. You can worry about it but when you want to pray, you run short of words and strength

The situations above happen because your spirit is still empty. It has not received a burden to pray for that particular thing. Even to pray effectively for yourself, you need the Holy Spirit to give you the burden to pray. That is why you see some people praying and fasting for many days, they have a burden for that thing sitting in their hearts. That burden becomes the motivation for praying and

fasting over something for many days. For example, the Holy Spirit can give me a burden to pray for someone, I would go for days praying for that person until the burden is gone...that is what the Holy Spirit does when He wants to lead you into prayer for something. He gives you the burden for it.

This burden is very important because it helps you know whether you have under prayed or not. If you do not pray enough for that thing, the burden will not be lifted from your heart. When you have prayed enough, you feel the burden lifting up from your heart/spirit then you know for sure that you have broken through. Do not stop praying for that item until the burden lifts off. If you stop midway, you may not have achieved the desired results. Some folks only mention something in prayer and they think they have prayed enough about it. That is not it. Pray until you do not feel burdened by it anymore.

This is different from a satanic burden. A satanic burden is a problem which can never let you pray. It weighs you down mentally, physically, psychologically but the burden of the Spirit is that which constantly reminds you to pray. Sometimes you are crying when you are praying about a certain item, you are interceding with groans and tears, that is the burden of the Holy Ghost. You feel you need time alone to continue praying.

How can one receive this burden?

Answer in tomorrow's episode. Do not miss your copy!

Pastor C & S

HOW TO PRAY EFFECTIVELY (PART 6)

20/01/2021

HOW TO RECIEVE A PRAYER BURDEN FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT.

As we said in the previous episode that for you to effectively pray for something, you will need a burden for it. If you do not have a burden for that thing placed in your heart you will only look at it and not pray for it.

How to receive the burden to pray?

1. Jude 1:20 (KJV) But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

The quickest way and the most effective way is by praying in the Holy Spirit/Ghost. The scripture above says when you pray in the Spirit, you build yourself on your most holy faith. It is in praying in the Holy Ghost that you will be able to pick situations that need urgent prayer or situations that you should pray for. It is in praying in the Holy Ghost that the Spirit of God will give you prayer items to pray for.

How can one pray in the Holy Ghost?

a) Those who do not pray in tongues of the Spirit, you can activate it by praying a prayer of praising or a prayer of giving thanks to the Lord. Keep on praising God until the Holy Spirit deposits in your heart what to pray for. It will just be dropped in you and immediately you begin to pray without struggling.

Be comfortable to even finish your prayer praising the Lord if you do not feel led to praying for something. There are many problems in the world and around. The issue is not about naming all of them in prayer, it is about finding out which one the Spirit is directing you to pray for. You will never go wrong with giving thanks to the Lord. Sometimes as you give thanks to God, the Holy Spirit can fill you up and you begin to speak in other tongues. Do not look down on a thanksgiving prayer, you have a lot to thank God for.

b) To those who can pray in the tongues of the Spirit do so always but now with concentration. Some people can pray in tongues without concentration, that will not help. Do not just blurt out tongues without putting your heart and your mind to it. You will not receive anything from the Holy Spirit in that way.

Fruitful praying requires that you concentrate and focus your mind to what you are doing. It is not the amount of words you are using but the amount of time you spend concentrating on what you are doing. It is in praying in the tongues of the Spirit that you now begin to be moved towards praying for something. You now begin to be given words in your language to pray for something

and eventually the burden for that thing is placed in your heart, emotions will then come, motivation to pray will then come, you now do not struggle to pray about it.

NB: When you are struggling to pray for something that you think is very important, it means that the Holy Spirit has not yet released the burden for it, do not force it. Keep praying in the Spirit and go where the Holy Spirit is leading you. Sometimes you may be led to pray for something that seems less important, it is ok just follow the Holy Spirit. You will never go wrong with following Him. Remember we do not know what we ought to pray for.

Important: Those who lead intercession during services, do not come dry and start to want to crank people up to pray during the service, that is wrong and that is why prayer is heavy during the time of intercession.

An intercession leader should pray at home, receive items or an item to pray for from the Holy Spirit, when he/she introduces it to the congregation there is great desire and drive in the congregation to pray. If you are given only one item by the Holy Spirit for the congregation to pray for, do not make them many, allow people to zero on that. The Holy Spirit knows what He is doing. You will see what will come out of that session, burdens lifted, prophecies, revelations etc. You will enjoy listening to the Holy Spirit from that day.

EMOTIONS like crying, shouting, running during prayer happens when the individual's spirit has lined up with the Spirit of God, it is when the human spirit has picked up the right item to pray for from the Holy Spirit.

In most cases dry prayers happen because maybe the intercession leader was lazy to find out the prayer items that are on the agenda of the Holy Spirit at that time. Intercessors should never be lazy or too busy to pray. It is dangerous because they will end up steering the church away from the flow of the Holy Spirit. If you are given a task to lead intercession, pray in the Spirit for the whole week to pick the flow of the Spirit.

Pastor C & S

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