

Benefits of Abiding in Christ

John 15:7-11

John 15:7–11 (NKJV)

⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

⁸ By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

⁹ “As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. ¹⁰ If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

¹¹ “These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and *that* your joy may be full.

Introduction

Today we begin looking at the Benefits of Abiding in Christ. We spent 3 Sundays looking at the Vine and the Branches and discussed in detail the meaning of those verses.. But today we begin looking at the wonderful benefits of truly abiding in Christ. The Benefits listed in verse 7-11 are

1. Answered Prayer
2. Assurance of Salvation
3. Abiding Love
4. Abounding Joy

Today we will just consider one
“Answered Prayer.”

I told you this before, that I was not raised in a Christian home, so prayer was not a common occurrence. In fact the only time I can remember prayer was at the dinner table. It was never my father or mother that prayed. Either me, or brother and sister would be asked to pray.

The prayer was very simple,
“God is Great, God is Good, let us thank him for our food. Amen”

I heard one preacher say that they prayed some times

“God is great, God is Good, bless the food and bless the cook, bless them Lord no matter how they Look. Amen”

So all of my understanding of prayer come from Scripture. I never had an example and was not raised in that context

For the Jewish person in the time of Christ, prayer would have been a very common daily experience. You would have been trained from a child to pray and depend on God for your every need. Every meal, every celebration, every funeral, every festival and feast day, every sacrifice at the temple and every Passover season would have been filled with

prayers. Every Sabbath, every scripture reading would have contained prayers.

The disciples would have been raised in this context and would have experienced this commitment to prayer. It was a common, normal everyday experience to practice prayer.

Yet, I believe that the presence of Christ in the disciples life would probably have diminished their prayer life. Not because they were no longer committed to there Jewish heritage and upbringing, but rather, because they would have Jesus with them 24-7.

No need to pray to God when God is sitting next you eating fish and bread. Why pray for your daily bread when Jesus could create it. Way worry about praying to have the money to pay your taxes, when Jesus could provide it from a fishes mouth. No worry about death when Jesus can raise you from the dead.

The disciples slowing commitment to prayer is even seen the night of his betrayal by Judas. Jesus goes to the garden of Gethsemane to pray and ask the disciple to watch and stay alert, and they fall asleep.

He returns and rebukes them for there lack of commitment to watch and pray.

Matthew 26:36–41 (NKJV)

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, “**Sit here while I go and pray over there.**” ³⁷ And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. ³⁸ Then He said to them, “**My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.**”

³⁹ He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “**O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.**”

⁴⁰ Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “**What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?**” ⁴¹ **Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.**”

But for you and I, Jesus is not sitting beside us as he was with the disciples. He’s in Heaven at the right hand of the Father.

“For us, all we’ve ever known is prayer, right? We’ve never had Jesus around. No matter what it is that we desire from God it always goes up in the form of prayer, that’s all we’ve ever had. The only access we’ve ever had is prayer. When we heard the gospel, we prayed to be saved. When we struggle with temptation, we pray to be delivered. When we need something, we pray to have provision. When we want wisdom, we ask of God. All we’ve ever known is prayer. Prayer is our lifeline; prayer is the air we breathe, it’s our oxygen.

John MacArthur.

We are commanded and expected to pray

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ pray without ceasing,

Luke 18:1 (NKJV)

18 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

Romans 12:12 (NKJV)

¹² rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer;

Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—

Colossians 4:2 (NKJV)

² Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving;

1 Peter 4:7 (NKJV)

⁷ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

So there is clearly a duty on the part of a christian to pray. Yet it is probably on of the most neglected Christians disciplines.

Look at the average church prayer meeting and the numbers dwindle. If you have the teaching of the Word and may fellowship with a meal and you might get a few to come but remove food and teaching and only have prayer and you hope you may have 10-20

It really is a reflection of our spiritual health. You can be orthodox, and evangelistic, have beautiful buildings and big budgets but if you lack prayer you are not healthy. Your body is moving but it has very little oxygen.

