

PRAYER MADE SIMPLE FOR HOLY AND FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS

PASTOR PAUL RIKA

**PRAYER MADE SIMPLE FOR HOLY AND
FAITHFUL CHRISTIANS**

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to those holy and faithful prayer intercessors and warriors who are bent on making myself and others succeed in the Lord's end time commission: *to bring many lost souls to Him and to restore Righteousness and Holiness to Christ's Churches worldwide, in preparation for the imminent return of the Lord for the rapture of the saints.*

Isaiah 62:1-3, 6, 7

1 For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth.

2 And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name.

3 Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God.

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,

7 And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

Col 4:12-13

12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

13 For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis.

PREFACE

2 TIMOTHY 3: 1-5

1 This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

We are all aware that the church of God got badly damaged by both Satan and wicked men, to the point that focus shifts from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ to church heroes. The holiness of God, the commandment of His word and Scriptural promises are no more factors guiding the faith and prayers of God's children. The consequence of this is that many prayers go unanswered and the people of God are being plagued by their daily needs which are spiritual, physical, material, and social. The devil stands mocking at their prayer impotence.

However, with the advent of End time Revival through effectual working of the Holy Spirit by which many in the church have risen to the true knowledge and holy service of God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,

there is a new awakening of biblical truths and practices, including the art of prayer.

In this book, **Prayer Made Simple For Holy and Faithful Saints**, the Holy Spirit has invested much wisdom, inspiration and power, to return believers to the Prayer-answering God in order to meet their earthly needs and prepare them for the soon coming Christ. Praying to God is made simple, attractive, potent and great. The book has its power and inspiration from the Scriptures. Read this book often to keep your prayer inspiration high and steady. Take the book with you for a prayer retreat. Use it in family study and prayers, group study and prayers, Church study and prayers. Prayer warriors and Intercessors have gotten Spirit inspired prayer handbook for the success of their prayer Ministry.

Psalm 65:2

O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

God be honoured for giving End time Ministers and saints this precious prayer book. May God teach us, guide and lead us to pray according to His will in this Endtime, Amen.

Pastor Paul Rika

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CHAPTER

1

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER

It is interesting to know that God has placed a high premium on prayer so much that even when Jesus came into the world, though being God in human body, He lived and walked in the spirit of prayer. You would wonder: *"Doesn't God know what to do and just go about doing it?" "Doesn't God know what I need and should go about giving it to me?" "Doesn't God see what the devil is doing and should go about attacking the devil, breaking him down?" "Doesn't God see what my human enemies are doing and should find solution to them?" "Doesn't God see what is going on in this nation (what the opposite religion is doing) and should do something to overcome it?"* That is a surprising thing!

1.1 God Abides in the House of Prayer

Yes, God can do all that we desire of Him, but He chooses to place Himself in *"The House of Prayer,"* so that *everyone* who wishes to meet with Him can find Him there. So go and meet with Him in the House of Prayer; go and tell Him what He should do in the House of Prayer. Go and let Him know what is troubling your mind; tell Him what your desires are

and what you want Him to do for you and for others in need. This is prayer.

Isaiah 56:7

Even them will I bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon Mine altar; for Mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

Matthew 21:13

And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.

1.2 Jesus' Exemplary Prayer Life**Mark 1:35**

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

Luke 11:1

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

Jesus was constantly praying to His Father in heaven. One would wonder and ask: "But, *Jesus, did You not come to the earth as God Yourself? Whatever You wanted to do, couldn't You have done it; did You need to talk to the Father? Are You not one with the Father? Why must You pray?*" That is a mystery. It is a mystery we have to learn. Again, to the Father we could ask: "Father, were You not the One who sent Jesus to the earth? Did Jesus need to tell You that He was hungry, before You would give Him food? Did Jesus need to tell You that He was running short of money, before You would give Him money? Did Jesus need to tell You that He needed people healed in a crusade, before You would start healing the people?" That also is a mystery - that God would place Himself in the House of Prayer. Since Jesus had become man, all men on earth must pray to God as a duty.

Psalm 65:2

O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come.

If Jesus would pray when He was in the world, praying to the Father, has He not shown you enough proof that you need to pray? Does it not show that most of the things we suffer and lack are because we take God for granted; we think that God should automatically do them? Is that not tantamount to shifting our responsibility to God?

Jeremiah 29:11, 12

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and

not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you.

God is saying in this verse, "Don't shift your responsibility to Me. I know what you are looking for, but I am waiting for you to pray." That is a wonderful privilege. It shows that there is something you give to God whenever you come into prayer, and it is that very thing that you give to God through prayer that makes you to receive. ***"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."*** (Luke 6:38).

The woman that runs a restaurant knows that when you, as a customer, come to the restaurant and sit down, you are looking for food to eat. But she does not automatically give you the food without you asking for it. Will you sit down there and say nothing while others come in, eat and go? Others come in and make their request but you keep sitting there, silent, and expect to eat? Many come to God, receive and go, but you remain there silent. Have you said anything to God? God says, "*I know the thoughts I have towards you: the thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you exactly what is in your heart. But you shall go and call unto Me, and when you have prayed unto Me, I will give you the desire of your heart.*"

1.3 Prayer-Answering: An Attribute of God

We know that God is holy. He is merciful. He is kind and possesses many other attributes. But do you know that there is an attribute of God that is not well known to many? Since God is holy, if something gets outside the holiness of God, do you expect God to honour it? No! Because He is holy, you cannot meet Him outside holiness. That is why He said, ***"And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses."*** Mark 11:25, 26. This means you should take the holiness part of God seriously when dealing with Him, because it is His essential attribute. There is another attribute of God (apart from His holiness and other well-known ones), which is revealed in Psalm 65:2:

"O thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come."

This statement ***"Oh thou that hearest prayer,"*** depicts an attribute of God as one that answers or hears prayer (just as others like: "Thou that art holy"; "O Thou that art merciful;" "O Thou that art gracious," etc.). Why should a creature want to render an attribute of God redundant? Why should the Church want to render this prayer-answering attribute of God redundant? Those Churches that render the holiness of God redundant, how are they fairing? Those individual Christians that render the holiness of God redundant, how are they standing?

Then, why should you try to render the prayer-answering attribute of God redundant by not using it, by not praying? Come back and use it! As you strive for holiness, strive also for prayer. As you seek for God's mercy, seek also for prayer; it is all of God. That is the word of God. The reason why you are not holy is because you do not understand that God is holy. Similarly, the reason why you do not pray is because you do not understand that God answers prayers. May God give you understanding of Himself for you to partake of His holiness and enjoy His answers to your prayers.

1.4 Ask Me to Do it for You

Ezekiel 36:25-28, 37

Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God... Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

"Then shall I sprinkle clean water upon you..." Can you see God promising to save the sinners, promising to give you a new heart: a heart of love, a heart of holiness, a heart of obedience? He is promising to perfect you. Among many other things, He said: **"And I will put My Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them."** **Ezekiel 36:27.** In other words, God is saying, *"I will give you My Spirit, and give you My grace, and put My power of righteousness within you that will cause you to live your life without offending Me."* Doesn't God know that you need the grace from Him to live a righteous life? Doesn't God know that you need to fight temptation to keep a clean heart? Doesn't God know that men are tempting, women are tempting, money is tempting, the things around you are tempting to you? Yes, He knows all these troubles around you, but wants you to pray to Him about them.

Let us take a look at verse 37:

"Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock."

Here, God is saying, *'With all these promises I have made, I am expecting the children of Israel to tell Me to do it for them, because of My attribute as a prayer answering God. Go and offer prayers and I will answer by doing it for you.'* Thank God, the disciples said, *"Lord, teach us to pray."* He responded and said: *"After you have worshipped God in heaven,*

then say 'Give us this day our daily bread.'" Mathew 6:9-13; Luke 11:1-4. Does God not know that you need to eat food? He keeps your food and waits for you to pray. Does God not know that you are feeling headache, that you are feeling sick? He keeps your medicine (healing) and waits for your prayer. Does God not know that the enemy is attacking? He keeps the victory and waits for you to pray. In fact, sometimes, He expects your prayer to fill a bottle before answers start gushing out for you! **"Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into Thy bottle: are they not in Thy book? When I cry unto Thee, then shall mine enemies turn back: this I know; for God is for me."** **Psalms 56:8, 9.** God expects volumes of prayer from you. When Jesus taught His disciples, **"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one,"** these are just short statements but they talk about volumes of prayer, which is God's expectation from you.

1.5 You Will Succeed as Christ Did by Prayer

I wrote earlier that Jesus, when He came to us in the flesh, went into the business of prayer because He was promoting the attribute of God as a prayer-answering God. He would not render that attribute idle or redundant.

Luke 11:1

It came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, one of His disciples said, Lord, teach us how to pray as John taught his disciples.

Nobody knew how John did it, but the Scripture reveals here that the success you saw in the ministry of John the Baptist, the victory you saw in his ministry, is because he was a prayer man. John so much valued prayer. He saw the essentials of prayer and taught his disciples to pray. How can we succeed without prayers? How can we advance in life and move up without prayers? How can we win over the devil that has risen up against us without prayers? But here again, Jesus was the one praying God the Son praying to God the Father! It was His regular practice. It is a principle to observe. Observe this principle and learn to pray!

Mark 1:35

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out and departed to a solitary place and there He prayed.

Jesus went into a quiet or solitary place and had time to talk with the Father. You too reading this book must pray. Make out time to pray early in the morning. Jesus cut His sleep to pray. Do not sleep out all through the night; interrupt it and pray. What the word of God is saying in

Matthew 26:38-44

"Then saith He unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with Me. And He went a little further, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if it be possible, let this

cup pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt. And He cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done. And He came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And He left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words."

You can see that Jesus was very troubled. Something was disturbing Him. The fear of suffering that was in His way disturbed Him at that time. You see someone struggling to survive under the opposition of the devil, praying and even asking others to join Him in prayers. Jesus was asking God to strengthen His human soul so He could face the fight ahead of Him. God granted Him grace. In fact, the Bible tells us that during this time, He spoke with groaning. It was not a casual prayer. He prayed so fervently that the sweat coming out of His body was like great drops of blood!

Luke 22:44

And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

Satan cornered you somewhere and you are not serious in prayer? Satan put some sickness in your

body and you are not too serious in prayer? Satan is coming to you in bad dreams and you are not fervent in prayer to blow that thing off? Is it suffering that you are passing through and you are not fervent in prayers, that even if the Lord would not take it away, He should at least speak to you as He spoke to Paul: **"My grace is sufficient for you." 2 Corinthians 12:9.** Are you not going to pray that He should give you the grace to bear it so that you are not weighed down; you are not put to shame; you are not afraid and you are not defeated by the devil?

You are a widow yet to remarry, and your body is yearning for a man; should that not make you go before God in fervent prayer for a husband or for His grace to be sufficient for you? You are a man of marriageable age and your body is yearning for a partner; are you not going to be very serious in prayers so that if the delay is caused by financial constraint God would create an open door, or that God should lead you to your wife; or that God should help you bring your body under control? You are a young lady that has come of age and people are constantly asking, "How's your husband," and this is bringing shame to you. Will you not take the matter to God and pray through for a husband, or pray through that you should not be put to shame, or that God should stop those people from disturbing you? Would you not take it up seriously in prayer?

1.6 The Early Church's Example

Matthew 18:18-20

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall

bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there Am I in the midst of them.

The apostles of Jesus Christ and the early Church took up this lifestyle of prayer. They were seriously involved in the prayer business. They never rendered God's attribute of answering prayers redundant. They knew that: **"Ye have not, because ye ask not." James 4:2.**

Acts 1:14

These all continued with one accord in prayers and supplication with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brethren.

Preachers and believers who are living their lives without prayer cannot possibly live in holiness. The daily grace required to live the righteous life must be requested from God. Therefore, you just have to pray. You have no reason and no excuse not to pray. You are even committing sin when you leave this attribute of God idle, hence the prayerless man is a sinner.

Acts 2:42

And they continued steadfastly in the Apostle's doctrine and fellowship and in breaking of bread and in prayers.

Prayer is an all-time commitment. It is not something you do one day and abandon for the rest of the week, only to come back to it again. It will never work that way. It must be steadfast. If you want to get something cooked on fire, say beans, you do not light the fire and when the pot is hot (say, after five minutes), you put out the fire and come back after three hours to light the fire again and resume the cooking. After a while, you put out the fire again only to come back some hours later to resume cooking and you continue like that. If it is really beans you want to cook, how many days will it take to get it done, going about it that way? In the same manner, you delay answers by the short prayers you do without continuity. "*They continued steadfastly,*" means the apostles were continually praying. Make steadfast prayer a habit.

Acts 3:1

Now Peter and John went up together into the Temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

In this verse, we can see that a time is set within the day called, "*the hour of prayer.*" When it is the time, wake up, stop the activities you are doing and go for

prayers. There are times you do not know what to pray. Yes, the Bible says so. But the Holy Spirit is waiting for you to give you groanings that only God understands its meaning. ***Romans 8:26, 27 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.*** At this point, you see yourself making deep sounds with tension in your heart and groaning showing the Holy Spirit has taken over. God understands what the Spirit is saying. Or, you may go into speaking in tongues as the Holy Spirit takes over, if you are baptized in the Holy Ghost. The Lord understands what you are saying. The Church or a Christian assembly may fix a period for prayer; the family might say, "*This house shall be praying at this period.*" Whatever time is fixed becomes "*The hour of prayer.*" Be steadfast and prompt at it.

