

Building Your Life on Solid Rock Part 12 Greatest Neglected Power in the World—Prayer

²⁴ “Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Matthew 7 [final summary]

>Key to the vault of all of God’s treasures is **PRAYER!**

⁷ Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? ¹⁰ Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ¹¹ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him. Matthew 7:7-11

How to Get Our Prayers Answered

1. There is a **PROMISE** to Claim! ⁷ Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you.

⁸ For every-one who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Matthew 7:7-8

Why do we need to Pray if He already knows? Not to instruct God or to Inform God but to....

We Invite ourselves into His Business!

>TEAMWORK FACTOR *But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!*

John 15:7

As God’s partners,.....

2 Corinthians 6:1

>MATURITY FACTOR ³ And even when you ask, you don’t get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure

James 4:3

>DEPENDENCY FACTOR *For apart from Me you can do nothing.*

John 15:5b

2. There is a **PROCESS** to Follow! ASK → SEEK → KNOCK This is intensification!

>ASK Desires Explained Yet you don’t have what you want because you don’t ask God for it.

James 4:2b

As for me, I will certainly not sin against the Lord by ending my prayers for you. I Sam. 12:23

...ought always to pray... Luke 18:1

watch and pray

Mark 14:38

Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything.

Proverbs 4:6

right to have? can you ask

Two Asking “Tests” 1) Is it right to ask God for it? 2) Is it too BIG [small] for God?

>SEEK Discovery Experienced *The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.*

James 5:16

>KNOCK Determination Expressed Luke 11:5ff; Luke 18:6ff; I Kings 18:41ff

So How do we know when to stop? direct different delivered delayed denied

1. It’s in your hands! 2. It’s in your heart! 3. It’s a NO!

There are PROVISIONS to Enjoy! ⁹ You parents—if your children ask for a loaf of bread, do you give them a stone instead? ¹⁰ Or if they ask for a fish, do you give them a snake? Of course not! ¹¹ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask Him.

We are FOOLS if we Do Not Pray! Wisest thing we can do is LEARN to Pray!