



THE PRAYER THAT GOD ANSWERS

HOW TO GET YOUR PRAYERS
ANSWERED FAST

GODWIN
OKECHUKWU

THE PRAYER THAT GOD ANSWERS

How to get results faster

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Dedication

I dedicate this book first to God almighty who, through His Son Jesus Christ saved me from sin and brought me into His kingdom on Saturday 14th October 1995. To Him be all the glory forever!

And to Evangelist Ogbonna Godwin whose motivation propelled me to repackage and reprint this new edition.

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To my able manager and editor-Evangelist Eze Emmanuel who worked day and night for the success of this book.

To all my partners whose motivation and support made the dream of publishing this book come true.

Endorsements

Apostle Godwin Okechukwu is a man with depth of wisdom that will upgrade your prayer to results oriented dimensions in every field of your endeavors. This book will change the way you pray. Believe me, the timeless treasures encapsulated within the pages of this book are spiritual information inspired by the Holy Spirit. Go for it!

Dr. John Godwin A.

Senior Pastor, Royal Life Christian Centre, Lagos, Nigeria and the author of ‘Marriage’ Why others failed, how yours shouldn’t.

This great book, written by Apostle Godwin Okechukwu will inspire you to wake up from the slumber of prayerlessness and walk into the realm of the miraculous. Enjoy the cruise with the Holy Spirit in the arena of intercession.

Professor Charles Ogba Ekirigwe.

Director of centre for educational services, Alex Ekwueme Federal University, Ndufu-Alike, Ebonyi State, Nigeria.

Introduction

God is a Spirit and everything concerning Him is spiritual. To access Him is through prayers. Prayer is one key platform God's people can reach out to Him easily because of His nature of invisibility. Our commitment to prayer gives God the opportunity to come to our aid in our daily activities. God is in no doubt in the business of hearing and answering the prayers of His children as is evident in the scriptures

“Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you”-
Jeremiah29:12(RSV).

“Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things which you have not known”-Jeremiah33:3(RSV). This shows that God is ever willing to hear and answer our prayers if we pray in the right way.

However, there are laws and principles in the scripture governing prayers and once any of these is violated are prayers may not receive answers. It is very important for us to understand that praying according to the will of God is what guarantees answers to our prayers. The scripture says-

“Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.”¹
John5:14-15(NKJV).

Praying contrary to God's will may not yield positive result rather will hinder our answers.

Learning the secrets that bring answers to prayer is more important than praying. Prayer becomes a mere noise making when it is void of knowledge. Dr. Martin Luther said that ‘to have prayed well is to have studied well’. There is no limit to what God can do through prayer if the prayer is made rightly. The impossible becomes possible when the right prayers are engaged. Every situation needs the right prayer to birth a change. It all begins and thrives with knowledge.

Pastor W.F Kumuyi, in his book titled Prayer Made Easy said that ‘there is no human need that does not have a promise and provision in the Bible. He further said ’Know the promise that matches your prayer request and prop up your prayer with it’. This is very true! God can only honor your prayer if it is in accordance to His Written word because God’s word is His constitution by which He governs the earth. The season of praying amiss has ended as God has given us insights from His word on how to get answers in prayers. I have enjoyed answers to my prayers in different areas of need at different times and have also taught the principles in this book in my conferences and meetings with divert testimonies afterwards. Please take advantage of these master keys encapsulated in this book and you will see results faster in your prayer adventure. You will henceforth take pleasure in praying as you will start seeing answers to your prayers like never before. At this point I want you to close this book and pray this simple prayer:

Father, open my eyes to see mysteries contained in this book that will bring an end to my struggles in prayers. Let the light of your word eliminate anti-scriptural and traditional mindset that have thus hindered my prayers in the name of Jesus Christ. You are the next to testify in Jesus Name. Amen.

Godwin Okechukwu

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Chapter 1

PRAYER OF REPENTANCE

The beginning of repentance is the confession of guilt
-JOHN CALVIN.

God wants us to acknowledge our unworthiness before Him. And it takes a humble and truly repentant heart to do so. Looking at prayer of repentance we will first of all define repentance in the light of God's word. Repentance is an expression of regrets over wrong deeds before God with the commitment to change for better. It can also mean the act of reporting oneself to God over sins committed in order to obtain mercy and salvation from Him. So prayer of repentance is an appeal to God's mercy over your sins by admitting your wrongs and with determination to cease from your wrongs. God hates sin and sin of the devil. If we do what God hates we cannot enjoy cordial relationship with Him. Holiness is the nature of God and if we are His children He expects us to live like Him. His word says ***“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy”*** 1Peter 1:15-16(KJV).

Jesus told a parable in Luke 15:11-32 that clarifies the position of prayer of repentance. The younger son suddenly requested for his portion of inheritance and it was granted him but he went far away from his father and squandered everything in reckless and sinful living. Suddenly after he spent everything famine took over the economy of the country where he migrated to and his economic life became pitiable. He was forced to gain employment in Piggery farm where he ate junks and one day it dawned on him that he had a father whose servants are living comfortably far away his home country. So he realized his wrongs and that was the beginning of change of story. Let's look at the tune of his prayer of repentance:

“So he got up and went to his father. ”But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son and threw his arms around him and kissed him. ”The son said to him, ‘ Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son” Luke 15:20-21(NIV).

Looking at the content of his repentance prayer you will observe that he took action after he realized his wrongs and went to the father with a broken and contrite heart which were revealed in his words to the father. The phrase 'I HAVE SINNED AGAINST HEAVEN AND AGAINST YOU' shows that he has humbly owned up (In a simple terms it means he has acknowledged his sins). So prayer of repentance begins with acknowledgment of your wrongs by condemning your wrongs instead of defending it or making excuses over it. The word of God says ***'People who conceal their sins will not prosper, but if they confess and turn from them, they will receive mercy.'*** Proverbs 28:13(NLT). This young man brought himself to the father's mercy seat by his repentance prayer. Mercy is only made available or provoked when God sees an expression of true repentance. John Blanchard was true when he said that 'Repentance is an attitude that leads to action'

The young man's pitiable condition remained so long as he never acknowledged his sins and repented by taking courage to return to his father. Many are suffering in all manner of untold hardship because of sin they committed and refused to repent of. It is never late to repent. You must examine yourself as you read through the pages of this chapter and let the Spirit of God search your spirit and be ready to own up to any hidden sin that might be pointed out.

The Psalmist said ***"If I have not confessed the sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened"***-Ps. 66:18(NIV) He also prayed ***"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."***Ps. 139:23-24(KJV) This is King David, the one known to be a man after God's heart crying out to God to search his heart and x-ray it. This is because the heart is deep and deceitful and it is only God who can know the contents of our hearts.

In Jeremiah 17:9-10 God said ***“The heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked: Who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruits of his doing”***-(KJV).

At this point I want you to close this book and observe a quiet and reflective moment. Ask yourself this simple or eternally valued questions-‘Should I close my eyes in death this hour and appear before God, is there any iniquity in my life that will disqualify me from being received into the kingdom of heaven? Is there anything I have done or I am still doing that God is not pleased with? Are there things God condemned in His Holy book that I still practice? Is there anyone I have offended or defrauded whose heart is bitter against me? If you can honestly respond to these cogent questions, it will definitely bring you to the moment of prayer of repentance and your hindered answers will be released. The scripture testifies thus ***“surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.”***Isaiah 59:1-2(NIV).

The good news is that no matter how heinous your sins might be, God’s mercy is capable of handling it if it is heartily and honestly confessed and repented of. God is a loving father full of mercy and compassion but He will only pardon iniquity that is acknowledged, confessed and repented of because He is a God of principle. Once you adhere to God’s principle you will enjoy His fatherly blessings. The prodigal son’s repentance prayer brought restoration of all his losses in one day. Truly prayer of repentance pays!

John Blanchard again said that ‘true repentance is personal, permanent, painful and profitable’. We can agree that the statement of John blanchard was evidential proof in prodigal son’s repentant move.

We discovered he was personal in his decision, it pained him that he disappointed his father, the repentance was absolutely permanent and ultimately profitable. It is worthy to note that his father gave him a royal reception and banquet at his repentance. The scripture reads:

‘But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; and bring a fattened calf, slaughter it, and let’s eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found. ’And they began to celebrate.’ Luke 15:22-24 (NASB).

