

504 **Praise helps us persist**  
 505 • Eph. 5:20 (Be grateful for all things at all times)  
 506 • Php 4:6 (Pray sharing your requests, but also praising God for what He  
 507 is doing!)  
 508 • Rom. 8:28 (In all things God is working for good!)  
 509 • Prov 17:22 (Merry heart is health; discouragement rots the bones)  
 510  
 511 • \*Youth Instructor, January 10, 1901  
 512 • “Let us educate our tongues to speak forth his praise, not only when we  
 513 feel gladness, but at all times.”  
 514  
 515 • \*Review & Herald Vol. 3, p. 139  
 516 “Those who follow inclination and judge from appearances, are not good  
 517 judges of what God is doing. They are filled with discontent. They see  
 518 failure where there is indeed triumph, a great loss where there is only  
 519 gain.”  
 520  
 521 • \*Testimonies Vol. 5, p. 317  
 522 “We do not pray any too much, but we are too sparing of giving thanks.  
 523 If the loving kindness of God called forth more thanksgiving and praise,  
 524 we would have far more power in prayer. We would abound more and  
 525 more in the love of God and have more bestowed to praise Him for. You  
 526 who complain that God does not hear your prayers, change your present  
 527 order and mingle praise with your petitions. When you consider His  
 528 goodness and mercies, you will find that He will consider your wants.”  
 529  
 530 • \*George Muller  
 531 “I have been a believer in the Lord Jesus for forty-four years, but I have  
 532 invariably found that my greatest trials have proved my greatest  
 533 blessings; they have worked for my good.” *Jehovah Magnified*, p. 50  
 534  
 535 These resources were prepared by Dan Augsburger. Dan’s background  
 536 includes pastoral ministry, hospital and nursing home administration,  
 537 executive search and teaching. He currently teaches at the Andrews University  
 538 Theological Seminar part of the year, and spends the rest of the year writing  
 539 and holding seminars on prayer, overcoming and revival in various parts of the  
 540 world. Travels have taken him to many countries in Europe, Canada, Central  
 541 America, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, Cambodia, French Polynesia, and  
 542 India.  
 543  
 544 Email: path2prayer@gmail.com  
 545 Web site: path2prayer.com  
 546 Twitter: path2prayer  
 547 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/path2prayer>  
 548 Newsletter: Write Dan or sign up via website  
 549 11/19/2013

1  
 2  
 3  
 4  
 5  
 6  
 7  
 8  
 9  
 10  
 11  
 12  
 13  
 14  
 15  
 16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20  
 21  
 22  
 23  
 24  
 25  
 26  
 27  
 28  
 29  
 30  
 31  
 32  
 33  
 34  
 35  
 36  
 37  
 38  
 39  
 40  
 41  
 42  
 43  
 44  
 45

**PREVAILING PRAYER**  
 By Dan and Rose Augsburger

**Prayer’s Possibilities**

**Many examples in the Bible encourage us**

- Jeremiah 33:3 (God commands us to ask; he promises a special outcome)
- Job 42:10 (Job prayed for the captivity of his friends to be overturned)
- Gen. 20:17 (Abraham prayed and Abimelech was healed)
- Gen. 24:14 (Eliezer prayed for God to send His choice for Isaac)
- Gen. 25:21 (Isaac prayed for Rebekah and she conceived)
- Deut. 26:7 (People prayed and God heard and delivered them from Egypt)
- Exodus 8:12 (Moses prayed to turn around the plague of frogs)
- Exodus 15:25 (Moses prayed at Marah and saw something previously unseen)
- Numbers 12:13 (Moses sought and obtained healing for Miriam through prayer)
- Deut. 9:18,19 (Moses often prayed for the people to avert God’s judgment)
- Judges 3:9,15; 4:3; 6:7,8 (God often raised up judges and delivered when Israel cried out to God)
- 1 Sam. 1:10 (Hannah prayed for a baby and God heard her cry)
- 1 Sam. 7:9,10 (Samuel prayed; deliverance from the Philistines was received)
- 1 Sam. 8:6 (the people begged for a king; Samuel prayed and received instructions from God)
- 1 Kings 10:22-24 (Elijah prayed seeking the restoration of life of widow’s son)
- James 5:17,18 (Elijah prayed and stopped the rain; then he prayed and it rained)
- 2 Kings 6:17 (Elisha prayed and his servant’s eyes were opened)
- 2 Kings 6:18 (Elisha prayed and an army was struck with blindness)
- 2 Kings 20:2-5 (Hezekiah life was lengthened in answer to prayer)
- 2 Kings 20:11 (Isaiah prayed and the shadow backed up 10 degrees)
- 2 Chron. 14:11,12 (Asa prayed and obtained God’s deliverance over his enemies)
- 2 Chron. 18:31 (Jehoshaphat prayed and was delivered from imminent death)
- 2 Chron. 33:13 (Manasseh’s prayer brought deliverance from captivity AND restoration of his kingdom)

