



Basic Principles of Prayer

In addition to personal prayer and intercession that is happening regularly by our missions leadership team and other members of the congregation at CCC, the establishment of a monthly **Global Prayer Initiative** is key in the effective investment of our resources of PRAYER and intercession. The added dimension of worship and agreement in focused intercession raises our ability to touch the nations, to another level. **A second purpose of this information is to provide a baseline of understanding, equipping ALL participants to function biblically and in the spirit of unity and agreement.**

1. AS BELIEVERS, WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN LEGAL AUTHORITY OVER ALL THE POWER OF THE ENEMY.

Luke 10:19

I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

Matthew 28:18-19

Then Jesus came to them and said, "**All authority** in heaven and on earth has been **given to me**. [19] **Therefore go** and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Mark 16:15-18

And **these signs will accompany** those who believe: In my name they will **drive out demons**; they will **speak in new tongues**; [18] they will **pick up snakes** with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will **not hurt them** at all; they will **place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.**"

TO HAVE AUTHORITY, ONE MUST BE UNDER AUTHORITY

Luke 7:8-9 (NIV)

For I myself am a man **under authority**, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, "I tell you, **I have not found such great faith even in Israel.**"

2. GOD HAS CHOSEN TO MAKE CERTAIN THINGS IN HIS WILL CONTINGENT UPON PRAYING CHRISTIANS.

Some things that God has willed will not be released "in this world" as they are already "established in heaven" until we call for them in prayer.

Ezekiel 22:30-31 (NIV)

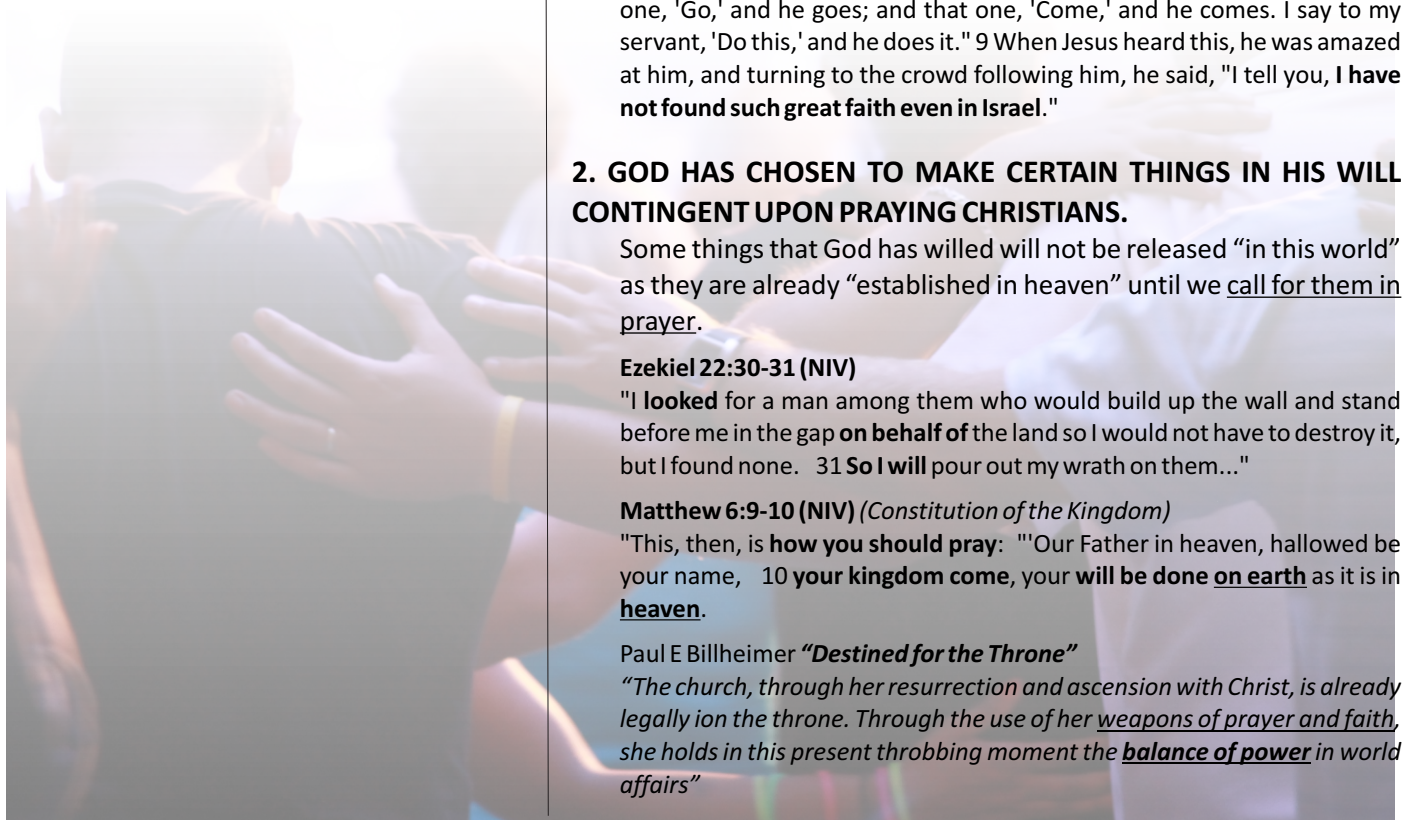
"I **looked** for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap **on behalf of** the land so I would not have to destroy it, but I found none. 31 **So I will** pour out my wrath on them..."

