

P R A Y I N G G O D ' S W I L L

**(A Prayer Handbook for the
Glorious Church of Jesus Christ)**

RICKY PILLAY

PRAYING GOD'S WILL

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The name "satan" and related names are not capitalized. The author chooses not to acknowledge him, even to the point of violating grammatical rules.

The word "man" as used in this book is a reference to all people, both men and women, and is used for the purpose of brevity. It is not intended in any way to be sexist or discriminatory.

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Dedication

To the one True God who hears and answers the prayers of His children.

To my darling wife Devandree, and precious children, Clinton and Nolan.

To my family and friends at Kingdom Life Academy.

ENDORSEMENT COMMENTS

LAUREN LOK – Prayer On Air, Radio Pulpit: In the years of presenting Prayer On Air on Radio Pulpit at 6am on a Saturday morning, many of the letters that I have received have been from folk in the body of Christ who have said that they had no idea how or what to pray for the nation and in some instances did not even know how to begin to enter into the “mystery of prayer”. It is a plot of the enemy to separate prayer from the walk of every believer and attempt to mask it in “mystery and inscrutability” - advising believers to, rather than DO it, leave it out altogether and let the “called” intercessors deal with it. This is one of satan's biggest lies and one which, happily, the Lord of All is exposing in these days. Prayer is talking with the Lover of your soul sharing your heart with Him and allowing Him to share His heart with you. It's not dependent on eloquent words but on expressing the true desire that lies within your heart.

With that in mind it is with pleasure that I recommend *“Praying God's Will”*. The basis for the book is a biblical one and one that will enable even the most inexperienced warrior learn to expertly use the sword of the Word in prayer. There is also a wonderful balance of bringing the readers to the place of examining themselves before the throne of God and inviting the Holy Spirit to “begin with me, Lord”.

I have no doubt that *Praying God's Will* is a book that will launch you into that wonderful place where you become the confidant of God.

“The secret of the Lord is with those that fear Him and them He will shew His covenant” Psalm 25:14. A word study of this text implies the following, *“The inner circle, intimate, conversation of God is with those that reverence Him and such He will cause to be skilful in the application of His covenant, placing them as an arrow to His bow and shooting them directly to the target.”*

This little book will be one of those tools, which will enable you to become the friend of God. Happy praying.

DR. PAUL LUTCHMAN - President of Christian Revival Centre, Teamwork Bible College, and Kingsword Academy:

Prayer is the powerhouse of Christendom. It is an essential means of communication with an Invisible, All Powerful, All Knowing and ever Present God. Billions of Rands have been spent on communication systems that utilize ultra modern satellites in outer space. Yet, to communicate with the Creator of the Universe we need only vocalize our thoughts and desires to elicit the required answer from a God who never fails. This book by Ricky Pillay portrays the methodology, the theology and of course the “knee-ology” to endorse the benefits of prayer for a personal, familial, communal, national and international impact.

PASTOR ASHWIN SUNDER – Miracle Souls Outreach: Ricky Pillay shows us how to make God’s will a reality in our lives by providing this invaluable tool for unleashing God’s awesome power in our lives through praying the Word.

PASTOR ABEL DAVID – Senior Minister of Apostolic Restoration Ministries, Prayer Coordinator for Family Alliance International and Team Leader for Africa Ministries Network:

“Praying God’s Will” is more than just a book on prayer. It is an invaluable handbook that should form part of every praying Christian’s library. My prayer life has been tremendously blessed as I prayed through *“Praying God’s Will”*.

PASTOR LESLIE MUNSAMY – Founder and President of Global Evangelism and Missions Team Network: The Lord has blessed us with a tremendous gift of teaching in the person of Ricky Pillay. Through the grace imparted to him he is able to unlock the “secret of the Lord” in the prayer Jesus taught His disciples. With the skill of a craftsman, Ricky Pillay enables us to view the “*Lord’s prayer*” as a precious toolbox rather than as religious literature. This handbook is a must for every intercessor, Bible scholar, preacher, in fact every believer.

FOREWORD

It is becoming increasingly clear that the conflicts and challenges we are facing require supernatural assistance. We are here not only to overcome but to do exploits.

“But the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.” (Daniel 11:32 KJV)

Prayer develops intimacy with God.

Intimacy develops strength to do exploits.

If we are to do exploits for God we must pray in Spirit and in Truth. Thus our prayers must be supported by the Word of God ~ the Truth.

This book by Ricky Pillay will help you to pray with an open Bible.

The personal application of the Word in our petitions will make the Word of God the substance of our prayer and worship.

Andrew Murray said:

“Little of the word with little prayer is death to the spiritual life. Much of the word with little prayer gives a sickly life. Much prayer with little of the word gives more life, but without steadfastness. A full measure of the word and prayer each day gives a healthy and powerful life.”

Dr. S.Y. Govender

Antioch Christian Tabernacle

PREFACE

Jesus said unto His disciples *“The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; **pray ye therefore** the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.”* (Matthew 9:37-38).

Think of it:

- God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9, John 3:16),
- God takes pleasure in saving those who believe the preaching of the gospel (1 Corinthians 1:21),
- the preaching of the gospel is important to God (Romans 10:14-15),
- the end will not come until the gospel is preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations (Matthew 24:14),
- the harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few;

yet the Lord of the harvest needs someone to pray before He can send forth more labourers into His harvest. That’s how important prayer is for the execution of God’s plan and purpose in the earth. It is an awesome responsibility of every Christian because God wants His will to be made manifest in the earth through our prayers.

Please don't misunderstand me in thinking that I am saying that God would go out of business if nobody prays. No! God will always remain the Sovereign, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Omniscient, Supreme Ruler of the universe even if nobody prays. But it was God who decided that the heavens belongs to Him and the earth to man (Psalms 115:16, Genesis 1:26-28 and Psalms 8:3-8). In honour of this decision, God will not do anything in this earth without the co-operation of man. For this reason He reveals His will to us (Deuteronomy 29:29, 1 Corinthians 2:9-12), expecting us to respond with prayer (1 John 5:14), so that He can act and move on our behalf (Luke 18:1-8).

In restoring man's dominion over the earth which Adam lost to satan through disobedience, Jesus, after giving to His disciples authority (or keys of the Kingdom of Heaven), declared that heaven

would follow the course of action that the church takes on the earth (Matthew 16:19); obviously through prayer. Again we see that in order for heaven to action its will on earth, Christians must pray. Prayer is therefore the act of joining forces with God.

Although much has been written and preached on the subject, the condition of our land is proof that there is need for more effective praying Christians. 2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us *“if my people [Christians], which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”*.

This book is therefore aimed at teaching readers to pray effectively by re-introducing the value and biblical methodology of prayer to believers. It is based on the principle of 1 John 5:14 (*if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us*) and the Lord’s Prayer (Luke 11:2-4) which presents a model for all areas of our lives that we need to bring before God in prayers. In other words, this book helps readers to understand and apply the principles inherent within the structure of the Lord’s Prayer. It demonstrates how to best pray the will of God by knowing His Word and praying His Word back to Him in our prayers.