- 46 • Ezra 10:1 (Ezra prayed for personal revival and people responded)
- 47 • Neh. 2:4 (Nehemiah prayed for favor with the king and obtained his
- 48 request)
- 49 • Isa. 37:20,21 (Hezekiah prayed for deliverance from his enemies)
- 50 • Daniel 9:4 (Daniel prayed for wisdom and obtained understanding of the
- 51 vision)
- 52 • Jonah 4:2 (Jonah prayed for deliverance while in the belly of whale)
- 53 • Mark 1:35; Luke 5:16; 22:41 (Jesus constantly prayed)
- 54 • Acts 1:24 (Wisdom was sought for selecting a leader)
- 55 • Acts 4:31 (Prayer brought the Holy Spirit)
- 56 • Acts 6:6 (New workers were commissioned and sent through prayer)
- 57 • Acts 9:40 (Peter prayed and obtained healing for Tabitha)
- 58 • Acts 10:30 (Cornelius prayed and was instructed to call for Peter at
- 59 Joppa)
- 60 • Acts 12:5 (Early church prayed for Peter's deliverance from prison)
- 61 • Acts 16:25 (Paul and Silas prayed and God brought earthquake)
- 62
- 63 • \*Youth Instructor, October 1, 1855
- 64 "To pray aright, is to ask God in faith for the very things you need...."
- 65

### How To Pray

#### Is it necessary to ask?

- 68 • 1 Kings 3:5 (God came to Solomon and asked him what he wanted)
- 69 • Ps. 50:15 (In asking we receive)
- 70 • Matt. 7:7,8, 11 (Ask and it SHALL be given)
- 71 • James 4:2 (We don't have because we don't ask)
- 72 • Heb. 4:16 (We are commanded to boldly come to the throne of grace)
- 73
- 74 • \*Great Controversy p. 525
- 75 "It is part of God's plan to grant us, in answer to the prayer of faith, that
- 76 which He would not bestow did we not thus ask."
- 77
- 78 • \*E. M Bounds (1835 - 1913)
- 79 In prayer, "God turns Himself over to the will of His people. When
- 80 Christ becomes our all in all, prayer lays God's treasures at our feet."
- 81 *Prayer*, p. 177.
- 82

#### How certain is the answer?

- 84 • Matt. 14:13-21 (Disciples were lamenting their lack, forgetting that
- 85 Jesus had commanded them)
- 86 • John 14:14 ("If you ask anything in my name I will do it.")
- 87 • Matt. 7:7 ("Ask and it shall be *given* you;")
- 88 • Matt. 7:8 ("Every one that asketh *receiveth*;"")
- 89 • Matt. 7:11 ("How much more will your Heavenly Father *give* good
- 90 things to them that ask Him.")
- 91

- 458 • \*Counsels for the Church, p. 303
- 459 "His disciples in this time are to pray for the sick as verily as the
- 460 disciples of old prayed. And recoveries will follow; for "the prayer of
- 461 faith shall save the sick." We have the Holy Spirit's power, the calm
- 462 assurance of faith, that can claim God's promises. The Lord's promise,
- 463 "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" Mark 16:18, is
- 464 just as trustworthy now as in the days of the apostles. It presents the
- 465 privilege of God's children, and our faith should lay hold of all that it
- 466 embraces. Christ's servants are the channel of His working, and through
- 467 them He desires to exercise His healing power. It is our work to present
- 468 the sick and suffering to God in the arms of our faith."
- 469

#### Why healing doesn't always take place

- 470
- 471 • Matt. 8:13 (Failure to believe)
- 472 • 2 Kings 20:1-, 15 and 18 (Not in person's best interest)
- 473 • Ex. 15:25,26; 1 Cor.6:15,19-20 (Not following some law)
- 474 • James 5:15,16 (Failing to confess sin)
- 475 • 2 Cor. 12:7 (May allow ungodly pride)
- 476 • 1 Cor. 11:28-30 (God is waking up community of faith)
- 477