Matthew 6:9-10 (NIV) (*Constitution of the Kingdom*)

"This, then, is **how you should pray**: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 **your kingdom come, your will be done on earth** as it is in **heaven.**

Paul E Billheimer "*Destined for the Throne*"

"The church, through her resurrection and ascension with Christ, is already legally on the throne. Through the use of her weapons of prayer and faith, she holds in this present throbbing moment the balance of power in world affairs"





Positive and Negative Binding

Some feel we should Bind the negative and loose the positive. (ie bind the powers of darkness and loose the power of the Gospel to work in a situation) Others feel it is most appropriate to bind the positive and loose the negative (ie. to bind oneself to the peace of Christ and loose oneself from the hold of the powers of darkness.) THIS SHOULD NOT BE A POINT OF DIVISION. **The main point is to realize that we have been given authority to participate in establishing God's WILL and KINGDOM in the earth as it is established in heaven.**



“Every Word in the Bible is a 'container' holding the breath and power of Almighty God!”

3. WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE “KEYS OF THE KINGDOM” WITH WHICH TO “BIND” and “LOOSE.”

Keys always signify “right’ and “authority.” If I have the key to a door, I also have the right to open that door and the authority to enter.

Matthew 16:19 (NIV)

I will give you the **keys of the kingdom of heaven**; whatever you **bind** on earth **will** [have ALREADY been] **bound** in heaven, and whatever you **loose** on earth **will** [have ALREADY been] **loosed** in heaven."

The context here is that Peter and subsequently ALL the disciples (including us) are commissioned to declare the truths of God's Word and His Kingdom with heaven's authority behind it, because of the finished work of Christ!

Matthew 16:19 (AMP)

I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind (declare to be improper and unlawful) on earth must be what is already bound in heaven; and whatever you loose (declare lawful) on earth must be what is already loosed in heaven.

Positive and Negative Binding (see left)

4. EFFECTIVE AND FRUITFUL PRAYER COMES ONLY IN THE CONTEXT OF VITAL RELATIONSHIP AND CONSISTENT DISCIPLINE OF PRAYER.

John 15:7 (NIV)

If you **remain** (*Abide --receiving moment by moment impulse*) in me and **my words** remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

John 5:19 (NIV)

"I tell you the truth, the Son can do **nothing by himself**; he can do only what he sees his Father doing..."