Repentance is the key to accessing the heart of God and when the heart of God’s accessed you will enjoy His hands. Isaiah said “***...the LORD’S hand is not shortened...***” Isaiah 59:1 (KJV).

You may ask, how do I pray the prayer of repentance in order to have my needs met like it happened to the prodigal son? We will be looking at three dimension of Biblical prayer of repentance.

They are identificational prayer of repentance, Cooperate prayer of repentance and Personal prayer of repentance. We will examine them one after the other in the light of the scriptures.

1. IDENTIFICATIONAL PRAYER OF REPENTANCE:

This is a type of prayer one makes in reference to the sins of his ancestors who had done wickedly against God and man. If you read careful the first of the ten commandments you will notice that God said He would visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children even to the third and fourth generation of them that hate Him.

‘Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: I am the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me’

Exodus20:5(KJV). This was also revealed in the book of Lamentation5:7

‘Our ancestors have sinned, and are no more, and we bear their punishment’-
(NIV).

Daniel of old among others patriarchs engaged in the identificational prayer of repentance in Babylon as an exile. After he read the prophecy of Jeremiah and understood that their captivity as a nation ought to have expired after 70 years, he personally took it up in prayer but he had follow the principle of identification to make his prayer gain heaven’s attention.

‘In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet; that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem’-Daniel9:2 –

(KJV). We must look at our families both paternal and maternal holistically in regards to this dimension of prayer. May be your ancestors on both side were involved in all manner of atrocities and wicked acts which brought curses and sorrows upon their children and children’s children. It would be necessary you ask elders some penitent questions regards to the past family history and of course God can be approached for revelation of the iniquities of your fathers that may have closed heaven over your family. Daniel on behalf of his nation in captivity as results of the sins of his ancestors offered prayer of repentance and Heaven opened and behold an Angel of the Lord showed up on his prayer altar. We have to adopt this concept from Daniel and do likewise so we can experience a turnaround in life and family. Let’s look at some phrases in the prayer of Daniel;

Number one:

. ***“And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession....”***

Daniel 9:4(KJV). He confessed the sins of his ancestors as his own sin in his prayer. That is identification!

Number two: ***“We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgements”***-Daniel 9:5. He pointed out the sins and called them by their names. That is identification per excellence.

Number three: ***“Now therefore O our God, hear the prayer of thy servant, and his supplications and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord’s sake.”***Daniel 9:17(KJV). He approached God alone on behalf of his people. He used the phrase- hear the prayer of thy servant, that is referring to himself. That is clear identification.

Number four: ***“O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defy not, for thy own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name”***-Daniel 9:19(KJV). He finally asked God to forgive his people. Asking God for forgiveness is the key to accessing His mercy.

As Daniel of our time we must apply this principle over our families, towns, cities, states, nations and continents. God relies on the cry of one person to change a people. He seeks for passionate sons and daughters of His to stand in for others in the place of identificational repentance.

In the year 2005 I stood for my paternal home and spent about four days offering prayers of repentance on behalf of my family. Before that period we had more records of deaths than births in our family, young men and women died mysteriously, within that period my elder brother died at 36, my two paternal cousins died at 37 and 40, my half- sister died at 29 and so forth. To God be the glory, untimely death came to a halt after my identificational repentance prayer. As you engage in this dimension of prayer, the God of Daniel and My God and your God will take away every reproach in your family in the name of Jesus Christ.

Finally, while Daniel was still praying this dimension of prayer an Angel showed up with answers. He testified thus:

‘And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God. Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly touched me about the time of the evening oblation. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding’- Daniel9:20-22(KJV).

God has been and will ever be in the business of using one person to standing in the gap for others as it is documented in His unchanging word: It reads: ***‘And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found no one’Ezekiel22:30(KJV).*** This is mind blowing! God is depending on someone like you and I to forgive and bless our families and nations.

This is practical. God is calling us to stand for Him as “a fence” in order to block His wrath and destruction against our people. Let’s rise and take up this responsibility as Daniels of our time. Let’s stop the blame game and put our knees on the ground and we shall see the power of God demonstrated. You are the Daniel of your family and nation. God will hear you and change the state of your family and your own situation as well in the name of Jesus Christ.

2. COOPERATE PRAYER OF REPENTANCE.

This is another dynamic principle in the scripture. It is the gathering of a people for purpose of calling upon God for mercy over discovered sin that may have been exposed through prophecy or careful observation. The bible provides us example of this in the book of Jonah(Jonah3) when the runaway prophet preached to the city of Nineveh. It happened that after the prophet preached against wickedness and sinful practice of the people and pronounced of God’s wrath and destruction that would befall on the city within 40days that the king summoned the people for cooperate fasting and prayer for repentance.

Indeed the people both men, women, great and small and even animals participated in the cooperate repentance prayers and God reversed the judgment He intended to mete out on them.

God Himself certified their prayers as the scripture records that

“When God saw what they had done and how they had put a stop to their ways, he changed his mind and did not carry out the destruction he had threatened”- Jonah3:10(NLT). That is how repentance prayers work. Once sin is confessed and forsaken God’s mercy shows up and miracles, healing and deliverance happen to the people.

John Milton was correct when he said that ‘repentance is the golden key that opens the palace of eternity. A community, a family, an organization, ethnic group or a nation can call up this kind of prayer. In 2018 I was invited for ‘a three days deliverance Crusade’ in Agbanoke Community, in Aninri Local Government Area of Enugu state, Nigeria and I applied this principle in the course of the program. I led elders and the people to corporately confess their sins and the sins of their ancestors and asked God for mercies over the land. About a year after, the crusade organizers sent me testimonies of how the glory of God took away untimely death and strange diseases that prevailed over the people for years. One of them said that before the crusade was conducted, that young people from the community who lived in cities dreaded returning home because many who came and returned to cities experienced untold hardship in their businesses and careers after their visit. Some lost their jobs or suffer strange illness that rendered them financially bankrupt but these afflictions ended after the crusade. Cooperate prayer of repentance works. I can go on and on to share testimonies from cooperate prayer of repentance but let us stop here. We must apply God’s word if we want to see His power at work. In conclusion, in 2Chronicles7:14, cooperate prayer of repentance was pointed out as a prerequisite for transformation of the land and her people. It reads: ***“If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and forgive their sins and restore their land.”***-2Chronicles7:14(NLT). Truly, cooperate prayer of repentance is a proven key for national, community, organization and family deliverance and turnaround. Try and see!

3. PERSONAL PRAYER OF REPENTANCE.

This is another ageless and powerful dimension of prayer that has turned many destinies around. Apostle James understood this principle when he admonished believers in his epistle to cleanse their hands and purify their hearts as they draw near to God in prayer. He did not mean we should wash our hands and hearts with natural detergent. He is referring to personal prayer of repentance as a condition to attracting God's presence in the place of prayer. Let us look at the sequence from James' epistle.

“Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up”James4:8-10.(NLT).

First, he began with the assurance that God will draw near to us when we draw near to Him in prayer. However, he put a condition of washing hands and purifying of hearts which means changing of your evil deeds (repentance). He also gave attitude code of the repentance which he called grieve, mourn, wail, and gloom. This means that personal prayer of repentance is not praise and worship, dancing and celebration. It calls for sobriety and remorse. It must come from a broken and contrite heart. A heart that is sorrowful! And finally, he brought the issue of humility before lifting up. If prayer of repentance must be accepted by God we must follow James' prescriptions. However, personal prayer of repentance has two branches. One is foundational or basic repentance prayer which is the platform for being accepted into the family of God.

Every one born of Adam's race has fallen short of God's righteousness and needed the atoned work of Christ to be accepted into the family of God for newness of life or eternal life which is God's kind of life (zoe).

Everyone needs to pray the foundational personal repentance prayer because everyone came from stock of Adam who sinned and passed down the spirit of sin to all human race.

“For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God”Romans3:23(KJV)
Romans5:19 says ***“for as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one(Jesus Christ) shall many be made righteous”***(KJV)

Again, ***“For the wages of sin is death: but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord”***Romans6:23(KJV). Jesus came to redeem us by His death on the cross and our salvation and forgiveness are only achievable through simple but essential prayer of repentance. It is only through this you can be qualified to receive the power to become a child of God. John1:12 says ***“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name”***(KJV). To be saved from Sins and its penalty you need the Savior- Jesus Christ.

At this point you need to take advantage of this sacred prayer if you have not said this prayer before now.