CHAPTER

2

PRACTICAL APPROACH TO PRAYER**2.1 Personal Involvement in Prayer by Church Members and Leaders****Acts 4:23-33**

And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, Thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of Thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His Christ. For of a truth against Thy holy child Jesus, whom Thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, For to do whatsoever Thy hand and Thy counsel determined before to be

done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto Thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak Thy word, By stretching forth Thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the Name of Thy holy Child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

The Church must learn to pray and mobilize their members to pray. Teach every unit of the Christian assembly prayer. Prayer will drive away fear and will instill boldness and courage in Christianity. Prayer will cause the power of God to fill everywhere and you will be walking in the power of God. Prayer will release the power of God that will weaken the enemy. The forces of witchcraft in the Church will be decimated and the brethren will be set free from demonic bondage. When you pray together, the hearts of the brethren will be united in love; the Lord will bring prosperity, healing, deliverance and blessings among you.

Acts 12:5

Peter therefore was kept in prisons but prayers was made without ceasing of the Church to God for him.

From the experience of apostle Peter, we see that the enemy can target a particular person, may be, the leader of the Church, to persecute him. The enemy may even want to kill him. The prayer of the brethren will deliver such a person. But, did God not want the Church to continue? Would He have allowed Peter to die in the hands of the Jews? He said: *"I know the thoughts I have towards you, but go and pray."* Does God really want your leader, the pastor, to fall into sin? Does God want him to fall so that the work will not prosper in his hand? Is God not thinking on the progress of that man? Is God not thinking on the progress of that sister? Go and Pray! See how God has called her and see how they testified of her. Does God really want Satan to overcome her? Consider us, we have gone to many places, within and outside the nation, and many people are saved. Will God not want us to continue? *"I know what to do, but tell the church to live in prayer,"* the Lord would say. ***"Oh thou that hearest prayer, unto thee shall all flesh come."*** Psalm 65:2.

Acts 6:4

But we will give ourselves continually to prayers and to the ministry of the word.

"We will give ourselves," means leaders should also

pray. Do not leave prayers to your members only. You, as a leader, pray also. Keep praying to keep the victory in your life; keep praying to keep militant performance in your ministry. Do not say *'others are praying for me.'* There is a God of justice who knows how to reward careless persons. ***Galatians 6:7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*** You organized vigil as a leader and you are not there. You organized people to pray, and when they are praying you go to sleep in the office. Who are you deceiving? Who are you cheating? Is there no righteous God in heaven who knows you are failing? He knows you are not qualified. Will He not do justice? Rise up yourself, put yourself into this business of prayer and indeed pray. That is what God is telling you. That is what God expects from you. God told me, "When you organize prayer, make sure you and your wife join those praying. Be involved in prayer yourselves!"

We are exhorted to pray without ceasing in **Luke 18:1: "And He spoke a parable unto them to this end that men ought always to pray and not to faint."** When you read, *"That men ought always to pray and not to faint,"* you women may be tempted to say, *"Thank God the prayer business is in the hands of men; I am a woman."* As a result, when others are praying you say, *"It is men who ought always to pray and not to faint; so, as a woman, I can go to sleep."* Is that what the Bible is saying? No! Maybe you are with your husband and he wakes up at night or early in the morning, and says, *"Wake up and let us pray."* Then you say, *"No, the Bible does not give much attention to women because we are*

the weaker vessels; It is men's business." The word 'Men' in the passage is a generic word standing for both men and women. *"Human beings ought always to pray and not to faint."* That is the meaning here. Pray always; do not faint, woman!

2.2 Pray Without Ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

Do you know why you can cease or faint in prayer? This comes when there is delay in answer to prayer. But the Lord is saying to you: *"Don't listen to delay; just continue."* Jesus went the third time, fell before the Father and repeated the same words. Do not stop praying on that matter. God says, *"Don't faint!"* Sometimes, it is Satan attacking you. You prayed and even fasted. But you noticed sometimes that the day you prayed and fasted over that bad dream was when it was as if it came back with a double power. In fact, you even decided that it was better you did not pray and fast again because you were afraid it would get worse; it would come with anger to deal with you the more. Now, let us assume you want to stone a dog. If you lift one stone and throw it at the dog and the dog is the angry type, what would it do? It would jump up and pounce on you. But if you know that this dog is like that, you ought to gather enough stones and carry them on your hands. When you pick one and stone the dog, and it charges ferociously at you, you pick another and throw at it. If you repeatedly bombard it with missiles of stone, it will eventually run away from you. Likewise, if you are serious about fighting Satan, you should get ready for real prayers.

You are praying and praying and Satan keeps coming again and again; get ready to pray more and more. Eventually, Satan will take to his heels. But, when you pray once and Satan shifts to 'gear two' and you succumb saying, *"I am tired of praying,"* who then will deliver you?

James 4:6, 7

But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 Peter 5:7-11

Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you. To Him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Assuming God says He would wait for your prayers to

fill a bottle before working against your enemy or answering you, but you ceased praying, will you not be responsible for Satan taking a ride on your life or for the unanswered prayer? ***Pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)***. During the dry season, farmers do not farm because the earth is dry; they wait for the rain. How many rainfalls should farmers expect to water their crops after they are planted? They expect rainfall throughout the rainy season for their crops to grow well. Similarly, we need continual prayers for continual spiritual work in the Church and in the world. If you want to get souls to Christ and mature them, constant prayer is required. Let us say, "O thou that answereth prayer," then God will respond, "O children that often pray." This is how God wants us to relate with Him.

2.3 Prayer Partners

Matthew 7:7-11

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?

Here, the Lord is assuring you that if you do this

prayer business you will reap the benefits. Introduce this prayer business to your family; you will see the difference in your children and entire family. Introduce this prayer business to your marriage; you will see the difference in your relationship. Introduce this prayer business to the Church; you will see real victory and progress. Introduce this prayer business to your fellowship Chapter and Unit; you will see growth and stability. Student, introduce this prayer business to your academics; you will see the success of the Lord. Who is to pray? It is YOU! You are the person to go and start this prayer business. Go and revive it. Take it as a serious business. You and your wife; you and your husband. Two of you should work on yourselves and get into this prayer business. For the Bible says: ***"If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven."*** ***Matthew 18:19***. You and your family, go and start this prayer business. You will see the success of the Lord in that family, you will see the progress of your children even from the womb (the special breed of children you shall be giving birth to).

Who is to carry out this prayer business? It is you and your Christian friend; a prayer partner. Just pick a prayer partner and strengthen that prayer spirit between you and your partner. You will see how much you will achieve for the Church and the society. It is you and your prayer group. That prayer group you have been able to put together; organize regular prayers and you will see that the world will be affected by you. It is you and the Church, the

fellowship of believers. You and your Chapter, your Unit. Mobilize the Church for prayer; mobilize the Unit for prayer; you will see the testimonies the Lord will give you. That is what God is telling you. Mobilize yourself; join others to pray. Two are better than one. You do pray; that is fine, but you pray with greater result when you pray together with other people. The prayer of one righteous man can do a lot, but when two or more righteous pray, there is greater power and tremendous results. **"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."** (Acts 4:31).

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. Again, if two lie together, then they have heat: but how can one be warm alone? And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Deuteronomy 32:30

How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

2.4 Manners of Prayer

1 Timothy 2:1-3

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;

i. Private and Public Prayer

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Pray with all fervency. Enter into your closet and pray. Find a secluded place and pray. But you can also pray publicly in the midst of others, for the Bible says in **Acts 4: 23-31**, **"They lifted up their voice and people heard them."**

ii. Pray with Fasting

Matthew 4:1, 2

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Matthew 17:19-21

Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Pray with fasting, for Jesus said, "***Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.***" Add fasting to your prayer, because there are problems that cannot be solved in your life or in the life of people you are interceding for, except by fasting. There are victories that can never be won without adding fasting to your prayer. Fasting can be likened to when a bulldozer is brought in to pull down a strong tree, which normal prayer strength could not do.

iii. Pray in Vigils and Retreats

Luke 6:12 And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God.

Praying through the night is part of prayer all kinds of prayer. ***Ephesians 6:18 Praying always with***

all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. Pray in a prayer retreat. Take prayer leave from your office and go to a secluded place and pray. Jesus withdrew Himself to a solitary place and there prayed. ***Mark 1:35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.*** Have a personal prayer vigil. Organize others for prayer vigils. Set days or some days aside for prayer retreat.

iv. Take Long Prayer Treks

To overcome sleep, tiredness, laziness or visits that interrupt prayer, take off from your house or work place to a long distance down the street in prayer treks. Take a drive along a less busy road in prayer. These initiatives will relieve you from prayer fatigue.

2.5 A Simple Prayer Schedule***Philippians 4:6-7***

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1 Timothy 2:1-4

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

1. Praise, worship and give thanks to God for His virtues, attributes and works in your life, in the church, in His children, in the ministers and in the world. Give thanks to Him in everything and for everything.

Psalms 92:1, 2

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the LORD, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: To shew forth thy lovingkindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night.

Ephesians 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

2. **Pray for Yourself.** You need prayers to be holy and to overcome temptations. You need prayers to succeed in all your ways. You need prayer for the sufficient grace of God in your life. You need prayer to serve God well and make it to heaven. You need prayers for friends, relations, office and business.

Philippians 4:6, 7

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

3. **Pray for Your Wife; Pray for Your Husband.** If you are a married woman, pray that the grace of God will be sufficient for your husband. You husband, pray that God will open your wife's eyes to know the truth. Pray that the two of you will stand strong together for the work of God; that the devil will not take advantage of him or her. Pray for his or her healing. Pray for your spouse relations and friends that they will not influence him or her negatively.

John 14:13, 14

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

4. **Pray for the Unmarried. Pray for A Marriage Partner.** God knows how to give good gifts to His children that ask of Him. This includes a marriage partner. Pray for holy courtship and wedding. Pray for a life of patience and dedication to God in truth, righteousness and holiness.

Proverbs 19:14

House and riches are the inheritance of

fathers: and a prudent wife is from the LORD.

Matthew 7:7-11

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

5. Pray for Your Children. If you are already married and have children, pray for them and everyone living with you. Pray that Satan will not use them; that Satan will not bring shame to the Name of the Lord through them; that God will accept the children and bless them; that God will use the children and give them progress in life. If you are married and need children or need a particular sex, request it of the Lord.

Mark 10:13-16

And they brought young children to Him, that he should touch them: and His disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of

such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein. And He took them up in his arms, put His hands upon them, and blessed them.

6. Pray for Your Neighbours: That Satan will not be lurking in their house, aiming at you. Pray that they also should give their lives to Jesus so that the place you are living in will radiate the light of God. Pray that the activities of Satan will not flourish among them; that the fear of God will be on them so that they will not become satanic agents or play witchcraft around your house. Pray for your neighbours, so that you will live in peace with them.

Mark 12:30, 31

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

7. Pray for Your Relations. You want them to know Jesus. You want them to go to heaven. You want them to be protected. Sometimes, Satan will want to harm them because of you; because he knows that if he can get at your loved one it will affect you. It is because Satan cannot get God that he is dealing with human beings that are made in the image of God. If Satan cannot get you, he goes after

the weak ones around you. Pray that they will be born again and be preserved that the Lord will bless them. If they have enough to eat from God they will not be putting their hope on you and become angry at you for your insufficiency.

Joshua 2:12, 13

Now therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the LORD, since I have shewed you kindness, that ye will also shew kindness unto my father's house, and give me a true token: And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.

8. Pray for Your Education, Profession, Business and Work Place. Pray that God will be with you and help you always. Cast your cares upon Him. Ask Him to open for you the door of success and achievement. Ask Him to keep you righteous and holy every day.

John 16:23, 24

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.

9. Pray for Your Christian Leaders. Pray for your pastors so that they will have grace to do this

work. Pray for the Church members. Pray for other neighboring Churches that they will live the holy life. Pray for the needs of the members of the Church Physical, spiritual, material and financial.

Ephesians 6:18-20

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

Hebrews 13:18 Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.

10. Pray for Your Secular Leaders. Pray for the kings who are ruling, the president, the governors, the Local Government Chairmen, the counselors and the whole nation for there to be peace. If there is war it will affect the gospel work. That is why we need to pray: "O Lord, let not the devil have his way!"

1 Timothy 2:1-4

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and

***acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
Who will have all men to be saved, and to
come unto the knowledge of the truth.***

11. Pray for Other Religions. Pray that the devil will not use them to cause religious war; that God will control them, and the name of Jesus will be glorified as many of them will come to Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:3, 4

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

12. Pray for the Peace of Your Nation. Pray for the peace of the nation where you are resident because, as the nation experiences peace, you too will enjoy peace. "Let your requests be made known." So, what are you to pray about? What should be your prayer request? Pray for the desires of your hearts.

Jeremiah 29:7

And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it; for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace.

