

FREEDOM

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PRAYER IS YOUR KEY TO VICTORY

Dear Chosen One: Prayer gives us legal access to approach God's throne and communicate with Him. Prayer is a powerful tool and can be used as a key to unlock doors. However, for some people prayer has been a disappointing ritual, a tiring exercise, and an unfulfilled experience. Throughout the Bible, scriptures have revealed to us that when God's people commit to praying God can and will use their prayers to bring victory.

Many prayer examples were placed in the Bible to enhance our prayer lives. When we approach God in prayer, we must be humble, sincere, and clear about what we are asking of Him. God answers all prayers but when His answer is not what we want or expect, we become disappointed and then conclude that God has not answered our prayer. But in reality, it was not the answer we *wanted* to hear.

Let me inform you, No is an answer. Wait is an answer. Later is an answer. However, in most instances we only want to hear YES; and we want the manifestation right now. Today, I want to encourage you to use your prayer key more often. I want you to be persistent, be diligent, be steadfast and keep the prayer line to heaven open and active and surely your victory will come.

Prayer can be silent or out loud. Prayer can be one word, a sentence or as long or as short as you want it to be. Prayer can be done kneeling down, sitting, standing, lying down, while walking, driving, or exercising, etc.. Actually, prayer can be done anywhere and at any time. Prayer is your time to communicate with God. You can make your prayer life boring or exciting and allow it to stimulate you.

I read in a book that Prayer is caught not taught. I believe it is both caught and taught. Whenever, you hear a godly man or woman praying and your spirit comes in agreement with their prayer, you are spiritually infected, Plus, when you crave to hear more, your spirit is yearning to be spiritually taught.

I can assure you that most public praying started from a private prayer life. Anyone can pray, but only "the prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective (James 5:16 b.)

When we look at Jesus' ministry, we see that Jesus spent many hours communicating with His Father God. One of Jesus's disciples noticed that every time Jesus prayed, He performed supernatural miracles. Blind eyes were opened, the sick got healed, the dead were raised, and signs and wonders followed Him. The disciple asked Jesus to teach him how to pray.

Today, my prayer is that after you finish reading this message you will yearn for a more effective prayer life. Prayer will no longer be just words coming out of your mouth from the top of your head. Prayer will be God's Word coming out of your mouth from your heart. Moreover, when you pray according to scripture, victory is always sure. The Bible tells us that when God's Word goes out of His mouth it will not return void but will accomplish what He sends it to do and achieve the purpose for which it was sent. (Isaiah 55:11). When God hears His own Word coming out of *your* mouth, He acts on your behalf.

Now, let us look at someone in the Bible whose prayers were effectual, and God granted their heart's desire.

In Luke Chapter 18, there is a parable about a widow and an unjust Judge. Jesus used this parable to teach His followers that they should always pray and not get discouraged. Remember, even when you don't see the manifestation of your prayer, it doesn't mean that your prayer was not answered.

In this story the widow was constantly pleading with the Judge to help her, but he refused. But while this woman was petitioning the Judge, God heard her cry for mercy and came to her rescue. Her heartfelt cry caused God to change the Judge's decision and her petition was granted. On the other hand, the Judge believed that he was granting the widow's desire to stop her from constantly bothering him. However, the Bible shows us that the heart of the Judge was in God's hands and God was in total control of this widow's situation. In the same way - He is in control of your situation.

People of God, when you find yourself in an unjust or unfair situation and when your petition and plea seems to be falling on deaf ears—remember God is listening and He has the last word in the matter. The heart of that unjust Judge, Persecutor, Commissioner, Governor, boss, coworker, and all others are in God's hands. At the right time God will intervene and rescue you if you continue to be persistent in your prayer life.

Let me reassure you that while you are waiting for God to answer your prayer, He wants to use you to answer someone else's prayer. Will you submit to God's will? Have you ever given someone something and that person says, "how did you know I needed this?" Or "I prayed for this." That was God using you to answer that person's prayer. Knowingly and unknowingly, God has used many of us to answer someone's prayer. God works through people to answer prayers.

God's Authority supersedes the President, Governor, Judge, Court, Commissioner, and all other

human authorities, including you. God has no equal. Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church..."

Don't look at your situation or circumstance and think that it is too difficult for God to handle. The Holy Spirit was sent to comfort and empower us to do great and mighty works so that God's Name will be glorified. God can do wonders through a praying church, or a praying person. Intercessory prayer can be done in groups or by a single person for someone else. There is power in your prayer. Prayer is your KEY to VICTORY!

Throughout Jesus' Ministry, He constantly communicated with God—His Father. We the Body of Christ need to do the same--stay in constant communication with the Holy Spirit. Through prayer the Holy Spirit will reveal what is in God's heart for us. You and I need to stay prayed up so that the devil will not dry us up with his lies and deceptions. Through prayer we gain spiritual insight, and revelation which allows us to stay alert and miles ahead of the devil and our enemies.

The next time you go before God to pray use your prayer as a key to open that door. GOD stands for <u>God Opens Doors</u>. You have the KEY to your VICTORY so don't depend on someone else to use their key to open your door to Freedom, Success, and Victory. Don't put down your prayer key; use it until it works. **POWER IS IN YOUR PRAYER!** God will reveal His perfect plan for your life when you communicate with Him on a regular basis.

NO PRAYER, NO VICTORY. A praying person has nothing to fear. However, a prayer-less life the devil can defeat. Remember to stay prayerful and wait on God's perfect timing.

This month I celebrate Three Years of Freedom, after serving 25 years in prison. Prayer works but you have to work *it*. I pray that this message encourages you to **pray** and **wait** on God.