We know we should pray more but we don't. We know there should be an eagerness and earnestness to prayers but they are usually dull and repetitive. We even find ourselves only fervently praying when we are in great need of something. Some do suffer from guilt from the lack of prayer but most don't and don't have a second thought about it.

We hear and read of great men and women of God who wore the floor boards out on their knees in prayer and wonder what is wrong with me.

We struggle with balancing in our minds the great doctrine of the Sovereignty and will of God and find ourselves questioning the real legitimacy of prayer, saying "If God has already decreed it then why pray"

We say we believe that man is dead in his sins and that it will take a miracle from God to regenerate him and open his eyes to see. But our prayers don't reflect this because most of our prayers for the lost have very little urgency and enthusiasm. And that might be because we don't really believe man is in that bad of condition or maybe we don't believe God will answer anyway.

One if not the central problem with the view of prayer in the evangelical church is that we believe it is about us,

Matthew 6:6–13 (NKJV)

⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place*; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. ⁷ And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen *do*. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

⁸ “Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. ⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.

Your will be done

On earth as *it is* in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread.
12 And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
13 And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.

Notice in this prayer, which is the prayer Jesus gave to teach us how we ought to pray, there is only one verse that speaks of praying for physical things.

11 Give us this day our daily bread.

Later He even states that if you seek God and is kingdom first there no need to even worry about the physical things.

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

The dominating theme of this prayer is God, His Glory, His Kingdom and spiritual matters if

forgiveness and protection from the evil one and temptation.

This is the exact opposite of today's prayers of most Christians. We are consumed with the physical. We are absorbed with the mundane and earthly things. We are whole unaware of the real purpose of prayer and the spiritual battle we are in.

Look at a couple of highlights of this Prayer.

⁹ In this manner, therefore, pray:

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.

Aorist Passive Imperative

Be Holied Be made HOLY

hagiazó: to make holy, consecrate, sanctify

Original Word: ἁγιάζω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: hagiazó

Phonetic Spelling: (hag-ee-ad'-zo)

Definition: to make holy, consecrate, sanctify

Usage: I make holy, treat as holy, set apart as holy, sanctify, hallow, purify.

Cognate: 37 hagiázō (from 40 /hágios, "holy") – to regard as special (sacred), i.e. holy ("set apart"), sanctify. See 40 (hagios).

[37 (hagiázō) means "to make holy, consecrate, sanctify; to dedicate, separate" (Abbott-Smith).]

In other words, Let your name be made Holy, set apart, Hallowed, honored, worshiped, revered, declared, respected, affirmed, obeyed, submitted too. Let all evil be repented of and all your holy commandments honored

¹⁰ Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth as *it is* in heaven.

Prayer for His Rule and Reign to be fully realized.
For the evil one to be cast out.
For evil and death to be destroyed.
For Souls to be saved
For the Return of Christ and the Judgement to Come.

¹² And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.

A Recognition and Supplication for our sins to be forgiven by the only one that can forgive. A willing Submission to the responsibility to forgive others as God has forgiven us.

13 **And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.**

A prayer for Spiritual Protection from the Sovereign Ruler of all Creation, to keep us from temptation and testing

And acknowledgment that God is the only one who can deliver us from the devil and evil.

v. 13 **For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

A declaration and affirmation that All this is His and All for His Glory.

This kind of prayer is far from the average prayer meeting.

This is clearly all about God, His power and His Authority. All about His praise and and His Glory.

When you read and study the prayer of the Bible and then consider the words of Christ here. It is very clear,

That Prayer is worship.

Prayer is a recognition and Submission to the Sovereign of the Universe.

An affirmation of His Deity and Supremacy. It is the alignment of our wills with His will. A diminishing of us and and exaltation of Him.

A willingness to have His Holy name exalted and His will manifested no matter the ruin of our state.