I said mine on Saturday, October 14th 1995 and Jesus came into my heart and washed my sins away with His own blood and gave me eternal life. Now it is time to make this foundational prayer of repentance.

Please pray in this manner with faith:

‘Father God, The creator of heaven and earth, I come before you as a sinner in need of salvation, I confess with my mouth that Your Son Jesus Christ according Your plan was crucified and shed His blood for the forgiveness of my sins and my new life, I therefore confess Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord and request that His blood should wipe away my sins and its penalty.

I ask that you make me your child as you give me eternal life so I can serve you in truth and spirit. Thank you Father for answering my prayer in Jesus name. Amen.

Beloved with this simple prayer there is joy in heaven concerning you. You are now a new creature and like a new born baby. Believe and rejoice and make this date a special one in your life. You will experience a change from inside from now. Congratulations. You are born again!

“Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away, all things are become new.”-2Corinthians5:17(KJV).

This is your new identity! Be conscious of it.

The second kind of personal prayer of repentance is what I called “personal maintenance prayer of repentance’ You know when you buy a brand new dress, it comes very clean but with usage it gets dirty and requires that you wash and tidy it up. In the same vein, when you receive Jesus Christ, you are washed clean by His blood and a brand new heart is given to you but with interaction and engagement with activities you may fall into sin. This time you hate sins and wouldn’t like to stain your relationship with God. So you confess it immediately and forsake it out rightly. It is only on this ground you will be forgiven not when you deliberately live in sin. Apostle John who was among the three closest Apostles to Christ understood this when he wrote to the early church. He wrote: ***“My little children, I am telling you this so that you will stay away from sin. But if you sin, there is someone to plead for you before the Father. His name is Jesus Christ, the one who is all that is good and who pleases God completely. He is the one who took God’s wrath against our sins upon himself and brought us into fellowship with God; and he is the forgiveness for our sins, and not only ours but all the world’s”-1John2:1-2(TLB).***

In this kind of repentance prayer you don't allow it to accumulate before you pray otherwise the Holy Spirit of God who lives in you will be grieved or cease His active operations through you. Paul knew this when He wrote to the Ephesian and Thessalonian churches.

He said: ***"And Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby ye are sealed on to the day of redemption"***Ephesians4:30(KJV).

Again he said: ***"Quench not the Spirit"***-1Thessalonians5:19(KJV).

Sometimes it is good to ask the Holy Spirit to search you and point to you hidden or sins that you trivialized, or neglected to confess because you see it as minor sin or never thought it could offend God. The wise preacher Solomon said ***"There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death"***Proverbs14:12(NIV).

I once shunned a crippled beggar who was pregnant and begging on the road. After I have walked a pole away from her the Holy Spirit convicted me of sin against Him. He reproved me for shunning the cripple whom I felt should not have gotten pregnant because of her deformity. I repented immediately and walked back and gave her some money.

Just be open to the Holy Spirit. He can reprove you at any time.

It is when you accept God's reprove that you can improve in your walk with Him.

Please take this prayer points

1. Father, help me to be quick in matters of repentance.
2. Father, I receive special grace to stand in the gap for my family and community from now to pray when you want me to pray for them.
3. Father, make me sensitive and pliable to your Will per time.
4. Father, deliver me from the sin that brings the great to the ground. I will not end like Sampson in the name of Jesus.
5. Father, increase my hunger to live righteous every day.

Chapter 2

PRAYING IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way the truth and the life:
no man cometh unto the Father, but by me'
“And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name that will I do,that the Father may be
glorified in the son- John14:613

-OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Prayer is one essential spiritual principle upon which every believer holds. It is through prayers that believers connect or reach out to God easily. This is because God cannot be seen physically. Prayer is a universal practice that cuts across every religion and ethnic group and it is believed in many religions that God can be reached through many channels. Some religion believe they can connect to God through talking to the dead, the sun, the moon, stones, trees, rivers etc but the truth is God has a standard and précised way of being contacted. What most of these religions fail to acknowledge is the claim of Satan over the ownership of the earth. After the devil and angels were dethroned, Satan formed a system of being worshipped as god and manifests to people in visions and thereby deceiving them with perverse ways to access him as god. But God will never allow us to wallow in ignorance. Thus, He sent us knowledge through His word from Genesis to Revelation about how He can be reached through prayers. In this dispensation and testament God has ordained Jesus Christ as the ONLY way to access Him in prayers. Understanding this mystery plays a crucial role in your prayer life.

Who is this Jesus Christ we are talking about you may have asked? This great saint, Andrew Murray said of Him: Christ is the humility of God embodied in human nature: the eternal love humbling itself, clothing itself in the garid of meekness and gentleness,to win and to serve and save us .

From the statement Dr. Murray, Jesus Christ is God on earth but clothed in human flesh in order to teach us who the LIVING GOD is and how to access Him in prayer.

At one occasion Jesus asked His disciples whom people said He was and whom they themselves (His apostles) also said He was. Peter by divine revelation said “ **...*YOU ARE THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD***”Matthew16:16(NLT). Immediately Peter said this; Jesus confirmed that God revealed who He is to Peter and there and then He declared the plan of building His ‘CHURCH’

‘Jesus replied, ‘Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it’-Matthew16:17-18.(NIV).

Jesus Christ can simply be defined as the new access to the LIVING GOD. Now , I want you to understand that Satan corrupted the system or access to the living God after his fall and the fall of man. He posed himself as God almighty thus seeking to be worshipped. The scripture called him the god of this world:

“Satan, who is the god of this world, has blinded the minds of those who don’t believe. They are unable to see the glorious light of the Good news. They don’t understand this message about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God”1Corinthians4:4(NLT).

Believe me, any approach in any form of prayer outside Jesus Christ will not connect to the LIVING GOD but to fallen or dead gods- That is Devil and his agents. He may appear to be real God but he is faking and he is a deceiver and liar.

A witch doctor can tell you he is calling on God through other means or access outside Jesus but it is not the living GOD that responds to him but Satan and his demons. So praying in the name of Jesus Christ is the only guaranteed access to the living God, the God who created Heaven and the earth.

Note that praying in the name of Jesus is like dialing a telephone number with the code of the network and of the country you intend to access the recipient who resides there. Nigeria as a country has the national code which is +234, and Ghana has +233 as well. If I must reach out to a friend in Ghana from Nigeria, I must input the national code of Ghana first before his number. In the same vein if you must call or connect to the Almighty God, the living God (not self-acclaimed god- Satan), then the access code that will surely link you up to HIM is JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD, otherwise it is another god(Satan)that you will connect to. The scripture says:

‘And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.’Colossians3:17(NIV).

Imagine going to an office where there are standard procedures you must follow in order to see the CEO or Chairman. You will be asked few questions. May be given some forms to fill or be subjected to go through a thorough security search before you are allowed to see him or her. So it is with bringing our prayers to God ALMIGHTY. We may not have to go through a rigorous process, but there is a procedure that must be followed and it is praying in the name of Jesus Christ.

When our Lord Jesus Christ was about rounding up in His earthly mission He said this to His disciples; ***“And in that day you will ask Me nothing, most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the father in My name He will give you”*** John 16:23(NKJV).

The disciples were used to asking Him directly for whatever they needed but He had to let them know that after His death and resurrection they would have to address their need to God the Father, but in His name as the Son of God.

This principle of asking and receiving from the Father God in the name of Jesus Christ His Son is not limited to the early disciples alone. It also applies to us in this present age. The name is the basis for the prayer of all believers to be answered because He removed the hindrance caused by our sins through His redemptive suffering and death on the cross. Paul the apostle in his epistle to the Philippians gave very good insights of Christ Jesus.

He said: ***“And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ in Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*** Philippians 2:8-11(NKJV). In ourselves we are not qualified to approach God for anything but the name of Jesus Christ qualifies us to ask and receive answers to our prayers from God the Father.

It is important to note that when we pray to the Father in the name of Jesus Christ it is as if Jesus Himself is praying to the Father and the Father cannot refuse the Son of anything He asks of Him. Again, when we pray in the name of Jesus Christ we remind the father of our position as representatives of Jesus Christ here on the earth.

The scripture has it that we are Christ’s Ambassadors, Citizens of Heaven and the Children of God.

“Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ...” 2 Corinthians 5:20(KJV)

“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ”. Philippians 3:20(NKJV)

“But as many as receive Him, to them He gave the right to become the children of God, to those who believe in His name”-John1:12(NKJV).

Jesus Christ represents us in heaven before the Father God whilst we represent Him here on earth.