13. Pray for Every Sinner. That he or she will find mercy in the sight of God. The will of God is that

all men should be saved through Jesus Christ.

Luke 23:34

Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

14. Pray for Every Saint. Pray that he or she will make it to heaven; that he or she will serve successfully in this world.

Ephesians 1:15-18

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of His calling, and what the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

15. Pray for the Whole World. Pray that the revival of God will fill the world and the Lord will prepare the world for His coming.

Matthew 6:9, 10

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

16. Pray Warfare Prayer Against Satan, His Evil System and Workers. Pray against his demons; pray against his agents that their powers be destroyed; that they should be bound; that they should be defeated; that the way of God might be open for the Churches to evangelize and live holy.

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

17. Pray Down the Kingdom of God and His Will Among Men.

Isaiah 62:6, 7

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, And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

18. Pray in the Spirit and By the Scriptures, Draw Your Prayer List. *"And he spake a parable*

***unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint."* (Luke 18:1).** Receive the spirit of prayer. Pray and bring solutions to your problems. Pray and bring revival to the Church and the society. Pray and secure victory over Satan and all evil workers. Pray and liberate your family and relations from bondage. Certainly, God will hear you. He is telling you, *"I know the thoughts I think towards you, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you what you ask for. Go and ask, go and pray and I will answer."* Your prayers keep the angels busy. **Your prayers are to the angels as fuel that causes the car engine to burn.** It keeps them moving and busy for you. The grace of God shall spread around the world as you join the prayer business today. Amen.

Romans 8:26, 27

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. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

CHAPTER

3

ASK WHAT I SHALL GIVE THEE

Jeremiah 29:11-12

For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon Me, and I will hearken unto you.

God is a prayer-answering God and He invites people to pray to Him. Asking and receiving is a good relationship God wants to establish with men. He wants to establish a relationship with you a relationship of asking and receiving. In **Psalms 65:2** the Bible says, ***"O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come."***

"O Thou that hearest prayer..." That is the testimony of people. People know God as God that hears prayers, and they say that unto Him shall all flesh come. Every member of the family should learn to come to God the father should come to Him, the mother should come to Him, the children should come to Him, because he is the God that hears

prayers. Every member of the Church should know God as the one that hears prayers. The Church is serving the God that hears prayers, and to Him all of us should come.

1 Kings 3:5

In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

Prayer is a privilege. For God to say, ***"Ask what I shall give thee,"*** it is a great privilege! It is an opportunity to ask, and God is the one that invited you to ask. It is a great privilege and a demonstration of God's grace. God wants to flow out to you in His goodness and kindness, therefore, He said: ***"Come and ask; I want to show forth My kindness and goodness to your life."***

Prayer is a manifestation of His mercy. He knows we can do nothing on our own. He knows that without Him we can achieve nothing. He knows we cannot get there on our own. He knows that we cannot win the battle on our own. He knows that we cannot save our souls. He knows we cannot get what we are looking for by our own power. That is why, in mercy, He invites us to come and pray; to come and call unto Him; to come and ask Him to ask Him because He wants to bless us and ***"give us an expected end"*** (***Jeremiah 29:11***). Prayer is the means of receiving God's blessing. Through prayers, we receive from God promises, power and privileges.

3.1 Practice Praying to God for All Your Needs**Matthew 7:7, 8**

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

The Lord encourages us to ask in prayer and assures us of answers to our requests. The Lord is calling on you to ask. The Lord is saying: "*There is a door open for you; come and ask.*" Some people are good at asking from human beings; but there are those that are good at asking from God they are blessed people because they ask from the source, the Creator.

Psalm 118:8, 9

It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you. But some people do not know how to ask, therefore, they bear the burden of their souls and remain in their pains. They are getting weaker and weaker because they are not asking. They do not know victory in their lives because they are not asking. They live from shame to shame because they do not ask. They are always in fear because they do not ask. If you find yourself

living in shame, it is because you do not ask. If you find yourself always discouraged, it is because you do not ask. If you find yourself defeated all the time, it is because you do not ask. If you find yourself always afraid, it is because you do not ask. But the Lord is saying: "*Ask and it shall be given you.*"

James 4:1-3

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.

John 4:10

Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give Me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water.

There are some who are discouraged because they say: "*I have already asked!*" Yes, you have asked; keep on asking! That is what God is saying. Never you get discouraged in that prayer business; keep on asking. He did not give you at first asking? He could have actually given you, for He does! But, if He did not give you at first asking, go on asking and do not

relent. He is training you on patience. He is putting some materials into your life - spiritual treasures. He is energizing you. He is anointing you for a walk with Him so you can get acquainted with Him. Keep on asking; He likes that.

Matthew 15:22-28

And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto Him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and besought Him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But He answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped Him, saying, Lord, help me. But He answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

3.2 God Answers Prayer

Every time you make a request is a good time before God and He is assuring you it is not in vain; He will answer, if you maintain the spirit of prayer.

Luke 11:5-10

And He said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

Here God is saying a man in need went to his neighbor for help. This man was not just his neighbor but a friend. He knocked at his door in the midnight and said: "I have a problem. I have a visitor and I do not have food to give to the visitor. Can you give me some food so I can give the visitor?" Jesus asked, "Can this friend say: 'Do not trouble me, it is night already and my children are in bed'?" I want to give you two reasons why the man would not refuse him.

- i. He was his friend he would not disappoint his friend
- ii. Because of his persistence in asking (importunity)

Because He was his friend he came to ask him for help. He kept on asking confidently because he was dealing with a friend. So, for these two reasons that man would have his request granted. Importunity means continually doing the same thing; asking and asking and never giving up.

Jesus Christ therefore said in verse 9:

"And I say unto you, Ask and it shall be given unto you". If you ask one time and it does not work, keep on asking. He is your Father, go along with Him and keep on asking.

John 16:23, 24

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.

Apart from asking, you are also invited to seek for help or provision from God; seek for a way out or solution to your problems. "Seek, and ye shall find." Keep on seeking from Him and you shall find.

Jeremiah 29:12, 13

Then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.

Again Jesus is encouraging us to persevere before God however hard and hopeless the issue appears to be. "Knock, and it shall be opened unto you". Keep on knocking at your Father's door. The door shall be opened unto you in due time.

Psalms 27:14

Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

Psalms 40:1-3

I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD.

Jesus gave us a parable in **Luke 18:1-8:**

And He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this

widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him, though He bear long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?

We ought always to pray because we are serving a prayer-answering God. Let us not leave God idle; He answers prayers. Give God some time for Him to answer. It is part of His nature to answer prayers, therefore, men ought always to pray. Pray for yourself and pray for others; pray for your family and pray for other families; pray for your society and pray for other societies; pray for your nation and pray for other nations. Men ought always to pray and not to faint. Pray for your denominational Church and pray for other churches and ministries. ***'Men ought always to pray and not to faint!'***

3.3 Continual Prayer Gives Victory Over the Enemy

Luke 18:2-5

Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within

himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

Here is prayer warfare: prayer against your enemies, against the devil and the forces of darkness contending with you. The force here is a strong one. The power you are contending with may be a strong power. Like this widow, the Bible says the judge was a wicked judge. He did not fear God, neither did he regard man. Who then would move him? Here was this widow, a helpless woman. The widow came to him and said, *"My opponent is taking away my property. Please judge the case between me and my opponent and give me back my property."* But this judge was so wicked that he did not respect the widow. He did not pity the widow. But there was one weapon that the widow used, which the Lord revealed to be very powerful and effective against the enemy. That weapon is continual praying, continual calling upon God and continual coming to God in prayer. It is importunity in prayer! Each time that widow came pleading for justice, there was an impression in that wicked judge. There was a kind of resisting force; an evil attitude from the man against her. Each time that widow came, she stood helpless and weak. But she kept coming all the same. She was not discouraged, but kept coming and this weighed down on the wicked man. Although the man was resisting, his resistance died with time. His resistance faded with time and he had to give up and bow to the pressure. Eventually he said, *"I am dying, I had better settle this matter for I am made*

restless by this weapon of continual coming."

The Lord is saying, no matter how powerful those demonic forces are, keep on praying, keep on calling on the Name of Jesus and keep on reciting the scriptures. Every time you pray, you release a great force and attack against the enemy. Every time you say something, pray or quote God's promises, sing a song and manifest your faith against the devil, you are releasing a great force against him and he will eventually bow to your superior power. That is the truth: by continual praying you can overcome a strong enemy. Why should you strike once and run? No, keep on bombarding the enemy until he gives way for you!

Then the Lord asked: **"Can you hear what the unjust judge said?"** Though unjust and wicked, he got up and solved the problem of that woman. He further asked: **"And shall not God avenge His own elect which cry day and night unto Him, though He bears long with them?"** He could choose to bear long for a reason in His wisdom, not because He does not want to do it, but because He wants you to pray on, He wants you to keep on praying, crying to Him day and night. Pray day and night, mobilize prayer forces. You may even add fasting to it.

Then He said, **"I tell you that He will answer them speedily. Nevertheless when the son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth? (Luke 18:8).** What makes people to give up is because they have no faith. What makes them to stop praying is because Satan has filled them with

doubts. Otherwise, if you know that the road you have taken is the right road, you will continue moving, being sure that eventually you will arrive at your destination. If you start doubting the road you will give up and turn back. Why do you doubt God when the answer is in Him? There is salvation in God. There is safety in God. There is provision in God. Keep on praying, you will find God; you will find the answer in Jesus' Name.

CHAPTER

4

HOW TO PRAY

4.1 Pray in Jesus' Name

The Bible tells us in **John 14:12-14**:

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto My Father. And whatsoever ye shall ask in My Name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in My Name, I will do it."

"Ask in My Name" this means ask in My place, ask for My sake, ask for My glory, ask the Father in My Name as My representative. I tell you whatsoever you shall ask as My representative on earth, it shall be given unto you. Whatever resources you need for the work of the Lord, ask and I will supply them - the materials you need, the resources you need to make you do the work; to make you live the Christian life; to make you live the godly life; to make you evangelize and be fruitful in life." What do you need to make you a better Christian? What do you need to make you stronger as a believer? What do you need

to make you more effective as a Christian? Whatever you need that will make you better in Christ, stronger in Christ, more fruitful in Christ, more joyful in Christ, ask and it shall be given unto you that is what the Lord is saying.

John 16:23, 24

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.

4.2 Pray in Righteousness

Proverbs 15:29 The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

God wants you to ask anything! Whatsoever you can ask that will move God to demonstrate His power in your life and cause His Name to spread all over and move people to give glory to Him everywhere that is what God wants. But He says you must ask in righteousness: ***"If ye abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will and it shall be done unto you" (John 15:7).*** Make sure you are living the Christian life. Make sure you are an obedient child of God. Make sure you are committed to the ordinance of Christ, that you abide in Christ and the word of truth abides in you. Make sure you are living by the word in your personal life, in your marital life and in your family life; you are living by

the word in your business life; you are living by the word in your academic life. Then you can ask because you belong to God and you are a child of God.

The Bible tells us of Daniel, when the people made the king to decree that whosoever prayed to any other God except to the king, the same should be thrown into the lion's den. When Daniel saw that he was about to be thrown to the lions, he prayed and asked God to seal up the mouth of the lions and it was so. When Daniel was thrown into the den of the lions, their mouths were sealed. Yes, God can do anything for you that will give Him glory and bring you joy. That is why He said you should ask anything in His Name and it shall be given unto you. God heard the prayer of righteous Daniel.

Daniel 6:20-22

And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the Living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. My God hath sent His angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before Him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

I heard of a man of God who came to the airport and discovered that the plane he was to board had already taken off and he needed to get to his destination in order to keep an appointment. So, it

came to his mind that God said *"Ask anything," "Ask and it shall be given unto you."* He lifted up his eyes and said, *"O God, I want to go on my journey and the plane has left, but I am asking that this plane that is going should come back for me."* Praise the Lord! Has it happened like that before? Do not mind whether it has happened before or not; just pray. God is saying you should ask and He will do it in your life. He wants to magnify Himself. He wants to glorify Himself. He wants people to experience His awesome power. When situations are difficult and you bring such difficult situations before God and He manifests forth His glory, people will believe God. When the man of God prayed, the pilot felt that he forgot something and turned back. But what do you think he forgot? It was that man of God!

4.3 Pray in Faith, With Confidence

Faith gives our prayer power and effectiveness. The Bible says in **James 1:6**

"But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the sea and tossed"

As you go to prayer, the little time you kneel or stand to pray, ask with confidence; ask God with total trust, with total reliance. Ask and wait for the answer. Ask and wait like a man who goes into a shop and places an order. After placing the order, he waits there because he knows his order is being attended to. So, ask and wait with expectation. Refuse to doubt. Keep asking until you are fully assured that it shall come to pass, as the Lord has said. That is what

the Lord is telling you in **Matthew 21:22**.

Matthew 21:22

And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayers, believing, ye shall receive.