It is also a recognition and supplication to The Heavenly Father, who loves us and desire to meet our needs to Glorify His Name in all the Earth

“One of my favorite heroes of the Scottish Covenanters was Richard Cameron... Richard Cameron was a great preacher of the gospel at times preaching to 3000 at a time in the outdoors when many of the other preachers had stopped for fear of death. It was at the time the English tried to force Scotland to become Roman Catholic, and the Scottish resisted that, and they fought against the English to maintain their commitment to the gospel and the faith of the Reformation. And they did it by signing a national covenant. Tens of thousands of them signed a national covenant to be faithful to the reformed faith and not succumb to Catholicism. The Catholics came against them; it was a great slaughter. The conflict lasted for decades. Many people died, and mostly Scottish blood was shed. The preachers and pastors had to leave the churches and go and preach in the moors and the

hillsides because they were hiding. There's a hay market square in the city of Edinburgh and it's where many of them were burned at the stake. You can go there and see some of the plaques there that tell you about it. But one of the most famous of them was Richard Cameron.

Cameron was killed on the spot and Hackston taken prisoner. Cameron's head and hands were severed from his body and taken to [Edinburgh](#) where they were shown to his father who was already imprisoned in the town's [tolbooth](#).

When his father was shown the head and hands of his son, he was asked "Do you know them?" Alan Cameron kissed his son's head and said, "I know them. I know them. They are my son's, my own dear son's. It is the Lord. Good is the will of the Lord, who cannot wrong me or mine, but has made goodness and mercy to follow us all our days."^[19]

In the midst of an unspeakable tragedy, there's nobility in the confidence that the will of God is everything. Everything. That's prayer as worship.

Review

Lesson

1. Answered Prayer
2. Assurance of Salvation
3. Abiding Love
4. Abounding Joy

A series of conditional statements pair implicit exhortations with generous promises:
if the disciples abide “in [Jesus]” (15:4, 5, 7, 9),
if they abide “in [his] love” (vv. 9–10),
if they abide in the Father’s love (v. 10);
if they keep his commandments (v. 10);
and if his words abide in them (v. 7)
—then they will bear fruit,
receive what they ask for,
be assured of Jesus’ love,
and have joy.

Although couched in conditional form, these statements are intended to produce assurance in the disciples, not anxiety.

Thompson, M. M. (2015). *John: A Commentary* (First edition, p. 326). Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press.

I. Answered Prayer

⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

εαν μεινητε εν εμοι και τα
ρηματα μου εν υμιν μεινη ο εαν
θελητε αιτησεσθε και
γενησεται υμιν

For many who read this verse and others like it, they can only see one part of it.

“you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.”

It is seen as an open door to the treasures of earth. A blank check.

Because you a follower of Jesus Christ, He will give you whatever you want with no restrictions, no qualifications, just an open invitation to what every you desire.

1. Your car breaks down, get a new one, just ask
2. Diagnosed with cancer, get healed, just ask
3. Need a better job, get a new one, just ask
4. Need more money in the bank,- just ask
5. Need your mother-in-law to move out,- just ask

Other verses seem to say this like:

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

John 14:13–14 (NKJV)

¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do *it*.

John 16:23–24 (NKJV)

²³ “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.” ²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

1 John 3:22 (NKJV)

²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Matthew 21:22 (NKJV)

²² And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

Matthew 7:7–11 (NKJV)

⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.” ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ⁹ Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? ¹¹ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

Matthew 18:19 (NKJV)

¹⁹ “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven.

Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

Luke 11:8–10 (NKJV)

⁸ I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he is his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs.

⁹ “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

This Seems to be the same in the Old Testament.

Psalms 50:15 (NKJV)

15 Call upon Me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.”

Psalm 145:18–19 (NKJV)

18 The Lord is near to all who call upon Him,
To all who call upon Him in truth.

19 He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;
He also will hear their cry and save them.

Jeremiah 33:3 (NKJV)

3 ‘Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you
great and mighty things, which you do not know.’