### Persistence and Praise

#### We are instructed to persist with our prayers

- 480 • Luke 11:5-9 (Jesus warned us of the need to keep asking)
- 481 • 2 Thess. 5:17 (Paul called for unceasing prayer)
- 482 • Eph. 6:18 (Paul was constantly praying)
- 483

#### Examples of persisting people in the Bible

- 484 • Hannah (1 Sam. 1:11)
- 485 • Elijah (1 Kings 18:43)
- 486 • Naaman (2 Kings 5:8-13)
- 487 • Joseph (Gen. 45:7,8)
- 488 • Daniel (Daniel 10:12)
- 489 • Paul (2 Cor. 12:7)
- 490
- 491
- 492 • \*Christ Object Lessons, p. 175
- 493 "Christ desires nothing so much as to redeem His heritage from the
- 494 dominion of Satan. But before we are delivered from Satan's power
- 495 without, we must be delivered from his power within. The Lord permits
- 496 trials in order that we may be cleansed from earthliness, from
- 497 selfishness, from harsh, unchristlike traits of character. He suffers the
- 498 deep waters of affliction to go over our souls. There is no danger that the
- 499 Lord will neglect the prayers of His people. The danger is that in
- 500 temptation and trial they will become discouraged, and fail to persevere
- 501 in prayer."
- 502
- 503

412  
 413 6. Intercessory subject matter  
 414     o Knowledge/power (Eph. 1:18-20)  
 415     o God’s fullness (Eph. 3:16-19)  
 416     o Discernment (Php 1:9-11)  
 417     o God’s Will (Col. 1:9)  
 418  
 419 • \*Sidlow Baxter  
 420 “Men may spurn our appeals, reject our message, oppose our arguments,  
 421 despise our person — but they are helpless against our prayers.”  
 422  
 423 Some Examples  
 424 • Hudson Taylor’s mother interceding through the afternoon for her son.  
 425 • Daniel Nash praying for Charles Finney  
 426 • The Students at Knox College interceding for Jonathan Goforth  
 427 • Praying Hyde & revival in India  
 428 • Fraser praying for 100 Lisu Families  
 429 • My Experience  
 430  
 431 **Add fasting as directed by God.**  
 432 • Matthew 17: 21  
 433 “This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”  
 434  
 435 \*Examples of people who fasted  
 436 • Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20:3)  
 437 • Esther (Esther 4:16)  
 438 • Daniel (Daniel 9:3)  
 439 • Jehoiakim (Jeremiah 36:9)  
 440 • Early Church: (Acts 14:23; 27:33)  
 441  
 442 • Counsels on Diet & Foods, p. 377  
 443 “Fasting and prayer will accomplish nothing while the heart is estranged  
 444 from God by a wrong course of action. Read Isaiah 58:6, 7, 9-11.”  
 445  
 446 **Live out your prayers**  
 447  
 448 **Healing Prayer**  
 449 **Healing prayer always has two objectives: spiritual AND physical healing.**  
 450 • 2 Kings 5:1-27 (Namaan’s experience)  
 451 • Matt. 16:15-18 (A healing work was predicted for the future)  
 452 • Matt. 10:1,8 (Jesus grants a gift that is to continue for all ages)  
 453 • James 5:13-16 (If we are sick we should seek healing through prayer)  
 454 • Ps. 103:3 (God is able to heal ALL disease)  
 455 • 3 John 1:2 (God desires us to enjoy health)  
 456  
 457