The Bible is encouraging us to keep on asking; ask God without giving up. It is so clear, so plain: *All things!* Think about that. What things actually are there in your life that need asking? He said, "*All things.*" What is that thing that is blocking your way? He said, "*All things.*" What are those enemy forces (be they human or spiritual) that are fighting against your life? The Lord has said, "*All things*" whatsoever you shall ask in prayers, just believe, you shall have it; that is what He said. Today, will you ask? I heard of a man of God who told members of his Church that they should write whatever they wanted God to do for them. They were to write their prayer requests on paper and drop it in a particular place. They wrote the requests and dropped them there. They left them there before God! He said "*Ask.*" So, have you asked? Today you are going to leave your requests in the presence of God - just leave it there! When you ask, go home and eat your food, like Hannah. Pregnancy is coming; answer is coming; just drop the thing there and go. Those noises will be silenced in your life. Yes, that is the word of God.

Hebrews 11:1-3

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good

report. Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

4.4 Reason for Our Confidence

1 John 5: 14, 15

"And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us; and if we know that He hears us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him."

Why are we confident? It is because of:

1. The Testimonies of the Bible. God answered the prayers of Bible saints. That gives us confidence today that He will answer our prayers too.

Psalm 65:2

O thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.

Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

2. The Historical Testimonies. These refer to the testimonies that we have heard from the history of Christianity up to our time. We have heard how God intervened in people's lives and families; how God answered prayers over the Church, societies and nations. That gives us the confidence that God will answer our prayers too.

3. Contemporary Testimonies. These refer to testimonies of our fellow brothers and sisters - the ones we are witnesses to. They testify to our hearing that God answers their prayers. This gives us assurance that God will answer our prayers too.

4. Our Past Testimonies. Even we ourselves have testimonies of answered prayers. In the hard circumstances of our lives, during the difficult situations we passed through; we prayed, we called upon God and the Lord answered. That gives us assurance for present requests that they will receive similar attention from God. ***Psalm 34:4 I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears.***

4.5 Bring Your Burdens to Him in Prayer

Psalm 34: 1-6

"I will bless the LORD at all times: His praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad. O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His Name together. I sought the LORD,

and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. They looked unto Him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed. This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him, and saved him out of all his troubles."

"...And delivered me from all my fears" (Verse 4). The Lord is saying you should bring your fears before Him; bring to Him those things that are causing fear in your life. God will deliver you from all your fears and you will be peaceful. Those threatening situations will not be there anymore. That thing that you are thinking and worried about; that thing that is hanging over your head and flooding your heart with despair, will not be there anymore. The Psalmist says: ***"I sought the Lord, and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears"*** (***Psalm 34:4***). The Lord is telling you that you should seek Him; that He will hear you and deliver you.

"They looked unto Him, and were lightened: And their faces were not ashamed" (verse 5)

Their circumstances were to make them ashamed before their neighbors, before their colleagues, before their fellow students, before their fellow workers, before Church members, but they sought the Lord. There is a God in heaven that has great concern for you. God does not want you to be ashamed. Child of God, your God does not want you to be embarrassed. There is God in heaven, waiting for you to seek His intervention in the embarrassing situation you are passing through. He will hear you and cause your shame to disappear. That thing that

is to bring you shame will not come to be. God knows how to do it. He knows how to handle things; how to reconstruct things. God knows what to do to make your shame disappear like the cloud in the sky.

"This poor man cried and the Lord heard Him, and saved him out of all his troubles" (verse 6)

I do not know how many troubles you have more than ten troubles? You count them by all your ten fingers, but the troubles are more than ten? You count your toes as well, and after counting, the troubles are more than twenty? Your God is able to deliver you from all those troubles in Jesus name. Child of God, there is great benefit in serving the Living God. Turn your heart to him; turn your faith on Him. Look unto Him and know with certainty and full assurance in your heart that the Lord will intervene in your situation. That money you are looking for will come yes it will come! How will it come? Leave that to God. When it comes, you will testify and glorify the Name of the Lord.

Psalm 66:16 20

"Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what He hath done for my soul. I cried unto Him with my mouth, and He was extolled with my tongue. If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: But verily God hath heard me; He hath attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor His mercy from me."

That is the voice of a saint. That is the voice of a child of God. Be comforted child of God. See, your brother is giving a testimony of what the Father did for him. Sister, your brother is giving testimony of what the Lord has done for him; your sister is giving testimony of what the Lord has done for her. You too will soon give testimony! Yes, the Psalmist had a testimony after he cried to the Lord: *I cried unto Him with my mouth and He was extolled with my tongue; but I was righteous (I confessed all my sins, I repented from all my sins and sought Him in righteousness); there was no iniquity in my heart: that was why the Lord heard me.*

The Lord has hearkened unto the voice of his prayer. His prayer reached to heaven. Oh, let the cloud give way and let your prayers enter heaven! Let the stars of heaven give way and let your prayers enter heaven! My prayer for you is that your prayers will enter heaven and that God will hear your prayers. The Creator, the Maker of your soul, the Deliverer of your soul, the God of all impossibilities will hear your prayers. That is why the Psalmist said, *"Blessed be the God which has not turned away my prayers, nor His mercy from me."* God will listen. He will bow down His ears and bring His ears closer to you. As you mutter prayers with your lips, even in stammering tongue, God will come closer and hear your prayers and you will be peaceful in your life. That is why He said, *"Ask what I shall give thee."*

Philippians 4:6, 7 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known

unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

You should testify as Hannah did when your answer comes from God.

1 Samuel 1:10, 12, 17, 20, 26, 27

10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed unto the LORD, and wept sore. 12 And it came to pass, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli marked her mouth. 17 Then Eli answered and said, Go in peace: and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of Him. 20 Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD. 26 And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD. 27 For this child I prayed; and the LORD Hath given me my petition which I asked of Him.

CHAPTER

5

WHAT TO PRAY FOR

5.1 Pray for Greater Works

Pray for greater works because He said ***"Greater works than these shall he do because I go unto My Father"*** (John 14:12). Ask that God should increase His anointing in your life. Jesus is assuring you that such a prayer glorifies God. When anointing increases in your life, when wisdom increases in your life, when the gifts of the Spirit manifest in your life, God will be glorified. Ask for the greater manifestation of the power of God in your life and in your ministry. Pray that the Lord will give you revelations and manifest more His power. Ask for greater grace and power. Ask for anointing of the Holy Ghost. Ask these for others: pastors, teachers, evangelists, and other ministers and workers in God's service.

Acts 4:29-33

And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto Thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak Thy word, By stretching forth Thine hand to heal; and that

signs and wonders may be done by the Name of Thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

"...And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all" Why? Because they asked and the Lord answered. Let the Church of God ask for great grace, great power. Let the Church of God ask for the presence of God, His authority in the Church. Jesus is saying, it shall be granted. He said, *"Ask and ye shall receive"* whatsoever ye shall ask shall be given unto you (Matthew 21:22, John 16:24). He said, *"Ask and it shall be done unto you and My Father shall be glorified"* When I do those things for you, My Father will be happy, My Father will be promoted and My Name will be magnified.

God wants to do something in your life so that the testimony will spread and people will know through

your life that there is a God that answers prayer, that there is God in heaven. Nebuchadnezzar said, ***"There is no God that can do after this manner."*** (Daniel 3:29). No God, except the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego Why? Because of the uncommon way God answered their prayer, in a seemingly hopeless circumstance. I challenge you, I invite you to bring those difficult things in your life and place them there before the Lord, and watch our God demonstrate His power in your life. The testimony shall spread around and the Lord shall be glorified in your life.

5.2 Pray for Anything You Desire

John 14:14

If ye shall ask any thing in My name, I will do it.

Do you want to go to school? Ask. Sometimes you think it only depends on your intelligence. No! Tell God that you want to go to school. Tell God that you want to marry. Tell God that you want to do business. Ask God for your healing and sound health. May be you are even infected with HIV/AIDS; keep on telling God that you want to be healed. May be yours is a type of sickness the doctor has already told you that it can only be managed with diet and drugs; let your request for divine healing go before God. Ask God for something. Ask! Is it not God that said you should ask? Is it not the Creator that said you should ask; that said you should bring that matter and table it before Him? Then ask. You will be an obedient child if you will ask, as He said. The Lord said you can ask anything you want and it shall be done unto you. Yes, God will open the doors for your life.

John 16: 23, 24

"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."

God is interested that you should be happy and joyful. He said, "Ask anything." God is saying ask ANYTHING that comes to your heart that you sincerely desire - anything you want to be done that will make you happy; anything that you feel should not happen, because if it happens it will make you sad. You are a child of God, the word of righteousness is in you and you know you want to stop some evil from happening, ask and it shall be given you. Ask for yourself, your loved ones, parents, friends, brethren and the Church. Ask for your work place and nation.

5.3 Pray for Rain: Revival of Holiness and Righteousness

Psalm 12:1, 2

Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak.

Zechariah 10:1

"Ask ye the Lord rain in time of the latter rain; so the Lord shall make bright clouds

and give them showers of rain, to everyone grass in the field".

The land is dry, the sky is clear, everywhere looks dusty; ask God for rain. When you ask God for rain, the Lord will make bright clouds. When you ask God for rain, the Lord will cause the wind to blow the wind that carries the water; and then, there shall be bright clouds and the rain will pour upon your land. Are you dry and empty? Ask Him for revival. Are you so prayerless? Ask God for revival and the Lord shall bring it. Ask for the revival of the Church to holiness and righteousness. Pray for ministers of God that righteousness and holiness will return to their lives and ministries.

Isaiah 62:1-7

For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. For as a young man marieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry

thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. 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, And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

The step God will take is known unto God. The step God will take to bring such a weak man like you, such a discouraged woman like you, such an illiterate person like you, the unwilling mind that is in you, to revival, is known to God. God will make bright clouds; He will bring dews upon your life. He will do it Just ask! You are not too weak to ask - Just ask. Summon strength and courage today to ask and then you will be coming back with good news. When the Church prays and says: "O God bring down your glory in the Church; O God bring forth revival upon the Church; O God release forth the power of holiness; O God release the Holy Ghost upon the Church," then for that prayer, the Lord knows what to do. The Lord will raise up men of revival for the Church. The Lord will raise up men and women of power. The Lord will raise up a man of power, a man of anointing that will cause that prayer to be answered so that you can be joyful. Pray and ask for the rain in the day of the latter rain. He will make bright clouds. He knows what to do Just ask. Will you ask? The Lord will do wonders among you. Ask for revival. Ask for righteousness and holiness. Ask for the Holy Ghost. Ask for yourself, the Church and the society. God shall make the connection: God shall

bring forth the man of God, yea the men and women of God for the revival we ask for.

5.4 Pray for Wisdom

James 1:5

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Proverbs 4:1-9

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother. He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

Ask God for wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Besides, is there anything you assume you lack? That thing that is wanting in your life, ask God for it. That thing that is wanting in the Church, ask God for it. That thing that is wanting in your family, ask God for it. That thing that is wanting in your academics, in your business, ask God for it. Yes, that thing wanting in the society, ask God for it. The Bible tells us the mother of Jesus went for a wedding and there was no wine it was lacking. Mary, the mother of Jesus, spoke to Him saying, "*They have no wine.*" That is what God wants you to do. Tell Him the situation. Tell Him what is lacking and watch God's next move. The mother of Jesus knew that Jesus must take action, that was why she told the waiting servants, "*Whatever He tells you [to do], do it, because I have made request to Him and by the nature of God He will not keep silent; He will do something about it. Therefore, whatsoever He tells you [to do], do it.*" That is the point!

John 2:1-11

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto Him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come. His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it. And there were set there six waterpots of

stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim. And He saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare it. When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom, And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: but thou hast kept the good wine until now. This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory; and His disciples believed on Him.

CHAPTER

6

INVITATION TO PRAYER IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE

1 John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing according to His will, He heareth us.

6.1 What You Should Know About Prayer

T

Three things are important in prayer:

I. Make sure that whatever you are asking for is in line with the scriptures. Something that is in purity and holiness; good, clean and not damaging to the cause of Christ. Make sure it conforms to the will of God.

Philippians 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if

there be any praise, think on these things.

These are the things to pray on because they are in God's will.

ii. Know that God hears you. God has prepared Himself and has cleared the sky for the prayer of the righteous to ascend as the sacrifice of Abel. Your prayers will go up straight and acceptably to God. Praise the Lord! As you are praying He is hearing. Knowing that He is hearing, wait patiently for the answer. Just go and wait for the answer. I'm assuring you that the answer is on the way. The answer will meet you in the Church, in the house, on the way, at your work place, at school. Yes, just get ready for it!

iii. The Prayer Privilege of King Solomon And Prophet Elisha. Solomon had this great privilege. Elisha enjoyed this privilege; and you also have this great privilege!

What was the privilege of Solomon?

1 kings 3:3-12

And Solomon loved the LORD, walking in the statutes of David his father: only he sacrificed and burnt incense in high places. And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there; for that was the great high place: a thousand burnt offerings did Solomon offer upon that altar. In Gibeon the LORD

appeared to Solomon in a dream by night: and God said, Ask what I shall give thee. And Solomon said, Thou hast shewed unto Thy servant David my father great mercy, according as he walked before Thee in truth, and in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with Thee; and Thou hast kept for him this great kindness, that Thou hast given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. And now, O LORD my God, Thou hast made Thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in. And Thy servant is in the midst of Thy people which Thou hast chosen, a great people, that cannot be numbered nor counted for multitude. Give therefore Thy servant an understanding heart to judge Thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this Thy so great a people? And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing. And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself, nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment; Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee.

