

Pt 2 - DEVOTION: God Dependence

Christians declare that God is a prayer-answering God.

We maintain that when faith filled prayers are presented to God – He answers.

... God proves His existence by answering prayer

The prophet Elijah declared answered prayer gave proof to the existence of God.

(1 Kings 18:25-39)

The distinguishing feature of our faith is its testimony of answered prayer.

... Prayer is the only direct link we have with God

God created in all of us the instinct to pray.

Everything we need from God will only become ours as we ask Him to provide.

John 16:24 *Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.*

Secrets to having our prayers answered.

... Prayer is born out of a pre-determined desire

Before we pray, establish first what we are asking for and search our hearts if we do indeed passionately desire what we're asking for. **(Luke 11:9-10)**

Jesus said **Luke 18:1** *Men ought always to pray and not faint.* Scripture declares to *pray without ceasing*, and to be *faithful in prayer*. **(1Thess 5:17, Rom 12:12)**

... Action must follow the asking

Having made our request to God, our activities from that time onwards must be directed toward getting our prayer answered. **(James 2:14-26)**

God is attracted to our faith that is reinforced by action.

James 2:17 *...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.*

... God only answers the prayer of faith

Matthew 21:22 *If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for...*

Prayer alone is not sufficient we must pray the prayer of faith. What is the prayer of faith? To pray the prayer of faith, three things are essential;

1. We must believe that God is able to answer prayer

God is able!

Hebrew 7:25; Ephesians 3:20; Daniel 3:17; 2 Corinthians 9:8

A graphic example of faith in Jesus' ability to answer our prayer is seen in His words to the two blind men found in **Matthew 9:27-30**

2. We must believe that God will answer our prayer

James 1:6-8

Hebrews 11:6

Faith in God is simply absolute trust and confidence in Him that He will do what He says He will do.

Matthew 7:11

1 John 5:14-15 (cev)

A graphic example of praying with this kind of expectation is given in the Bible account of the prophet Elijah. (**1Kings 18:41-45**)

Pray for great things, believe that your request is promptly granted; stand your ground without hesitating; and God will do great things for you.

3. We must believe in the power of our own prayer

What is faith? Faith is that unwavering confidence in God which is built upon absolute trust in the integrity of His Word.

We cannot claim to believe what the Bible says about God and His promises unless we also believe what it says about us and our prayer.

The Bible urges us to stop seeing ourselves as we may be in the natural, but to compel our attention upon who we are in Jesus.

We have a choice - to close our natural eyes and open our spiritual eyes of faith; or to close our spiritual eyes, and look only with the natural eyes of our senses.

The Bible declares that whatever God has already accomplished in Christ is already accomplished in us.

Read the list of relevant Bible passages below. Eagerly accept them as absolutely true. These verses are the truth of us as God sees us, and if we would learn and accept them we will be set free!

Matthew 17:20; Mark 11:23-24; Luke 10:19-20; John 8:32,36; Romans 6:11; 8:31-32; 37-39; 2 Corinthians 2:14; 9:8; Galatians 5:1; Ephesians 1:19-20; 2:1,5-6; 3:20; 6:10; Philippians 4:13-19; Colossians 1:11,27; 2:10,13; Hebrews 10:19-23

Prayer will graft into our life the strong arm of faith. But then we must act and use that arm of strength in authority maintaining a steadfast confidence that what we speak in faith will come to pass.

Moses prayed and grabbed a hold of faith in God, then arose from his knees, struck the Red Sea with his rod, and watched while the waters rolled back. (**Exodus 14:15-16, 21-23**)

Joshua, in the fury of a great battle, saw the sun descending and night fast approaching. (**Joshua 10:12-13**)

The sick king, Hezekiah, earnestly sought God for healing. In another place in the city the prophet Isaiah was also praying. **(Isaiah 4:39)**

Jesus spent a night in prayer, and then commanded the winds and the waves, and they were instantly quieted at the sound of His voice. **(Mark 4:39)**

... Conclusion

If you have a great need in your life that towers like a mountain, then learn this secret. Jesus said, *“Men ought always to pray, and not faint.”*

As we passionately embrace the Lord’s instructions, faith will be unleashed in our spirits, so that they we may speak and remove every difficulty that obstructs us from receiving Gods best for us.

This is true devotion, trusting that God our Father will fully supply our needs. Have faith in God; and it will be done!