

118 that we desire, is presumption. God is too wise to err, and too good to  
119 withhold any good thing from them that walk uprightly. Then do not  
120 fear to trust him even though you do not see the immediate answer to  
121 your prayers. Rely upon his sure promise, "Ask, and ye shall  
122 receive." {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 14}

123 **Fervent and effectual prayer will be regarded in Heaven. It is the**  
124 **privilege of Christians to obtain strength from God to hold every**  
125 **precious gift of his Spirit. The power of God has not decreased. His**  
126 **grace and his Spirit will be just as freely bestowed now as formerly.**  
127 **It is the church of God that have lost their faith to claim, their energy**  
128 **to wrestle, as did Jacob, crying, "I will not let thee go, except thou**  
129 **bless me." Enduring faith has been dying away, and must be revived**  
130 **in the hearts of God's people.** There must be a claiming of the blessing  
131 of God. Living faith always bears upward to God and glory; unbelief,  
132 downward to darkness and death. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 15}

133 **"To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne,**  
134 **even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his**  
135 **throne." We can overcome, fully, entirely. Jesus died to make a way**  
136 **of escape for us, that by prevailing prayer by his grace, we might**  
137 **overcome every temptation, every subtle share of the adversary, and at**  
138 **last sit down with him in his kingdom.—Basel, Switzerland.**

139

140 *This booklet was prepared by Dan and Rose Augsburg of Path2Prayer*  
141 *Ministries. Find more resources on this subject at [path2prayer.com](http://path2prayer.com).*  
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Ellen White

## The Value of Prayer

*"The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous,  
and his ears are open unto their prayers."*

1 **We are told that Elijah "was a man subject to like passions as we are,**  
2 **and he prayed earnestly," and his prayer was answered. A royal**  
3 **decree was signed in the courts of Babylon, that if for thirty days any**  
4 **man asked a petition of any God or man, save of Darius the king, he**  
5 **should be cast into the lions' den; but Daniel, notwithstanding he**  
6 **knew of the decree, failed not to pray three times a day, with his**  
7 **windows open toward Jerusalem, as he had done before the decree**  
8 **was made; and the God whom he served continually, delivered him out**  
9 **of the power of the lions. These holy men knew the value of communion**  
10 **with God.** {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 2}

11 **When Jesus was upon earth, and walked a man among the**  
12 **children of men, he prayed, and oh, how earnest were his prayers!**  
13 **How often he spent the whole night upon the damp, cold ground, in**  
14 **agonizing supplication! And yet he was the beloved and sinless Son of**  
15 **God. If Jesus felt the necessity of communion with his Father, and**  
16 **manifested so much earnestness in calling upon him, how much more**  
17 **should we, whom he has called to be heirs of salvation, who are**  
18 **subject to the fiery temptations of the wily foe, and dependent upon**  
19 **divine grace for strength to overcome, have our whole souls stirred to**  
20 **wrestle with God. The language of our souls should be, "I will not let**  
21 **thee go, except thou bless me." But many have allowed their hearts to**  
22 **become overcharged with the cares of this life, and God and his word**  
23 **have been neglected.** {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 3}

24 **The subjects of Satan, although they hate and war with one**  
25 **another, are active and united in the one object of destroying souls.**  
26 **They are vigilant in improving every opportunity to advance their**  
27 **common interest, and war against the kingdom of Christ. But He who**  
28 **is the great Commander in Heaven and on earth, has limited their power.**  
29 {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 4}

30 **Satan is ever ready to insinuate that prayer is a mere form, and**  
31 **avails us nothing. He cannot bear to have his powerful rival appealed**

32 to. At the sound of fervent prayer, the hosts of darkness tremble.  
33 Fearing that their captive may escape, they form a wall around him,  
34 that Heaven's light may not reach his soul. But if in his distress and  
35 helplessness the sinner looks to Jesus, pleading the merits of his  
36 blood, our compassionate Redeemer listens to the earnest,  
37 persevering prayer of faith, and sends to his deliverance a re-  
38 enforcement of angels that excel in strength. And when these angels,  
39 all-powerful, clothed with the armory of Heaven, come to the help of  
40 the fainting, pursued soul, the angels of darkness fall back, well  
41 knowing that their battle is lost, and that one more soul is escaping  
42 from the power of their influence. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 5}