In an age of uncertainty, God is our only answer and only hope. Let us therefore stand in agreement, as we pray God’s written will together for the advancement of the Church of Jesus Christ, believing that Christians would become serious about the Word, serious about prayer, serious about change, serious about progress and serious about God.

INTRODUCTION

And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing 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)

The Apostle John shows us how to have absolute confidence in God through prayers that bring results. He is simply saying that if we pray in line with or in agreement with God's will, God hears us, and therefore we can rest assured that our petitions (or prayer requests) will be answered. The lesson here is that if we want answers to our prayers, we must learn to secure God's attention by praying according to His will.

According to the Strong's Greek Dictionary of the New Testament, the Greek word for **will**, "thelema", also includes to mean: a determination, purpose, command, desire or pleasure. The easiest way of knowing His will (determination, purpose, command, desire or pleasure) is by going to the written Word (His revealed last will and testament for mankind).

Praying according to His will (or Word) gives confidence that He hears us because:

- God is a God of integrity. His Word is His bond, His covenant, His commitment to us, and that what He has promised, He watches over to fulfil. The words of the Lord are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times (Psalms 12:6). They are perfect, sure, right, clean, true, righteous (Psalms 19:7-9); for ever settled in heaven (Psalms 119:89); magnified above the name of God (Psalms 138:2); honourable (Isaiah 42:21); and sent to heal and deliver us from our destructions (Psalms 107:20). In Psalms 89:34 God promised not to break His covenant, nor alter the thing that is gone out of His lips. Jesus said that they are spirit and life (John 6:63); Paul confirmed it is quick,

powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12); and Peter called it exceeding great and precious promises (2 Peter 1:4).

- Petitions based on the will, and not the need, is evidence that you honour and believe the integrity of His eternal Word.
- This kind of praying prevents us from praying amiss (James 4:3).

To get Him to hear us, it is imperative therefore that we approach Him on the basis of His Word, and not our need.

Psalms 8 and 68 shows us that David prayed according to the Word. In Psalms 8, he quoted from Job 7:17-18 and in Psalms 68:8, Exodus 19:18 is quoted. In another Psalm, after praising God for His Word, he prayed, *“Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer”* (Psalms 19:14).

When God decided to destroy the Israelites for the sin of making and worshipping the golden calf, Moses reminded God of His covenant - *“Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. And the Lord repented of the evil which he thought to do unto his people”* (Exodus 32:13-14).

In I Kings 8:25-26 we notice Solomon reminding God of His covenant: *“Therefore now, Lord God of Israel, keep with thy servant David my father that thou promisedst him, saying, There shall not fail thee a man in my sight to sit on the throne of Israel; so that thy children take heed to their way, that they walk before me as thou hast walked before me. And now, O God of Israel, let thy word, I pray thee, be verified, which thou spakest unto thy servant David my father”*.

Is God forgetful that we have to remind him of His Word? No, certainly not! Psalms 105:8 tells us that God remembers His

covenant for ever and His Word to a thousand generations. Reminding God of His Word or praying according to His Word is merely an act of expressing our faith and confidence in the integrity of His Word (Numbers 23:19, Isaiah 55:10-11), thereby pleasing Him.

Even Peter, John and the early church prayed what was written in Psalms 2:1-2: *“And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.”* (Acts 4:24-26)

A careful examination of the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples shows that it is based according to the revealed will of God in the Old Testament. Jesus’ statement that He did not come to destroy the law or the prophets but to fulfil it, verifies this (Matthew 5:17).

And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. (Luke 11:1-4)

In Jeremiah 31:9, God through this prophet said that He is a father to Israel. Jesus taught us to address God as OUR FATHER.

2 Chronicles 7:14 tells us: *“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will*

forgive their sin, and will heal their land". Therefore, our Father, IN HEAVEN.

According to Psalms 111:9, holy and reverend is His name, and Leviticus 22:32 says that God must be hallowed among the people. Consequently, HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME.

Isaiah prophesied: "*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this*" (Isaiah 9:6-7). Daniel's interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's first dream was "*And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever*" (Daniel 2:44). This confirms that Jesus' next statement YOUR KINGDOM COME is according to the will of God.

The Old Testament is full of God's promises of healing, prosperity, redemption, forgiveness, love, mercy, grace, victory, success, freedom and blessings for His people. His next item on the agenda was YOUR WILL (WORD) BE DONE (FULFILLED) ON EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

God's divine providence is ample in the Old Testament. We read in Deuteronomy 8:3-4: "*And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years*". Hence, GIVE US OUR DAILY BREAD (spiritual and physical needs).

FORGIVE US OUR SINS is in accordance with Psalms 32:5: “*I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin*”, and Psalms 25:11: “*For thy name's sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity; for it is great*”.

God said: “***Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him. Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the Lord***” (Leviticus 19:17-18). That’s why we pray **AS WE FORGIVE OTHERS**.

The promise of deliverance in Psalms 91:15, “*He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him*”, is the basis for the next statement **LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL**.

Another point of importance in the prayer that Jesus taught is the words, “*When you pray, say*”.

Say, does not imply “repeat these words after me every time you pray”. If it did, then it would be in contradiction to His statement “*But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking*” (Matthew 6:7). Neither is there any evidence in the gospels of Jesus repeating the words of Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13 in His prayer, but what is evident, is that He:

- addressed His prayer to the Father in heaven - John 17:1, Luke 10:21, John 11:41-42;
- showed reverence for the name of God - John 17:6,11,12 & 26, John 12:28;
- rejoiced in prayer that His disciples were victorious over satan (Luke 10:1-21), which signified that the disciples were having a foretaste of Kingdom life (Matthew 12:28);

- prayed for the will of God to be done - Matthew 26:39,42,44;
- believed for His needs to be met supernaturally (the feeding of five thousand) - John 6:11;
- prayed "*Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do*" - Luke 23:34 (as there was no need for Him to pray "forgive me of my sins" because He knew no sin); and
- prayed against temptation and for protection from evil. John 12:27: "*Father, save me from this hour*" (the hour of testing and trial) and John 17:15: "*I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil*".

The words of Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13 are not even repeated in the prayer of the early church (Acts 4:23-31), nor in Paul's prayers recorded in his epistles (Ephesians 1:15-23, Philippians 1:9-11, Colossians 1:9-13). We must understand that Jesus was not teaching a religious recital, but rather the basic structure or framework within which to pray. In other words, He was giving us a model prayer.

If God knows what things we have need of, even before we ask Him (Matthew 6:8,32), if God is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us (Ephesians 3:20), and if we are already blessed with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Ephesians 1:3), then why do we have to pray? What is the purpose of prayer? The answer is in the word "**say**". We say prayers to release our faith to receive. Hebrews 11:6 tells us: "*But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him*". From Hebrew 11:1, we know that faith is a substance, a spiritual force. We learn in Matthew 8:5-13 (the story of the centurion) that faith is released and measured by the words of our mouth and it materialises our hope, desire or expectancy. With that in mind, let's look at Mark 11:23-24: "*For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain [the obstacle], Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe*

that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them". Jesus first spoke about the power of faith filled words purposefully spoken to obtain a desired end result. He said that if we **say** and believe what we **said** shall come to pass, we will have whatever was **said**. He then used the conjunction **therefore** to join His next sentence (verse 24) with what He explained in verse 23. In essence, by the use of the word **therefore**, He implied that if you say your prayer and **believe that you receive what you said or asked for**, you would receive the answer.