92 • That I May Know Him, p. 230  
 93 "We should believe that God will answer our prayers, and not trust to  
 94 feeling. We should say, 'My gloomy feelings are not evidence that God  
 95 has not heard me....' We are to trust to the promise of God. We are to  
 96 go about our business believing that God will do just what He has said  
 97 He would do, and that the blessings we have prayed for will come to us  
 98 when we most need them. Every petition enters into the heart of God  
 99 when we come believing."  
 100  
 101 • Andrew Murray  
 102 \*"The proof that we have prayed aright is the answer. If we ask and  
 103 receive not, it is because we have not learned to pray aright... (God)  
 104 would tell us that we are not to rest without an answer because it is the  
 105 will of God, the rule in the Father’s family: every childlike believing  
 106 petition is granted.... If no answer comes, we are not to sit down in the  
 107 sloth that calls itself resignation, and suppose it is not God’s will to give  
 108 an answer. There must be something in the prayer that is not as God  
 109 would have it.... We must seek for grace to pray so that the answer may  
 110 come. It is far easier to the flesh to submit without the answer than to  
 111 yield itself to be searched and purified by the Spirit, until it has learnt to  
 112 pray the prayer of faith." *With Christ in the School of Prayer*, pp. 32, 33,  
 113 34  
 114  
 115 **Is anything too hard for God?**  
 116 • Jer. 32:17-19 (Jeremiah is encouraged to buy field)  
 117 • 1 Sam. 14:6 (God is able to save by many or by few)  
 118 • 2 Chron. 14:11 (God is able to save regardless of the strength of the  
 119 human agent)  
 120 • Matt. 19:26 (What is impossible for man is very possible for God)  
 121  
 122 • Gospel Workers, p. 113  
 123 “I saw that the servants of God and the church were too easily  
 124 discouraged. When they asked their Father in heaven for things which  
 125 they thought they needed, and these did not immediately come, their  
 126 faith wavered, their courage fled, and a murmuring feeling took  
 127 possession of them. This, I saw, displeased God. Every saint who comes  
 128 to God with a true heart, and sends his honest petitions to him in faith,  
 129 will have his prayers answered. Your faith must not let go of the  
 130 promises of God, if you do not see or feel the immediate answer to your  
 131 prayers. Be not afraid to trust God. Rely upon his sure promise, “Ask,  
 132 and ye shall receive.” [John 16:24.] God is too wise to err, and too good  
 133 to withhold any good thing from his saints that walk uprightly. Man is  
 134 erring, and although his petitions are sent up from an honest heart, he  
 135 does not always ask for the things that are good for himself, or that will  
 136 glorify God. When this is so, our wise and good Father hears our

137 prayers, and will answer, sometimes immediately; but he gives us the  
 138 things that are for our best good and his own glory.”  
 139  
 140 • \*Morning Talks, Nov. 1883, p. 14.  
 141 “If (we) have complied with the conditions upon which these promises  
 142 are based, God’s word is pledged that He will do for (us) more than (we)  
 143 ask.”  
 144  
 145 **Is it necessary to believe that God will answer our prayers?**  
 146 • Acts 12:13-15 (Early church was praying for Peter’s deliverance but  
 147 wasn’t believing)  
 148 • Mark 11:24 (Believe and you will receive what you have prayed for)  
 149 • Matt. 17:20 (Faith can move mountains)  
 150 • Matt. 21:22 (Whatever you ask believing you will receive)  
 151 • James 1:6-7 (Ask in faith without doubting)  
 152 • Heb. 11:6 (Without faith it is impossible to please God)  
 153  
 154 • Testimonies, Vol 7, p. 274.  
 155 “Pray in faith. And be sure to bring your lives into harmony with your  
 156 petitions, that you may receive the blessings for which you pray. Let not  
 157 your faith weaken, for the blessings received are proportionate to the  
 158 faith exercised. Pray, believe, rejoice. Sing praises to God because He  
 159 has answered your prayers. Take Him at His word. "He is faithful that  
 160 promised." Hebrews 10:23.”  
 161  
 162 • James Fraser  
 163 “I have been impressed lately with the thought...that people fail in  
 164 praying the prayer of faith because they do not believe that God has  
 165 answered, only that He will answer their petitions. They rise from their  
 166 knees feeling that God will answer some time, but not that He has  
 167 answered already. (The) full outworking is often in the future, but God’s  
 168 word is as good as His bond and we need have no anxiety. Sometimes  
 169 He gives at once what we ask, but more often He just gives His  
 170 promise.” E. Crossman, *Mountain Rain, p. 75*  
 171  
 172 **Why is it necessary to pray in Jesus’ name?**  
 173 • John 14:13,14 (Whatever is asked in Jesus’ name, Jesus will respond to)  
 174 • John 16:23,24 (Whatever is asked in Jesus’ name the Father will  
 175 respond)  
 176 • Eph. 3:12 (In Jesus we have bold access)  
 177 • Heb. 7:25 (Jesus ever lives to intercede for us)  
 178  
 179 • \*Signs of the Times, June 18, 1902  
 180 “He explained that the secret of their success would be in asking for  
 181 strength and grace in His name. He would be present before the Father