A thousand burnt offerings! I do not think anybody had offered anything like that to God before. No one could have done something like that: a thousand animals offered and burnt before God! It cost a lot. Solomon served the Lord in such a costly way because he loved the Lord. The Bible says, "*And Solomon loved the Lord.*" So when that special dedication happened, it touched the heart of God in heaven and He came and spoke to Solomon saying, "*Ask what I shall give thee.*" What an open door! If God comes today and says, "*Church, ask what I shall give thee,*" what will you ask as a Church? If the Lord now talks to you personally just like He did to Solomon (you love God; you are consecrated to serving God; you are dedicated to serving God) and says, "*My child, ask what I shall give thee.*" What will you ask? That was the privilege Solomon had, and Solomon got a great thing: wisdom that surpassed the wisdom of men who had lived before and after him. That is the wisdom he got by this open door and He got it from the Lord. Therefore, do not take this opportunity of asking God a casual thing. It is a unique opportunity. Ask and He shall give thee.

1 Kings 4:29-34

And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding exceeding much, and largeness of heart, even as the sand that is on the sea shore. And Solomon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all men; than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, and Chalcol, and Darda, the sons

of Mahol: and his fame was in all nations round about. And he spake three thousand proverbs: and his songs were a thousand and five. And he spake of trees, from the cedar tree that is in Lebanon even unto the hyssop that springeth out of the wall: he spake also of beasts, and of fowl, and of creeping things, and of fishes. And there came of all people to hear the wisdom of Solomon, from all kings of the earth, which had heard of his wisdom.

Elisha was another man that had a special open door for his life. He prayed well and got the answer to his prayer, which made him a great prophet and he fulfilled the will of God for his life among men on earth.

2 Kings 2:1-15

And it came to pass, when the LORD would take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. And Elijah said unto Elisha, Tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Bethel. And Elisha said unto him, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they went down to Bethel. And the sons of the prophets that were at Bethel came forth to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to

day? And he said, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray thee; for the LORD hath sent me to Jericho. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. So they came to Jericho. And the sons of the prophets that were at Jericho came to Elisha, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the LORD will take away thy master from thy head to day? And he answered, Yea, I know it; hold ye your peace. And Elijah said unto him, Tarry, I pray thee, here; for the LORD hath sent me to Jordan. And he said, As the LORD liveth, and as thy soul liveth, I will not leave thee. And they two went on. And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went, and stood to view afar off: and they two stood by Jordan. And Elijah took his mantle, and wrapped it together, and smote the waters, and they were divided hither and thither, so that they two went over on dry ground. And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went

up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over. And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.

Elisha had served Elijah faithfully. When Elijah was to leave, Elisha stuck to him until the door opened to him. Elijah said, "Now I have seen that you are faithful: we have worked together; we have labored together; we have suffered together; we have succeeded together; we have moved forward together. Now I am going, ask what I shall give you. I have tested you and known that you are serious; I have tested you and known that you are faithful. I have seen your commitment; I have seen your dedicated spirit. Ask what I shall give you. What do you want? God has given me the license to bestow upon you what you want. God has given me the authority to give to your life what you want. God has given me the power to make a difference in your life,

a difference in your ministry; God has instructed me to put anointing somewhere, and I ask: what do you want?" God was the One speaking through Elijah to give this prayer challenge to Elisha.

Numbers 27:12, 13, 18-20

And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel. And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered. And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight. And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.

Elisha replied: "A double anointing, double power; double miracle; double wonders, double everything! I want double grace, everything in double form. If you have it in 100% Elijah, I want it in 200%; If you have it 1,000 Elijah, I want 2,000; If you have it 10,000 Elijah, I want 20,000; If you have a million, I want two million; double anointing! Double!! Just double!!!" And Elisha got it!

2 Kings 2:10-14

And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing: nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto

thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

O Lord, the doors are open for double anointing for the person reading this book. I say the doors are open for him or her for a double portion today!

6.2 What Do You Want?

Mark 10:46-52

And they came to Jericho: and as He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he

began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; He calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto Him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

As you have a great opportunity this day, make a special request. You have worked and laboured and God has seen your diligence. God wants to bestow some good things upon your life; He wants to pour some good blessings upon your life. What do you want? Anointing is coming your way! Open your mouth and pray WHAT DO YOU WANT? Begin to ask. Something special is happening to you. Some good things are coming your way. Some positive changes are coming to your life. The Lord Himself is saying to you: ***"Ask, what I shall give thee."***

CHAPTER

7

THE DUTY OF PRAYER

7.1 No Prayer, No Answer

Matthew 7:7-11

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask Him?

In this text, the Lord unveils to us our duty, as long as we want good things from Him for ourselves and for others. If we desire good things from God, we must engage ourselves in the duty of prayer: asking, seeking and knocking at the door, even when the circumstances look odd. In the hard circumstances,

prayer and fasting are required.

Matthew 17:20, 21

And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

This passage is offering solution on how to resolve the challenges of life through spiritual warfare. The Lord is saying, our faith in Him and prayer will bring solution, but that some cases or circumstances are difficult and hard. In such cases, we should go before Him in fasting. We saw it among the Jews when Esther declared three days fasting and prayers. She said: ***"Fast for me; this circumstance is too hard, but fast for me and I will go and see the king,"*** and it worked for them. It is the same formula that God is revealing to us here.

There are many good things God has for you as a person. There are many good things that God has for the world, for our brothers and sisters, and for our neighbors. If we are concerned, if we love ourselves and love others, if we have love for sinners, we will take up prayer as a duty. God wants us to be a blessing to others through prayer.

7.2 Answers Are Waiting for Your Prayers

Ezekiel 36:37

Thus saith the Lord God; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

From this scripture, the Lord is saying for the good thing He has promised to do for the children of Israel, **"I will yet for this be enquired of."** That is the duty of prayer. Do not expect things to be working automatically for you. Do not expect things to fall in place automatically in your life. Let us imagine that God gives somebody something to keep for you and told that person that any time you come to ask he should release it to you; but that if you do not ask, he should still keep it for Him (God). Or imagine that the Lord told the angels: *"Here are these blessings. As you go to that worship service (or you go to that man's house, or that woman's house, or as you enter that Church) hold these blessings. All those people that open their mouth to ask for something, listen to them and release the blessings to them as they ask."* The instruction has been given to the angels already. Suppose you sit down and keep your request to yourself and the angels do not know what your need is, the blessings will remain with them because you have not made your request known. It is as you open your mouth in prayer and say, "O God...!" that they will come closer to hear what you are saying. When they hear what you are asking from God, they will then say: *"Take it, for the Lord has told us that whatever you ask we should release to you. The answers are in our hands already; the matter is no*

more with God, He has released answers and they are in our hands. We are your servants waiting for your prayers!"

In a similar manner, let us imagine that the angels are given spears and arrows. They are given weapons of spiritual warfare to release against the demons standing by; against the forces fighting you (the angels know where they are). And the Lord said, *"Hold these weapons. Whoever you see binding the devil, go and get him (devil) bound. Whoever you hear binding the demons, go and get those demons bound. Whoever you hear pouring fire upon the forces of darkness, release the fire upon them. Whoever you hear trampling upon forces of darkness, go and trample upon those forces."* That means someone will need to say something for the angels to know how to respond. If nothing is said in the form of prayer, nothing shall be done. Somebody said (by divine revelation) that, angels sat on top of the walls of Jericho before its collapse. The Lord had released angels there and given them instruction: *"When you hear Israel shouting and moving round the city walls, at the seventh round, when they shout, pull down the walls."*

7.3 Do not Just Think It Over, Talk It Over with God

Answer to prayer is directly related to your duty of prayer. What if you really have some problems but keep quiet? You really have some things to contend with and, while others are praying, you just keep quiet, thinking it in your heart. Angels do not know

what you are thinking; or do they? If they do not, how then will they take action? They will not act until you say something. This emphasizes the value of prayer. Not that God, in some circumstances, will not hear us even when we think our prayers; for it is written: **"And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear" (Isaiah 65:24).** But that is in some circumstance, not in all circumstances. Learn to say your prayer out. There is time for silent prayer and there is time for audible prayer. Audible prayers have greater benefits. Do you keep quiet when others are praying? Jesus did not pray like that. If He was the prayer-thinking type, His prayers would not have been written down in the Bible. If Jesus was a silent-praying type, His disciples would not have come to Him and said, *"Teach us to pray"* because nothing would have inspired them. That is why we are called upon to pray as a duty; you cannot be silent.

7.4 Labour Fervently in Prayers!

Colossians 4:12 ***"Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God."***

Epaphras was not just labouring, but labouring fervently in prayers! One who is just lazily moving his or her lips in whispers cannot be said to be labouring. That means when Epaphras was praying one could see his body vibrating, because he was "labouring fervently." That was the kind of prayer that gave

Hannah answer to her request. When she prayed, though her voice was not heard, her lips were moving with deep emotions and heaviness of heart, to the point that Eli said: *"How long will you be drunken with alcohol?"* (1Samuel 1:12-18). When one is labouring, although he may be praying silently, you will see the consecration, the concentration, the vibration, and you will know that something is going on. The angels are watching and observing as the place shakes. When a machine is shaking, you know it is working.

How was Epaphras labouring? F-e-r-v-e-n-t-l-y? You need to understand this because you may be the type that even a fly will not notice that any action is taking place when you are praying. When you pray, the fly will feel comfortable to remain on your body because you are almost motionless. Is that prayer labour? Let your fervent labour in prayer be visible to observers. Let me use a soldier in the warfront as an example. In his movement, will he walk leisurely? From the way he stamps the ground with his boots, with hands laid firmly on the trigger, you will know that this man is ready for action. So, pray with a military attitude; be active. You have been called to the duty of prayer. Do it actively.

7.5 Effectual Fervent Prayer Availeth Much

Thank God for your righteousness. Thanks to God that you are not committing sin; you maintain holiness. But then, to make your holiness a blessing to others, you need to add fervent prayer to it. To make your holiness consistent, you need to add

fervent prayer to it.

James 5:15-18

And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

You tired to cast out a devil but could not - the reason is that your prayer level has not reached that point of "effectual fervent prayer." How can you be addressing a demon with in a leisure prayer? Who are you talking to? Is it demons, who are known to be stubborn and resistant? It is "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man" that availeth much, not the casual type. Add prayers to your righteousness to make it strong and useful. Add effectual fervent prayer to your righteousness to make you a blessing to others; to make you a resourceful Christian; to make you the one that can heal and deliver people by the word of God and the name of Jesus.

Practice fervency in your private prayers. Do not let

sleep take you away. Every day you fail to pray is a minus in your life. Every day you did not pray is a minus because the strength you have is like fuel, and fuel gets consumed with activities; fuel gets consumed with distance. Every distance you go with your car or motorcycle burns fuel. If you do not think of replenishing the fuel as you cover the miles, your journey will stop on the way. Similarly, if you do not renew your prayer strength, your Christian life will cease on the way.

7.6 You Need Prayers to Be Able to Carry Your Cross

Your Christian life and ministry are a cross you need to carry daily. How much more when you are the leader of the Church and having other people to carry along? Can you carry this heavy load without prayer? You will quickly park up; you will quickly go rickety like a worn-out car. It is like a vehicle that is carrying heavy load in the booth and the shock absorbers are not strong enough to support it. It will be hitting the ground which will cause more damage to the vehicle. You are hitting the ground already because you are carrying a heavy load (heavy ministry) without prayer. Add prayer to your Christian life and see how easily you will run the Christian ministry.

7.7 God's Call To Prayer Warriors

Give God no rest!

"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, And give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth" (Isaiah 62:6, 7).

What is the objective in the above verses? It is to establish Jerusalem. The goal, the vision, the desire of God is to establish Jerusalem; to make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. God wants to make the people established in righteousness so that people will praise God because of them, that the nations that surround Jerusalem will know that the living God is among them. That is the aim of God: that by their righteousness and holiness He would be praised in the earth. For this to happen, He said: *"I have set watchmen over your walls who shall be praying and making mention of you to Me ... C-O-N-S-T-A-N-T-L-Y!"* The above scripture says, ***"Ye that make mention of the Lord keep not silence and give Him no rest"*** - Give God no rest!

It seems God has bound Himself to prayers. Just as I illustrated before, it seems that without prayers He is incapacitated, like a vehicle that would be rendered immobile without tyres. He is saying, *"I want to do something in Jerusalem. Prayer warriors, do not leave Me alone. Hold Me fast until I accomplish it."* It is like when I tell some of my leaders in HOREMOW, "I

want to hold a program in your branch, please keep reminding me about it." So, God is saying: *"Keep reminding Me"* (in the language of man). *"Keep telling me about it; Keep praying about it."*

Why is God saying so? It is because one of the attributes of God is to give answer to prayers. If we cease praying, one of His attributes will be rendered useless and God will not want that to happen. That is why He wants us to pray. Psalm 65:2 says, ***"O Thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come."*** Why do ministries fail? Why do Christian organizations and Churches fail? One of the reasons is that they do not pray well enough. If God is a God that answers prayers, how long have you stood before Him in prayers on that matter? Have you organized prayers concerning that matter? Have you embarked on fasting and prayer concerning that matter? God loves us so much that He revealed this attribute of His to us that we may take full advantage of it.

