

PRAYING THE WORD OF GOD

By Sue Whisenhunt

The principles and concepts that follow will change your life. His Word is perfect. His Word will be a help and a guide in order for you to become more acquainted with your Heavenly Father, Jesus, and Holy spirit for they all agree as one; the Word was made flesh [Jesus] and dwelt among us. **As you purpose to feed His Word into your spirit and your soul, your spirit will be quickened to God's Word and you will begin to think like God thinks and talk like God talks.** Your attitudes will be changed. You will find yourself hungering for more of Him. Your Father rewards those who diligently seek after Him. [Heb.11:6]

Not only does His Word affect your life, but it will also affect others through you. For you will be able to counsel accurately others who come to you for counsel and advise. **If you cannot counsel others with the Word, you don't have anything with which to advise or counsel people. Walk and share His counsel and prize His wisdom.**

Proverbs 3:13 AMP tells us, "Happy (blessed, fortunate, and enviable) is the man who finds skillful *and* Godly Wisdom, and the man who gets understanding [drawing it forth from God's Word and life's experiences]." This is living with God and becomes a way of life for you. His ways and nature grow within you as revelatory, experiential knowledge is lived out by you.

Proverbs 4:7-8 AMP says, "The beginning of Wisdom is: get Wisdom (skillful and Godly Wisdom)! [For skillful *and* Godly Wisdom is the principal thing.] And with all you have gotten, get understand (discernment, comprehension, and interpretation). Prize Wisdom highly *and* exalt her, and she will exalt *and* promote you; she will bring you to honor when you embrace her."

Believers have been given an opportunity to have a very personal relationship with the Godhead - Father, Son Jesus and Holy Spirit. Through His Spirit, God reveals His ways and nature to us. This personal relationship with God is not just knowing about Him, but knowing Him intimately and you are continually pursuing to know Him more intimately. The effectiveness of your prayers will rise in direct proportion to the depth of your relationship with Him. The more effort you put into knowing God's ways through His Word and Holy Spirit, the more attune you will be during prayer. The more attune you are in prayer, knowing the will and ways of the Father, the more you will see your prayers answered. God's will is based on His wisdom, which is derived from Him seeing the end from the beginning.

Prayer is not telling God what you want to happen. It is knowing what God desires to happen and aligning your will to what God desires. Additionally, prayer is not telling God what is wrong or whining and complaining. That's why Praying The Word is so effective because we know the Word of God is the will of God. It is so important that you know His Word, are reading it, meditating it and absorbing it every day. Prayer is not telling God what needs to happen in your life or someone else's that you are lifting up in prayer. It is God, through Holy Spirit, revealing to you His plan for you or that person or situation and then agreeing with that plan.

God's Word is sure, steadfast and the Truth that will stand the sands of time. God's Word is eternally alive, powerful and holds the answer to anything and to any question one might have. His Word is unchangeable and eternal. "God's word is quick (alive) and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and is a discernor of the thoughts and the intents of the heart." (Hebrews 4:13) People are looking for something on which they can depend. When a person comes to you in need, you can point that individual to that portion of the Word that is

the answer to their problem. You become victoriously sure, confident and the one with the answer because your heart is fixed, steady and established on His Word, (Psalm 112).

When you begin to seek Godly Wisdom and understanding delving into God's Word, you must commit to ordering your conversation aright. Psalm 50:23 says, "Whoso offers praise glorifies Me: **and to him who orders his conversation aright will I show the salvation of God.**" These two areas of being a person who offers praise and thanksgiving with their heart and mouth and governing or having control over their tongue are crucially important when it comes to praying God's Word. That's being a doer of the Word. Faith always has a good report. You can't pray effectively for yourself, for someone else, or about something and then talk negatively about the matter. This is being double-minded, and a double-minded person receives nothing from the Lord (James 1:6-8).

Mathew 12:34-37 AMP says, "You offspring of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil (wicked)? For out of the fullness (the overflow, the superabundance) of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man from his inner good treasure flings forth good things, and the evil man out of his inner evil storehouse flings forth evil things.....men will have to give account for every idle (inoperative, nonworking) word they speak. For by your words you will be justified *and* acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned *and* sentenced."