John 12:50 (NIV)

"So whatever I say is **just what the Father has told me to say.**"

THE MAIN REASON PEOPLE DO NOT PRAY IS NOT PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT'S "HARD WORK". (Many things we commit to on a regular basis are "hard work" --*football practice, jobs, remodeling the house, etc.*) **THE MAIN REASONS PEOPLE TEND NOT TO PRAY IS BECAUSE THEY ARE OFTEN NOT SURE HOW TO PRAY, FAIL TO SEE THE FRUIT OF PRAYER AND JUDGE THEMSELVES AS INEFFECTIVE.**

5. GOD'S WORD IS HIS REVEALED WILL WHICH IS ESTABLISHED IN HEAVEN AND IS DESTINED TO BE ESTABLISHED UPON THE EARTH.

A) IT HAS AUTHORITY

2 Tim. 3:16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed and is **useful** for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, [17] so that the man of God may be **thoroughly equipped** for every good work.

Matthew 5:18

I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, **not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear** from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Psalms 119:89

Your word, O Lord, is **eternal**; it **stands firm** in the heavens.

Examples of building yourself up through scripture praying

Exodus 14:13 (NIV)

Moses answered the people, "**Do not (I will not) be afraid. (I will) Stand firm** and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you (me) today. The Egyptians (enemies) you see today you will never see again.

Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous.** Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God **will be with you (me)** wherever you (I) go."

Joshua 10:8 (NIV)

The LORD said to Joshua, "**Do not be afraid I have given them into your hand. Not one** of them will be able to withstand you."

Zechariah 4:6 (NIV)

Not by might nor by power, but **by my Spirit,**' says the LORD Almighty.

Isaiah 35:3-4 (NIV)

Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; 4 say to those with fearful hearts, "**Be strong, do not fear; your God will come,** he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution **he will come to save you.**"

1 Corinthians 15:58, 16:13 (NIV)

Therefore, brothers, **stand firm. Let nothing move you.** Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your **labor in the Lord is not in vain...Be on your guard; stand firm** in the faith; be **men of courage; be strong.**

Examples of praying scripture for missionaries *(Taken from the back of the bookmark in your training binder)*

Pray for the missionaries safety

Psalms 91:1-2 ... He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge, my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."

Pray for the missionaries cultural adaptation

Isaiah 41:10... So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Pray for the successful accomplishment of the missionary's duties

Psalms 90:17... May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us; establish the work of our hands for us-- yes, establish the work of our hands.

"Every Word in the Bible is a 'container' holding the breath and power of Almighty God!"

B) IT HAS THE POWER TO SEARCH THE HEART.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is **living and active.** Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it **judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.**

C) IT HAS THE POWER TO CLEANSE AND RENEW.

Ephesians 5:25-26

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her [26] to make her holy, **cleansing her by the washing with water through the word...**"

John 17:17 Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

D) IT HAS THE POWER TO AID IN THE DEFEAT OF SIN AND BRING SUCCESS TO THE CHRISTIAN'S LIFE.

Psalms 119:11

I have hidden your word in my heart **that I might not sin** against you.

Joshua 1:8

Do not let this **Book of the Law** depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be **careful to do everything** written in it. **Then** you will be **prosperous and successful.**

E) BUILDS FAITH & POSITIONS US IN THE REALM OF THE MIRACULOUS

Builds FAITH:

Romans 10:17 (KJV)

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Faith, in turn, brings miracles and Divine intervention:

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) "And without faith it is impossible to please God..."

Matthew 17:20 (NIV)

"... I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. **Nothing will be impossible for you.**"

Matthew 9:29 (NIV) "According to your faith will it be done to you"

In light of the above truths, we should understand that... THE ART OF SCRIPTURE PRAYING IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF PRAYER.

- Couple's the authority of the believer with the authority of the Word
- Insures we are praying according to God's established will
- Is living therefore facilitates God's speaking by His Spirit as we read/pray
- Build faith during prayer and positions us for Divine activity!

SCRIPTURE PRAYING INCLUDES A CYCLICAL PROCESS OF 3 BASIC STEPS:

1. **Read:** Note conditions and context
2. **Amplify & Apply:** Word by word emphasis, synonyms and antonyms
3. **Pray & Meditate:** Be Spirit Led

TYPES OF SCRIPTURE PRAYING CAN INCLUDE:

- **Topical:** 1 Topic, multiple scriptures (Concordance)
- **Expository:** 1 Scripture, multiple points
- **Horizontal:** Skimming the surface of multiple scriptures, chapter of book
- **Vertical:** Drilling down into each word exploring synonyms and antonyms
- SLIDES during prayer meetings

(See examples of scriptures to pray on the left)

Practical Examples

“Jesus Christ is LORD...INDEED!”