Apostle John puts it graphically thus ***“...As He is in heaven, so are we in this world”*** – 1 John 4:17b(NKJV).

So long as we are in Christ and ask anything in line with the will of God and in His name, and by faith, we will surely get the answer. We will at this point look at the practical example of the miracle of healing the lame man done through the apostles Peter and John by the use of the name of Jesus Christ.

“Then Peter said, silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk, And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength, so he, leaping up, stood and walked and entered the temple with them-walking, leaping, and praising God. And all the people saw him walking and praising God” Acts 3:6-9.(NKJV).

When this miracle happened, the people who knew the lame man wondered at what had happened through the apostles John and Peter. Peter quickly revealed to them principle of the use of the name of Jesus Christ in accessing the power of God for divine solution over unpleasant situations of life.

The scripture said: ***“So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.***

But you denied the Holy One and the Just and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which comes through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all”
Acts 3:12-16.(NKJV).

FAITH IN HIS NAME

Peter testified that it was faith in the name Jesus Christ that made the miracle happen. If the use of the name must produce result in our time then we must use it by faith.

Our faith in the name of Jesus guarantees the results that would follow as we pray. This is because God is dependent on our faith to manifest His power in and through us.

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, he who comes to God must believe that He is, and He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him”
Hebrew 11:6.(NKJV).

As you take hold of this mystery and begin to make your desires known to God the father in the name of Jesus Christ, I see you receiving instant miracles in answer to your prayers, closed doors against you are opening on their own from now, and you will see unusual financial favor that will beat your imagination. Demonic powers that afflicted you with sickness and hardship will take their leave as you begin to use this name. Go ahead from now and use of the name of Jesus Christ and God will honor every of your request. Hallelujah! You will testify in the name of Jesus Christ.

Please take these prayer points:

1. Father, in the name of Jesus, I command every altar of darkness challenging my destiny, to bow in the name of Jesus Christ.
2. Father, I activate the power in the name of Jesus for quick response to my desires from now.

3. Father, I put my angels to work in the name of Jesus Christ
4. Father, I revive my spiritual gifts in the name of Jesus Christ
5. Father, let my life be on the progress lane every day in the name of Jesus Christ.

Chapter 3

PRAYING WITH THE SCRIPTURES

“It is a common temptation of Satan to make us
give up the reading of the Word and prayer
when our enjoyment is gone; as if it were of no use
to read the Scriptures when we do not enjoy them,
and as if it were no use to pray when we
have no spirit of prayer”.

-George Mueller.

“we account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy
I find more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible
than in any profane history whatever”.

-Isaac Newton.

The word of God is a powerful apparatus for producing answers in the place of prayer. Hence, there is tremendous power in praying with the word, because you cannot pray in line with God’s word and pray amiss. The word of God is the will of God. So when you pray with the scriptures, you are actually praying according to God’s will. Another word for the word of God is scripture. So we will be using the two interchangeably but they mean same.

*“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask
Anything according to his will, he heareth us.
And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask,
we know that we have the petitions that
we desired of him”* 1 John 5:14-15(KJV).

So anytime we pray according to God’s word, we have the full assurance that our prayers are answered. You don’t need to start wondering whether you have prayed according to God’s will or not, because the word of God is the will of God.

“In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the Word was God”. John 1:1(KJV).

For every need in our lives, there is a corresponding word of God to address it. If we align our needs with God’s word, then our prayers will always receive the much needed answer. It is important to know that before you pray or ask God for anything, you must first of all find out what His word says concerning that issue of your life. And if the Word says you have it, then go ahead and ask, it shall be granted unto you.

Prophet Jeremiah reveals that God is always ready to perform His word.

“Then said the Lord unto me, thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it”- Jeremiah 1:12(KJV).

Word of God is God himself. And God honors His word even above His name, even though there is power in His name. His name is powerful when called upon in the place of prayer but He said that His word is above all His name.

Look at what the word says about His name:

“The name of the LORD is a strong: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe”-Proverbs18:10(KJV).

Then He said that His word is above all His names

“. . . For thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name”-
Ps.138:2(KJV).

When you take hold of the word, you will see signs and wonders in response as you pray.

Since there is no circumstance on earth that is bigger than God and His word, we must be confident each time we locate the word and pray with in connection to our needs. God is too big to deny His word. His integrity is at stake when we bring His word to Him in the altar of prayer.

We must take God's words back to Him in the place of Prayer and hold Him by His word over our needs and challenges and surely He will perform beyond our expectations.

The scripture confirms it thus:

“Take words with you and return to the LORD. Say to him: “Forgive all our sins and receive us graciously, that we may offer the fruit of our lips”-

Hosea 14:2(NIV). The key point here is “Take words with you and return to the Lord” The words you are asked to take is nothing but the word of God. His word is His bond. When the early apostles were being persecuted, they took God's word and returned to Him and prayed fervently and received immediate answer from God. As a result of their Word based prayer the place they were quaked confirming that they prayed according to God's word. Obviously it was the presence of God that came down to confirm His word which they stood on in prayer.

Let us take a close observation of the content and result of the apostles' prayers. It reads:

“So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: “Lord, You are God who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, Who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: ‘why did the nations rage, and my people plot vain things? The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord and His Christ’ For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. Now, Lord look on their threats, and grant to your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your Servant Jesus”

“And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness,”- Acts 4:24-31.(NKJV).

This prayer was lifted from Psalms24:1-2 and Psalms2:1-3. Let us look at them:

“ The earth is the LORD’S and the fullness thereof: the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the flood”-Ps.24:1-2(KJV).

***“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?
The kings of the earth set themselves, and rulers take counsel together,
against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder and cast away their cords from us” Psalm2:1-3(KJV).***

The apostles carefully selected these scriptures and turned them into prayers.

God honored it instantly because it is His word. This is what makes the difference. You see, prayer is not in the volume of your noise, it is in the point and the points in your prayer is the word of God in it. This confirms the statement of Dr. Martin Luther, who said that ‘to have prayed well is to have studied well’. Therefore, settle down with God’s word and gather the ones related to your situations before embarking on prayers because it is God’s word that turns His attention to you faster.

David knew this principle when he went to the brook and selected stones to which he used to bring down goliath- the principal enemy of God’s people. The Bible is the spiritual brook that contains the words of God required for winning battles of life. Your Goliath will fall by the strength of God’s stone (scripture) and not your shout. See 1Samuel17:40-50.

Henceforth, stop running from challenges of life, run to the Book and get scriptures and face the battles with your adversaries and victory shall be yours in the name of Jesus Christ. We must believe and practice this kind of prayer because it is a sure way to answered prayers. However. We must learn the principle that governs this kind of prayer. Studying the word of God is the first and foremost steps to achieving success in praying with scriptures. Studying the scripture is what enriches your knowledge about God and His Will.

Apostle Paul in his letter to his young disciple, Timothy admonished that he should give himself to the studying of God's word: He said:

“Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman needeth not to be ashamed, right dividing the word of truth “2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV).

The phrase ‘study to show thyself approved unto God’ calls for attention. You see, to study is hard work and this is where many Christians fail. Study has a lot to do with spending time to look at details of subject until you understand it. The essence of study is mastering of subjects in such ways that we practice them effortlessly.

Like in higher institution, students are offered admission to study in different fields like medicine, law, architecture, etc. and they spend years focusing on one particular field until they understand it well. And they are expected to practice what they studied at the end of their graduation.

This also applies to studying scriptures. We are expected to study subject by subject of what God has promised us and commanded us to do. The scriptures encourages to do so. He says:

“whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breast? For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little” – Isaiah 28:9-10.(KJV).

We must know what God's word says concerning the subject of health, finance, marriage, long life, protection, fruitfulness and etc. We must study to know the word of God in its totality. This means we should know what God said we should do and what He promised to give to us in all areas of life. For instance, He promised us power to get wealth and abundant life in Deuteronomy 8:18 and John 10:10b, but He also instructed us to give our tithes and offerings in Malachi 3:8-10, Luke 6:38 and Acts 20:35.

Again, He promised to satisfy us with long life in Psalm 91:16 and He also told us in Psalm 34:12-14 to keep our tongue from speaking evil and deceit; depart from evil and seek peace in order for us to see many days. So we must study both what He hates and wants us to avoid, and things He wants us to keep and then what He promise to bless us with. This is what guarantees success in scriptural praying.