“**Say**” has reference to words of the mouth and words are an expression of your faith (what you believe in your heart). Let's take a look at some of the scriptures that shed light on Mark 11:23-24, with regard to faith and words.

*“We having the same spirit of **faith**, according as it is written, I **believed**, and therefore have I **spoken** [words]; we also **believe**, and therefore **speak** [words].”* (2 Corinthians 4:13)

*“But what saith it? The **word** is nigh thee, even in thy **mouth**, and in thy **heart**: that is, the **word of faith**, which we **preach** [words]; That if thou shalt **confess** with thy **mouth** [words] the Lord Jesus, and shalt **believe** in thine **heart** that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the **heart** man **believeth** unto righteousness; and with the **mouth confession** [words] is made unto salvation.”* (Romans 10:8-10)

*“... for out of the **abundance of the heart** the **mouth speaketh** [words]”* (Matthew 12:34). Whatever is in abundance in your heart (faith, love, fear, worries, doubt, evil, etc), will proceed out of your mouth. Your words can either defile, or sanctify you and bears proof of whether or not you are walking in faith and His Word.

*“And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have **faith** as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall*

say [words] unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.” (Matthew 17:20)

The reason for prayer is clear - it is a means of communicating and expressing our faith to God through words, which are in agreement with His written will (1 John 5:14).

Also notice, that in Mark 11:23, Jesus said “*and shall not doubt in his heart*”. Did you know that doubt deprives us from living in the blessings of God? The first thing that satan attempted to do was to get Eve to doubt God’s instruction. Genesis 3:1-6 says: “*Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. **And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?** And the woman said unto the serpent, **We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.** **And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.” Ever since that day, satan has become the master of deception, sowing seeds of doubt in us, to discredit the integrity of God’s eternal Word, so that we disinherit the promises of God’s blessings. In response to John’s doubtful question, when he was in prison, as to whether or not Jesus was the Son of God, Jesus said “... ***blessed is he, whosoever shall not*** [have doubts about me or] ***be offended in me***” (Matthew 11:6).*

In Hebrews 3:7-19, we realise that we can provoke and grieve God with unbelief. After the resurrection, Jesus rebuked His disciples for their unbelief and hardness of heart (Mark 16:15) and said to Thomas “*because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: **blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed***” (John 20:29).

We must learn to believe God's Word, no matter how impossible our problems appear, because Isaiah 55:10-11 tells us "*For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it*". We must fight the good fight of faith, against the spirit of fear and doubt that robs us from living in the blessings of God.

Another scripture, which sheds more light on the word **say**, is Luke 17:5-6: "*And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you*".

The commission to the apostles from Jesus was: preach the Kingdom of Heaven, heal the sick, raise the dead and cast out devils (Matthew 10:7-8). On more than one occasion (Matthew 17:14-21, Matthew 8:23-27, Matthew 14:22-33), we find the apostles not able to perform like their mentor, Jesus Christ, because of unbelief. Hearing words like these from the lips of Jesus all the time - "*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth; O faithless and perverse generation; O ye of little faith; I have not found so great faith; according to your faith be it unto you; thy faith hath made thee whole; great is thy faith, be it unto thee even as thou wilt*" - obviously, the apostles wanted more faith.

Interestingly, Jesus did not pray or lay hands on them for an impartation or transfer of faith. Why? Because "*faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God*" (Romans 10:17). The apostles had enough faith because they were exposed to the teaching and preaching of Jesus all the time. Their problem was in releasing that faith.

Jesus answered, “if you had (He already told them once before in Matthew 17:20, *if you have*), faith (the substance or spiritual force) *as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you*”.

The grain of mustard seed was not used to illustrate the size of faith, because twice Jesus expressed disappointment with the size of their faith. In Matthew 8:26, “*He saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm*”. The other reference is found in Matthew 14:31 “*And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?*”

Instead, the grain of mustard seed was used to illustrate the power and potential of faith like that of this seed. In the creation account of vegetation in Genesis, we learn that God created grass, herb, and fruit tree. According to Matthew 13:31-32 a mustard plant is classified as a herb: “*Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is like to a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field: Which indeed is the least of all seeds: but when it is grown, it is the greatest among herbs, and becometh a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in the branches thereof*”. Notice the supernatural ability of the mustard plant, naturally a herb to produce seeds for condiments, but it grows beyond its limitation into a tree (apparently up to three metres in height) with branches, to provide shelter for the birds. Such is the power and potential of our faith, it can take us beyond our natural ability into the supernatural, if we dare to live by it, as it is written **the just shall live by faith.**

Nobody was given the opportunity to choose the environment in which they prefer to be born in, we may or may not be responsible for our circumstances, but thank God, He did not leave us destitute. He gave us His faith (Romans 12:3) and Word (2 Peter 1:3) to

change the course of our destiny, according to His predestined plan for our lives.

The faith that comes from hearing the Word of God, when released through the words of our mouth, is powerful enough not only for use in prayer, but also to exercise your authority over your obstacles “*ye might say unto this sycamine tree [the obstacle, a deep-rooted mulberry tree], be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you*”.

Demanding a land plant to grow in the sea is naturally impossible, but Jesus used this illustration to show the power of faith. In Mark 9:23, Jesus said, “*If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth*”. Again in Matthew 17:20, “*for verily I [Jesus] say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain [the obstacle], remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you*”.

The release of your faith, through the words of your mouth, puts you in a place of authority over your obstacles, because Jesus said that the Sycamine tree should obey you.

In the light of what has been said, we can now understand that the Lord's Prayer is about releasing our faith:

1. in the Fatherhood of God and in all that He is, as revealed through His name,
2. for His Kingdom to come,
3. for the fulfilment of His will (Word) in the earth,
4. for our needs (spiritual and physical) to be met,
5. to pursue a right relationship with God and man, and
6. for our deliverance and victory.

CHAPTER 1

THANKSGIVING, PRAISE AND WORSHIP

FOCUS: “Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name...” (Luke 11:2)

In the Introductory Chapter, the words of Jesus “*When you pray, say*”, is explained to mean that whatever you are desiring or hoping for, if you are believing God for it, you have to support it with action by saying a prayer. A prayer is a means of releasing your faith to give evidence to what you are believing for, thereby pleasing God, to receive from Him. In other words, faith [the release of words (Luke 17:6) and the corresponding action (James 2:26)] outwardly expresses your inward belief. The release of faith through the words of your mouth gives substance or produces what you are hoping or desiring for, and it is the evidence of things not seen (what you are believing for) (Hebrews 11:1). The lady with the issue of blood in Mark chapter 5 confirms the aforementioned statement. “*For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole*” (verse 28), and Jesus said unto her “*Daughter, thy faith hath made you whole...*” (verse 34). Her faith (what she said) gave evidence to what she believed and produced what she desired or hoped for (her healing). When approaching God in prayer, we must always be mindful of the fact that without faith (action to your belief) it is impossible to please God and He that comes to God must believe that He exists, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).