Ephesians 4:29-30 AMP says, "Let no foul *or* polluting language, *nor* evil word *nor* unwholesome *or* worthless talk [ever] come out of your mouth, **but only such [speech] as is good *and* beneficial to the spiritual progress of others, as is fitting to the need *and* the occasion, that it may be a blessing *and* give grace (God's favor) to those who hear it. And**

do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God [do not offend or vex or sadden Him], by Whom you were **sealed (marked, branded as God's own, secured)** for the day of redemption---of final deliverance through Christ from evil and the consequences of sin."

Allow those words to soak into your spirit, soul and heart; your innermost being. Our Father has a great deal to say, about this little member of our body called the tongue, primarily in the Book of Proverbs and James 3. Also elsewhere in His Word. Give the enemy no opportunity by getting into worry, unforgiveness, strife, judgment and criticism. Our prayers will be hindered greatly by these and even can become totally ineffective. You need to put a stop to idle and foolish talking and above all, we must learn to walk in love (Ephesians 4:27 & 5:4). Your desire should be to please and bless the Father and to be a blessing to others.

Galatians 6:10 AMP says, "So then, as occasion *and* opportunity open up to us, let us do good [morally] to all people [not only being useful or profitable to them, but also doing what is for their spiritual good and advantage]. Be mindful to be a blessing, especially to those of the household of faith [those who belong to God's family with you, the believers]."

When you pray believe that you receive what you pray as you confess and pray the Word. Hold fast to your confession of faith of God's Word. In other words, do not speak anything opposite of what you pray. Praise and thank God now before the manifestation occurs (before you see it with your eyes). Walk by faith and not by sight. Don't be moved, in your thought life or in your emotions, by adverse circumstances.

As you pray the Word and in line with the Word, He joyfully hears you, His child, and His ears are open to the prayers of the righteous. He is joyful you, His servants are living and walking in the Truth (III John 4). How

exciting it is to know that the prayers of the saints are forever in the throne room (Revelation 5:8). Praise God for His Word and the limitlessness of prayer in the name of Jesus. It belongs to every child of God.

**COMMIT YOURSELF TO PRAY
AND TO PRAY CORRECTLY BY APPROACHING THE THRONE
WITH YOUR MOUTH FILLED WITH HIS WORD.**

Prayer is constant communication with your Father, Jesus or Holy Spirit --- a vital, personal contact with the God who is more than enough. We are to be in constant communication with Him "for the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous -those who are upright and in right standing with God - and His ears are attentive (open) to their prayer" (I Peter 3:12 AMP). Prayer is not a religious form with no power. It is effective and accurate which brings results. Jeremiah 1:12 says, "God watches over His Word to perform it."

Prayer that brings forth results must be based on His Word. Prayer is this "living" Word in our mouth and in your heart. Our mouth must speak forth faith; faith is what pleases God (Hebrews 11:6 AMP). We hold His Word up to Him in prayer, and our Father sees Himself in His Word and watches over His word to perform it.

God's Word is our contact with Him. We put Him in remembrance of His Word (Isaiah 43:26) placing a demand on His ability in the Name of the Lord Jesus. That Word does not return to Him void - without producing any effect, useless --- but it shall accomplish that which He pleases and purposes, and it shall prosper in the thing for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:11). God instructs us to call on Him and He will show us great and

mighty things (Jeremiah 33:3). Prayer is to be exciting and an adventure, not drudgery.

It takes someone to pray. God moves as we pray in faith believing He will hear us and answer us speedily. I John 5:14-15 NKJ states, "And this is the confidence 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 we have the petitions (requests) the we desired of Him." He additionally says in II Chronicles 16:9, "that His eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is blameless toward Him." We are blameless and we are His very own children (Ephesians 1:4-5). We are His righteousness; we have been made righteous by His blood on the cross and righteousness is a gift to us. We need to receive it and walk in it. He tells us "to come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" in Hebrews 4:16.

PRAYER IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY

There are very many kinds of prayer, such as the prayer of commitment, the prayer of worship, the prayer of petition, the prayer of intercession, the prayer of consecration and dedication, the prayer of agreement, praying in the Spirit, the prayer of importunity, the and the prayer of sanctifying. Prayer must be the foundation for every Christian endeavor. Any failure is a prayer failure. We are not to be ignorant concerning God's Word. God desires His people to be successful, to be filled with a full, deep, and clear knowledge of His will, His Word, and to bear fruit in every good work (Colossians 1:9-13). We then bring to Him glory and honor. He desires that we know how to pray for "the prayer of the upright is his delight" (Proverbs 15:8).