43 Prayer is the Christian's life. There is a remedy for the sin-sick  
44 soul, and that remedy is in Jesus. Precious Saviour! his grace is  
45 sufficient for the weakest, and the strongest must have his help or  
46 perish. A Christian has victory over his passions and besetments. I  
47 would not dishonor my Master so much as to admit that a careless,  
48 trifling, prayerless person is a Christian. It is the privilege of the  
49 Christian to enjoy the deep movings of the Spirit of God. A sweet,  
50 heavenly peace will pervade his mind. He will love to meditate upon  
51 God and Heaven, and to feast upon the glorious promises of the written  
52 word. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 6}

53 But how shall this victory over the world be obtained? Go to your  
54 closet, dear reader, and there plead with God: "Create in me a clean  
55 heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me." Be in earnest; be  
56 sincere; Jacob-like, wrestle in prayer. Do not leave your closet until  
57 you feel strong in God. Remain until unutterable longings for  
58 salvation are awakened in your heart, and the sweet evidence is  
59 obtained of pardoned sin. Then when you leave your closet, watch;  
60 and so long as you watch and pray, the grace of God will appear in  
61 your life. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 7}

62 In no case neglect secret prayer; for it is the soul of religion. If you  
63 expect salvation, you must pray. Take time. Be not hurried and  
64 careless in your prayers. Intercede with God to work in you a  
65 thorough reformation, that the fruits of the Spirit may dwell in you,  
66 and that, by your godly life, you may shine as a light in the world.  
67 When you sincerely feel that without the help of God you perish,  
68 when you pant after him as the hart panteth after the water-brooks,  
69 then will the Lord strengthen you speedily, and you will have that  
70 peace that passeth understanding. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 8}

71 While you pray that you may not be led into temptation,  
72 remember that your work does not end with the prayer. You must  
73 then answer your own prayer as far as possible, by resisting  
74 temptation, and leave that which you cannot do for yourselves for

75 Jesus to do for you. We cannot be too guarded in our words and  
76 deportment, lest we invite the enemy to approach us with his  
77 temptations. With the word of God for our guide, and Jesus for our  
78 heavenly teacher, we need not be ignorant of the divine requirements  
79 or of Satan's devices. And it will be no unpleasant task to be obedient to  
80 the will of God, when we yield ourselves fully to be directed by his Spirit.  
81 {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 9}

82 Pray in the family. Morning and evening obtain the victory at  
83 your family altar. Let not your daily labor keep you from this duty.  
84 Take time to pray. And as you pray, believe that God hears you, have  
85 faith mixed with your prayers. Let faith take hold of the blessing, and  
86 it is yours. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 10}

87 In the morning the Christian's first thoughts should be of God.  
88 Come before him with humility, with a heart full of tenderness, and  
89 with a sense of the temptations and dangers that surround yourself  
90 and your children. Morning and evening, by earnest prayer and  
91 persevering faith, make a hedge about your children. Patiently instruct  
92 them; kindly and untiringly teach them how to live so that they may  
93 please God. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 11}

94 Teach your children reverence for God and the hour of prayer.  
95 The Lord our God is holy, and his name is to be treated with great  
96 reverence. Angels are displeased and disgusted with the irreverent  
97 manner in which the name of God, the great Jehovah, is sometimes  
98 used in prayer. They mention that name with the greatest awe, even  
99 veiling their faces when they speak the name of God; the name of  
100 Christ also is sacred, and is spoken with the greatest reverence. And  
101 those who in their prayers use the name of God in a common and  
102 flippant manner, have no sense of the exalted character of God, of Christ,  
103 or of heavenly things. {ST, November 18, 1886 par. 12}

104 Pray in faith. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even  
105 our faith." Prevailing prayer is the prayer of living faith; it takes  
106 God at his word, and claims his promises. Feeling has nothing to do  
107 with faith. When faith brings the blessing to your heart, and you  
108 rejoice in the blessing, then it is no more faith, but feeling. How  
109 strange it is that men will put confidence in the word of their fellow-  
110 men, and yet find it so hard to exercise living faith in God! The  
111 promises are ample; why not accept them just as they read? "He that  
112 spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not  
113 with him also freely give us all things?" {ST, November 18, 1886 par.  
114 13}

115 Every petition that is offered to God in faith, and with a true  
116 heart, will be answered. Such prayer is never lost; but to claim that it  
117 will always be answered in the very way and for the particular thing