366 hearts against someone, our prayer will not be answered.” *Prevailing*  
 367 *Prayer*  
 368  
 369 • \*Testimonies Vol. 9, p. 187  
 370 “We have a character to maintain, but it is the character of Christ.  
 371 Having the character of Christ, we can carry on the work of God  
 372 together. The Christ in us will meet the Christ in our brethren, and the  
 373 Holy Spirit will give that unity of heart and action which testifies to the  
 374 world that we are children of God.”  
 375  
 376 List the people you need to forgive or ask forgiveness of. Write or visit.  
 377  
 378 **Intercessory Prayer**  
 379 **What does the Bible say about intercessory prayer?**  
 380 • Luke 11:5-8; Ezek. 22:30 (Intercessory prayer brings what we would not  
 381 have otherwise)  
 382 • 1. There were many intercessors in OT times.  
 383 ○ Abraham (Gen. 18:20-33)  
 384 ○ Moses (Ps. 106:23; Ex. 17:10-12)  
 385 ○ Solomon (2 Chron. 6:13-42)  
 386 ○ Jehoshaphat (2 Chron. 20:3-13)  
 387 ○ Hezekiah (2 Kings 19:14-20)  
 388 ○ Daniel (Daniel 9:1-21)  
 389 ○ Ezra (Ezra 9:5-10:4)  
 390 ○ Nehemiah (Neh. 1:4-11)  
 391  
 392 2. Commanded by Jesus and others.  
 393 ○ Matt 5:44 (Pray for those who persecute)  
 394 ○ James 5:16 (Pray for one another)  
 395 ○ 1 Tim. 2:8 (Men would pray everywhere)  
 396  
 397 3. Practiced by Jesus  
 398 ○ Prayed for Peter (Luke 22:32)  
 399 ○ Prayed for followers (John 17:9-11)  
 400 ○ He now lives to intercede (Heb. 7:25)  
 401  
 402 4. Urged by Paul  
 403 ○ 2 Thess. 3:1 (Pray for us)  
 404 ○ Rom. 15:30 (Strive in your prayers)  
 405 ○ Col. 4:3 (Pray for utterance)  
 406  
 407 5. Resulted in a variety of outcomes in the Early Church  
 408 ○ Pentecost (Acts 1:14, 2:1-4)  
 409 ○ Boldness in preaching (Acts 4:29)  
 410 ○ Holy Spirit again (Acts 4:31)  
 411 ○ Deliverance of Peter (Acts 12:5)

320 Master would prefer and I fail to keep in line, that to me is sin. Then  
 321 prayer is useless; sheer waste of breath.”  
 322  
 323 **Can our refusing to apologize, or choosing to not to reconcile with**  
 324 **another person, keep our prayers from being answered?**  
 325 • Ps. 133:1-3 (Unity is like oil coming down from the head of Aaron)  
 326 • Eph 4:15,16 (We are all part of the body and placed there for a purpose)  
 327 • John 17:21,23 (Unity proves Jesus came from God)  
 328 • 1 John 3:10 (We cannot be Christians if we don’t love our spiritual  
 329 family)  
 330 • Matt: 5:23,24 (Go and make things right before praying)  
 331 • Matt. 5:43,44 (We should bless and pray for those who work against us)  
 332  
 333 • \*Selected Messages Vol. 1, p. 175  
 334 “When the laborers have an abiding Christ in their own souls, when all  
 335 selfishness is dead, when there is no rivalry, no strife for the supremacy,  
 336 when oneness exists, when they sanctify themselves, so that love for one  
 337 another is seen and felt, then the showers of the grace of the Holy Spirit  
 338 will just as surely come upon them as that God's promise will never fail  
 339 in one jot or tittle. But when the work of others is discounted, that the  
 340 workers may show their own superiority, they prove that their own work  
 341 does not bear the signature it should. God cannot bless them.”  
 342  
 343 • \*Unknown Christian  
 344 “It would be an immense gain to our spiritual life if we would resolve  
 345 not to attempt to pray until we had done all in our power to make peace  
 346 and harmony between ourselves and any with whom we have quarreled.  
 347 Until we do this as far as lies in our power, our prayers are just wasted  
 348 breath.” *Kneeling Christian*  
 349  
 350 • \*Review & Herald, April 15, 1880 (also note Prov. 14:30; Job 5:2)  
 351 “One great reason why our brethren and sisters have no more confidence  
 352 toward God in prayer, is, that nearly all neglect to follow the words of  
 353 Jesus in preserving harmony between brethren. They allow various  
 354 wrongs to exist with members of the church, which create bitter envy  
 355 and strife; and while these differences exist, God neither hears nor  
 356 answers their prayers....”  
 357  
 358 • **Does our unwillingness to forgive others hinder answers to prayer?**  
 359 • Mark 11:25,26 (Lack of forgiving hinders prayer)  
 360 • Eph. 4:2 (Be tender-hearted and forgiving of each other)  
 361  
 362 • \*D. L. Moody  
 363 “(Lack of forgiveness)...is keeping more people from having power  
 364 with God than any other thing —they are not willing to cultivate the  
 365 spirit of forgiveness. If we allow the root of bitterness to spring up in our

