

BECOMING FOLLOWERS OF CHRIST



Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | 951-689-6785 | www.DiscipleshipDevelopment.org

Part 5A | DYNAMIC PRAYER



We are beginning the fifth part of our series on “Becoming Followers of Christ. In this part we’ll look at topics such as Dynamic Prayer, Kingdom Expansion (Developing Others), and Preparation for Our Eternal Home. Scan the QR code to view the current series online.

We’ve learned that, whether we acknowledge it or not, there is a spiritual war at hand, and to win the battles in this war we must be outfitted with God’s spiritual armor of light, and pray! (Romans 13:12; Ephesians 6:18)

1. A review of victory in the battle...

- First we *submit* to God. Then, as we *resist* our spiritual enemy, he must flee according to James 4:7.
- In faith, we approach spiritual challenges from a position of victory *already won*. (1 Samuel 17:45-51; Ephesians 6:10; John 16:33; 1 Peter 1:3-9)
- Put on the full armor of God (live the Biblical characteristics they represent) and **PRAY!** This is the very action of spiritual warfare! (Ephesians 6:10-12, 18; 2 Corinthians 10:3-5)
- We use the “Rhema” Word of God against the devil’s fiery darts as Jesus did. (Ephesians 6:17; Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13) In absolute human weakness, Jesus defeated the devil in the wilderness by using Old Testament scriptures that spoke directly to the temptation. **We can do the same with the same results!**
- We persevere until victory comes (Luke 18:1-8; Galatians 6:9) by *overcoming evil with good*. (Romans 12:21)

A brief background on prayer

1. Scripture abounds with examples of people who prayed with all their heart and mind and experienced powerful answers to their prayer!
2. Ephesians 6:18 tells us to pray in the Spirit *on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests*. Below are only a few examples...
 - Private and public prayer. (2 Chronicles 20:3-4; Matthew 6:5-6; Acts 4:23-31, 12:5)

Key story: 1 Samuel 1:1-28

Hanna’s prayer life and unconquerable spirit resulted in the birth of one of the greatest prophets of Israel, Samuel. Samuel’s name meant “Heard by God.”

What types of prayers seem to be dominant in this story?

What did she promise before the Lord?

What was the result of her faith and prayer?

What is the narrative’s main theme?

- Prayer of repentance and forgiveness of sin. (2 Chronicles 7:14-15; Hosea 6:1-3; 1 John 1:9)
- Prayer of petition. (Matthew 6:11-12; Luke 11:5-13)
- Prayer of “Identificational Intercession.” (Exodus 32:30-34; Nehemiah 1:4-11)
- Travailing prayer. (1 Samuel 1:9-18; Galatians 4:19-20; Romans 8:26-27)
- Strategic level prayer. (Ephesians 6:10-18; Daniel 10:12-14)
- Prayer walking, praying on site with insight and revelation. (Genesis 13:14-17; Joshua 6:1-21)
- Evangelistic prayer. (Matthew 9:37-38; Luke 10:2)

Memory verses

Philippians 4:6; 1 John 5:14-15;

What is the Holy Spirit saying to me today?

3. Hindrances to answered prayer. (Deuteronomy 28:23)

- Unconfessed sin. (Psalm 66:18)
- Doubt. (Hebrews 11:6; James 1:5-7)
- Disregarding Biblical truth. (Proverbs 1:28-31)
- Wrong motives. (James 4:3)
- Insincerity. (Matthew 15:8)
- Unforgiveness. (Matthew 6:14-15)
- Demonic interference. (Daniel 10:12-14)

4. Prayer that God answers. (2 Chronicles 7:14)

- Prayer based on faith. (James 5:13-18)
- Prayer in humility, a compliant heart. (Psalm 37:4)
- Passionate and persistent prayer. (James 5:17-18; Luke 11:5-10)
- Prayer according to His will. (1 John 5:14)
- Private prayer. (Matthew 6:6-8)
- Holy Spirit led prayer. (Romans 8:26-27)

5. Other principles include...

- Prayer is a dialogue, a two-way communication, based on our knowledge of God. (Exodus 33:12-21)
- Prayer is a testing of our faith. A person of prayer does not always accept the apparent answer. (Mark 9:28-29, 11:23;
- We are to watch *and* pray so that we will not fall into temptation. (Matthew 26:41; Mark 14:38)
- Prayer is the means by which we resist and defeat the devil. (Ephesians 6:18; James 4:7)
- Prayer is the catalyst in bringing in the Lord’s Harvest of souls. (Matthew 9:37-38; Luke 10:2; John 4:35)

Next week | Christ’s dynamic, all-inclusive prayer pattern for His followers. Read Matthew 6:5-15 and Luke 11:1-13.