Psalm 91:15 (NKJV)

15 He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;
I will be with him in trouble;
I will deliver him and honor him.

2 Chronicles 33:12–13 (NKJV)

12 Now when he was in affliction, he implored the
Lord his God, and humbled himself greatly before
the God of his fathers, ¹³ and prayed to Him; and He
received his entreaty, heard his supplication, and
brought him back to Jerusalem into his kingdom.
Then Manasseh knew that the Lord was God.

Job 22:25–27 (NKJV)

²⁵ Yes, the Almighty will be your gold

And your precious silver;

²⁶ For then you will have your delight in the Almighty,

And lift up your face to God.

²⁷ You will make your prayer to Him,

He will hear you,

And you will pay your vows.

But is this what Jesus is saying. Just ask for anything and you will get it.

The prosperity gospel is arguably the second-most nefarious and subversive false gospel plaguing the American Church today, right behind the [social justice gospel](#). The prosperity gospel teaches that God is, in a sense, a genie in a bottle and by having enough faith, you can get what you want from him — material gain.

The prosperity gospel in America is largely associated with celebrity hucksters like Kenneth Copeland, Joel Osteen, T.D. Jakes, Joyce Myer, Paula White, and others, but the false gospel has plagued the more conservative sects as well.

Prosperity gospel preachers often note we “have not because we ask not” (James 4:2). They encourage us to pray for personal success in all areas of life. As [Creflo Dollar](#) writes, “When we pray, believing that we have already received what we are praying, God has no choice but to make our prayers come to pass. . . . It is a key to getting results as a Christian.” Prayers for personal blessing aren’t inherently wrong, of course, but the prosperity gospel’s overemphasis on man turns prayer into a tool believers can use to force God to grant their desires. Within prosperity theology, man—not God—becomes the focal point of prayer.

Certainly all our requests should be made known to God (e.g., [Phil. 4:6](#)), but the prosperity gospel focuses so much on man’s desires that it may lead people to pray selfish, shallow, superficial prayers that don’t bring God glory. Further, when coupled with the prosperity doctrine of faith, this teaching may lead people to attempt to manipulate God to get what they want...”

5 Errors of the Prosperity Gospel
JUNE 5, 2015 | [David W. Jones](#)

There are currently about half-a-billion self-proclaimed charismatics in the world – five hundred million of them. And dominant among them, and

largely all of them adhere to one or another element of this, is this prosperity gospel, this “name it and claim it” kind of aberrant deception. For them, prayer is a personal force – a personal force that will bring you whatever you want; that’s what it is. It is a creative force; it is a creative power; it is a creative energy by which you attract any object or any experience or any situation that you want.

It works like this: know what you want, believe you will receive it, visualize its arrival, and speak it into existence. Those are the four steps, and you find them with everybody from Benny Hinn to Joel Osteen and everybody in between. This is essentially the principle of prayer: know what you want. That’s where it starts. If you don’t know what you want, this thing isn’t going to get off the ground. Believe you will receive it. Visualize its appearance, and then your words, in that context, can speak it into existence. This is called the “law of attraction.” You will attract what you create by your faith expressed in words. In a sense, this is how you pray. One writer says, and I quote, “It works every time, just place your order.” In fact, they tell us that when you pray that way, you shift the universe to make your desires happen for you. This is how millions of people are being taught to pray around the world: decide what you want, believe you’re going to get it,

visualize receiving it, and speak it into existence; you create whatever you want. And the list does not sound like this: holiness, righteousness, purity, humility, brokenness. No, no. The list is all material: health, wealth, success, prosperity, privilege. You speak, in this kind of prayer, faith words that bring into existence what you want.

This kind of confident prayer activates God for your desires, and God is just sitting up there waiting to be activated. They will even tell you He can't do anything until you push this button. And this has infected half-a-billion people who call themselves Christians, a pseudo kind of church across the planet where they have turned prayer into a mechanism by which they get what they want from God – who is obliged to supply it.