The Apostle’s Creed

For Centuries, the church has declared it’s doctrine in one of many different versions of what has come to be called the “Apostle’s Creed”

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and
sits at the right hand of God the Father
from which he shall come again
to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Corporate Declarations:

We Declare that we are the people of God...
and as such... we have been given ALL
AUTHORITY over the powers of darkness...
We choose... as the Spirit empowers us... to
enter into a holy partnership with God...
allowing ourselves to be used by Him...
as a as a living conduit... through which...
God intends to POUR OUT a blessing ...
to ALL the peoples of the earth...
We choose... to walk in humility and
complete dependence upon Him...
recognizing that without Him... we can do
NOTHING ... but with Him... we can do ALL
THINGS... Therefore we boldly declare that
we are UNASHAMED and totally committed
...to the fulfillment of the great commission!
And we declare... that His kingdom has
come... and His will SHALL be accomplished
in the Earth... and that in EVERY NATION OF
the world... the Gospel SHALL be
preached... the deaf will hear... the blind
will see... and the bound will be set free...
because JESUS CHRIST IS LORD INDEED!

6. REALIZE THE POWER OF VOCAL PROCLAMATION.

There is an undeniable importance placed throughout scripture upon, confession, proclamation, declaration, and the vocal affirmation of the truth.

Romans 10:10

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your **mouth that you confess and are saved.**

Matthew 10:32

Whoever **acknowledges me** before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven.

1 John 1:9

If we **confess our sins**, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins...

Mark 11:23

I tell you the truth, if anyone **says** to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart but **believes that what he says** will happen, it will be done for him.

Matthew 12:36-37

But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless **word** they have spoken. [37] For **by your words** you will be acquitted, and **by your words** you will be condemned.

Psalm 149:6

May the praise of God be **in their mouths** and a double-edged sword in their hands

James 3:6

The **tongue** also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Proverbs 11:11 (NIV)

Through the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, but by the mouth of the wicked it is destroyed.

7. THE ADDED POWER OF UNITY & AGREEMENT.

There is an added dynamic released when the body comes together in corporate unity and prays in agreement. This is why Paul wrote...

1 Corinthians 1:10

I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **that all of you agree with one another** so that there may be no divisions among you and that you may be **perfectly united in mind and thought**

Old Testament Genesis 11:6 (Negative Example)

The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, **then nothing they plan to do will be impossible** for them.

New Testament Matthew 18:19 (Positive Example)

Again, I tell you that **if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done** for you by my Father in heaven.

Practical Considerations:

- Why we say “Amen” and give verbal cues of agreement (*Phone manners*)
- “Agreement prayer” One person prays out loud, others add agreement
- “Concert Prayer” All present paying out loud IN agreement



8. THE POWER OF PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

Praying in a “prayer language” should not be confused with speaking in tongues, exercised as a gift of the spirit, that is needing to be interpreted for the edification of the body. Consider the following two scriptures:

Jude 1:20 (NIV)

But you, dear friends, **build yourselves up** in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:26-27 (NIV)

In the same way, the **Spirit helps** (*comes along side*) us **in our weakness**. We **do not know what we ought to pray** for, but the **Spirit himself intercedes** for us with groans that words cannot express. 27 And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because **the Spirit intercedes** (*Takes hold together with us*) for the saints **in accordance with God's will**.

1 Corinthians 14:14-15 (NIV)

For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. 15 So what shall I do? **I will pray with my spirit**, but I will **also pray with my mind**; I will sing with my spirit, but I will **also** sing with my mind.