The statement, “*Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed by thy name*”, shows us three aspects of God:

1. Who God is: He is **our Father**. (In teaching us to address God as “Our Father”, Jesus is drawing our attention to the spiritual union that exists between the Godhead and the Christian. It is a revelation of the Fatherhood of God, Jesus Christ (our Elder Brother and the first born from the dead), the work of the Holy

Spirit in adoption, and the position of sonship and responsibility of the believer in the family of God.)

2. Where God lives: In heaven. (A place of worship.) (Revelation 4:9-11)
3. What He requires from us: His name to be hallowed, that is, held in reverence and honour.

If you believe who God is, where He dwells and what He requires from you, then give action to your belief, by honouring, revering and appreciating the Father for all that He is (His authority, character, majesty, power, excellency and glory, as revealed and exhibited through **His name**). We can honour, revere and appreciate Him with thanksgiving, praise and worship consistent with His Word, a principle of John 4:24 and John 17:17, which shows us that truth and the Word are synonymous.

The rest of this chapter contains scriptures in a “ready-to-pray” format for use in thanksgiving, praise and worship. As you familiarise yourself with these scriptures, use them to appreciate, praise and worship God in your own words.

IN GIVING THANKS TO THE FATHER, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Heaven, in Jesus name (*Ephesians 5:20*), I thank You that:

- You lead me in the paths of righteousness for Your name sake. (*Psalms 23:3*)
- You give me victory and cause me to triumph in Jesus Christ. (*1 Corinthians 15:57, 2 Corinthians 2:14*)
- You made us Your heir and joint heir with Jesus. (*Galatians 4:7, Romans 8:17*)
- You quickened me together with Christ and raised me up together and made me sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. (*Ephesians 2:5-6*)
- You exercise loving kindness, judgement and righteousness in the earth. (*Jeremiah 9:24*)
- You will not fail me, nor forsake me. (*Deuteronomy 31:6*)

- You put Your Word into my mind and wrote it in my heart. (*Hebrews 8:10*)
- You freed me from sin. (*Romans 6:22*)

Father in Jesus name, I thank You that:

- You take pleasure in Your people and You beautify the meek with salvation. (*Psalms 149:4*)
- You are always mindful of me and know all my needs. (*Psalms 115:12, Matthew 6:32*)
- You take pleasure in them that respect You. (*Psalms 147:11*)
- You love me with an everlasting love. (*Jeremiah 31:3*)
- You give food to all flesh. (*Psalms 136:25*)
- You hear my supplication and receive my prayer. (*Psalms 6:9*)
- You are mindful of me, You visit me, You crown me with glory and honour, You gave to me dominion over the works of Your hands and put all things under my feet. (*Psalms 8:4-6*)
- You saved me and called me with a holy calling, not according to my works, but according to Your purpose and grace. (*2 Timothy 1:9*)

Father in Jesus name, I thank You that:

- You will never leave me, nor forsake me. (*Hebrews 13:5*)
- You give wisdom and out of Your mouth comes knowledge and understanding. (*Proverbs 2:6*)
- You correct us because You love us. (*Proverbs 3:12*)
- You reward them that diligently seek You. (*Hebrews 11:6*)
- You will not fail me nor forsake me. (*Joshua 1:5*)
- You have done excellent things in the earth. (*Isaiah 12:5*)
- You are the God of gods, a Lord of kings and a revealer of secrets. (*Daniel 2:47*)
- You are good unto them that wait for You. (*Lamentations 3:25*)
- You give to every man the measure of faith. (*Romans 12:3*)

Father in Heaven, in Jesus name (*Ephesians 5:20*), I thank You that:

- I am called and kept by Your name. (*2 Chronicles 7:14, John 17:11*)
- With righteousness You judge the poor. (*Isaiah 11:4*)
- As a father pities His children, You pity them that respect You. (*Psalms 103:13*)
- They that trust in You are blessed. (*Psalms 34:8*)

- All things work together for good to them that love You and to them who are called according to Your purpose. (*Romans 8:28*)
- Happy are the people, whose God is the Lord. (*Psalms 144:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I thank You that:

- Your commandments are not grievous. (*1 John 5:3*)
- No man can pluck me out of Your hand. (*John 10:29*)
- In You we live, and move and have our being. (*Acts 17:28*)
- You are able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we can ask or think, according to Your power that works in us. (*Ephesians 3:20*)

I thank You that:

- Every good and perfect gift comes from You. (*James 1:17*)
- Man looks at the outward appearance, but You look at the heart. (*1 Samuel 16:7*)
- As the clay is in the potter's hand, so am I in Your hand. (*Jeremiah 18:6*)

Father in Heaven, in Jesus name (*Ephesians 5:20*), I thank You:

- For sending Jesus Christ to declare and manifest all that You are to us and to save us from our sins. (*Hebrews 2:12, John 17:6,26, Matthew 1:21*)
- For glorifying all that You are in the earth through Jesus Christ. (*John 12:28*)
- For making me Your child. (*Acts 17:28*)
- For sending angels to minister to the heirs of salvation. (*Hebrews 1:14*)
- For giving to me everlasting consolation and good hope through grace. (*2 Thessalonians 2:16*)
- For making Jesus unto me wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption. (*1 Corinthians 1:30*)
- For making me a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light. (*Colossians 1:12*)
- For giving me the Holy Spirit. (*1 John 4:13*)
- For giving me a new heart and a new spirit. (*Ezekiel 36:26*)
- For making me a new creature in Christ. (*2 Corinthians 5:17*)
- For providing everlasting life through Jesus Christ. (*John 3:16*)
- For reconciling the world unto Yourself through Jesus Christ, not imputing our trespasses unto us. (*2 Corinthians 5:19*)

Father in Heaven, in Jesus name (*Ephesians 5:20*), I thank You that:

- Your kindness shall not depart from me; neither shall the covenant of Your peace be removed from me. (*Isaiah 54:10, Ezekiel 34:25*)
- Your eyes are upon the righteous and Your ears are open unto their prayer. (*Psalms 34:15, 1 Peter 3:12*)

I thank You:

- For Your great love towards me and Your grace that justifies me freely through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. (*Ephesians 2:4, Romans 3:24*)”

IN OFFERING PRAISE TO THE FATHER, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Heaven, in Jesus name (*Hebrews 13:15*), I praise and glorify You (*Psalms 50:23*) because:

- You are worthy to be praised. (*2 Samuel 22:4*)
- Everything that has breath must praise You. (*Psalms 150:6*)
- Praise is comely for the upright. (*Psalms 33:1*)

I will offer You praise continually, frequently and regularly (*Psalms 71:6,14*) as long as I live (*Psalms 104:33*):

- With understanding. (*Psalms 47:7*)
- With my whole heart. (*Psalms 111:1, Psalms 138:1*)
- With uprightness of heart. (*Psalms 119:7*)
- With joy and gladness. (*Psalms 63:5, 2 Chronicles 29:30*)

Father in Jesus name, I praise You because:

- You are the God in heaven above and in earth beneath. (*Joshua 2:11*)
- You rule from heaven, You watch over us from heaven, You hear us from heaven, You answer us from heaven, You send judgement on our enemies from heaven, You speak to us from heaven and provide for us from heaven. (*Isaiah 66:1, 2 Chronicles 20:6, Psalms 14:2, Psalms 20:6, 2 Chronicles 7:14, 1 Chronicles 21:26, 2 Chronicles 7:1, Joshua 10:11, Exodus 20:22, Exodus 16:4*)

I praise You for:

- Your majesty. (*Isaiah 24:14*)
- Your glory. (*Psalms 138:5, Ezekiel 3:12*)
- Your excellency. (*Exodus 15:7*)

- Your greatness. (*Psalms 145:3*)
- Your holiness. (*Psalms 97:12*)
- Your wisdom, might and dominion. (*Daniel 2:20, Jude 1:25*)
- Your power. (*Psalms 21:13*)
- Your goodness. (*Psalms 107:8, Psalms 33:5*)
- Your mercy. (*Jeremiah 33:11, 2 Chronicles 20:21, Psalms 136:1-26*)
- Your kindness and truth. (*Psalms 138:2*)

Father in Jesus name, I praise You for:

- Your name. (*Isaiah 25:1, Psalms 145:1-2, Psalms 44:8, Psalms 113:3*)
- Your salvation. (*Psalms 18:46, Isaiah 61:10, Luke 1:68-69*)
- Your wonderful works and mighty acts. (*Psalms 89:5, Psalms 150:2*)
- Your faithfulness. (*Psalms 89:5, Deuteronomy 7:9, Lamentations 3:23*)
- Your comfort. (*Isaiah 12:1*)
- Your judgement. (*Psalms 101:1*)
- Your integrity. (*Hebrews 6:18, 1 Kings 8:56*)
- Your forgiveness and healing. (*Psalms 103:1-3*)
- Your deliverance. (*Psalms 40:1-3*)
- Your protection. (*Psalms 28:7, Psalms 59:17*)

I praise You for:

- Your help. (*Psalms 42:5*)
- Your Word. (*1 Thessalonians 2:13*)
- Your grace and favour. (*1 Corinthians 1:4, Psalms 30:5*)
- Your blessings. (*2 Corinthians 9:11*)
- Your love. (*1 John 3:1*)
- Your counsel. (*Psalms 16:7*)
- Your kindness. (*Psalms 26:3*)
- Your peace. (*Philippians 4:7*)

Father in Jesus name, I praise You because:

- You are not a respecter of persons. (*Acts 10:34*)
- You are near unto all them that call upon You in truth. (*Psalms 145:18*)
- In You there is no variation, neither shadow of turning. (*James 1:17*)

I praise You because:

- Riches and honour come from You. (*1 Chronicles 29:12*)
- Your grace is sufficient for me. (*2 Corinthians 12:9*)

- Whoever trusts in You is happy. (*Proverbs 16:20*)
- Your mercy is in the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches the clouds, Your righteousness is like the great mountains, Your judgements are a great deep and Your loving kindness is excellent. (*Psalms 36:5-7*)
- You are full of compassion, gracious, longsuffering, plenteous in mercy and truth. (*Psalms 86:15*)
- You reign for ever and ever clothed with honour, majesty and strength. (*Psalms 104:1, Psalms 93:1, Exodus 15:18*)
- Your greatness is unsearchable. (*Psalms 145:3*)
- You are glorious in holiness and fearful in praises, doing wonders. (*Exodus 15:11*)
- Your understanding is infinite. (*Psalms 147:5*)
- Your mercy is from everlasting to everlasting. (*Psalms 103:17*)
- You are gracious and slow to anger. (*Psalms 103:8*)

I praise You because:

- Your compassion does not fail. (*Lamentations 3:22-23*)
- You execute righteousness and judgement for all that are oppressed. (*Psalms 103:6*)
- Salvation belongs to You and Your blessing is upon Your people. (*Psalms 3:8*)
- The heavens declare Your righteousness and all the people see Your glory. (*Psalms 97:6-7*)
- You have fearfully and wonderfully made us and marvellous are Your works. (*Psalms 139:14*)
- With You nothing is impossible. (*Luke 1:37*)
- You are not the author of confusion but of peace. (*1 Corinthians 14:33*)
- By Your grace, I am what I am. (*1 Corinthians 15:10*)
- We are Your workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works. (*Ephesians 2:10*)

Father in Jesus name, I praise You because:

- You are not unrighteous to forget our work and labour of love. (*Hebrews 6:10*)
- We are partakers of Your holiness. (*Hebrews 12:10*)
- Salvation, glory, honour and power belong to You. (*Revelation 19:1*)
- True and righteous are Your judgements. (*Revelation 19:2*)

- There is no wisdom nor understanding nor counsel against You. (*Proverbs 21:30*)
- You are gracious, merciful, slow to anger and great in kindness. (*Joel 2:13*)
- There is none holy as You, for there is none besides You. (*1 Samuel 2:2*)
- Glory and honour are in Your presence. (*1 Chronicles 16:27*)
- Your name is magnified for ever. (*1 Chronicles 17:24*)
- You are great, powerful, glorious, victorious, majestic and You reign over all. (*1 Chronicles 29:11-12*)
- Your hand is not short that it cannot save, neither is Your ear heavy, that it cannot hear. (*Isaiah 59:1*)
- You live in the praises of Your people. (*Psalms 22:3*)”

AS YOU WORSHIP THE FATHER, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I give you the glory due to Your name and worship You in the beauty of holiness (*Psalms 29:2, 1 Chronicles 16:29*), because:

- You are the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. (*2 Corinthians 1:3*)
- You are a just God and a Saviour. (*Isaiah 45:21*)
- You are the only God; before You there was no God, neither shall there be any after You. (*Isaiah 43:10*)
- You are my Provider. (*Genesis 22:14*)
- You are my victory. (*Exodus 17:15*)
- You are my peace. (*Judges 6:24*)
- You are my righteousness. (*Jeremiah 23:6*)
- You are my sanctification. (*Leviticus 20:8, 21:8*)
- You are the Lord who is always there for me. (*Ezekiel 48:35*)
- You are my healer. (*Exodus 15:26*)

Father in Jesus name, I worship You because:

- You are my shepherd. (*Psalms 23:1*)
- You are the Lord Most High. (*Psalms 7:17*)
- You are the Lord who recompenses. (*Jeremiah 51:56*)
- You are the Almighty God who is all sufficient. (*Genesis 17:1*)

- You are my light, salvation and strength. (*Psalms 27:1*)
- You are my shield and exceeding great reward. (*Genesis 15:1*)
- You are my Father and redeemer. (*Isaiah 63:16*)
- You are a father of the fatherless and a judge of the widows. (*Psalms 68:5*)
- You are the potter and I am the work of Your hand. (*Isaiah 64:8*)
- You are Abba Father. (*Romans 8:15*)
- You are my refuge. (*Deuteronomy 33:27*)
- You are rich unto all that call upon You. (*Romans 10:12*)
- You are a buckler to all them that trust in You. (*2 Samuel 22:31*)

Father in Jesus name, I worship You because:

- You are my strength. (*Psalms 28:7*)
- You are my hope and help. (*Psalms 71:5, Psalms 146:5*)
- You are the God of truth and without iniquity. (*Deuteronomy 32:4*)
- You are the great God and the great King above all gods. (*Psalms 95:3, Psalms 135:5*)
- You are King eternal, immortal and the only wise God. (*1 Timothy 1:17*)
- You are omnipotent. (*Revelations 19:6*)
- You are righteous and Your judgements are upright. (*Psalms 119:137*)
- You made us, we are not ourselves, we are Your people and the sheep of Your pasture. (*Psalms 100:3*)
- You are God Almighty, great and marvellous are Your works, just and true are Your ways. (*Revelation 11:17, Revelation 15:3*)
- You are a shield unto them that put their trust in You. (*Proverbs 30:5*)

Father in Jesus name, I worship You because:

- You are greater than all gods are. (*Exodus 18:11*)
- You are merciful, gracious, longsuffering, forgiving, abundant in goodness and truth. (*Exodus 34:6-7*)
- There is none else besides You. (*Deuteronomy 4:35*)
- You are the God of gods, Lord of lords, the great and mighty God, who is not a respecter of persons. (*Deuteronomy 10:17*)
- You are my praise, You are my God and you have done great things for me. (*Deuteronomy 10:21*)

- You are strength to the poor, strength to the needy in their distress, a refuge from the storm and a shadow from the heat. *(Isaiah 25:4)*
- You are our Judge, Lawgiver and King. *(Isaiah 33:22)*
- You are the true God, the living God and an everlasting King. *(Jeremiah 10:10)*
- You are the God of all flesh and there is nothing too hard for You. *(Jeremiah 32:27)*
- You are righteous in all the works which You do. *(Daniel 9:14)*
- Father in Your name I shall rejoice all the day and in Your righteousness I shall be exalted. *(Psalms 89:16)*
- I will rejoice in every good thing that You have given to me. *(Deuteronomy 26:11)*
- I will bless, praise and honour You. *(Daniel 4:34)*
- I will magnify You and exalt Your name. *(Psalms 34:3)*
- I rejoice that my name is written in heaven. *(Luke 10:20)*
- Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens, let Your glory be above all the earth. *(Psalms 57:5)*
- In You Father I will boast all the day long and glory in You. *(Psalms 44:8, 1 Corinthians 1:31)*”

Philippians 2:9-11 tells us that God has highly exalted Jesus Christ and gave Him a name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee must bow and every tongue must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, **to the glory of God the Father**. God receives glory when Jesus is worshipped. In John 5:23 we read that all men must honour the Son, even as we honour the Father.

IN GIVING THANKS TO JESUS, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Jesus, I give You thanks:

- For bearing our sins and making intercession for us on the cross. *(Isaiah 53:12)*

- For being the light of the world. (*John 12:46*)
- For giving me eternal life. (*John 3:15*)

Jesus, I give You thanks:

- That even as You are, so am I in this world. (*1 John 4:17*)
- My joy is full because of Your joy in me. (*John 15:11*)
- For bearing our griefs and sorrows. (*Isaiah 53:4*)
- For giving me Your peace. (*John 14:27*)
- For making us Abraham's seed and heirs of the promise. (*Galatians 3:29*)
- That we are justified by Your grace and made heirs according to the hope of eternal life. (*Titus 3:7*)
- For giving me life more abundantly. (*John 10:10*)
- For giving us Your glory. (*John 17:22*)
- For redeeming us from the curse of the law, that the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. (*Galatians 3:13-14*)
- For making us Your friends. (*John 15:15*)

Jesus, I give You thanks because:

- You became flesh and dwelt among man, so that we can behold Your glory, the glory of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. (*John 1:14*)
- Of Your fullness we have received, grace for grace. (*John 1:16*)
- You are the Lamb of God that takes away our sins. (*John 1:29*)
- You have the words of eternal life. (*John 6:68*)
- You set me free from sin, sickness and poverty. (*John 8:36*)
- No man can pluck me out of Your hand. (*John 10:28*)
- Whosoever shall call on Your name shall be saved. (*Acts 2:21*)
- There is no other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. (*Acts 4:12*)
- While we were yet sinners, You died for us. (*Romans 5:8*)
- Through Your obedience, we were made righteous. (*Romans 5:19*)

Jesus, I give You thanks because:

- You are at the right hand of God making intercession for us. (*Romans 8:34*)
- Whosoever believes on You shall not be ashamed. (*Romans 10:11*)

- In Adam all die, even so in You we are made alive. *(1 Corinthians 15:22)*
- You gave Yourself for our sins that You might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God. *(Galatians 1:4)*
- You are my hope of glory. *(Colossians 1:27)*
- In You dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily and I am complete in You. *(Colossians 2:9-10)*
- Having spoiled principalities and powers, You made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it. *(Colossians 2:15)*
- You tasted death for every man and destroyed the works of the devil. *(Hebrews 2:9, 1 John 3:8)*
- You were made flesh that You might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God and to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. *(Hebrews 2:17)*
- We have not a High Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. *(Hebrews 4:15)*

Jesus, I give You thanks because:

- You are a surety of a better testament. *(Hebrews 7:22)*
- You are able to save them to the uttermost that come to God through You, seeing You ever live to make intercession for us. *(Hebrews 7:25)*
- You are a High Priest of good things to come. *(Hebrews 9:11)*
- You obtained eternal redemption for us. *(Hebrews 9:12)*
- You first loved us. *(1 John 4:19)*
- I have eternal life because I have You. *(1 John 5:12)*
- You loved us and washed us from our sins in Your own blood and made us kings and priests unto God to reign on the earth. *(Revelations 1:5-6, Revelations 5:10)*
- Those who have received you, have the authority to become sons of God. *(John 1:12)*”

IN OFFERING PRAISE TO JESUS, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Jesus, I praise You because:

- You are worthy to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. (*Revelation 5:12*)
- You are King. (*John 12:13*)
- You created all things, visible and invisible, in heaven and earth. (*John 1:3, Colossians 1:16*)
- You shed Your precious blood for us - to wash, redeem, cleanse, purify and forgive us of our sins - to justify and sanctify us, to purge our conscience from dead works to serve the living God - so that we can approach the Father boldly in a new and living way. (*Romans 5:9, 1 Peter 1:18-19, Titus 2:14, 1 John 1:7, Revelation 1:5, Revelation 5:9, Ephesians 1:7, Romans 5:9, Hebrews 13:12, Hebrews 9:14, Hebrews 10:19-20*).