**WE PRAY TO THE FATHER, IN THE NAME OF JESUS,
THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT,
ACCORDING TO THE WORD.**

Using God's Word on purpose, specifically, in prayer is one means of prayer and it is a very powerful way to pray. It is a very effective and accurate way of pray. Jesus said, "The Words that I have been speaking to you are spirit and life" (John 16:63 AMP). Using the Word in prayer is not taking it out of context, for His word in us is the key to answered prayer --- effective prayer that brings results. The power lies within God's Word. It is anointed by Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God does not lead us apart from the Word for the Word and the Spirit of God agree as one. We apply that Word personally and to others, not adding to or taking away from it, in the name of Jesus. We apply the Word to the **now** – to those things, circumstances and situations facing each of us **now**.

Paul was very specific and definite in his praying. The first chapter of Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and I Thessalonians are examples of how Paul prayed for believers. There are numerous others. You search them out. Paul wrote under the inspiration of Holy Spirit. We can use these Spirit – given prayers today for ourselves and others.

The Bible says in Galatians 5:6 that our "faith works by and through love." As we pray for ourselves and for others, this love, which is God's love, grows in our lives. The God kind of love is to rule in our lives and through our lives if we are to be victorious and more than conquerors as The Word describes us. This love is described in I Corinthians 13:4-7. Read it in different Bible translations and meditate it. Make it your greatest quest in your Christian life. For Jesus said, Love the Lord God with all your heart, soul, strength

and mind; and love your neighbor as I have loved you. God's love is the great call of His on all our lives. Your faith works by and through your love.

Prayer does not cause faith to work, but faith causes prayer to work. We can see many places in the Word where Paul and others, inspired by Holy Spirit, prayed for the various Churches in their letters. These inspired prayers are contained in many of the epistles in the New Testament; although we are not limited to only prayer these inspired scriptures. We are able and through these examples admonished to use the entire bible for inspired prayers. As you read the Word daily search for scriptures that you would like to pray for yourself and others. Keep a notebook handy when you're reading and note certain scriptures for yourself and others. There are many throughout the Word of God. The entire Bible is inspired, alive, active and powerful coming out of your mouths as you mix your faith with them.

Speak these inspired powerful prayers out loud. We are made in the image and likeness of God Almighty. He did not think the world into being, He spoke what He wanted. In Genesis, in the beginning, God was not moved by what He saw as He looked at utter darkness, but spoke what He desired and the earth and sky and all that filled it were created. You have creative power in your mouth. We are to be imitators of God as dear children (Ephesians 5:1-2).

The following prayers, I have written below, you can personally pray for yourself. I strongly suggest you look them up in the Word and see them for yourselves; so that you may see how I personalized them. Use these as an example, when your reading and come across other portions of scripture you desire to pray. I have underlined certain sections of these prayers, for your benefit. These are especially important for you to meditate and understand.

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Ephesians 1.16-23; & 2.10 & 3.14-20 NKJ

I do not cease to make mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him.

The eyes of my understanding being enlightened,

that I will know what is the hope of His calling,

what are the riches of my inheritance in the saints, and

what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward me who believes,

I am a believer, not a doubter.

according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under my feet, and gave Him to be head over the church-me, I am part of His body, the fullness off Him who fills all and all. I am full of Him.

For I am His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand that I should walk in them. I have a destiny in God.

For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, from whom the whole family in the earth is named, that He would grant me, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with all might through His Spirit in my inner man, that Christ dwells in my heart through faith; that I be rooted and grounded in love; and that I may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height- to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that I may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly

abundantly above all that I ask or think, according to the power that works in me.

Colossians 1.9-14 NKJ

I do not cease praying to ask that I may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; I am strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; Giving thanks to the Father who has qualified me to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered me from the power of darkness and conveyed me into the Kingdom of the Son of His Love, in whom I have Redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

Colossians 4.3 NKJ

Thank You God for opening to me doors for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ; Thank You Lord for Divine Appointments this day.