7.8 Reasons for Unanswered Prayers

I. You Ask Amiss

God will hear your prayers; you have not come for vain labour or vain service. God has told us about the people that offer vain prayers in the book of James. He told us their characteristics and why they cannot receive answers.

James 4:1-4

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Instead of going to pray, some people rather go after carnal methods. They go into contention and strife. Imagine somebody saying, "Pastor, I want you to make me prominent in the Church. Pastor, I want you to make me preach in one of the services or conferences; let them know that I have power." If you desire this, then take it to God in prayer, rather than following some carnal methods. Carnal ways of achieving this will not work as long as God is the One who chooses people to do His work. He will never choose you because your methods are carnal, the steps you are taking are carnal, the imaginations of your heart are carnal. You have not taken time to ask it of God in an appropriate manner. Where was David when God sent Samuel to pick the next leader of Israel from his family? Was David among brothers? Was he even at home? He was in the wilderness. But his heart had registered with God in prayer. When a choice was to be made, they all waited for him to come back from the wilderness. First settle it with

God, then you will see that in reality the door shall open. Faith is first a substance before it becomes a reality.

Hebrews 11:1

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

ii. You Are Worldly and Carnal

"Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts" (James 4:3).

Some people are able to pray, but do not receive because they are carnal in their request. What they are looking for is to promote themselves or to advance themselves. So, God is saying, "Your prayer is carnal, therefore, I cannot answer you." Apostle James further wrote:

"You adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God" - James 4:4.

God is saying, "Ah, these people are still worldly and when they ask Me for anything in this state they cannot have it." If you are worldly, and unstable in heart, know that ***"A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. Let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord" - James 1:7, 8.***

iii. **You Make Vain Repetitions**

Apart from worldly and carnal requests, Jesus states other reasons why some people's prayers are not being answered:

Matthew 6:5-8

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

In this passage, Jesus is telling people who do not receive answers to their prayers the reason why their prayers were not answered they make vain repetitions. May be you are in the Church but your mind is not with God; when prayer is going on you start saying the same thing over and over again. Sometimes, you are like something that got hooked up and is just standing still in one place. You may be repeating a particular word or phrase in the name of

speaking in tongues, even when the person leading the prayer has changed the prayer point several times (like a cracked CD plate that keeps repeating the last sound). For instance, the person leading the prayer may announce, *"Let us pray that God should make the rain to fall."* You will be praying, supposedly in tongues, saying *"la la la la, ku ku ku ku."* Then the leader changed the topic and said, *"Let us now pray that there shall be no rainfall on Sunday"* and you still keep repeating the same words absent-mindedly, *"la la la la, ku ku ku ku"* vain repetitions! Your heart is not in that business; you are not serious-minded. How would God hear you? You are not making progress in prayer because your thought is not there - it has strayed off. Such people do not receive anything from God because they are into vain repetitions. They are praying like a machine (a tape recorder) that is just repeating words; they are not praying lively prayers.

A particular young man wrote his prayer on the wall and anytime he is to sleep he would say to God, *"Just as written on the wall there, amen,"* and go to sleep. That is like the prayer books they give to people to read; dead prayers! Your heart is not the one producing the prayer points. It is just like when you are in a discussion and your mind is not there, and you keep saying to the person, *"Yesterday when I went there ... yesterday when I went there ... yesterday when I went there..."* Then the person asks: *"Yes, yesterday when you went there what happened?"* and you still keep saying *"Yesterday when I went there ... yesterday when I went there..."* repeating yourself over and over again! Is it the type

of prayer that would receive answer from God? No! Be conscious of your prayers. Pray with consciousness. Pray, talk sensibly because you are talking to a person, the supreme God. Although He knows what is in your heart as the Father of the prodigal son perceived what brought the son home; nevertheless, speak out to your Father and ask for forgiveness verbally, like the prodigal son did. Say it out!

7.9 Call to Prayer Through Special Circumstances

1 Samuel 1:27, 28

For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of Him: Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

"For this child I prayed..." For God to get a woman that would pray into the world a prophet of the Lord, He had to use a special circumstance, some special circumstances are the call of God for you to become a prayer warrior. Some hard circumstances or challenges in your life are special call that God has for you to become a warrior. Look at Hannah, God wanted a prophet for Israel. *"Who will pray this prophet to life?"* He used the challenge in child-bearing to call up Hannah for that duty. When you get to heaven, you will understand that God raised up some people on earth who prayed in this end-time Holiness Revival Movement. They prayed, and

prayed, and prayed for Holiness Movement to come up for the sake of the end time revival. Is it that God does not want revival in the end-time as to have simply decreed it into existence? He wants it, but He desired prayers actualize it.

Hannah was a righteous woman. This could be deduced from the way her mate maltreated her and her reaction. She did not fight back, she did not abuse her. God had to give a special circumstance to her to pray Prophet Samuel into life. Her barrenness was because ***"The Lord had shut up her womb"*** (1 Samuel 1:5). But, why should God do that to such a righteous woman? God did it because He wanted a prayer warrior that would pray-in a prophet for Israel.

Do you wait for a bad dream before you rise up for prayer? Some people learn how to pray in the night through bad dream. Others learn fasting and prayer when financially hard up or when some debilitating sickness comes over their body. God is saying, *"My son, learn earnest prayer through that challenge. And when you get that challenge over by prayer, you will develop double prayer confidence for any other challenge that is coming your way. You will be able to boast like the prophet, 'The Lord my God is with me; who is he that is against me? Let Him come up.'"*

7.10 God's Call to Prayer Intercessors and Warriors

Luke 2:21-32

And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, His name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before He was conceived in the womb. And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law, Then took he Him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word: For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation, Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.

God consecrated Simeon as a prayer warrior to pray into the world the Saviour, Jesus Christ. He prayed until he saw it accomplished and then said, "*Lord now let your servant depart in peace. I have done my work by the help of the Holy Ghost. The light has come in; the Saviour of your people Israel and of the world.*"

It was not only Simeon. In verses 36-38 we were told:

"And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem."

It is obvious that God consecrated this man and woman for the ministry of prayer. It might not have been only Simeon and Anna, but these two were the ones that were privileged to come into the temple by the leading of the Holy Ghost to see the result of their prayers. Others were still there that never came up; some others would have even died - all praying for the coming of the Saviour. In a similar way, God is raising up today, prayer warriors that will pray-in the Rapture. And God is using these prayer warriors to be able to make the Church, the Bride of Christ, pure, holy and undefiled.

"Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God" -

Colossians 4:12.

God is raising up people like Epaphras to purify the Church and to bring in the last harvest into the Church.

"And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and these shall be one fold and one shepherd" - John 10:16.

This is the work the Lord requires the watchmen to accomplish for Him. Do you now know your calling? Pray that the Lord may send true, righteous and holy ministers into His vineyard.

Mordecai told Esther, ***"Who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Esther 4:14).*** Mordecai was telling Esther, *"Do you know the reason why you have come to the throne at this time? Do you know whether it is for this reason, when selection was made, you became the Queen?"* Do you now know why God called you to Holiness Revival Movement; a Movement meant to usher in Christ the King in the Rapture? To gather the last harvest into the Church and get the Bride prepared for the Bridegroom, was the reason the Lord chose you and said: *"Come, work in My Vineyard."* What a privilege; what a confidence He has reposed in you!

7.11 We Must Go to The Mountain

You are the ass tied that will march the Savior into Jerusalem. What a glory among other asses! What a joy, what a calling! So, this is a divine call upon your life. The world is very dark, sinners and sins have filled everywhere. We must be ready to pray down revival as Elijah did.

1 Kings 18:41-45

And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees, And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, There is nothing. And he said, Go again seven times. And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand. And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not. And it came to pass in the meanwhile, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

"And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain..." You have told the people (as Elijah said to Ahab): *"Go, eat and drink, there is a sound of abundance of rain. The rain that has not been there for three and*

half years is coming now!" You have told people, "Come to Holiness Revival Movement; the Lord has raised up Holiness Revival Movement to bring revival of righteousness and holiness to Christianity, to bring in massive harvest of souls." You have announced that, but it can only be accomplished by prayer. You must be prepared to pray down God's glory and revival in His Church and Holiness Revival Movement.

Isaiah 60:1-3

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

We must go to the mountain; not a physical mountain in this case, but to go and cast ourselves down in prayer and fasting. This thing should not be just once. It should be organized in every country, every state, every chapter and every unit. Holiness Revival Movement should fast and pray regularly because, if we want the blessing as we have promised the people, it shall be actualized by prayer. Go and pray! All believers and ministers everywhere must go before God in prayer for revival.

Let us pray that God will use us as His instrument to bring about this last days revival. Symbolically

speaking, the earth has been dry for three-and-a-half years as in the days of Elijah. For a long time, Christianity has been lost. The Church has been spiritually dry for a long time. We must pray in righteousness. When righteousness comes into the Church, all these religions making noise will bow on their own. Presently, they are strong because the Church is weak. If we get weak, they get strong; if we become strong, they go down. It is automatic! A vibrant, strong and fervent Christianity will automatically subdue Islamic power. At the recovery of Christianity, powers of occultism in the nation will bow naturally and all enemies of the Christian faith will take to flight.

CHAPTER

8

THE PRAYER WARRIORS AND GOD'S PROMISES

8.1 Unless You Pray, It Will not Happen!

Jeremiah 29:11-12

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray unto Me, and I will hearken unto you."

Can you see God's promises for you? Can you see God's promises for us? Can you see God's promises for the prayer warriors? *"I know the thoughts..." but these thoughts will not materialize automatically; I know what I want you to become, but it cannot happen just like that; I know what I want you to do: greater works, but it will not happen automatically. If you want it to happen, 'then shall ye call upon Me, and ye shall go and pray into Me.'"*

"Ye shall go" means a positive action; well directed

action; prepared action. *"Then shall ye call upon Me and shall go and pray unto Me and I will hearken unto you. When that happens, then My thoughts shall be unveiled practically in your life. My thoughts shall be unveiled practically in your home, in your ministry, and among you."* This is the promise of God for you.

What are the thoughts? Thoughts of peace. Peace stands for everything good righteousness, prosperity, victory; advancement, establishment. What were the angels saying in their rejoicing for Christ's birth? They said, ***"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14).*** They summed up the virtues of the Gospel, the blessings of the Gospel of Peace. So, God said it is His thought to give you strength, advancement, victory, establishment, prosperity, power, healing, miracles. These will come to pass *"When ye call upon Me; when ye go to pray to Me."* When we rise up to the duty of prayer, the things which God has been planning will begin to manifest. See the promise of God for us in Jeremiah 33:3:

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not"

"Great and mighty things..." If you wish to know great and mighty things meet with God in prayer. Satan planned his strategies and has set up his agents for his work against you and the Church. God will reveal these to you through prayers. God says, *"Ask of me, I will open your eyes to see individuals,*

personalities and strategies set up by Satan that will surprise you. I will open your eyes, give you revelations and dreams concerning the future; I will guide you with my eye and direct you so you will know how to conduct yourself."

8.2 God Is Able to Make Holiness Movement Stand

We know by revelation that Holiness Revival Movement is part of God's eternal plan for this end time. God will not allow it to die. By His grace, it will be preserved to witness the soon return of Jesus Christ and the Rapture of the Church. It is a great joy to see what the Lord is doing through this Ministry at this time for the salvation of mankind. All over the world, people are heaving a sigh of relief that truth, righteousness and holiness are now being restored to the Churches and the nations of the world through Holiness Revival Movement. Jesus will continue to use this Movement to actualize His eternal plan on earth. It is a promise the Lord has given to us and we will continue to pray that it shall be as the Lord has purposed.

8.3 Pray in Agreement And It Shall Be Established

Matthew 18:18-20

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if

two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.

Job 22:28 Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways." When righteous people call on God in prayer, He answers.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

God is saying, "If My righteous people whose prayer is a delight to Me will group themselves in twos and threes and ask Me for anything, I will do it, based on their mutual agreement." When this happens, joy will fill the earth, relief will enter into the Church of Christ, judgment will come upon the kingdom of darkness and anointing will flow on the ministers of the Gospel. We have God's firm promise that whenever we gather in His name He will be in our midst, whatever we bind shall be bound and whatever we decree or ask in agreement shall be established!

8.4 Pray for Healing and Divine Health

James 5: 13-16

Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms. Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

This scripture assures us that when we pray for one another we shall be healed. We shall be healed from backsliding, from sicknesses, from poverty and from anything afflicting our lives. Some people are afflicted by terminal ailment and are at the verge of death. The protracted ailment has gulped a lot of money and there seems to be hope of recovery. God is saying, "Pray and I will heal you. Pray and I will heal your loved ones; I will heal your nation!"