Practical Considerations:

- Pray in the Spirit discerning a general focus
- Pray in English as you mind becomes fruitful (*cyclical*)
- The power of vocal proclamation, unity and agreement applies
- “Concert Prayer” All present paying out loud IN agreement

9. APPROPRIATING THE POWER OF PRAISE

Praise is often seen as a powerful weapon against the enemy and often works in tandem with prayer. Here are 5 things to consider:

Many of these are covered in more detail in a message title “THEN... I Entered the Sanctuary” Sunday, August 1, 2010--Pastor Pat

A. PRAISE USHERS IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Psalms 22:3 (NIV) “you are enthroned... (upon) the praise of Israel.

B. PRAISE ADJUSTS OUR PERSPECTIVE

As we **MAGNIFY** God, the human and the demonic are put in proper perspective, faith arises in US and the powers of darkness are weakened and intimidated. (*See left*)

C. PRAISE IMPARTS STRENGTH AND SILENCES THE ENEMY

Psalms 8:2 (NIV)

From the lips of children and infants you have **ordained praise (strength)** because of your enemies, to **silence** the foe and the avenger.

D. PRAISE CONFRONTS THE OPPOSITION DIRECTLY

2 Chronicles 20:9 (NIV) (*Jehoshaphat and enemy coalition forces*)

'If calamity comes upon us, whether the sword of judgment, plague or famine, we will stand in your presence before this temple that bears your Name and cry out to you in our distress, and you will hear us and save us.'

Joshua 6:20 (NIV)

When the trumpets sounded, **the people shouted**, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.

(*See Psalm 149 left*)

OUR Perspective Changes...

Psalms 73:2,16,17 (NIV)

But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. 16 When I tried to understand all this (the prosperity of the wicked) , it was oppressive to me 17 **till I entered the sanctuary of God**; then I understood their final destiny.

The ENEMY'S Perspective changes...

Psalms 48:4-7 (NIV)

When the kings joined forces, when they advanced together, 5 they saw [her] (*the GLORY of God in the midst of a praising church*) and were **astounded**; they **fled in terror**. 6 Trembling seized them there, **pain like that of a woman in labor**. 7 You destroyed them like ships of Tarshish shattered by an east wind.

Psalms 149:6-9 (NIV)

May the **praise of God be in their mouths** and a double-edged **sword in their hands**, 7 to **inflict vengeance** on the nations and **punishment** on the peoples, 8 to **bind their kings with fetters**, their **nobles with shackles of iron**, 9 to **carry out the sentence** written against them. **This is the glory of all his saints**. Praise the LORD.



**GOD HAS CALLED US
TO STAND IN THE GAP
AS AGENTS OF INTERCESSION
--SPIRITUAL "SURROGATE MOTHERS",
"CARRYING" HIS WILL AND KINGDOM
PURPOSES IN THE "WOMB" OF OUR
HEARTS, PRAYING IT THROUGH TO FULL
TERM. THEN, PARTICIPATING WITH GOD
IN ITS BEING BIRTHED INTO
A PHYSICAL REALITY IN THE EARTH!**

A High Calling!



E. PRAISE DESTROYS EVIL RESTRAINTS AND OPEN DOORS TO THE WILL OF GOD

Acts 16:25-26 (NIV)

About midnight Paul and Silas were **praying and singing hymns** to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the **foundations** of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison **doors flew open**, and **everybody's chains came loose**.

10. THROUGH PRAYER AND WORSHIP, GOD RELEASES INTO THE "WOMB" OF OUR SPIRIT, KINGDOM POTENTIAL TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE EARTH.

It is very important to remember that effective prayer and intercession is not limited to confronting evil and darkness, but the **MAIN POINT** is always to shine the **LIGHT!** To see the Kingdom be established! Conquering Egypt and Jericho was only preparatory, there was a **PROMISED LAND TO POSSESS!**

As the "Bride of Christ" God intends for our intimacy with Him to be "Life Producing" *This truth is more fully presented in a message presented on Sunday, October 29, 2006 --Pastor Pat*

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (NIV)

"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.... 34 No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, '**Know the LORD,**' (get general knowledge of) because they will **all know me**, (by face-to-face intimacy) from the least of them to the greatest,"

Daniel 11:32 (KJV)

"but the people that do **know** their God shall be strong, and do exploits."

