

The Weapon Of Prayer

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James 5:16 “The earnest, heartfelt, continued prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available, dynamic in its working.” (Amp)

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Ephesians 6:18 “Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.”

Jesus had a lot to say about prayer. He refers to prayer 42 times, and the Gospels record Him personally praying 28 times.

The Bible tells us, “And He went up to the mountain to pray.” (**Matthew 14:23; Mark 6:46; Luke 6:12; Luke 9:28**) He prayed in the wilderness, in the Temple, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and He prayed on the Cross.

Prayer was so much a part of the life of the Savior that, early on, the disciples came to Him and said, “Lord, teach us to pray.” (**Luke 11:1**). They were amazed at the intimacy and the depth that prayer had for Jesus.

Matthew 6:7

“when you pray” not if you pray – God assumes that you will pray.

Prayer Is:

(in its simplest definition, prayer is conversation with God)

#1 Prayer is Fellowshipping with our Father.

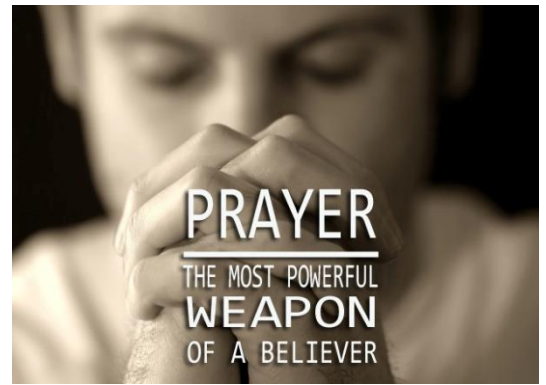
I John 1:3 “We have fellowship with the Father...”

- Prayer is our spirit contacting our heavenly Father (spirit to Spirit)
- Experiences and answered prayer help to develop our prayer life.
- Time with God in prayer develops intimacy, closeness, and trust.
- The Bible helps in prayer as it reveals God’s nature and character.
- We talk to Him sincerely out of our hearts with love.
- **Matthew 6:5-8**
- Not vain repetitions. You’re not “saying your prayers.”
- Speak your own words to Him.
- Prayer also means listening - 2 way conversation.

#2 Prayer is Representing God to people.

I Peter 2:9 “You are a royal priesthood...”

- Prayer is seeing a need and asking God to meet it – for yourself or other people.
- It is not polite to go to God only to get something.
- **I Peter 5:7** “Casting all your cares, all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all, on Him, for He cares about you with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully.
- Prayer is the ultimate indication of trust with Father.



“God has given us the privilege of making supernatural changes in natural circumstances.”

~ Lynne Hammond

“God’s giving is forever connected to our asking.”

~Andrew Murray

“It seems God is limited by our prayer life – He can do nothing for humanity unless someone asks Him.”

~John Wesley

“God shapes the world by prayer; The more prayer there is in the world, the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil”

~E.M. Bounds

Fellowship is:

- Community.
- The company of friends.
- Shared experiences.
- Times spent with.
- Warm feelings towards.
- Closeness.
- Trust and dependence.

#3 Prayer is Partnering with God.

2 Corinthians 6:1 “As God’s partners...”

- **Matthew 28:18-20**
- **John 14:12**
- **John 17:18**
- Prayer is taking Jesus’ place, joining forces with God; carrying out His will on earth.
- Did He do all that for you to do nothing with it?
- “Prayer reaches the uttermost parts of the earth. It’s the original radio.” ~ Joe Purcell

- God made us His sons.
- Gave us His name to use.
- Restored what Adam lost.
- Gave us His authority.
- Put His love in us.
- Empowers us by His Spirit.
- Made us righteous.
- Told us to preach, cast out demons, heal the sick in His name.

#4 Prayer is the voice of Faith to the Father.

John 16:23-24 New Testament prayer, we pray to the Father in Jesus’ name.

- ‘Whatever ye shall ask the Father...’ must be qualified with other scriptures.
- Our asking must correspond with God’s will - His Word.
- **1 John 5:14-15** We have faith that if we pray in line with His will (Word) He hears us. If we know that He hears us (faith) then we know that we have the requests we have asked of Him.
- **Mark 11:24** What we desire, when we pray (right then), believe that we have it and we shall receive it.
- Nothing is beyond His power.
- Prayer is facing God confidently with man’s needs and God’s promise to meet them.

#5 Prayer is the voice of Authority on the earth.

Psalms 8:3-6 (NLT)

Psalms 115:16 ‘...the earth He assigned to men’ (Moffatt)

Genesis 2:15 ‘keep’ guard, protect – man was to be God’s guardian of the earth.

- We are God’s representatives on earth. We do the bidding of our Father.
- God put Adam in charge – he represented all of mankind.
- What God intended for Adam, He intended for the entire human race – to rule, govern, and represent Him on the earth.
- Adam gave that authority away when he sinned. We all followed in sin.
- Jesus had to become a Man so that humanity could regain authority that Adam lost.

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.

- God has limited Himself to working on earth through mankind.
- He can legally move when someone asks Him to – God is honorable.
- The Father now has the right to intervene on this earth legally as we pray in the authority that Jesus Christ won for us and gave to us.
- God now rules this world through His church as they pray.

Genesis 2:19 Adam named the animals – God honored what he called them.

Genesis 18:20 Abraham and God reasoned together.

Prayer Is Not:

- **Doing things to "bribe" God. He won't be manipulated.**
- **Trying to influence God with the "quantity" of prayers.**
- **Impressing God with repetition.**