BOLDNESS IN PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURES

Praying with the scriptures stirs uncommon boldness in us. Receive boldness like the apostles of the old in Jesus name

However, you must learn the principles that governs prayer through the word. I have seen it work for me and many that I shared this mysteries with. You are the next to testify of a mega breakthrough via scriptural prayers.

THE HEALING OF MY DAUGHTER

My daughter Naomi (when she was 10years old) woke up one morning with a lump on her neck with severe pain. I thought of what to do to bring solution, then I quickly remembered the principle of praying with scriptures. I took my Bible and selected scriptures like John 10:30, Isaiah 8:18 and Mark 16:18. After I meditated on these scriptures which turned on my faith, I laid my left hand on the lump on her neck and my right hand on my own neck, then I began to quote John 10:30 which says “***I and My father are one***”, Isaiah8:18 which says-***Behold I and the children whom the LORD has given me are for signs and wonders in Israel...***” Mark16:18 which says “***... they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover***” and then I said authoritatively “I am the biological father of Naomi and I have parental authority over her life and because I have no lump on my neck so she cannot have lump on her neck; because two of us are one blood, whatever I don’t have she cannot have, therefore, you lump hear the word of God, and disappear now” in the name of Jesus Christ. And two days after, the lump vanished. No medication applied. Glory be to our God! Hallelujah.

The scripture works when you engage it in prayer over a specific need. Just gather scriptures from different portions of the bible and begin to attack everything in your life that does not glorify God. You can change your world through God's word. Just do it by faith and you will see God honor His words.

The word of God is superior to every circumstance in life.

I prophesy dramatic change in your life as you engage the word of God over any challenging situation around you now in the name of Jesus Christ. In conclusion, I want to share with you the three keys among others that will make praying with scriptures produce sure and fast result. They are the fundamentals and must be engaged meticulously. I called them "The three fundamental Keys for effective praying with scriptures.

THE THREE FUNDAMENTAL KEYS FOR EFFECTIVE PRAYING WITH SCRIPTURES

1. Being specific:

This means you must be focused on a specific area of need when engaging in this kind of prayer. Paul the apostle spoke on this when he said:

“therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air” 1Corinthians9:26(NKJV). The apostles in their prayers in Acts4 were focused on a specific challenge and Heaven came down. If it is your health challenge you are dealing with, you must concentrate on it and give it your energy and time. It takes specific prayers to be dynamic in prayer.

2. Using Two or more scriptures on a need or challenge:

This means you must carefully select two or three or even more scriptural references regarding on a need or challenge you have at hand and thus pray with them before God who is also addressed in His Holy Book as the Judge of the earth(Ps.98:9)

From the revelation of God's word we understand that numbers play fundamental roles in the working of supernatural feat, for instance, the scripture said in Ecclesiastes 4:9 that ***"two are better than one; because they have good reward for their labor"*** and again the law of God states that ***"At the mouth of two or three witnesses a matter (case) shall be established"*** (Deut. 17:5-6, Deut. 19:15, Matt. 18:15-16, John 8:17-18,) A careful study revealed that the apostles prayed against the threats of enemies of Christ and His church in Acts 4:23-31 with two scriptures, Ps. 24-12 and Ps. 2:1-3. Again David selected five stones from the brook and faced Goliath in battle and off course only one of the five brought Goliath down. This is mystery! In my testimony regards my daughter's health issue I used three scriptures - John 10:30, Isaiah 8:18 and Mark 16:18. Prophet Hosea said ***" Take with Words and turn to the LORD..."*** words is in plural. It means scriptures, two or three. See Hosea 14:2. You must give yourself to diligent search of the scriptures in order to glean vital and relevant scriptures connected to your need. For instance, if you are trusting God for fruit of the womb, you should gather scriptures like Genesis 1:27-28, Exodus 1:7, Exodus 23:26, Psalm 127:3-5 and set out a day or some nights, after meditating on the scriptures then you take up to God and pray fervently and surely you will testify.

3. Pray by faith and expect God to honor His word.

Faith is the essential ingredients for producing result in prayer. It is impossible to please God without faith; the scripture says (Hebrews 11:6). Apostle James was correct when he said that only the prayer made in faith that can heal the sick (James 5:15). Absolute faith in God and His word is the key! As you pray with God's word over an issue of concern, I decree that hand of God will be evident and your testimony is the next to be shared in Jesus precious Name. Amen.

Please take these prayer points

1. Father, thank you for opening the eyes about praying with scriptures.
2. Father, baptize me with wisdom for strategic use of scripture to pray over needs and challenges.
3. Father, increase my hunger for searching and studying your word.
4. Father, as I open my mouth to pray with your word, confirm it with instant answers like in the days of the apostles.
5. Father, help me to locate exact scriptures connected to every need of my life.

Chapter 4

PERSISTENT PRAYER

“Sometimes a failure to persist in prayer proves that we were not serious about our request in the first. At other times, God wants us to persist in prayer in order to strengthen our faith in Him. Faith would never grow if all prayers are answered immediately. Persistent prayer tends to develop deeper gratitude as well. As the joy of a baby’s birth is greater because of the month of anticipation, so is the joy of an answer to prayer after persistent praying. And as much as a generation measures time in nanoseconds hates to admit its need for it, God crafts Christ like patience in us when He requires persistence in prayer”

- Donald S. Whitney

What is Persistent Prayer?

Persistent prayer is an approach in prayer that refuses to surrender until result comes. It is an attitude of pressing on until favorable attention is given over a request. It is doggedness in prayer.

It is the act of praying until God responds to our prayer directly or speaks to us in regards to what we ask for. It never stops until it receives God’s answer.

Although there are set of believers who hold the belief that “prayers should not be made for a particular issue for more than once”. However, the scripture provides us examples of characters that engaged in persistent prayer and prevailed. Thus, we are admonished to learn from them:

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope”-Romans15:4 NIV

“We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised”-Hebrews6:12 NIV.

We will look at few Bible characters who engaged in persistent prayer

1. Our Lord Jesus

The example of our Master Jesus Christ in prayers remains our standard and the scripture cannot be broken. Looking closely at the prayer life of Jesus we learnt He engaged in persistent prayers at different times and particularly in the Garden of Gethsemane. In this garden He prayed more than once on a particular need. The scripture reads

“Then comes Jesus with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, Sit you here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then said he to them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even to death: tarry you here, and watch with me.

And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as you will. And he comes to the disciples, and finds them asleep, and said to Peter, What, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray, that you enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

*He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, your will be done. And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then comes he to his disciples, and said to them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that does betray me”*Matthew 26:36-46(NLT).

When you carefully study the above portion of the Bible, you will discover that Jesus prayed three times for a particular need. This is persistent prayer! Does it mean that Jesus didn't have faith? Why did He pray a particular prayer point for three times? I believe Jesus needed a concrete response from God the Father in order to be assured of being in His perfect will at that very situation. He had to pray persistently until He had a conviction in His spirit that it was God's plan for Him to be crucified as prophesied before He was born by Isaiah the prophet.

The prophecy said of Him thus:

‘Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished. He was assigned a grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.”- Isaiah 53:1-12 NIV

2. Apostle Paul

Paul the apostle also engaged in persistent prayer over his health challenges. He prayed persistently until God spoke to him. The apostle who also wrote so much about faith pleaded with God three times before receiving a solid answer. Look at what he said:

“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, *“My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me*”. 2 Corinthians 12:8-9 NIV.

Praying persistently does not mean you don’t have faith rather persistent prayer is an enduring evidence of faith. It means holding onto God in prayer until your answer or request is honored or given attention in terms of vision, directives or provision. John Wesley admonished in this regard – ‘Storm the throne of grace and persevere therein and mercy will come down’.

3. Prophet Jeremiah

In Jeremiah 33:3, God spoke to the prophet thus

“Call upon me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not”(KJV). God had some things to show or reveal to Jeremiah but wanted him pray persistently for it. Jeremiah at this point was shut up in the prison and he may have prayed for God’s intervention and to no avail. He may have given up praying.

So God in His infinite wisdom now called his attention to this dimension of prayer (persistent prayer).

“Moreover the word of the LORD came unto Jeremiah the second time, while he was yet shut up in the court of the prison” -Jeremiah33:1(KJV).

