

## Prayer Tips

The Lord has had me working on understanding prayer for quite some time now. What follows are some things to keep in mind while you develop in your prayer life. I make no claim that this is the definitive word but it should definitely get you on the right track in thinking about what prayer is and what it isn't.

I can't tell you that I work this perfectly, but I have witnessed many times in my own life being more effective in my prayer time when I go to God with an humble spirit, but also boldly, and I believe in what I'm doing, (Mark 11: 23 – 24)

### **Different types of prayer:**

There are different types of prayer such as prayer of salvation, prayer of intercession, prayer of agreement, prayer of faith, and there's more. Learn which prayer you need for the present situation you are in.

### **What prayer is and isn't:**

It's okay to just talk to God, to just dump all your troubles on him, and walk away. You may feel better after a good crying session, and trust me, those times really help, but you will still walk away nearly just as powerless as when you went to Him.

If you want God's real power, you will approach God with a completely different attitude, with a purpose and goal in mind. Sometimes, you have to start with that crying session – it does have a cleansing effect. I'm not talking about throwing a fit with God. Those pity parties will not get you anywhere. When you go to God, you will have your scriptures in hand that support why you should go after your goal. You don't approach a judge in court without citing or referencing a previous case that allows for what you are asking; you can't be granted anything outside of the law. Everyday, every situation is a court day with God. Go prepared.

While you are in God's court, think of your time as a powerful meeting. When you work with God, you must be in agreement with His word. When you have that agreement, you will have all of heaven supporting you while you wait for the manifestation of it. You don't have to be some big time church leader to have this kind of time with God. Start where your faith is at right now. God is waiting to share his glorious plans with you and to work with you.

### **Understand what takes place in the spiritual realm:**

This is a big one to wrap our finite minds around. You have to understand that prayer takes place by the words you speak and its effect is first sensed in the spiritual realm. When Jesus cursed the fig tree, His words took effect in a place where you can't see them working, Matt 21: 19. God hears your prayers but he can only act on them when you believe in what you are doing. You have to believe you are sitting in the throne room of God (Hebrews 4: 16) and talking things over with Him.

You should only walk away from it, your prayer time, when your spirit is satisfied that God has heard your prayer and you have a reply from Him or He impresses in your spirit a confidence that He will do what you ask because there is agreement between you and others here on earth and between you and God.

Move in faith. Believing is the verb tense of the word faith. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide your prayer time with the Lord.

Pray without ceasing (stopping). The bible is not saying you can't take care of your other business, but you want to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit as He may need you to pray during the day as well.

To work for God, starts right here in the time you give Him in prayer.

While praying, don't multitask. Just don't. Give God your complete and totally undivided attention to all matters concerning Him. Have you ever given your child some seemingly easy instructions only to have them return to you asking you to repeat those instructions again? We do that to God when we don't fully listen to all he needs to tell us. He

will show you what to pray for and how to do it. He'll let you know what He needs you to do if anything at all. But you must stay in faith. You can't believe one day and not the next – stay in faith.

### **The obedience of prayer:**

It is obedient to pray without ceasing 1 Thess 5:17. Make that heart to heart connection and stay in it as long as you possibly can.

Aborting prayer time too soon, aborts the word and the work the Lord can do. Stay in it until you sense a release. This is how we co-rule and co-reign with God. Remember, that He chooses to work through you and me to effect His covenant here on the earth and in our lives.

### **What praying does:**

1. Chance to love on God without being interrupted.
2. This is your time to take up your seat of authority, Eph 2: 6
  - \*bind your enemy- render him helpless, harmless, make void his plans
  - \*loose all foul and demonic activity over those for whom you are praying, include yourself and your family, or over situations and THEN bind the word of God, bind his spirit of peace and love to those people or situations
3. It's in prayer, many times, that we receive our marching orders. Be sure to be obedient to everything He shows you. You can't see what the Father is doing if you are not in prayer, so this means you can't do what the Father needs you to do without spending totally dedicated time with God.
4. Sets parameters of your day
  - \*establishes a clean heart and right spirit to handle your day
  - \*God is able to control what happens to you because you put Him first, and you are trusting Him as your Lord.
5. Time to pray for and bless others
6. Make your own petitions known to God
7. When you are praying, you are being responsible not only for others, but it's taking responsibility for your own life as well – this gives God room to establish your day.
8. Giving God that time in prayer will get you out of your wilderness and it will help others to get out of their wilderness areas (wrong mindsets) as well.
9. So much can be fixed in the time we give to God
10. Spending time with God allows Him to pull you out of those mental fog "days". He replaces those absent mindedness times with revelation knowledge on the things concerning His kingdom in our lives.