Genesis 4:1 (KJV)

And Adam **knew** Eve his wife; and she **conceived**, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord.

Galatians 4:19 (NIV)

My dear children, for whom I am again in the **pains of childbirth** until Christ is formed in you,

11. EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS BOTH PERSISTENT & FERVENT.

Jeremiah 29:13

You will seek me **and find me when** you seek me with **all your heart**.

James 5:16 The **effectual fervent** prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, **for at the proper time we will reap a harvest** if we do not give up.

PARABLE OF THE GROWING SEED

Mark 4:26-28

He also said, "This is what the **kingdom of God is like**. A man scatters seed on the ground. [27] **Night and day**, whether he sleeps or gets up, **the seed sprouts and grows**, though he does not know how. [28] All by itself the soil produces grain--first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head."

Paul Billheimer

“Destined for the Throne”

*“Why is the prayer activity of the Church so sadly neglected? What is the reason for the Church’s prayerlessness? Perhaps the most basic one is the lack of faith in the integrity of the Word of God. If the Church was fully convinced of the fulfilment of the promises such as ‘Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and you shall find; knock and the door shall be opened unto you’ (Matt. 7:7) Prayer would be the main business of the Church’s life! **Unbelief in the integrity of the Word of God is the first great cause for prayerlessness.** This unbelief is so deep-seated as to be unconscious, but is betrayed by the feeble prayer life of the Church.”*

In Conclusion of part one...

Basic Principles of Prayer

1. We’ve been given legal authority
2. God made some things dependent on prayer
3. We have been given the keys of the Kingdom
4. Effectiveness depends upon our “abiding”
5. Praying His Word, prays His established Will
6. There is power in vocal proclamation
7. There is power in unity and agreement
8. Praying in the Spirit is VERY effective
9. There is power in Praise
10. God establishes Kingdom realities through US
11. Effective prayer is persistent and fervent
12. Our faith and trust are in GOD, not answers.

PARABLE OF THE PERSISTENT FRIEND

(In the context of the disciples’ request for Jesus to teach them to pray...)

Luke 11:8-10

I tell you, though he will not get up and give him the bread because he is his friend, yet because **of the man’s boldness** he will get up and give him as much as he needs. [9] "So I say to you: **Ask** and it will be given to you; **seek** and you will find; **knock** and the door will be opened to you.

All three key verbs in this passage are in the **present tense** indicating **CONTINUOUS ACTION**. (*Ask... and KEEP ON asking...etc*)

JESUS’ DENOUNCEMENT OF “WORTHLESS” REPETITION; not repetition.

Matthew 6:7

And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard **because of** their many words.

ELIJAH PRAYED SEVEN TIMES (NOTE: Birthing Position)

1 Kings 18:43

"Go and look toward the sea," he told his servant. And he went up and looked. "There is nothing there," he said. **Seven times** Elijah said, "Go back."

12. TRUST IN INTEGRITY OF GOD'S CHARACTER; NOT IN THE ANSWERS YOU PERCEIVE YOU SHOULD BE GETTING.

We must trust not only in the integrity of God's WORD; but also in the integrity of the GOD of the WORD. (*Especially when we pray and things aren't going the way we think they should*)

Matthew 21:21

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, **if you have faith and do not doubt**, not only can you do what was done to the fig tree, but also you can say to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and it will be done.

Mark 11:22-25 (Clarifies the OBJECT of our faith...)

"**Have faith in God,**" Jesus answered. [23] "I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and **does not doubt** in his heart **but believes that what he says will happen**, it will be done for him. [24] Therefore I tell you, **whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours...**

James 1:6-7

But when he asks, **he must believe and not doubt**, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. [7] That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord;

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and **lean not on your own understanding**; [6] in all your ways **acknowledge him**, and he will make your paths straight.

Isaiah 55:8-9

"For **my thoughts are not your thoughts**, neither are **your ways my ways**," declares the Lord. [9] "As the heavens are higher than the earth, **so are my ways higher than your ways** and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Genesis 18:25 "...Will not the Judge of all the earth **do right**?"