Beloved, facing challenges of life does not mean that God has abandoned you. Without trials there will be no testimonies. It is when man comes to the end of his strength that God stretches His hand of help to save and deliver him. The fact that you are in trouble does not mean God is powerless but He wants you pray persistently and you will see His salvation at work in your situation. So brace up and bounce back and pray persistently. Jeremiah may have been angry with God for allowing His enemies to lock His righteous servant in the prison and thus stopped praying. God had to call him to pray again to Him with assurance that He will answer him and this time show him great and mighty things he was ignorant of. Hallelujah!

There are many things we are ignorant of over our destinies and situations which can only be revealed when we pray persistently.

This means that we persistently pray until God answers us by showing us what to do to get the physical need met or assures us that our request will be granted with time.

When your request has not been answered or honored by Heaven you should not give up in frustration rather you should persist in prayer.

Bill Thrasher once said ‘Perseverance in prayer is not overcoming God’s reluctance. But rather laying hold on God’s willingness. Our sovereign God has purposed to sometimes require persevering prayers as means to accomplish His will’

Persistence is about staying on a course of action in spite of difficulties or opposition.

4. Elijah the prophet of fire:

Prophet Elijah prayed more than once on mount camel before God sent rain. Let's read the story:

41 Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go get something to eat and drink, for I hear a mighty rainstorm coming!"

42 So Ahab went to eat and drink. But Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees.

43 Then he said to his servant, "Go and look out toward the sea."

The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah and said, "I didn't see anything."

Seven times Elijah told him to go and look. 44 Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, "I saw a little cloud about the size of a man's hand rising from the sea."

Then Elijah shouted, "Hurry to Ahab and tell him, 'Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don't hurry, the rain will stop you!'"

45 And soon the sky was black with clouds. A heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm, and Ahab left quickly for Jezreel.-1Kings18:41-45(NLT).

He got answer after the seventh prayer exercise. No wonder D.L Moody said -"some people think God does not like to be troubled with constant coming and asking. The way to trouble God is not to come at all"

5. Jacob the supplanter

Jacob whose name was later changed to Israel had encounter with the angel of the Lord, until the same angel demanded he should let him go as he made this statement: "let me go, for the day breaks". This was a statement made by the angel of the Lord. The persistent power of Jacob did not permit the angel to go just like that.

Jacob told him that he won't let him go unless he blesses him. He was determined to pray until something happened. Imagine what would have happened if the angel refused to bless him, the day would have broken and passersby would have seen the angel in wrestle with Jacob.

22”That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions.24So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak. 25When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob’s hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man. 26Then the man said, “Let me go, for it is daybreak.”

But Jacob replied, “I will not let you go unless you bless me.”

27The man asked him, “What is your name?”

“Jacob,” he answered.

28Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, e because you have struggled with God and with humans and have overcome.”

29Jacob said, “Please tell me your name.”

But he replied, “Why do you ask my name?” Then he blessed him there.

30So Jacob called the place Peniel, f saying, “It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared.”

31The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, g and he was limping because of his hip. 32Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob’s hip was touched near the tendon”Genesis32:22-31-NIV.

Jacob would have died a cheat (Supplanter) if he didn’t engage in persistent prayer. Something is going to happen to your destiny that will introduce a new chapter as you engage in this dimension of prayer. You will not die like a no-body in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

6. Daniel: The man of vision

Daniel was a powerful character in the Old Testament. He was a mighty man of prayer whom God used again and again. God gave Daniel insight into the world around him. In Daniel 10, Daniel receives a revelation that he doesn’t understand and begins seeking the Lord for understanding. He continued to pray, but no answer comes.

Finally an angel appears to him on the twenty first of his persistent prayer.

This shows that giving up when it seems answer to your prayer is delayed is unbiblical. Daniel would have given in to discouragement but rather he persisted on his knees until the spiritual coast was cleared and his answer arrived. If you stop praying when your answer has not arrived you won't prevail against opposing forces. Failure to persist in prayer is the cause of many unanswered prayers amongst God's children across the globe. The Persian demonic authorities were determined to frustrate Daniel but his persistence was stronger than their resistance. Note that if your persistence is stronger than your enemies' resistance their resistance will bow to your persistence. Why should you faint in the days of your adversity? When was the last time you said heaven will not have peace unless my miracle is delivered into my hands". I want you to know that if Satan can't keep you from praying, he will do everything in his power to keep you from receiving your answer. We need to continue in prayer until we receive our answer. Persistence pays!

In 1952, Florence Chadwick attempted to be the first woman to swim the 21 miles from Catalina Island to the California shore. After 15 hours of swimming in the bone chilling water, she gave up. She felt she couldn't go on. The dense fog made it impossible to track her progress, and the cold water took its toll. When she climbed into the boat, and they headed for shore, they discovered she was only a half mile to her goal. She gave up too soon. She had almost reached the goal but stopped short. Two months later she tried again, and this time was successful.

Life rewards those who are persistent, who never give up, and who continue until they complete the course. It pays to be persistent.

3 Facts About Persistent Prayer

- i. Persistent prayer helps you push through until you receive a note of victory or a release of burden in your spirit which tells you your prayer has been answered.

When you have prayed and prayed through, heaven will give you a song of victory in your spirit or rest in your spirit. Overwhelming joy floods your hearts even when you have not yet seen the physical answer, you just know that something has happened. At this point, inexplicable joy just fills your heart. Anxieties and worries disappear at this point.

Sometimes a song of victory will burst forth on your lips and you will begin to sing and give glory to God.

The birth of our first son.

This reminds me what happened when my wife was pregnant of our first son. When due date came for delivery the contraction kept coming and going. That brought panic and fear since it was our first experience. Then I was led by the Spirit to switch into prayer and behold I prayed for 10 hours at a stretch and at the end I had a release in my spirit and an assurance of answer. To the glory of God the boy came forth. We named him ‘Chinazaekpere’ in Ibo language) which means God Answers Prayer in English language. O yes God answers Prayer when you persist.

My financial status changed after 63 nights of marathon prayers

At another instance I persisted in prayer for 63 nights at a stretch over my financial state, amazingly, a word from the Lord came into my spirit and a new song from Isaiah 43:18-19 was impressed on my heart and as I followed the word I received and sang the new song my financial life grew exponentially. Hallelujah! It pays to pray persistently. Friend, make up your mind to engage in this dimension of prayer over any challenging situation around you now and you will surely see the hand of God. It is your turn for a turn-around encounter via persistent prayers. Make the move now!

In 1 Samuel 1:12-18 Hannah prayed a prayer to the Lord in Shiloh every year until the last year she persisted for answer. Of course the answer came through the priest who observed her as she persistently poured out her heart before her Maker.

12 “And it happened, as she continued praying before the LORD, that Eli watched her mouth.

13 Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk

14 So Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!"

15 And Hannah answered and said, "No, my lord, I am a woman of sorrowful spirit. I have drunk neither wine nor intoxicating drink, but have poured out my soul before the LORD.

16 "Do not consider your maidservant a wicked woman, for out of the abundance of my complaint and grief I have spoken until now."

17 Then Eli answered and said, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him."

18 And she said, "Let your maidservant find favor in your sight." So the woman went her way and ate, and her face was no longer sad”- 1 Samuel 1:12-18

“....so the woman went her way, and did eat, and her countenance was no more sad” (verse 18). Why? Because she had received a divine assurance in her spirit that her prayer was answered. So, persistence in prayer helps us penetrate into the realm of vision, impression or inner witness or assurance of our answer. It helps us to penetrate realms of possibilities. Hallelujah!

ii. Persistent prayer shows our commitment to see the answers to our prayer.

Often we bring fleeting prayers to the Lord. We pray today but forget to pray tomorrow. We bring our request to God today, but never bring it up again.

Persistent prayer is commitment to continually ask God until He answers. I will not give up. I will not quit, I will not try other things. I will bring my prayer to God every day until He tells me what to do or shows me what is hindering my answer.

The gospel of Luke gives us insight into what Jesus thinks about persistent prayer. In Luke 18:1-8 (KJV) Jesus gave clear picture of what persistent prayer is. It reads:

..”And he spake a parable unto them to this end; that men ought always to pray and not to faint. Saying, there was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avange me of mine adversary. And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself. Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

The widow's resolve is the key to her victory. She truly gave her commitment because the judge confessed that she kept coming and by her commitment to see justice done she was wearing the judge out. That is what it means to pray persistently. It takes our commitment to get Heaven's attention. Commitment is another word for resolution. When you resolve within you that you will give yourself to pray to God until He responds God takes notice of you and of course will answer you. It is time to stop the hit and rest mentality in prayer. You must hit and keep hitting until Heaven's door is opened. Commitment to pray pays eventually. God is committed to answer those who are committed to pray persistently.

