

Effective, Fervent Prayer-Part 2 **(February 17, 2019 by Rev. Anthony Menzel)**

The title of the message is Part 2 of the message that we began two weeks ago.

Does anyone remember what that message was about? (“Effective, Fervent Prayer”...)

In that message, we talked about how the Kingdom of God is not just about saying nice things; it’s about experiencing God’s power...

An important part of experiencing God’s power is getting answer to our prayers...

Scripture 1: 1 Corinthians 4:20

For the kingdom of God *is* not in word but in power.

We mentioned that when we pray, we are creating a new reality...

What was the example from the Bible that we mentioned regarding the use of prayer to create a new reality...

(the prophet Elijah when God used him to bring judgment on the land by praying for it to stop raining, and then three years later, God used him to end the drought by praying for rain...)

Today I feel led to talk about specific ways that will help us to get the answers to our prayers...

1) First of all, we do not have to be perfect for Him to answer our prayers... We just have to do our best to live right before Him, line our prayers up with His Word, and be persistent...

Scripture 2: Luke 18:9-14

Also He spoke this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: 10 “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men—extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. 12 I fast

twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ 13 And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified *rather* than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be [d]humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

If we consistently have a bad attitude and are not repentant, God is not going to answer our prayers...

Keep your finger in **Luke 18...**

2) It is very important that we know the Word of God so that we can pray according to the Word of God...

That is why I provided you all with all the prayer handouts, and I am continuing to prepare and edit them and post them on the Internet...

These handouts have Scriptures related to health and healing, and it is important, for example, that when we pray for health and healing that we line up our prayers with what the Word of God says, just like it is important that we line up our prayers about other topics...

Scripture 3: 1 John 5:6-15

This is He who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. 7 For there are three that bear witness [a]in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 8 And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

9 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of [b]God which He has testified of His Son. 10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has [c]life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you

may know that you have eternal life, [d]and that you may *continue to* believe in the name of the Son of God.

Confidence and Compassion in Prayer

14 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.

According to God's Word, one thing we need to be mindful of, for example, is that when we pray for someone with a potentially terminal illness, particularly if they are older and especially if they have lost the will to live, is that it might be their time to be with the Lord...

In these cases, we should pray for healing, but we should also understand that the manifestation of that healing could be the extension of their lives or it could be the alleviation of their symptoms...

It may not be that they will fully recover...

Scripture 4: 2 Kings 13:14-21

Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said, "O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!"

15 And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows. **16** Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand *on it*, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. **17** And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened *it*. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed *them*." **18** Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took *them*. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. **19** And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed *it!* But now you will strike Syria *only* three times."

20 Then Elisha [h]died, and they buried him. And the *raiding* bands from Moab invaded the land in the spring of the year. **21** So it was, as they were burying a man, that suddenly they spied a band *of raiders*; and they put the

man in the tomb of Elisha; and when the man was let down and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived and stood on his feet.

Scripture 5: Isaiah 38:1-8

In those days Hezekiah was sick and near death. And Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz, went to him and said to him, “Thus says the Lord: ‘Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live.’ ” **2** Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed to the Lord, **3** and said, “Remember now, O Lord, I pray, how I have walked before You in truth and with a [a]loyal heart, and have done *what is* good in Your sight.” And Hezekiah wept bitterly. **4** And the word of the Lord came to Isaiah, saying, **5** “Go and tell Hezekiah, ‘Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father: “I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; surely I will add to your days fifteen years. **6** I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria, and I will defend this city.” ’ **7** And this *is* the sign to you from the Lord, that the Lord will do this thing which He has spoken: **8** Behold, I will bring the shadow on the sundial, which has gone down with the sun on the sundial of Ahaz, ten degrees backward.” So the sun returned ten degrees on the dial by which it had gone down.

3) Another aspect of receiving answers to our prayers is that we should not be discouraged if God makes us wait...

His answer may be “not yet” or “wait” instead of “yes”...

Scripture 6: Ephesians 3:20-21

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, **21** to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Scripture 7: Isaiah 40:27-31

Why do you say, O Jacob,

And speak, O Israel:

“My way is hidden from the Lord,

And my just claim is passed over by my God”?

28 Have you not known?

Have you not heard?

The everlasting God, the Lord,
The Creator of the ends of the earth,
Neither faints nor is weary.
His understanding is unsearchable.
29 He gives power to the weak,
And to *those who have* no might He increases strength.
30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
And the young men shall utterly fall,
31 But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew *their* strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.

Being persistent is very important...
Let's go back to **Luke 18...**

Scripture 8: Luke 18:1-8

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, 2 saying: "There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor [a]regard man. 3 Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, [b]'Get justice for me from my adversary.' 4 And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, 5 yet because this widow troubles me I will [c]avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.' " 6 Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. 7 And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? 8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"

Scripture 9: Genesis 32:22-32

And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. 23 He took them, sent them [f]over the brook, and sent over what he had. 24 Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the [g]breaking of day. 25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He [h]touched the socket

of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks."
But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"
27 So He said to him, "What *is* your name?" He said, "Jacob."
28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but [i]Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed."
29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell *me* Your name, I pray."
And He said, "Why *is* it *that* you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place [i]Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over [k]Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. 32 Therefore to this day the children of Israel do not eat the muscle that shrank, which *is* on the hip socket, because He [i]touched the socket of Jacob's hip in the muscle that shrank.

***How many of you want to be princes and princesses with God, whose prayers are used to create more positivity in the world, whose prayers are used to advance God's Kingdom...? Let us pray that we would be those Israelites, those princes and princesses with God in the name of the Lord Jesus...