I Thessalonians 5.23 NKJ

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify me completely; and may my whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Psalm 5.12 NKJ

For You, O Lord, will bless the righteous, that's me, [I have been made righteous by the Blood of the Lamb]; with favor You will surround me as a shield. Thank you Lord, that Your Divine Favor goes before me and surrounds me every day of my life.

Psalm 23 NKJ

The lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul; He

leads me in paths of righteousness for His names sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and your staff comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy follow me all the days of my life; and I am the House of the Lord forever.

Psalm 91 NKJ

I dwell in the secret place of the Most High and I abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I WILL SAY of The LORD: You are my refuge and my fortress, My God in You I trust. Surely You shall deliver me from the fowler and the perilous pestilence. You cover me with Your feathers, and under Your wings I do take refuge; Your Truth is my shield and buckler; I am not afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday. A thousand shall fall at my side, and ten thousand at my right hand, but it shall not come near me. Only with my eyes shall I see the reward of the wicked. Because I have made the Lord, my refuge, Even The Most High, my dwelling place, No evil shall befall me, nor shall any plague come near my dwelling; I do tread upon the lion and the cobra, The young lion and the serpent do I trample underfoot. Because I have set my love upon Him, therefore He will deliver me; I am set on high, because I have known His Name. I shall call upon Him, and He will answer me; He will be with me in trouble; He will deliver me and honor me. With long life will He satisfy me and show me My salvation.

Psalm 103.1-5 NKJ

Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His Holy Name!! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; Who forgives me of all iniquities, and Who heals me of all diseases, Who redeems my life from

destruction, Who crown me with loving kindness and tender mercies, Who satisfies my mouth with good, so that my youth is renewed like the eagle's.

LEARN TO LISTEN AND HEAR FROM HOLY SPIRIT

Start your day, when you arise, talking to God and then listen for His voice. Tell Him good morning God. He desires to speak with you and help you all day long. Ask Him for His wisdom all day long and then take time to listen. You may say, "Well that sounds good, but I don't seem to hear God's voice like you do. He doesn't speak to me very much." Yes, He does. He's your Heavenly Father. He's speaking to you all the time by Holy Spirit, about your life, your calling, and the situations you're facing. He's constantly fulfilling the promise in John 16:13-14, where Jesus said, "Howbeit when He the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all Truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will show you of things to come. He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine and shall show it to unto you." God is talking to you nonstop! You just need to connect with what He's saying. How do you do that? By praying the word and obeying the instructions in James 1:5-6: If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that gives to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. I've acted on these verses more times than I can count. Again and again when I did not have a clue what He wanted me to do. I'd say to Him, "Father, I need your wisdom in this situation and I'm asking you to give me revelation about it in your WORD." Then I would release my faith according to Mark 11:24 which says, "What things you desire, when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you shall have them." More times than not, I felt clueless immediately after I prayed as I did before. But I didn't let my feelings move me. God said He would give me wisdom liberally, and as far as I was concerned it was mine the moment I asked him for it. So I thanked him,

praised him and spent time in the Scriptures, fully expecting to hear Holy Spirit speak to me through them and give me the answer I needed.

I read the Word and pray the Word and pray in the Spirit every day. Tune in on purpose to Holy Spirit on the inside of you and pay attention to what He is saying. Slow down! Listen!

If you want to hear from God and receive wisdom from on high, pray Colossians 1:9-10, that "I will be filled the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." If you want to hear more clearly and consistently from the LORD, I recommend you pray the same scripture every day.

Do whatever it takes to make time in your schedule to seek the Lord and spend time with Him. I guarantee, He'll make it worth your while. Before opening your Bible to read each day, ask Him where he wants you to read. Ask Him daily for His wisdom and see what he does. Expect to hear from Him all day long. Draw near to Him and He will draw near to you. Ask him to make Himself plain to you. You have the wisdom of the universe, your Lord's wisdom available to you. So draw near and receive it.

After you read the Word and pray the Word; spend some time praying in the spirit and in your understanding also (I Corinthians 14:15). Pray in other tongues contains all the wisdom of God. It is praying the perfect prayer for yourself, Romans 8:26 AMP says, "So the Spirit comes to our aid and bears us up in our weaknesses; for we know not what prayer to offer nor how to offer it worthily as we ought, but the Spirit Himself goes to meet our supplication and pleads in our behalf."

PRAYER MUST BE THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY BELIEVER'S ENDEAVOR!