Luke 8:43-48

And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any, Came behind Him, and touched the border of His garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanch'd. And Jesus said, Who touched Me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with Him said, Master, the multitude throng

thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched Me? And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched Me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of Me. And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before Him, she declared unto Him before all the people for what cause she had touched Him, and how she was healed immediately. And He said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

All you need to receive your healing is faith. The Devil has afflicted many homes with all kinds of sicknesses. Some are experiencing strange spiritual attacks and are under the torment of the enemy. Some are even prevented from marrying because they are tied to spirit husbands or wives. The Lord is saying, "Pray and I will heal you." The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man availeth much and performs a lot of healing miracles. Rise up in faith and pray for your afflicted brethren and healing will follow. That is the promise of God for you!

8.5 You Can Experience Spiritual Transformation to Live a New Life of truth, Righteousness and Holiness

Ezekiel 36:25-37

Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give

you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them. And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God. I will also save you from all your uncleannesses: and I will call for the corn, and will increase it, and lay no famine upon you. And I will multiply the fruit of the tree, and the increase of the field, that ye shall receive no more reproach of famine among the heathen. Then shall ye remember your own evil ways, and your doings that were not good, and shall lothe yourselves in your own sight for your iniquities and for your abominations. Not for your sakes do I this, saith the Lord GOD, be it known unto you: be ashamed and confounded for your own ways, O house of Israel. Thus saith the Lord GOD; In the day that I shall have cleansed you from all your iniquities I will also cause you to dwell in the cities, and the wastes shall be builded. And the desolate land shall be tilled, whereas it lay desolate in the sight of all that passed by. And they shall say, This land that was desolate is become like the garden of Eden; and the waste and desolate and ruined cities are become fenced, and are inhabited. Then the heathen that are left

round about you shall know that I the LORD build the ruined places, and plant that that was desolate: I the LORD have spoken it, and I will do it. Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.

i. Pray to Remove That Envy from Your Heart.

God is promising a new heart and a new life that is free of defilement provided you can pray! Envy is a defilement but something that is common among Christians and Christian ministers. Nobody envies a rich man more than a rich man, because he does not want anybody to measure up to him. He wants to be the only focus of attention and object of honour and reverence in the society. Satan knows the damaging effect of envy in the life of a Christian. He knows that it kills the righteous; it burns through the heart of the righteous; it empties the righteous of his righteousness.

A story was told how Satan sent his aides after a righteous man to make him backslide. They tried all possible tricks but the man did not fall. They used money and all kinds of inducements but the man did not compromise his faith. The demons reported back to Satan saying, "Sir, that man is righteous. We did everything possible to make him fall but the man did not fall." Satan said, "Follow me. Let us go back to that same man." When they got to the man, Satan whispered into his ear: "Do you know that your friend has been made the bishop of this Church in

America?" The man said, "What is his pedigree that he should be made the bishop? Are they now ordaining people bishop anyhow? What does he know?" Then Satan said to his agents, "Can you hear him?"

Envy works to pull down and defile the righteous man. The Lord said, **"A new heart will I give you."** God is promising you a new heart to remove defilement in your life. Defilement such as envy comes from an unsanctified heart. An un-regenerated heart rules you because it is stronger than your ability to manage. God says, "I will root it out; but you have to ask Me." It is not only in your life; other people around the world are also experiencing it. If you want purification of the heart for your holiness, cry to God. Then your heart will be pure, you will think towards others with a pure heart. If a brother has a gift, all of us will gather around to support his ministry. Unfortunately, this is not always seen in the Church. Christians hardly see the gifted ones among them as blessing to all? How wonderful it would be to hear fellow brethren say, "O bless God! That brother is a blessing to this Church, this Movement, I am a partaker of his blessing!" God says, "I will take away this stony heart, this stubborn heart." There are people who have no genuine respect for leadership. They may pretend as if they love the leader but God is able to see through their deception and imperfection. Holiness is not in the mouth but in the heart.

Matthew 15:8

This people draweth near to Me with their mouth

and with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me.

ii. **Pray That True Righteousness May Come into Your Life.** Our thoughts towards one another in ministry should be like that of John who said, **"He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled." John 3:29.** That is to say that you are pleased with whosoever God has called and given grace for His work. The Lord is saying, "You shall ask Me and I will take away this stony heart from you. I will take it away from your people, your children, your brothers and make this Church, this Movement unique, a place where righteousness and holiness shall dwell. But I will yet for this be enquired of by the house of Israel, by the watchmen in Israel to do it for them and for the rest of the people."

iii. **Pray To Remove That Anger.** Why do you get angry at little provocations? How are you as a leader treating the people you are leading? Are you always angry at them, oppressing them, or frowning your face? If so, you have a problem in your soul. It is a spiritual sickness. The anger comes by itself. Even when you are pushing it away, it will push itself back into your heart. But God says, **"Go into prayer, I will handle that anger. I will make you free. That anger shall not be there again!"**

iv. **Pray Against Lusting After the Opposite Sex.** Your mind just goes off and hooks to a lady or a

man. It hooks so hard that when you turn this way, it turns with you. It is like when that troublesome mosquito will not stop pestering you. Apart from mosquitoes, there is this other small flying insect in the bush that is worse than mosquitoes. It pesters you so much that, if you are not careful, it will enter your nose or your mouth. If you hit it this way, it goes the other way. Each way you turn, it follows you till you get upset. That is how lust can grip you! You will be wondering, *"What is happening to me? Why can't I control myself?"* This issue is beyond your capacity to handle. Therefore, go to God in prayer. God will root out that lust. Why should it bring you to shame? Why should you be hypocritical in your life? Why should you be incomplete? Why should you be leprous? Take it to God in prayer! What a friend we have in Jesus, all our grief and pains to bear; what a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer.

v. Pray Against Lying Tongue and Exaggerating Lips. You do not know how it happens. Go to God in prayers! Let God work on your heart and tongue for your holiness.

vi. Pray Against Fear. You just feel threatened; you are afraid and wonder why you are afraid. It is the nature of your heart; take it to God in prayer and demand for your deliverance.

vii. Pray Against Socially Unwholesome Character You are not sociable. Socially you are not performing and you do not know why. God will help you; take it to God in prayer.

viii. Pray for a Heart of Love and Giving. You do not know how to be charitable and flow in giving. Commit it to God in prayer. Tell Him to make you loving and charitable.

ix. Pray Against the Fear of Giving Account. When you are told, *"Bring your reports,"* what goes on in your hearts? Does your heart really agree that you should make bare your reports? Or do some human wisdom envelope your mind saying: *"If they know how much I have, if they know that I used the money for this thing, may be this or that will happen?"* Those are the defilements of your life. Why? It is the nature of your heart. Take it to God in prayer. If you want holiness in your life and in others, take prayer seriously. If you want peace in the home, take prayer seriously.

8.6 Prayer Is a Duty

Luke 18:1 *"And He spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint".*

Prayer as a duty is to always pray and not faint. Human frailty is universal. But struggle against it. Rise up, pray and plead for more grace to pray. Rise up to do this prayer work. Take it as a duty for your life, your family, your ministry, and the church of Christ.

Ephesians 1:15-20

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all

the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers; That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of His power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of His mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised Him from the dead, and set Him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.

Paul wrote to the Ephesian converts and said, "Since we heard that you are now born again, we began our duty on you: the duty of prayer. We ceased not to give thanks that you've come to know Jesus. We are making mention of you before God in our prayers that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of Glory, may give you understanding, that it should dawn on you what is meant by walking in Christ; Your understanding should quicken, that the darkness in your mind should flee away, that the light of understanding should come on you so you will understand this calling that you have received; you will understand what is meant by the sacrifice of Jesus, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, the ascension of Jesus to heaven and His intercessory ministry over your life; that you will understand the privileges you have for being Christians; that your

heart may understand the full victory that has been won over sin and Satan through Jesus. We have been praying for you." (Paraphrased). That is the duty of prayer, praying without ceasing.

Colossians 4:12 "Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of God saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God"

As a duty, prayer must be performed in every area of life in your marriage, business, family, ministry, interactions, education and in all things about you (360°), that you may stand perfect; that you may not fail in any area; and that you may not have blemishes in your life. Prayer is a duty. It is not a one-day affair. Paul wrote to the Colossians, "I am praying for you." He wrote to the Thessalonians, "I am praying for you;" he wrote to the Romans, "I am praying for you;" he wrote to the Corinthians, "I am praying for you;" he wrote to the Philippians, "I am praying for you." That is the duty of prayer. That is what God wants you to do regularly for yourself and others. If the leadership forgets this, rise up and say, "Sir, remember that prayer is our duty. We need to go for prayers, we need to organize prayers." That should be your own contribution to the body of Christ. Let there be prayer warriors effectually labouring fervently for the people as seen in Epaphras.

8.7 It Is a Sin When You Fail to Pray for Your Flock

1 Samuel 12:23

Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way.

In this text, Samuel attached sin to not praying for his people. Samuel was saying that when you do not pray for your flock you are committing a sin? In case you purposely refuse to pray for your church or you are too lazy to do so, you are sinning. God forbid that you come to the point that you are not praying for people. God forbid that you come to the point that you are not praying for Holiness Revival Movement - that you are not praying for the members of Holiness Revival Movement; you are not praying for the leaders of Holiness Revival Movement where the mind of God is. God forbid that you fail to do that!

Psalms 122:6-9

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. Because of the house of the LORD our God I will seek thy good.

8.8 Preaching Goes with Prayer

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4).

What are the apostles saying here? The apostles are saying, *"We will pray for you, we will teach you (prayer and ministry) because if we do not pray our ministry will not have effect."* Samuel said, *"I will pray for you and I will teach you also."*

Do you know that there are people who can teach a lot but they do not pray? When you take them to prayer it is like you have removed a fish from water to the dry land. It becomes helpless, completely helpless. Satan has got them at the right point to weaken their ministry by prayerlessness. He will tell them *"Go and preach, but do not bother to pray."* Since prayer is absent, they cannot attain to holiness and righteousness. They cannot subdue the strange thoughts that come to their mind, the temptations that come, the sight that they see in the audience that is fighting back at them, since they have not generated overcoming grace and power through effectual fervent prayer in ministry.

Somebody was talking about a prominent evangelist that I know, great evangelist in his time but now backslidden. He said, *"If this man had known how to pray, he would have done a great work in this life; but he wasn't the praying type."* Yet when he went to crusades, signs and wonders would manifest: the blind would see, the lame would rise and walk. Anointing is not holiness. There is a difference between anointing and holiness. For anointing you are called for it. Even in sin Samson was still performing. Things are happening, but when it comes to prayer, forget it; he's not able to pray you wonder how? You are not to follow this example.

Give yourself to prayer and to the ministry of the word. Learn to know that we who preach need a lot of prayers. We who lead need a lot of prayers.

8.9 Pray for the Christian Ministers and Leaders

1 Timothy 2:1-4

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

In case you are already saying, "Our leader has started making mistake;" there is a voice asking you: "How many times have you prayed for him? When you saw that the mistake is becoming very prominent, how many times did you take it to God in fasting? Do you have right to complain?" Who among you is more righteous: the leader in his mistake or you? That is the question, because the Bible says, "I exhort first of all that supplications and prayers be made." It will wipe away backbiting and gossip because if we can pray "we will lead a quiet and peaceable life with all godliness and honesty" and grace will flow from God to us, our leaders and the congregation.

Let us pray and see whether we will see people disagreeing and fighting with each other in the assembly of believers; whether we will have people who do not see eye-to-eye among us. The powers of those things will be broken and there will be love and peace. Christians leaders need to be prayed for.

8.10 Pray for Me

Ephesians 6:18-20:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel, For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

I also need your prayer. Pray for me that utterance may be given unto me. Pray for every Christian leader. It is God that gives the utterance. Pray that when I mount the pulpit to preach there will be great revelation from scripture to scripture, as the Lord puts in my hand His word in my mouth. Pray that this work will prosper. If the Lord has said that He has chosen me for this work, support me through your prayers, You can do nothing but stand in support of the truth. If my hands are strengthened in this work the blessings will be for us all. When Moses' hand was strong, the victory was for all Israel.

Exodus 17:10-13

So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

CHAPTER

9

THE MINISTRY OF PRAYER

9.1 The Universal Call to Prayer

Psalms 65:2

O thou that hearest prayer, unto Thee shall all flesh come.

We have seen that God has asked all men, women, youths and children to pray to Him for themselves and for others so that He can meet their needs and glorify His Name among men. Again, we have also seen in the scriptures that the leaders of God's people must pray always for their well-being and sufficient work of God's grace and power among them.

Proverbs 27:23

Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds.

Ephesians 1:15

Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints.

