

THE PRAYER THAT CHANGES THINGS

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Is while we are praying when God would give us His Holy Spirit? If that is when we receive it ... then the better reason for more prayer ... because we do want to be close to our God and Father.

We should be praying everyday ... Give us this day, our daily bread.

I Thess 5 Paul says to pray without ceasing ... not to give up prayer for days at a time

GOD IS NEVER THE PROBLEM. HE IS NOT RELUCTANT, HE IS NOT AWKWARD. HE IS NOT IGNORANT OF OUR CIRCUMSTANCES.

Matthew 6:26-33

Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? "So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

God is a MUCH MORE God. We don't have to sweat and panic and "storm the gates of Heaven". We should be seeking God and His righteousness.

Hebrews 4:12-13

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

Our lives are an open book to God ... He sees it all!!

Hebrews 4:14-16

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathise with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We DO HAVE a High Priest who can sympathise with us. He's not remote, not distant ... easy to reach, easy to touch.

Luke 11:1

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."

Luke 11:5-13

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 (boldness/without shame/impudence/cheekiness) 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. For everyone who asks receives,

and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Ephesians 6:18

praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

Prayer of Faith ...Intercession ... Fellowship ...

Dedication ...Praise.

Today: THE PRAYER OF FAITH ... THE PRAYER THAT CHANGES THINGS

Mark 11:20-24

Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter, remembering, said to Him, "Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away."

So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

When you pray ... believe!! Believe first ... then receive.

Matthew 21:22

And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

Faith is being sure of what we hope for. It is being certain of what we do not see.

Faith comes first ...things come later.

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.

These verses (in the Greek) imply ... "asking for ourselves".

NEVER ADD: IF IT BE THY WILL!!

George Muller's definition: Faith is the assurance that the thing which God has said in His word is true, and that God will act according to what He has said in his word ...

James 1:5-8

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Believe and receive. Doubt and go without!!

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.

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.

WE DO HAVE TO ASK.

Matthew 6:7-8

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

“Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you **ask** Him.

Matthew 6:11

Give us this day our daily bread. WE NEED TO ASK.

Philippians 4:6-7

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

John 16:23-24

“And in that day you will **ask** Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you **ask** the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have **asked** nothing in My name. **Ask**, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

James 4:1-3

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. **Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss,** (wrong motives) that you may spend it on your pleasures.

Matthew 7:7-11

"Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek,** and you will find; **knock,** and it will be opened to you. For **everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.** Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!**

God gives US good things ... if we ASK HIM.

Don't nullify our prayer of Faith by adding ... "If it be Thy Will". Didn't Jesus pray this type of prayer? NO!!! Jesus prayed this prayer of dedication and commitment. He was fully aware of God's will. He had no doubts about the will of God. Jesus fully submitted to God's will.

Matthew 26:36-42

Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, **Your will be done.**"

We can all get better at praying ... without ceasing ... And at all times.