

Aspects of Prayer. Derived from Hand Written Notes entitled *Go and Tell That Mountain to Move Over*. No indication of when shared with SCF\*

Prayer is

- a) Asking or Petitioning God
- b) Our Acknowledgement or Declaration of Our Faith

However, there are many parts to prayer.

**Thanksgiving**

### ***Philippians 4 verse 6***

*Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

**Praise and Worship**

### ***Daniel 4 verse 34-35***

*"But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, but He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'*

**Confession**

### ***1 John 1 verse 9***

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**Supplication**

### ***1 Timothy 2 verse 1-4***

*First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, 2 for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

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## Intercession

### **James 5 verse 14-15**

*Is anyone among you sick? Then he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; 15 and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him.*

## Warfare

### **2 Corinthians 10:2-6**

*I ask that when I am present I need not be bold with the confidence with which I propose to be courageous against some, who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh. 3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, 4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. 5 We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, 6 and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete.*

Prayers of faith leads to action, in three ways.

A) God's intervention by the Holy Spirit.

### **Romans 8 verse 26-27**

*In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; 27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.*

B) Our intervention in the name of Jesus.

### **Matthew 20 verse 30-34**

*30 And two blind men sitting by the road, hearing that Jesus was passing by, cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" 31 The crowd sternly told them to be quiet, but they cried out all the more, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!" 32 And Jesus stopped and called them, and said, "What do you want Me to do for you?"*

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33 They said to Him, "Lord, we want our eyes to be opened." 34 Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes; and immediately they regained their sight and followed Him.

C) Our declaration of faith

## **2 Corinthians 5 verse 6-8**

*Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord - 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight - 8 we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.*

**What it Means to Ask**

## **Matthew 7 verse 7**

*Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.*

## **John 15 verse 7**

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

The Greek word for ask is *aiteo*. Also *aitema* means to demand and *eperōtaō* to question.

We ask God - *aiteo*, we command/demand satan to go - *aitema*. We question satan's rights - *eperotao*.

## **Prayer in Focus - How we Can Pray Effectively**

We need three things to pray effectively.

1. Desire or motivation
2. Discipline - our will
3. Delight - fulfilment to continue.

If it's in our hearts - we will do it and God will give us the desire of our heart. Praying changes things. Prayers of faith flow into prophetic commands. Jesus gave us His authority to pray.

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## **Matthew 28 verse 17-20**

*When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some were doubtful. 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

### **4 Aspects of Our Prayers**

a. Discernment

Getting to the root, the real issue - ask the Lord.

b. Strategy

How to deal with it - what did Jesus say?

c. Action

Pray it, say it, pursue it.

d. Wait until you have an answer.

### **The Fig Tree**

## **Mark 11 verse 12-14**

*The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. 13 Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. 14 Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it.*

a. Jesus discerned it - no fruit

b. Jesus said *May no one ever eat fruit from you again*

c. Jesus left the scene

d. The next day sometime later, it withered.

## **Mark 11 verse 20**

*In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.*

Jesus taught His disciples in this way.

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## **The Temple**

### **Mark 11 verse 15-18**

*On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, 16 and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. 17 And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'" 18 The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching.*

Jesus **discerns** the problem, knowing what and how the temple should be used.

## **His Strategy/Action**

### **John 2 verse 15-17**

*And He made a scourge of cords, and drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen; and He poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables; 16 and to those who were selling the doves He said, "Take these things away; stop making My Father's house a place of business." 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for Your house will consume me."*

## **The Instructions Jesus Gave**

### **Mark 11 verse 22-26**

*And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God. 23 Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him. 24 Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be granted you.*

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*25 Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. 26 [But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions.]*

These are just some of the words that we are to abide in.

### **Proverbs 3 verse 5**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding.*

### **John 15 verse 7**

*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.*

There is a time to pray and ask God for wisdom and there is a time to do what Jesus has instructed.

### **Romans 10 verse 17**

*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*

### **The Lord's Commandment Regarding Prayer**

### **Matthew 6 verse 9-15**

*"Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name. 10 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 'Give us this day our daily bread. 12 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]" 14 For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. 15 But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions.*

Pray asking to find out things, pray warring to defeat the devil. Do it both with your understanding and your tongue.

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### **Purity of Heart and Mind**

#### **Psalm 66 verse 16-20**

*Come and hear, all who fear God, and I will tell of what He has done for my soul. 17 I cried to Him with my mouth, and He was extolled with my tongue. 18 If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear; 19 But certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer. 20 Blessed be God, Who has not turned away my prayer nor His lovingkindness from me.*

### **Believing God**

#### **Hebrews 11 verse 6**

*And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.*

### **A Heart of Forgiveness**

#### **Matthew 6 verse 14**

*For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.*

### **Confident Expectation**

#### **James 1 verse 5-8**

*But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, 8 being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.*

### **Hindrances to Our Prayers Being Answered**

#### **Sin**

#### **Psalm 66 verse 18-19**

*If I regard wickedness in my heart, the Lord will not hear; 19 but certainly God has heard; He has given heed to the voice of my prayer.*

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### **Selfish Motives**

#### **James 4 verse 3**

*You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.*

### **Disobedience**

#### **Proverbs 28 verse 9**

*He who turns away his ear from listening to the law, even his prayer is an abomination.*

### **Pride**

#### **Luke 18 verse 11-12**

*The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'*

### **Resentment**

#### **Mark 11 verse 25**

*Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.*

### **Unbelief**

#### **Hebrews 3 verse 12**

*Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God.*

### **Broken Relationships**

#### **Mark 11 verse 25**

*Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions.*

### **Lack of Understanding**

#### **Proverbs 10:13**

*On the lips of the discerning, wisdom is found, But a rod is for the back of him who lacks understanding.*