Persistent prayer breaks the Devil's resistance

The kingdom of darkness will do everything it can to delay and resist your prayer.

Daniel was a powerful character in the Old Testament. He was a mighty man of prayer whom God used again and again. In Daniel 10:1-13 Daniel continued to pray but no answer came until the 21st day of his prayer when an angel of the Lord revealed that the demonic prince in charge of Persia kingdom resisted the Holy Angel coming with his answer. That means his answer was resisted. But God gave Daniel wisdom to persist in prayer.

If Satan can't stop you from praying, he will do everything in his power to hinder your answer. Often times our prayers are resisted in the spirit realm. Therefore, we need to continue in prayer until we receive our answer. Satan was defeated on the cross yet he still tries to resist the work of God on earth. But the good news is that our persistence in prayer breaks Satan's resistance over our answer. So don't give up on your prayers, an angel may be just around the corner with the answer.

More than four occasions I and some prayer warriors prayed for 24 hours. I did not close my eyes from 6am to 6am the next day. And afterwards, Heaven opened and the rest was breakthrough experiences. When we persist long enough in prayer Heaven shows up to do the unusual. We must give ourselves to persistent prayer. After all God commanded it in His Holy Book. The Word says:

“Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the LORD in remembrance, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it a praise in the earth”- Isaiah 62:6-7(RVS)

Look at the phrase ‘take no rest and give him no rest until....’ That is persistent prayer. Why should you rest when God says ‘take no rest’. God says here that we are resting too much whilst our cases are rusting. Our destinies are decaying and situations around us are stinking. It is time to rise and give ourselves and our God no rest until we are answered.

Testimony of A persistent praying Saint

One of the greatest men of prayer was George Mueller. He cared for over 10,000 orphans by asking God to provide for their needs.

He resolved never to write or appeal to any man or organization for assistance. It happened at a time that there was no food for the children and as usual he resorted to prayer in his prayer room. On the third day of the prayer a van conveying bread broke down in front of his orphanage home and every effort to fix it failed. Then the driver phoned the management for the next plan and he was asked to approach the owner of the orphanage and unload the whole bread to the orphanage home. When the driver knocked the door to Muller's prayer room, the Prayer giant opened and after hearing the driver's plan to unload the bread said to him "I have been waiting for you". He ordered his staff to bring in the bread for the children. Guess what? The van that couldn't start for hours started as soon as the breads were brought into the orphanage. The orphans were fed to fill after three days of hunger. Truly Persistent prayer works! Glory to God! George Mueller was a great man of faith that God used in incredible ways. Here is what he said about persistent prayer. He said:

"The great fault of the children of God is, they do not continue in prayer; they do not go on praying; they do not persevere"-George Mueller.

When we bring our request to God day by day and continue to bring the request to Him, we honor Him, we show our commitment, and we breakthrough the resistance of Satan.

What prayer have you given up on? What have you prayed for and when you didn't get an answer, you stopped praying? God is calling you to go back and be persistent in your prayer.

I want to challenge you to be persistent in your prayer.

Persistent prayer says "I will continue to pray until either God answers my or tells me what to do that will bring answer to my request.

If you persist in prayer, you will eventually prevail. You must pray until something happens. It is called 'PUSH' meaning 'PRAYING UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS'

In conclusion, I want to motivate you with the words of Charles Spurgeon and I pray the grace to persist in prayer takes over you from now and you will testify of the fruits of persistent prayer. He said: ‘Do not be afraid dear children of God, you that have fallen into a mournful state, do not be afraid to cry out to God. I know we sometimes feel as if we must not and dare not to pray. We have become so dull, so lifeless, so unworthy, that we do not expect to be heard, and feel as if it would be presumption to cry but our heavenly Father loves to hear His children cry all day long. If you can cry out to Jesus, He will joyfully hear you, if you will give Him no rest, He will give you all the rest you need. The Lord finds music in His children’s cries. What a powerful statement from a great saint and prayer giant. Therefore, pray, pray, and keep praying until your answer comes.

Please take these prayer points.

1. Father, in the name of Jesus, clothe me with prayer fire and cause me to pray until I see your hand upon my life after the order of Elijah.
2. Father, increase my hunger to linger on the altar of prayer until my cloud pours down rain.
3. Father, baptize me with Gethsemane strength thereby propelling me to pray until your next plan for my destiny is accomplished.
4. Father, increase my prayer capacity and henceforth turn me into a prayer tanker.
5. Father, by Your Spirit I draw unusual strength to pray persistently.

Chapter 5

PRAYING WITH VOWS

A vow is purely a religious act which cannot be taking in a feet of passion.

It can be taking only with a mind purified

And composed and God as witness

- Anonymous

Vow is an ancient practice. It can be defined as the making of serious promise or decision to do something for God or man whom you cannot turn from no matter how difficult. I am aware of different kinds of vows but for the purpose of the subject matter, we will focus solely on praying with vow so we can glean vital truths that will make our prayer lives more engaging and pleasurable.

Praying with vow is solemn declaration of commitment to do or give a specific thing to God in order to provoke His integrity and ability towards providing our pressing needs. Vow is a spiritual transaction that stirs God to do what only Him can do for us in the face of unpleasant or life threatening situations. So, it is like give and take system of relationship. It is centered on God doing His part first while man in return fulfils his part of the deal.

Praying with vow is one of the prominent practices in the Bible dated back to the days of Jacob, the grandson of Abraham.

In our dealings with our fellow humans vow is not child's play. No one brings the issue of vow without thinking thoroughly because of its sacredness. We will look at Bible characters who engaged in this dynamic principle and learn how they prayed and the answers that came as results.

1. Jacob vowed a vow on the altar of prayer

‘And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put for his pillows, and set it up for a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it. And he called the name of that place Bethel: but the name of that city was called Luz at the first.

And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and raiment to put on, So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God: And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee."Genesis28:18-22(KJV).

From the passage of the scripture we see Jacob making a vow to God regards his journey into his Maternal home as his elder brother Esau was after his life. He was the first recorded patriarch who initiated praying with vow. The God of his grandfather Abraham who appeared to him may have inspired him to do so.

Note that Jacob's vow was conditional. Meaning God would first attend to his listed prayer request before he would fulfil his part. God being faithful did all that Jacob requested but Jacob never initiated fulfilling his vow until God reminded him in Genesis35:1-3.

'And God said unto Jacob, Arise, go up to Bethel, and dwell there: and make there an altar unto God,that appeared unto thee when thou fleddest from the face of Esau thy brother. Then Jacob said unto his household, and to all that were with him, put away the strange gods that are among you, and be clean, and change your garments: And let us arise, and go up to Bethel; and I will make there an altar unto God,who answered me in the day of my distress, and was with in the way which I went'(KJV).

God heard Jacob's vow and performed all his request but it seemed he forgot until God reminded him. May be because he felt God didn't take his vow serious.

We must learn that. Vow is sacred and God does not joke with it. Each time we say anything to God in prayer He takes it serious but most times we default in honoring our part.

It is a sin to make vow without fulfilling it. God is faithful and expects us to be faithful with our vows. A wise man said to this regard that 'vow is a prove of inner maturity and expression of personal dignity'.

On the side of God, He will certainly perform but it behooves us to demonstrate dignity in fulfilling our part.

The psalmist tells us ***“offer unto God thanksgiving; and pay thy vows unto the most High:”***-Ps.50:14.

2. Jephthah, the mighty man of valor vowed a vow

Judges11:29-31

“Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed over Gilead, and Mannasseh, and passed over Mizpeh of Gilead, and from Mizpeh of Gilead he passed over unto the children of Ammon. And Jephthah vowed a vow unto the LORD, and said, if thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into mine hands, Then it shall be, that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the LORD’S and I will offer it up for a burnt offering”(KJV),

This vow is complex. God honored his vow and gave him mega victory but because of the nature of his vow he cried before fulfilling it. It is important we make vow thoughtfully. It was his only daughter and child that became the first to meet him at the door of his house as contained in his vow.

Because of the sacredness of vow he honored it though it was painful to him

“And Jephthah came to Mizpeh unto his house, and, behold,his daughter came out to meet him with timbrels and with dances: and she was his only child; beside her he had neither son nor daughter. And it came to pass,when he saw her,that he rent his clothes,and said,Alas, my daughter! thou hast brought me very low, and thou art one of them that trouble me: for I have opened my mouth unto the LORD,and I cannot go back”-Judges11:34-35(KJV).