182 to make request for them. The prayer of the humble (petitioner) He  
 183 presents as His own desire in that soul’s behalf.”  
 184  
 185 • George Müller  
 186 “On the ground of our own goodness we cannot expect to have our  
 187 prayers answered. But Jesus is worthy, and for His sake we have our  
 188 prayers answered.... If we trust in Him, if we hide in Him, if we put Him  
 189 forward and ourselves in the background, depend on Him and plead in  
 190 His name, we may expect to have our prayers answered.” *Narratives*  
 191  
 192 • Manuscript Releases, Vol. 8 p. 195  
 193 “The true Christian asks for nothing except in the name of Christ, and he  
 194 expects nothing except through His mediation.”  
 195  
 196 **What does the Bible say about praying according to God’s will?**  
 197 • Matt. 7:21 (Not everyone that says “Lord, Lord” will enter kingdom)  
 198 • 1 John 5:14,15 (If we ask anything according to God’s will, He hears us)  
 199 • James 4:3 (We ask but don’t receive because we ask amiss)  
 200 • Rom 8:27 (The Spirit intercedes according to will of God)  
 201 • Num. 9:18 (We need to keep our eyes on “the cloud”)  
 202 • John 7:17 (If anyone seeks to know will, he will know the doctrine)  
 203 • 1 Peter 4:2 (We should live for the will of God)  
 204 • Matt. 11:28 (We are bidden to take up Jesus’ yoke)  
 205  
 206 • \*Education, p. 257,258  
 207 “Christ... makes it plain that our asking must be according to God’s  
 208 will; we must ask for the things that He has promised, and whatever we  
 209 receive must be used in doing His will. The conditions met, the promise  
 210 is unequivocal.”  
 211  
 212 • \*Andrew Murray  
 213 • “Do understand that there is no surer way, rather, that there is no other  
 214 possible way, of getting into God’s love and blessing in prayer, than by  
 215 getting into His will. In prayer, give up yourself most absolutely to the  
 216 blessed will of God; this will avail more than much asking.” *School of*  
 217 *Obedience.*  
 218  
 219 • \*Ministry of Healing, p. 480  
 220 “Many who profess to be Christ’s followers have an anxious, troubled  
 221 heart, because they are afraid to trust themselves with God. They do not  
 222 make a complete surrender to Him; for they shrink from the  
 223 consequences that such a surrender may involve. Unless they do make  
 224 this surrender, they cannot find peace.... Worry is blind, and cannot  
 225 discern the future; but Jesus sees the end from the beginning. In every  
 226 difficulty He has His way prepared to bring relief. Our heavenly Father  
 227 has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing. Those

228 who accept the one principle of making the service (and honor—DA  
229 330) of God supreme, will find perplexities vanish, and a plain path  
230 before their feet.”

- 231
- 232 • \*George Müller
  - 233 1. 90% of knowing God’s will is choosing to have no will of our own.
  - 234 (Luke 9:23)
  - 235 2. Anything that is God’s will, will be in harmony with the Scriptures.
  - 236 (Ps. 32:8; Isa. 8:20)
  - 237 3. Anything that is God’s will, will often be accompanied by His
  - 238 opening providences. (Prov. 3:5,6)
  - 239 4. Anything that is God’s will, will be accompanied by His peace. (Col.
  - 240 3:15)
  - 241 5. He then shared with a mature Christian to see if he was missing
  - 242 something. (Prov. 24:6)

- 243
- 244 • \*George Muller
- 245 "I never remember, in all my Christian course, a period now (in March
- 246 1895) of sixty-nine years and four months, that I ever SINCERELY and
- 247 PATIENTLY sought to know the will of God by the teaching of the
- 248 Holy Ghost, through the instrumentality of the word of God, but I have
- 249 been ALWAYS directed rightly. But if honesty of heart and uprightness
- 250 before God were lacking, or if I did not patiently wait upon God for
- 251 instruction, or if I preferred the counsel of my fellow men to the
- 252 declarations of the word of the living God, I made great mistakes."

