



HOW TO GET YOUR PRAYERS ANSWERED

January 6, 2019 – Part 6

Make Up Your Mind!

James 1 ⁵ And if anyone longs to be wise, ask God for wisdom and he will give it! He won't see your lack of wisdom as an opportunity to scold you over your failures but he will overwhelm your failures with his generous grace. ⁶ Just **make sure you ask empowered by confident faith without doubting that you will receive.** For the **ambivalent person** believes one minute and doubts the next. Being **undecided** makes you become like the rough seas driven and tossed by the wind. You're up one minute and tossed down the next. TPT

Ephesians 3 ²⁰ *Never doubt* God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. **He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request,** your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for his miraculous power constantly energizes you.

Never, Never, Never Give Up!

Luke 11 ¹ One day, as Jesus was in prayer, one of his disciples came over to him as he finished and said, "Would you teach us a *model prayer* that we can pray, just like John did for his disciples?" ² So Jesus taught them this prayer: "Our heavenly Father, may the glory of your name be the center on which our life turns. May your Holy Spirit come upon us and cleanse us. Manifest your kingdom on earth. ³ And give us our needed bread for the coming day. ⁴ Forgive our sins as we ourselves release forgiveness to those who have wronged us. And rescue us every time we face tribulations." ⁵ Then Jesus gave this illustration: "Imagine what would happen if you were to go to one of your friends in the middle of the night and pound on his door and shout, 'Please! Do you have some food you can spare?' ⁶ A friend just arrived at my house unexpectedly and I have nothing to serve him.' ⁷ But your friend says, 'Why are you bothering me? The door's locked and my family and I are all in bed. Do you expect me to get up and give you our food?' ⁸ But listen—**because of your shameless impudence,** even though it's the middle of the night, your friend will get up out of his bed and give you all that you need. ⁹⁻¹⁰ **So it is with your prayers.** Ask and you'll receive. Seek and you'll discover. Knock on heaven's door, and it will one day open for you. **Every persistent person will get what he asks for. Every persistent seeker will discover what he needs. And everyone who knocks persistently will one day find an open door.** ¹¹ "Let me ask you this: Do you know of any father who would give his son a snake on a plate when he asked for a serving of fish? Of course not! ¹² Do you know of any father who would give his daughter a spider when she had asked for an egg? Of course not! ¹³ If imperfect parents know how to lovingly take care of their children and give them what they need, **how much more will the perfect heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit's fullness when his children ask him.**" TPT

Luke 18 ¹ One day **Jesus taught the apostles to keep praying and never stop or lose hope.** He shared with them this illustration: ² "In a certain town there was a civil judge, a thick-skinned and godless man who had no fear of others' opinions. ³ And there was a poor widow in that town who kept pleading with the judge, 'Grant me justice and protect me against my oppressor!' ⁴⁻⁵ "He ignored her pleas for quite some time, but she kept asking. Eventually he said to himself, 'This widow keeps annoying me, demanding her rights, and I'm tired of listening to her. Even though I'm not a religious man and don't care about the opinions of others, I'll just get her off my back by answering her claims for justice and I'll rule in her favor. Then she'll leave me alone.'" ⁶ The Lord continued, "Did you hear what the ungodly judge said—**that he would answer her persistent request?** ⁷ **Don't you know that God, the true judge, will grant justice to all of his chosen ones who cry out to him night**

and day? He will pour out his Spirit upon them. He will not delay to answer you and give you what you ask for. ⁸ **God will give swift justice to those who don't give up. So be ever praying, ever expecting, just like the widow was with the judge.** Yet when the Son of Man comes back, will he find this kind of **persistent faithfulness** in his people?" TPT

John 16 ¹³ But when the truth-giving Spirit comes, he will unveil the reality of every truth within you. He won't speak his own message, but only what he hears from the Father, and **he will reveal prophetically to you what is to come.** ... TPT

Genesis 18 ¹⁶ Then the men rose up from there, and looked down toward Sodom; and Abraham was walking with them to send them off. ¹⁷ The Lord said, **"Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do,** ¹⁸ since Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed? ¹⁹ "For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him." ²⁰ And the Lord said, "The outcry of Sodom and Gomorrah is indeed great, and their sin is exceedingly grave. ²¹ "I will go down now, and see if they have done entirely according to its outcry, which has come to Me; and if not, I will know." ²² Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham was still standing before the Lord. ²³ Abraham came near and said, "Will You indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ "Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will You indeed sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ **"Far be it from You to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous and the wicked are treated alike. Far be it from You!** Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?" ²⁶ So the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare the whole place on their account." NASU

Numbers 14 ¹¹ The Lord said to Moses, "How long will these people treat me disrespectfully and reject Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, despite all the [miraculous] signs which I have performed among them? ¹² I will strike them with the pestilence (plague) and dispossess them, and will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they." ¹³ **But Moses said to the Lord, "Then the Egyptians will hear of it, for by Your strength You brought up these people from among them,** ¹⁷ **But now, please, let the power of the Lord be great, just as You have declared, saying,** ¹⁸ **The Lord is slow to anger, and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving wickedness and transgression;** ¹⁹ **Please pardon the wickedness and guilt of these people according to the greatness of Your lovingkindness, just as You have forgiven these people, from Egypt even until now."** ²⁰ **So the Lord said, "I have pardoned them according to your word;** AMP

Exodus 32 ⁷ Then the Lord spoke to Moses, "Go down at once, for your people, whom you brought up from the land of Egypt, have corrupted *themselves*. ⁸ They have quickly turned aside from the way which I commanded them. They have made for themselves a molten calf, and have worshiped it and have sacrificed to it and said, 'This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt!'" ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, they are an obstinate people. ¹⁰ **Now then let Me alone, that My anger may burn against them and that I may destroy them; and I will make of you a great nation."** ¹¹ **Then Moses entreated the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does Your anger burn against Your people whom You have brought out from the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians speak,** saying, 'With evil *intent* He brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to destroy them from the face of the earth'? **Turn from Your burning anger and change Your mind about doing harm to Your people.** ¹³ **Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel,** Your servants to whom You swore by Yourself, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heavens, and all this land of which I have spoken I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit *it* forever.'" ¹⁴ **So the Lord changed His mind about the harm which He said He would do to His people.** AMP