

“A Better Way 4” The Process of Prayer

I. God’s Word is Voice Activated

Mark 11:23 (NKJV) ²³ ... I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that **those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.**

PRINCIPLE 1: God has Given Us Authority to Face Off the Mountains in Life and not Have to Run to Him with Everything All the Time!

A. We Must Believe in Our Heart

Romans 10:9 (NKJV) ...confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and **believe in your heart**

We are Exposed to Doubt Everywhere We Look; the Culture of the World is Filled with Doubt.

B. The Integrity of Our Heart

DEFINE: Integrity - The Unaffected State of Our Mind toward Biblical Morality and Uprightness.

Proverbs 11:3 (NKJV) **The integrity of the upright will guide them.** But *the perversity of the unfaithful will destroy them.*

PRINCIPLE 2: The Integrity of Our Heart is Vital. We Cannot Live in an Inconsistent Way where We Say One Thing and Live Another, it Confuses Our Heart!

C. Censuring Doubt

Isaiah 54:17 (NKJV) No weapon formed against you shall prosper, And **every tongue which rises against you in judgment You shall condemn** (censure / denounce) ...

PRINCIPLE 3: Our Minds are Kept in Perfect Peace by Focusing on God’s Word and Censuring things that Come Against His Truth!

II. God Answers Prayer

Luke 11:5–10 (NKJV) ⁵ And He said to them, “Which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves; ⁶ for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷ and he will answer from within and say, ‘Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give to you?’ ⁸ I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs. ⁹ “**So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.** ¹⁰ **For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.**

God is Using this Parable as a Contrast to Emphasize that He is not like this So-Called Friend that would not Get Up because it was Inconvenient; God will not Hesitate to Meet Our Needs when We Ask.

A. God Answers Prayer

Luke 11:9 (NKJV) “**So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you...**

PRINCIPLE 4: God Promises that He would not Hesitate to Answer Our Prayer; He Says that if We ask Him it is Given to Us, if We Seek Him We Will Find and if We Knock the Door will be Open.

B. God Answers Every Prayer that is Prayed According to His Word!

1 John 5:14–15 (NKJV) Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that **if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.** ¹⁵ **And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**

PRINCIPLE 5: God's Will is not a Mystery; God's Will is Defined by His Word!

C. God Answers All of Our Prayers

You might be Thinking, "Well God Might Answer all Prayer, but Sometimes He says No!"

2 Corinthians 1:20 (NKJV) **For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen,** to the glory of God through us.

III. Reason for Unanswered Prayer

A. Prayers that are Not According to God's Will

James 4:3 (NKJV) **You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.**

B. Spiritual Resistance

Daniel 10:12–13 (NKJV) ¹² Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for **from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.**

¹³ But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.

C. How to Process and Receive God's Promises

Hebrews 6:12 (TPT) So don't allow your hearts to grow dull or lose your enthusiasm, **but follow the example of those who fully who fully received what God has promised because of their strong faith and patient endurance.**

PRINCIPLE 6: Whether We See Our Prayers Answered or Not does Not Indicate that God has Not Answered Our Prayer, but what it does Show is Whether We Know How to Receive what He has Provided.

I. Applying God's Promises in Prayer

Matthew 7:24 (TPT) ²⁴ **Everyone who hears my teaching and applies it to his life can be compared to a wise man who built his house on an unshakable foundation. .**

2. Diligently Applying Faith and Patience with Prayer

Hebrews 6:11–12 (NIV) ¹¹ We want each of you to show *this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized.* ¹² We do not want you to become lazy (sluggish), **but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.**

PRINCIPLE 7: God's Word Provides the Answers to Our Prayers; as We Believe and Act Upon What He Has Promised Us We See the Answers Come About!

3. The Proper Position in Prayer

Philippians 4:19 (NKJV) And **my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**

PRINCIPLE 8: Our Heavenly Father Has Already Promised Us in His Word that He has Met All of Our Needs; Our Position is to Stand on His Promises and See them Come About in Prayer.