- 253
- 254 • \*James McConkey
- 255 “Not only are we to commit our lives to God, but we must also allow
- 256 Him to have His way with them. The committal of all things must be
- 257 accompanied by the submission in all things. When we yield our lives,
- 258 we yield our plans concerning our lives, and accept God’s dealings with
- 259 them. Not only “commit your way unto the Lord,” but “trust also in
- 260 Him.” Not only take your hands off, but let Him put His hands on,
- 261 however He may see fit.” *The Surrendered Life*

262 **What Hinders Prayer**

263 **What does the Bible say about obedience and answers to prayer?**

- 264
- 265 • 1 John 3:22 (We receive because we do the things that are pleasing in
- 266 His sight)
- 267 • John 9:31 (God hears the one who does God’s will)
- 268 • John 15:10 (Keeping commandments keeps us abiding in God’s love)
- 269 • Prov. 28:9 (Disobedient person’s prayers are an abomination)
- 270 • Ex. 20:6 (God shows mercy to those who keep his commandments)
- 271 • Lev. 26:3,4 (If we obey God, He will greatly bless us)
- 272 • 2 Chron. 7:14 (If we turn from our wicked ways God will hear us)
- 273 • Ps. 145:18 (The Lord is near those who call out in truth)

- 274 • Ps. 34:15 (The ears of the Lord are open to the cry of the righteous)
- 275
- 276 • \*E.M. Bounds
- 277 “What is obedience? It is doing God's will: it is keeping His
- 278 commandments. How many of the commandments constitute
- 279 obedience? To keep half of them, and to break the other half -- is that
- 280 real obedience? ... On this point, James the Apostle is most explicit:
- 281 "Whosoever shall keep the whole law," he declares, "and yet offend in
- 282 one point, he is guilty of all.... Prayer is obedience.... Only those who
- 283 obey have the right to pray. Behind the praying must be the doing; and it
- 284 is the constant doing of God's will in daily life which gives prayer its
- 285 potency, as our Lord plainly taught: "Not every one which saith unto
- 286 Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that
- 287 doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.”” *The Necessity of*
- 288 *Prayer*
- 289

290 **What does the Bible say about sin hindering answers to prayer?**

- 291 • Isaiah 59:1,2 (Our sins are keeping God from answering our prayers)
- 292 • Psalms 66:18 (“Regarded” iniquity hinders God)
- 293 • James 5:16 (Prayer of righteous person avails much)
- 294 • 1 John 3:22 (Prayers are answered because we please God)
- 295 • Isaiah 1:15 (Sin can cause God to NOT hear our prayers)
- 296 • Mal. 2:13-15 (Divorce can keep our prayers from being heard)
- 297 • Zech 7:13 (When we refuse to hear God, he doesn’t listen to us)
- 298 • Prov. 15:19 (God is far from the wicked but hears prayers of the
- 299 righteous)
- 300
- 301 • Steps to Christ, p. 95
- 302 “If we regard iniquity in our hearts, if we cling to any known sin, the
- 303 Lord will not hear us....”
- 304
- 305 • \*D. L. Moody
- 306 “If we are regarding iniquity in our hearts, or living on a mere empty
- 307 profession, we have no claim to expect that our prayers will be
- 308 answered. There is not one solitary promise for us. I sometimes tremble
- 309 when I hear people quote promises, and say that God is bound to fulfill
- 310 those promises to them, when all the time there is something in their
- 311 own lives which they are not willing to give up. It is well for us to
- 312 search our hearts, and find out why it is that our prayers are not
- 313 answered.” *Prevailing Prayer*
- 314
- 315 • \*S. D. Gordon
- 316 “If I am holding something in my life that the Master does not like, if I
- 317 am failing to obey when His voice has spoken, that to me is sin. It may
- 318 be wrong in itself. It may not be wrong in itself. It may not be wrong for
- 319 another. If that faithful quiet inner voice has spoken and I know what the