Although it was a tough vow indeed Jephthah still went ahead and fulfilled it. This earned him a prominent place in the list of God’s heroes of faith.

See Hebrews11:32.

Praying with vows is a powerful mystery for receiving specific answers from God.

Hannah vowed unto God and got a male child

1 Samuel 1:11

“And she made this vow, O LORD of heaven’s Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, I will give him back to you all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head”-(NIV). *“Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come about after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD”* 1 Samuel 1:20(KJV). Hannah also turned her barrenness into fruitfulness through engaging prayer of vow. She got and humbly fulfilled her vow.

From these three Bible characters we can establish that praying with vow is an ordained principle for turning the hand of God towards us for intervention over our needs. Closely observing these three Bible characters I discovered about six principles from their vows that will make anyone move the hand of God.

Firstly, Vow Must Be Tied To A Specific Need. If you want God to honor your vow it must be connected to a pressing need in your life. For Hannah she connected her vow to her child bearing and not just a child but a male child. God is a great provider and He is ever willing to provide for His children. You must specify what you want God to do in your vow. So long as it is a need He will supply it. When your need is specified it can easily be identified when the answer comes.

Secondly, Vow Must Be Made In A Formal Prayer. The solemnness of vow is determined by where and how it is made. Jacob made his on the altar he erected after he had a vision (Genesis 28:16-20). Same with Hannah, she made her vow at altar of prayer in her personal devotional time carved out for that purpose. See 1 Samuel 1:9-11.

Thirdly, in your Vow, you must state clearly what you will do or give in return as God does His part. Hannah made it clear that the male child that God would give to her will be given back to God as a priest to serve in the very temple where she made the vow. This is where today's believers make lots of mistake. They make vow in one church and when God answers they take it to another place entirely. One thing is for God to honor His part in the deal of your vow but the most important is for you to honor yours.

Fourthly, you must fulfil your Vow promptly. In Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 we are instructed to fulfil our part of the vow as soon as God does His part. In Deuteronomy 23:21 the Law says *“When thou vow a vow unto the LORD thy God, thou shalt no slack to pay it: For the LORD thy God will surely require it of thee: and it would be sin in thee”*(KJV). God had to remind Jacob of his part of the Vow which he made in the day of distress. See Genesis 35:1-4. Once God does exactly what you asked Him to do then you must do what you vowed to do or give. Of course you are not under any bondage if God has not done His part. It is like a two edged sword. God does His part first and then you do your own part. If you feel you may forget your part of the deal, then document it properly in your important diary. Or you can tell your spouse, children, parents and your leader so they can remind you of your own part when God honors His part. It is dangerous to delay or default in fulfilling your vow.

True life story

A preacher once told a story about a woman who lost her son and was bewildered why God could give a child after 17 years of patiently waiting for his intervention and again He allowed death to rob her of the miracle along the line. She refused to bury the child and eventually she took the child to a praying group in her church they prayed fervently for hours until a prophecy came revealing that the woman made a vow to God saying that she would roll from her house to the church premises in appreciation if God could give her a child in answer to her years of barrenness.

She admitted that she made such vow but has forgotten. The leader of the prayer group asked her to go back home and start rolling from her house to the church as she vowed. She did with the company of other intercessors and the moment she rolled to the church's gate the child woke up. Hallelujah!

Fifthly, God continues to visit you with more blessings when you are faithful in honoring your own part of Vow. Hannah was visited again and again and she gave birth to five more children after she gave Samuel to the Lord in fulfillment of her vow.

‘And the LORD Visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD’-1

Samuel2:21.(KJV).

I have countless personal testimonies in response to praying with vow and I have also taught it in many places including our ministry and mind blowing testimonies keep rolling in.

Personal encounter with Vow

One day I made a vow that if God would help me recover a landed property or the cash equivalent from the people I bought it (who duped me with fake land), that I would give Him a certain amount. Glory to His name He recovered my exact money after 8 years and I fulfilled my vow gallantly. God is real and faithful. Praying with vow is real and I understand how it works. Members of our church whom I have taught the subject extensively are excelling by it. They keep sharing their testimonies every now and then. My wife and children practice this principle effortlessly and they keep testifying of its results. Praying with vow is a common practice in my family. It works!

As I write this book at this season (November 2022), I made a vow on behalf of a member of our church, whose wife was in child labor for three days, and from medical angle she was to pass through caesarian session to have the baby. This made me to make vow to God on Saturday night that if she delivers on Sunday morning without “c-s “ that I will put down a certain amount before I start preaching.

To the glory of God at about 5a.m that Sunday morning she brought forth a male child supernaturally. As I came to the church that Sunday morning I shared the testimony and dropped my vow on the altar before I started preaching just as I vowed. So you can make vow in favor of someone close you but you will be the one to fulfil it.

Sixthly, Make vow in any situation that is beyond your strength Jephthah was confronted with situation beyond his military expertise and might and suddenly he switched to vow and it worked. Any challenge that seems impossible in your eyes should be turned to the Lord in prayer of vow. Please understand that vow has levels and varies in weight. For instance, you cannot vow to give God \$10(Ten dollars) if He gives you 10 plots of land by favor. It may not work. I am talking from experience. The weight of your vow must come a bit close to your demand from God. Simply put that the weight of your vow must reasonably reflect the size of your expectation from God. Truly praying with vow works wonders. May the God of Jacob, Jephthah and Hannah manifest and honor your vow as you pray. May He answer you speedily and give you the desires of your heart in the precious name of Jesus. Praying with vow will work for you like it worked for others and myself. I am expecting your mega testimonies.

Please take these prayer points

1. Father, thank you for opening my eyes on the mystery of praying with vow.
2. Father, help me to know when to add vow to make my prayer.
3. Father, give me the grace to remain faithful in fulfilling my vows.
4. Father, I break every demonic vow made against my destiny in the name of Jesus Christ.
5. Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I receive boldness to make vow for my next level.

Epilogue

I believe your journey through the pages of this book has been an impactful one. I also believe you have learnt some specific things that will help you pray effectively and receive your quick answers. Having the assurance that you can pray wisely and I will like you to swing into action with what you have learnt because application is the key to manifestation. I am also aware of the vastness of the subject of prayer and thus will advice you get more books from distinguished authors and add to what you have learnt from this book.

The bible says: “For it is precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little.” Isaiah28:10(RSV)

I am very much aware that no publisher or author can cover all areas on the subject of prayer. Having read over 50 books on prayer that impacted me immensely, I humbly advice you get following:

How to Pray by R.A Torrey, Touch the world through prayers by Leonard Ravenhill, Prayer made Easy by W.F Kumuyi, Praying with Power by Peter C.Wagner, The kneeling Christian by unknown Author, Winning Prayer by David Oyedepo, Alone with God by Francis Wale Oke, Praying the right way by Chris Oyakhilome, Prayer passport by Daniel Olukoya, How to Pray by Morris Cerulo, Power through Prayer by E.M bounds, The power of prayer in a believer’s life by Charles Spurgeon, Prayer that gets results by Benny Hinn, and etc. Get these materials and you will never experience struggles and hindrances in your prayer life again. Don’t forget what Dr. Martin Luther said. He said ‘to have prayed well is to have studied well. Congratulations!

THE PRAYER THAT GOD ANSWERS

The Prayer That God Answers is a practical guide to cushion the effects of prevailing challenges of believers in the school of prayer. We understand from the scripture that prayer is of man while answer is of God, but not all prayers offered attract divine answer. Prayer offered ignorantly or amiss doesn't yield positive result. However, this book systematically unveils the rudiments that can be used to trigger rapid answers to prayers. *Welcome to your season of answers!*



Apostle Godwin Okechukwu is the general overseer of Good Success Gospel Church International Incorporated, president of Frontliners Leadership Institute and leader of Godwin Okechukwu World Revival Outreach. He recently launched a gospel campaign tagged “Gospel Invasion” with the mandate of winning 10 million souls for Christ within 10 years.

Apostle Okechukwu was ordained into full time evangelical ministry on 17th June 2000. He has carried out crusades in different parts of Nigeria and featured in conferences and seminars. He resides in Portharcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria, but travels from place to place ministering the word of God. Godwin is married to Rev. Helen and the union is blessed with four children.