We also see in scripture that there are people called by God into the ministry of prayer. Scriptural records show that they were not only provoked to moments of prayer for God to do or stop some things, but were committed to regular prayer as a ministry assigned to them by God. This prayer assignment is in various degrees among the people of God. It may be given to one person or a group of persons. Let us examine prayer ministry in scripture.

i. Watchmen Upon the Walls of Jerusalem

Isaiah 62:1-7

For Zion's sake will I not hold my peace, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until the righteousness thereof go forth as brightness, and the salvation thereof as a lamp that burneth. And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory: and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name. Thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed

Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married. For as a young man marieth a virgin, so shall thy sons marry thee: and as the bridegroom rejoiceth over the bride, so shall thy God rejoice over thee. 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, And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

These watchmen were raised by God, working individually in different places unknown to each other, or working together as a group. The assignment the Lord gave them include the following:

- a) The salvation, righteousness and holiness of Zion and Jerusalem.
- b) To make the Gentile nations see challenging righteousness in Zion and Jerusalem and glory God among the inhabitants.
- c) To purge off all kinds of backsliding, disobedience and unholiness among them.
- d) To make God love them, rule among them, bless and prosper them.

These things desired by God over Zion and Jerusalem can only be achieved by God Himself. Hence, the watchmen raised by God were instructed by God as follows:

- a) They should never hold their peace day nor night before God; they should not live as though there is no need or challenge among God's people.
- b) They should keep talking of God and to God without giving up.
- c) They should never give God rest in intercessory prayers, until God performs His good work on Jerusalem and makes it a praise on earth.

It is clear here that this is a call to prayer and a commitment to it, among other things. This is an accountable ministry given to these chosen ones. If God has called you to this in His special way, give attention to it; labour in it, to establish His will in the Church, community, nation, body of Christ or Christian ministry.

ii. Simeon, a Man in Jerusalem

Luke 2:25-35

And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child

Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law, Then took he Him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word: For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, Which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A Light to lighten the Gentiles, and the Glory of Thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of Him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary His mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

The Lord gave a revelation to Simeon of what He was about to do. This no doubt required Simeon's commitment to prayers to bring it to pass in His time. Simeon was a righteous and committed servant of God. What God told him through the Holy Ghost was as follows:

- a) He would be sending His Son Jesus to be born on earth. The purpose of His coming was for human salvation, to bring knowledge of truth and righteousness to the ignorant and dark world, and to glorify Israel the people of God on earth.
- b) People would fall and be defeated in Israel who would fight against Him.

- c) Many people who would believe on Him would receive salvation and deliverance and rise in life.
- d) He shall die and after three days He shall rise again as sign, exemplified in Prophet Jonah, but many shall deny Him despite this sign.
- e) Those associated with Him shall suffer anguish due to persecution.
- f) Through Him the nature of mankind shall see the righteous and the unrighteous among men.

Simeon was given this revelation and the prayer duty that would actualize it. The Lord told him he would not die until he had seen the Messiah born on earth. It happened so!

The revelations, visions, prophecies and promises God gives you are for your prayers. Take them to Him in prayer that His will may be established on them. You who have been given this special revelation or promise concerning what God wants to do on or through a person, people or place should engage Him in prayer until it is done. You will have your rewards as Simeon.

iii. Anna, a Prophetess

Luke 2:36-38

And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from

her virginity; And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

From this scriptural account and the event that surrounded it, it was clear that this noble widow was also given the prayer ministry required to usher in the Messiah to the world. Her circumstance suited her for this ministry of prayer. She was steadfast in it until the Messiah came forth to her testimony. May the Lord turn what seems to be an unfortunate incidence in your life into a rich prayer ministry for His glory among men in Jesus name.

iv. EPAPHRAS

Colossians 4:12-13

Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God. For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them that are in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis.

Epaphras was a minister working with apostle Paul. We see here in the account of his life and ministry that God put him into intercessory ministry for the

believers and places covered by apostle Paul. He had a great zeal for them and in his intercessory prayers he desired that they may stand perfect and complete all the will of God. See the contents of his intercessory prayers expressed in **Colossians 1:7-11**.

As ye also learned of Epaphras our dear fellowservant, who is for you a faithful minister of Christ; Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit. For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.

We need to know the intercessory prayer LABOUR of Epaphras who was always labouring in prayer for the saints. Prayer labour includes:

- a) Prolonged prayers
- b) Days of fasting and prayers
- c) Vigils
- d) Prayer retreats
- e) Raising up prayer warriors
- f) Organizing prayer conferences
- g) Sensitizing others in the body of Christ on the need of intercessory prayers.

Apostle Paul was involved in the intercessory prayers. But Epaphras operated this as a subsidiary ministry under apostle Paul to advance his apostolic ministry among men.

Epaphras or Epaphroditus was commended by Paul the apostle.

Philippians 2:25-30

Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants. For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick. For indeed he was sick nigh unto death: but God had mercy on him; and not on him only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and hold such in reputation: Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

Let us look at some of the highlights of Ephphras' intercessory ministry.

- a) He was a brother indeed to Paul in the ministry.

- b) He was a companion going along with Paul in the ministry to strengthen his hands and establish the fruits of the ministry through prayer.
- c) He was a fellow soldier in the battles of the Christian life and ministry through spiritual warfare against Satan and his evil workers.
- d) He was a carrier of the true message.
- e) He attended to Paul's physical needs for his conveniences.
- f) He longed for the people of God, desiring their welfare.
- g) He got sick to the concern of everyone, but God healed him after a while.
- h) Epaphras was a man of good reputation among the brethren.

v. A Saintly Woman

A story was told of an old saintly woman that was a member of a goodly Church of Christ, pastored by a holy preacher. This woman lived a committed Christian life and dedicated herself to serve quietly in the Church as a prayer warrior. That Church witnessed the grace of God. The presence of God was among them. The pastor saw himself flourishing in the ministry and the members rejoiced in the Lord for the truth, righteousness, holiness and blessings enjoyed from God. But alas, this old saintly woman died and was buried.

In the course of time, this man of God noticed that things did not flow freely as it used to be. He

examined himself to see whether he was responsible by spiritual backsliding, but saw no fault. So he went to God in prayer to enquire what was responsible for the lack of spiritual fulness he had noticed in his ministry among God's people. In answer to him, the Lord revealed the following:

"That old saintly woman that died some time ago was the one that committed herself to prayers and intercession before me for your ministry and the Church. I was faithful to her according to My promises".

Isaiah 62:6, 7

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, And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

1 Timothy 2:1-4

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be

saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

Since she died, there has not been a replacement and the Church's prayer life has not been strong, hence the drop in the supply of My grace noticed by you. I am the God that answers prayers. Raise up consistent prayer force before Me and you will see My fulness.

9.2 Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide (Non-Denominational)

The Lord raised up this Movement in this end time to fulfill the following purposes according to His will.

- i. To restore Biblical Truths and Doctrine that appear lost in the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in the present world.
- ii. To revive True Righteousness and Holiness in the Churches and people of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind.
- iii. To unite the Churches of Christ that go by various denominational and group names, doctrines and practices into one, by making all believers know the truths and life of scriptures, which are the basis of Christian unity.
- iv. To prepare the body of Christ, the Church, for the Return of Christ in the Rapture, which is happening very soon, through promoting evangelism and holy living.
- v. To make God happy, by making His will to be done

on earth among men in our day.

- vi. To make believers live in love, peace and unity as children of One God and One Lord Jesus Christ.
- vii. To make believers experience maximum victory, blessings and joy on earth as blessed children of the Creator God and beneficiaries of Christ's sacrifice.

To me, Pastor Paul Rika, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should be the International Director of this end time Holiness Movement, the Ministry of the Lord Jesus, received from God His Father for this last generation. All glory and praise belong to God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus spectacularly raises people for this end time service. We all appreciate His daughter, Sister Linda Rika, who He took supernaturally to hell fire and to heaven to prepare her for this end time Holiness Movement, who also, He has given to me as wife for the purpose of the ministry.

Other faithful servants of His are being raised up to support this great work in various ways, who are faithfully doing it for His honour and praise.

Ephesians 4:7, 8, 12-15

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. For the

perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.

9.3 Prayer Intercessors and Warriors for God's End Time Holiness Revival Movement

Isaiah 62:6-7

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, And give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.

God has raised up prayer intercessors and warriors around the world for Holiness Revival Movement to achieve her purpose on the earth. He has poured the Spirit of prayer and supplication upon these chosen men and women for this purpose.

Jeremiah 12:10

Many pastors have destroyed My vineyard, they have trodden My portion under foot, they have made My pleasant portion a desolate wilderness.

Joel 1:13-14

Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God. Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD.

Joel 2:17

Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare Thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?

God has raised up special men and women to support the hands of the International Director so that there can be steady performance, until all satanic forces are overcome and the Truth, Righteousness and Holiness of God fill the earth and abide till the Rapture.

Exodus 17:8-13

Then came Amalek, and fought with Israel in Rephidim. And Moses said unto Joshua, Choose us out men, and go out, fight with Amalek: to morrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in mine hand. So Joshua did as Moses had said to him, and fought with Amalek: and Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. And it came to pass, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed: and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone, and put it under him, and he sat thereon; and Aaron and Hur stayed up his hands, the one on the one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. And Joshua discomfited Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.

The present prayer intercessors and warriors in Holiness Revival Movement are too few for the great task given to us this end time. Hence, there is a call from God to as many as are willing to consecrate themselves to enroll in this ministry of prayer intercession and warfare. This is a great calling. Let prayer intercessors and warriors that are strengthen their hands for this good work. Let prayer groups strengthen their hands for this work, for great are the benefits and rewards are great in God's hand.

2 Chronicles 15:7

Be ye strong therefore, and let not your hands be weak: for your work shall be rewarded.

1 Corinthians 15:58

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Let the Church ministers and leaders motivate the members to effective, fervent and steadfast prayer for the Church, fellow members, all Christians and the nation and the world at large.

James 5:16-18

Confess your faults one to another, and

pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Acts 4:23-33

And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them. And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, Thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of Thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against His Christ. For of a truth against Thy holy child Jesus, whom Thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together, For to do whatsoever Thy hand and Thy counsel determined before to be done. And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto Thy

servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth Thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the Name of Thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

HOLINESS REVIVAL MINISTRY WORLDWIDE
(a.k.a)
HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE
(HOREMOW)

The Aims and Objectives

HOREMOW is a non-denominational Ministry having the following aims and objectives:

1. To hold Crusades, Conferences and Revival meetings in churches and nations of the world, so as to bring sinners to Christ's salvation and believers to His holiness. (Acts 26:16-18).
2. To produce Christian literature that promotes salvation of souls, sound Bible teaching and holiness of believers in churches and nations of the world. (Luke 1:1-4).
3. To produce audio and visual taped messages for the spread of the gospel truth in churches and nations of the world.
4. To bring denominational churches into Christian unity through the belief and practice of the faith once delivered unto the Saints. (Eph. 4:12-15).
5. To support believers, ministers, ministries and churches with free Christian materials for their spiritual development in holiness. (Isaiah 65:1).
6. To raise members and supporters of Holiness Revival Movement Worldwide from churches and Christian ministries all over the world who will submit their lives to Biblical holiness and be spiritually, materially and evangelically equipped to make others righteous and holy in

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7. To establish Christian bookshops in many places within and outside the nation, equipped with holiness materials for the promotion of holiness in the churches of Christ in the world. (Romans 17:17).
 8. To establish a body of believers called Holiness Revival Movement in every Nation who will sponsor the production of the holiness materials of the ministry and other recommended holiness materials. (Acts 4:36; 2 Cor. 8:1-7).
 9. To translate or interpret ministry materials into as many local, national and international languages as possible. (1Cor. 14:9-13).
 10. To place the Ministry book: *Escaping Hell Fire and Entering Heaven Made Simple* by Pastor Paul Rika in hotels, hospitals, prisons and in places that can attract public reading, for the salvation of sinners and holiness of believers. (1 Cor. 9:18-22).
 11. To own Satellite Channels for the publishing of the messages and programmes of Holiness Revival Movement to the world.
 12. To establish Bible colleges where believers and ministries can receive biblical and ministerial training for sound Christian ministry. (2 Tim. 2:2).
 13. To have ministry camp grounds in various quarters and nations where holiness camp meetings can be held regularly. (Hebrews 10:25).

14. To hold zonal, national and international holiness conferences regularly for the promotion and spread of holiness in the lives of believers and in Christ's Church. (Colossians 1:28, 29).

15. To mentor Churches registered under the ministry on sound doctrine, holy living and ministerial establishment. (Titus 1:5-14).

16. To support believers, ministers and ministries financially where required for their spiritual encouragement and establishment in holiness.

17. To have chapters of HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT in local Governments, states and nations, holding regular meetings, with clear goals and uniform operations, which are submissive to central administration. (Philippians 4: 8, 9; Hebrews 13:17)

PASTOR PAUL RIKA
Int'l Director/Founder

HOLINESS REVIVAL MINISTRY WORLD-WIDE (a.k.a) HOLINESS REVIVAL MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE, is a non-denominational Ministry given to the promotion of biblical Righteousness and Holiness in Churches and Nations of the world through Crusades, Conferences, Revival meetings, production and spread of Holiness literature and materials. The membership of the MOVEMENT is open to all that love to live a Righteous and Holy life and to spread same in their church, Christian community and nation.

Call us to introduce you to Holiness Revival Movement Chapter nearest to you or to organize one for you and others where you are. We are now in more than 30 countries.

Holiness Revival Movement Materials

For Audio and Video messages, Christian literatures and other materials of the Ministry/ Movement or for enquiry, call: +234(0)8169023948; 08056834323

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