These people aren't off a little bit; they have taken up a posture that puts them in the category (according to James 4) of being enemies of God, spiritual adulteresses, enemies of God, hostile toward God. Because what they're saying is, "God, it's not about what you want; it's about what I want. I don't exist to serve You; You exist to serve me." That is a form of blatant idolatry. That is a kind of blasphemy that violates the first commandment to have no other gods

and to worship the Lord your God and no other. Nothing could be further from biblical prayer than that. This is not Christianity; this isn't close to Christianity; this does not honor God; this is just the opposite.

I just might add this; I couldn't even find, in all the world of paganism, any pagan religious system that teaches that you can get what you want out of your deity. That isn't even in paganism. Even pagans understand that they are at the mercy of their deity, not that that deity is at their mercy. This you don't even find in paganism, and yet it's invented and placed in Christianity. Faith and positive confession becomes a kind of blind credulity in which you tell God what you want.

Prayer: The Highest Form of Worship John MacArthur
 • Sermons Selected Scriptures 90-447 Aug 26, 2012

But a closer look at the verses just read will reveal that there are certain qualifications that have to be met before your prayer is answered in the affirmative.

These are not “blank check” verses that guarantee you that you will get whatever you ask, no matter what !!!!!

So what are these qualifications or stipulations

1. Prayer must be in the “Name of Jesus”

John 14:13 (NKJV)

¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

John 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

John 16:23 (NKJV)

²³ “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 16:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you;

To **ask in Jesus’ name** does not mean to frivolously tack the words “in Jesus’ name” onto the end of a prayer. It is not a magic formula that obligates God to grant every selfish request that people make. To pray in Jesus’ name has a far more profound and serious meaning.

First, it means to make requests consistent with God's will and the purposes of His kingdom. In His model prayer, Jesus taught His followers to pray, "Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10).

Second, it is to acknowledge one's spiritual poverty, lack of self-sufficiency, and utter unworthiness to receive anything from God based on one's own merits (Matt. 5:3). It is to approach God based on the merits of Jesus Christ (cf. John 16:26–28) and to acknowledge one's complete dependence on Him to supply every need (Matt. 6:25–32; Phil. 4:19).

Finally, it is to express a sincere desire that God would be glorified in His answer. It is to align one's requests with the Father's supreme goal of glorifying the Son. When believers pray in this way, they pray in keeping with Jesus' **name**—His person, His purposes, and His preeminence.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2008). [John 12–21](#) (pp. 107–108). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

1. You must pray in the Name of Jesus

2. You must Abide in Him

John 15:7 (NKJV)

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

We have discussed this at length in the previous messages. The abiding He is talking about is not superficially attached, (like Judas) rather it is the one who is genuinely attached to Christ. Saved, and has the life of Christ in him.

(have a permanent union with) Jesus Christ. God does not obligate Himself to answer the prayers of unbelievers, though He may choose to do so if it suits His sovereign purposes.

MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (2008). [*John 12–21*](#) (p. 150). Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.

1. You must pray in the Name of Jesus

2. You must Abide in Him

3. Christ Words must Abide in you.

John 15:7 (NKJV)

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

και **τα ρηματα μου** εν υμιν μεινη

ῥήματα are individual words, whereas λόγος (v. 3) refers to all of Jesus' teaching, his message. Remaining united to Jesus involves allowing his teaching to have full sway in one's life. Μείνη 3rd sg. aor. act. subjunc. of μένω.

Harris, Murray J.. John (Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament) (Kindle Locations 8613-8615). B&H Publishing Group. Kindle Edition.

A Key is stated here, that you must have “the specific word’s” of Christ in you. Remaining, and filling and continuing in you.

This defines a Christian

John 8:31 (NKJV)

³¹ Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.