I praise You Jesus that:

- Through Your blood, we have entered into a new covenant of better promises. (*Mark 14:24, Hebrews 12:24*)
- You are able to keep me from falling and present me faultless before the presence of God’s glory with exceeding joy. (*Jude 1:24*)
- The government is upon Your shoulder and of the increase of Your government and peace there shall be no end. (*Isaiah 9:6-7*)”

AS YOU WORSHIP JESUS, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Jesus, I worship You because:

- Treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in You. (*Colossians 2:3*)
- Angels, authorities and powers are subject unto You. (*1 Peter 3:22*)
- Your throne is for ever and ever and a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Your kingdom. (*Hebrews 1:8*)
- Your name is above every name. (*Philippians 2:9*)
- You are the Word. (*John 1:1, Revelation 19:13*)
- You are the Messiah. (*John 1:41*)
- You are our Saviour. (*Luke 2:11*)
- You are the Bread of Life. (*John 6:48*)

- You are our Advocate. (*1 John 2:1*)
- You are the Alpha and Omega. (*Revelation 1:8*)
- You are the Apostle and High Priest of our profession. (*Hebrews 3:1*)

Jesus, I worship You because:

- You are the Author and Finisher of our Faith. (*Hebrews 12:2*)
- You are the Author of eternal salvation. (*Hebrews 5:9*)
- You are the Captain of Salvation. (*Hebrews 2:10*)
- You are the Chief Shepherd. (*1 Peter 5:4*)
- You are Wonderful Counsellor. (*Isaiah 9:6*)
- You are the Deliverer. (*Romans 11:26*)
- You are the First and the Last. (*Revelation 1:17*)
- You are the Good Shepherd. (*John 10:11*)
- You are the Head of the Church. (*Ephesians 1:22*)
- You are the King of kings and Lord of lords. (*1 Timothy 6:15, Revelation 19:16*)
- You are the Light of the world. (*John 8:12, John 12:46*)
- You are the Mediator. (*1 Timothy 2:5*)

Jesus, I worship You because:

- You are the Prince of Peace. (*Isaiah 9:6*)
- You are Faithful and True. (*Revelation 19:11*)
- You are Emmanuel (God with us). (*Matthew 1:23, Matthew 28:20*)
- You are the resurrection and the life. (*John 11:25*)
- You are the way, the truth and the life. (*John 14:6*)
- You are the same yesterday, today, and for ever. (*Hebrews 13:8*)
- You are the Prince of Life. (*Acts 3:15*)
- You are the brightness of God's glory. (*Hebrews 1:3*)
- You are the express image of God. (*Hebrews 1:3*)
- You uphold all things by the Word of Your power. (*Hebrews 1:3*)
- You are worthy to receive glory, honour and power for You have created all things and live for ever and ever. (*Revelation 4:11,10*)
- You are the bright and morning star. (*Revelation 22:16*)
- You are the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. (*Colossians 1:15*)”

IN APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Dear Holy Spirit, I appreciate and honour You because:

- You guide me into all truth. (*John 16:13*)
- You are not the spirit of bondage but the Spirit of adoption and liberty. (*Romans 8:15, 2 Corinthians 3:17*)
- You give me utterance. (*Luke 12:11-12*)
- You bear witness with my spirit, that I am a child of God. (*Romans 8:16*)
- You help me to prophesy, see visions, and dream dreams. (*Acts 2:17*)
- You reprove the world of sin, righteousness and judgement. (*John 16:8-9*)
- You help me to be an effective witness of Jesus. (*Acts 1:8*)
- You help me to walk in the statutes of God, to keep and do God’s judgements. (*Ezekiel 36:27*)
- You live inside me, to teach me, to instruct me, to comfort me, to remind me of the Word, to guide and lead me, to show me things to come, to quicken my mortal body. (*1 Corinthians 3:16, 1 John 2:27, Nehemiah 9:20, Luke 12:12, John 14:26, John 16:13, Romans 8:14, Romans 8:11*)
- You help me to pray according to the will of God. (*Romans 8:26-27*)
- You help me accomplish things, which cannot be done by my physical strength or natural power. (*Zechariah 4:6*)
- You reveal to me God’s will for my life. (*1 Corinthians 2:9-10*)
- God’s love is shed abroad in my heart through You, Holy Spirit. (*Romans 5:5*)
- You are the guarantee that we will receive what God has promised us. (*Ephesians 1:13-14*)
- You are the Anointing in my life. (*Luke 4:18*)”

REMEMBER

Having just released your faith, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you

pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never-ending cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (pray).

CHAPTER 2

THE KINGDOM OF GOD

FOCUS: “...**Thy kingdom come...**” (Luke 11:2)

God only has one Kingdom, variously described in His Word as the Kingdom of God (Luke 19:11), Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 5:19), Kingdom of the Father (Matthew 26:29), Kingdom of the Son (Colossians 1:13) or Kingdom of Christ (Ephesians 5:5). Often the Kingdom of Heaven and Kingdom of God are used interchangeably (Matthew 4:17 and Mark 1:14; Matthew 13:31 and Luke 13:18; Matthew 13:33 and Luke 13:20). Essentially, the word “Kingdom” has reference to the sphere of God’s rule, reign or domain¹.

When the Pharisees asked Jesus when the Kingdom of God would come, He replied by saying, “*the Kingdom of God is within you*” (Luke 17:20-21). Jesus was not implying that the Kingdom of God was within the Pharisaical sect. If He did, the Jewish people would have focused their attention on the Pharisaical sect for the arrival of the Kingdom of God, thus giving the Pharisees prominence and credibility in the nation and perhaps reason to end their relentless pursuit for opportunities to arrest Jesus. But we know from scripture that this did not happen. The Pharisees, in fact, were well aware that Jesus was not referring to them when He said, “*the Kingdom of God is within you*”. One of the Pharisees, Nicodemus, by this time had already visited Jesus secretly and found out that except a man be born again, he cannot see or enter the Kingdom of God (John 3:3,5). As they were not reborn men, this prevented them from qualifying to be part and parcel of the Kingdom of God. The more accurate rendering of this verse reads: *the kingdom of God is in your midst* (The Interlinear Bible), *in the midst of you* (Revised Standard Version), *is among you* (The Jerusalem Bible). In other

¹ The Online Bible: Strong's Concordance
An Expository Dictionary of New Testament words by W.E Vine

words, Jesus was referring to Himself as the Kingdom of God, among them or in their midst.

JESUS, THE PERSONIFICATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

*And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon **this rock** I will **build my church**; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. (Matthew 16:18-19)*

When Jesus said that He is going to build His church upon “this rock”, He was referring to Himself [He being the Rock or Stone (1 Peter 2:4-8, Matthew 21:42-44, Ephesians 2:19-22) which came from heaven to become the Kingdom and fill the earth (Daniel 2:35,44)]. God, through the Prophet Daniel, specified the exact time in which His Kingdom would be set up (Daniel 2:44). King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the four great empires of the earth depicted a huge statue having a head of fine gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, and legs of iron and feet partly iron and clay (Daniel 2:31-45). In accordance with Daniel's interpretation of this dream, Babylon (symbolized by the head of gold) was captured by Darius the Median (Daniel 5:24-31), which brought Medo-Persia (the silver kingdom) into power. Events in secular history confirm that Alexander the Great of Greece (symbolized by brass) conquered Medo-Persia and became the superpower of the world. Then, from 63 BC and throughout the New Testament, we learn about the Roman supremacy (the mixture of iron and clay kingdom). Precisely as predicted, during the Roman supremacy, the Stone from Heaven (Jesus Christ) came to set up God's Kingdom. Please bear in mind that Jesus clearly stated that the Kingdom would begin as a grain of mustard seed but will grow and become established as a great tree (Matthew 13:31-32). Looking at Daniel's interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, one would think at face value that the Stone from Heaven was coming

to destroy the rule of man (Daniel 2:35). In actual fact, it was the works of satan in and through man that God was targeting (1 John 3:8, John 8:44). Luke 4:5-8 shows us that satan laid claim to ownership and control of the kingdoms of the world.

