

## LESSON 22

### DIFFERENT KINDS OF PRAYER

#### **Required Bible Reading:**

Philippians 4:6

1 John 5:14-15

Matthew 18:19

Hebrews 4:12

Isaiah 55:11

Hebrews 1:13-14

Ephesians 6:12

Prayer is our means of communication with God. It's through prayer that we establish a relationship with our Father. The prayer life of a Christian is very important to his spiritual well-being.. The Bible tells us that God looks after His Word to perform it. So if we want answered prayer, we need to pray the Word of God. The Spirit and the Word agree. By praying the word, we give the Holy Spirit something to work with.

The Bible tells us that the earth was void and darkness was upon the face of the deep. when God created the heavens and the earth. It then goes on to tell us that the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. However, it was still dark and the earth was still void, **until** God spoke, then the Spirit of God went to work to carry out what God had spoken.

**Philippians 4:6**, says that we are to make our requests known unto God. That means that when we pray, God wants us to make definite requests. We should come to Him knowing what our needs are, knowing what we want and making those petitions known to Him. Once we have prayed, we can go away, knowing that God has heard and answered our prayers, because we have prayed according to His will. Faith begins where the will of God is known.

What is God's will? God's word is His will. If we don't know the Word, then we'll pray "hit and miss" prayers. We'll be thinking "Maybe He will answer and maybe He won't." But **1 John 5:14-15** says that we can have confidence when we pray according to His will. Why? Because we know that He heard us and that we have the petitions that we asked of Him.

We need to find out what God's will is for us. The only way we are going to be able to pray in faith is to know what God has already said about our situation. We need to study the Word of God and get it on the inside of us. There are solutions to every problem in the Word of God. The Bible tells us that God knows what we have need of before we ask. But He still wants us to ask. He wants us to put our trust in him.

The Bible tells us in **Matthew 18:19**, that we can pray the prayer of agreement and God will answer us. It says if any two of us on earth agree. You're on earth and the person that's agreeing with you is on earth, so you qualify to pray the prayer of agreement.

In the prayer of agreement, it is **very important** that you and the person agreeing with you are in agreement with what you're praying for. There is power in agreement! For example, if you're praying for a home and you have a beautiful, three bedroom house in mind, but the other person is thinking you just want a roof over your head, that any place will do, you haven't come to an agreement. You need to make sure, before you pray, that the other person has a clear understanding of what you want them to agree with you on. Find scriptures that cover your desires and that fit your circumstances. Then, when you pray, your prayer will be based on scripture. You will be praying according to His will and you will give the Holy Spirit something to work with.

Another kind of prayer is the prayer of binding and loosing. God has given you authority over all the power of the enemy. Don't ask God to get the devil off your back. He gave you His name, He has given you His Word and He has given you the Holy Spirit.

With these three kinds of prayer, you have authority over all the forces of evil. **Matthew 16:19** says He has given you the keys to the kingdom, to bind and to loose. When we speak the Word of God, we loose the Spirit of God to work in our life. When we speak doubt and unbelief, we loose the devil to work in our life. We need to meditate and know the word, so that we are ready when the enemy attacks. The Bible tells us that we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Studying the word and knowing what it says, prepares us to know our enemy. By being prepared and ready, we will know his mode of operation and be on the lookout for his strategies.

**(To be continued next lesson)**