John 8:37 (NKJV)

³⁷ “I know that you are Abraham’s descendants, but you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

Deuteronomy 6:6 (NKJV)

⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

Job 23:12 (NKJV)

¹² I have not departed from the commandment of His
lips;
I have treasured the words of His mouth
More than my necessary *food*.

Psalm 119:11–16 (NKJV)

¹¹ Your word I have hidden in my heart,
That I might not sin against You.
¹² Blessed *are* You, O Lord!
Teach me Your statutes.
¹³ With my lips I have declared
All the judgments of Your mouth.
¹⁴ I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies,
As much as in all riches.
¹⁵ I will meditate on Your precepts,
And contemplate Your ways.
¹⁶ I will delight myself in Your statutes;
I will not forget Your word.

Jeremiah 15:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of
my heart;
For I am called by Your name,
O Lord God of hosts.

Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

1 John 2:14–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ I have written to you, fathers,
Because you have known Him *who is* from the beginning.

I have written to you, young men,
Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you,

And you have overcome the wicked one.

2 John 1–2 (NKJV)

¹...To the elect lady and her children, whom I love in truth, and not only I, but also all those who have known the truth, ² because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us forever:

It determines our Prayers

Your mind and heart are full of the Words of Christ, so your thought and request are governed by His Word.

Job 22:25–27 (NKJV)

²⁵ Yes, the Almighty will be your gold
And your precious silver;

²⁶ For then you will have your delight in the
Almighty,

And lift up your face to God.

²⁷ You will make your prayer to Him,
He will hear you,
And you will pay your vows.

Psalms 37:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Delight yourself also in the Lord,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Proverbs 28:9 (NKJV)

⁹ One who turns away his ear from hearing the
law,
Even his prayer *is* an abomination.

Psalms 10:17 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Lord, You have heard the desire of the humble;

You will prepare their heart;
You will cause Your ear to hear,

Proverbs 10:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ The fear of the wicked will come upon him,
And the desire of the righteous will be granted.

Psalms 145:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ The Lord *is* near to all who call upon Him,
To all who call upon Him in truth.

1 John 3:22 (NKJV)

²² And whatever we ask we receive from Him,
because we keep His commandments and do
those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Psalms 34:15–17 (NKJV)

¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous,
And His ears *are open* to their cry.

¹⁶ The face of the Lord *is* against those who do
evil,
To cut off the remembrance of them from the
earth.

¹⁷ *The righteous* cry out, and the Lord hears,

And delivers them out of all their troubles.

James 5:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Warning

Psalm 66:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ If I regard iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear.

Job 35:12 (NKJV)

¹² There they cry out, but He does not answer,
Because of the pride of evil men.

Proverbs 1:28–30 (NKJV)

²⁸ “Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;
They will seek me diligently, but they will not find
me.

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the Lord,

³⁰ They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.

Isaiah 1:15–16 (NKJV)

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands,
I will hide My eyes from you;
Even though you make many prayers,
I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean;
Put away the evil of your doings from before My
eyes.
Cease to do evil,

Micah 3:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Then they will cry to the Lord,
But He will not hear them;
He will even hide His face from them at that
time,
Because they have been evil in their deeds.

James 4:3 (NKJV)

³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

The Key to this is not trying figure out what lines up with the Character, Will and Word of God and then ask for that because there are frankly, a lot of things that are not specifically mentioned in Scripture
Your car, job, cancer diagnosis. The Terminal illness of your, 100s of other needs

But the goal should be to become like Christ by

Abiding in Christ

and

Abounding in His Word.

Charles Spurgeon

“Prayer is the natural outgushing of a soul in communion with Jesus. Just as the leaf and the fruit will come out of the branch without any conscious effort on the part of the branch, but simply because of its living union with the stem, so prayer buds, and blossoms, and fruits out of souls abiding in Jesus.”

— Charles Spurgeon, Encouraged to Pray: Classic Sermons on Prayer

"Whether we realize it or not, prayer is the encounter of God's thirst with ours. God thirsts that we may thirst for him."

- St. Augustine