The devil led him [Jesus] up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendour, for it has been given to me [obviously by Adam, through disobedience], and I can give it to anyone I want to. So if you worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" (NIV)

Other scriptures, which support the view that evil spirits possess control and influence over human kingdoms, appear in the book of Daniel.

But the prince [evil spirit] of the kingdom of Persia withstood me [angel of God] one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes [another angel from Heaven], came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. (Daniel 10:13)

Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince [evil spirit] of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince [evil spirit] of Grecia shall come. (Daniel 10:20)

But we who are born of God can rejoice over the fact that satan has no hold on us because we have been delivered from the kingdom of darkness and transferred into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ (1 John 5:18, Colossians 1:12-13). The Stone did not only come to crush (Matthew 21:44) satan's rule on the earth in and through man but also became a mountain (Daniel 2:35) on which the Lord's house or church is established to demonstrate God's rule, reign and domain (Isaiah 2:2-4). Jesus' words "**occupy till I come**" in the parable of the ten pounds (Luke 19:11-27) confirms the authority of the church in the earth.

As the personification of the Kingdom of God, Jesus was not only building the church upon Himself, but upon the Kingdom of God itself. He therefore gave to the church supremacy over the authority of hell, the Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven and the support of heaven in all that the church does in the earth (Matthew 16:18-19). The church, as the representative of Jesus and His Kingdom in the earth, should therefore present itself as an embassy demonstrating all that the Kingdom is.

Isaiah the prophet, in approximately 740 BC, prophesied that Jesus Christ would come to order and establish God's government or kingdom:

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: **and the government shall be upon his shoulder**: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. **Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.** (Isaiah 9:6-7)*

This once again confirms Daniel's interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, the stone that came from heaven to set up the kingdom, is no other than Christ the Son of God.

HOW DID JESUS SET UP AND ESTABLISH HIS KINGDOM?

1. He built the church upon Himself, He being the personification of the Kingdom of God (Matthew 16:18-19), which makes the church an extension of the Kingdom.
2. He made us fellow citizens (Ephesians 2:19), ambassadors (2 Corinthians 5:20), kings and priests (Revelation 1:6), to represent the one True God and His Kingdom.

3. He did not only teach and preach the good news of the Kingdom (Matthew 4:23), but also gave to us the Word of the Kingdom (Matthew 13:19) so that we could bring forth fruit (Matthew 13:23, 21:43).
4. He sent the Holy Ghost to live with and in us (John 14:17), so that we may rule in righteousness and peace and joy (Romans 14:17) and be victorious over the devil. (Matthew 12:28, Luke 10:17-22).

What is the reason for praying for His kingdom to come, if it is already here? Interestingly, the word “**come**”² includes in its meaning: to arise, show itself, find place or influence, be established, or become known. Based on this meaning, and the fact that the Kingdom is already here, believers today should be praying for God’s Kingdom (His rule, dominion or reign), to arise, show itself, find place or influence, be established and become known in the earth. In other words, believers should be praying for God’s government to become increasingly more visible and known to all mankind through the church.

The following inclusions in this chapter revolve around praying and believing for everything that God’s Word has to say about His government, His church and His people. It is not my intention to pre-programme your conversation with the Father, but for the sake of new believers and those who wish to learn to pray according to God’s written will, the scriptures are presented in a ready-to-pray format. As you familiarise yourself with these scriptures, pray them with understanding in your own words so that they become a meaningful conversation with the Father.

² The Online Bible: Strong’s Concordance

IN PRAYING FOR THE CHURCH (the embassy of the Kingdom), RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus Name, I am believing (*Mark 11:24*) that the Kingdom of God will manifest and become increasingly more visible in the earth (*Luke 11:2, Daniel 2:35*), as the Church begins to:

- Produce good citizens for the Kingdom. (*see Matthew 13:38*)
- Grow to become great and established, to provide rest for the people like the mustard tree. (*see Matthew 13:31-32*)
- Penetrate, influence, impact and change the lives of men and women, like the leaven in three measures of meal. (*see Matthew 13:33*)
- Show itself as a treasure that is worth investing in. (*see Matthew 13:44*)
- Invest in its people. (*see Matthew 13:45-46*)
- Operate like a drag net cast into the world, gathering the good and bad in it. (*see Matthew 13:47-50*)
- Become a place of accountability, justice and mercy. (*see Matthew 18:23-35*)
- Train, develop, equip, mobilise and deploy its people in the work of the Lord. (*see Matthew 20:1-16*)
- Prepare for the coming of Jesus and His marriage feast. (*see Matthew 25:1-13, Matthew 22:1-14*)
- Show itself profitable, faithful and responsible for all that You have entrusted to it. (*see Matthew 25:14-30*)

Father in Jesus name, I am believing (*Mark 11:24*) that the church would:

- Be the pillar and ground of truth and the house of prayer for all people. (*1 Timothy 3:15, Isaiah 56:7*)
- Be free from the spirit of envy and strife. (*James 3:16*)
- Be the home of justice, goodness, righteousness and a place of abundance of salvation, wisdom, knowledge and reverence for God. (*Isaiah 33:5-6 ex The Living Bible*)
- Be glorified with Your glory. (*Isaiah 60:7*)
- Be an eternal excellency and a joy of many generations. (*Isaiah 60:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I am believing (*Mark 11:24*) that the church would:

- Be a crown of glory and royal diadem in Your hand. (*Isaiah 62:3*)

- Be a place of joy, praise and honour before all the nations of the earth, that the nations would hear all the good that You do unto it, let them fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that You would procure unto it. (*Jeremiah 33:9*)
- Be called the perfection of beauty and the joy of the whole earth. (*Lamentations 2:15*)
- Be no more a reproach among the heathen. (*Joel 2:19*)

Concerning the unity of the Body of Christ, Father in Jesus name, I believe that every believer would:

- Realize that we being many, are one body in Christ and would be united in our faith. (*Romans 12:5, Ephesians 4:13*)
- Stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel. (*Philippians 1:27*)
- Have fervent love among ourselves, for love covers the multitude of sins. (*1 Peter 4:8*)
- Dwell in unity and receive the Lord's blessing. (*Psalms 133:1-3*)
- Endeavour to walk in agreement. (*Matthew 18:19*)
- Realise that a divided house and kingdom cannot stand. (*Mark 3:24-25*)

Father in Jesus name, I also believe:

- That You would fill the church with glory and give it peace. (*Haggai 2:9*)
- That the church would declare Your glory among the heathen and Your marvellous works among all nations. (*1 Chronicles 16:24*)
- That the wealth of the nations shall come into the church for the preaching of the gospel. (*Isaiah 60:5*)
- That the church would live under Your shadow among the heathen. (*Lamentations 4:20*)
- That talebearers and those that sow discord among the people would repent and recover themselves out of the snare of the devil. (*Proverbs 18:8, Proverbs 6:19, 2 Timothy 25-26*)
- That there would be no divisions among us. (*1 Corinthians 1:10*)
- That brotherly love will continue. (*Hebrews 13:1*)”

IN PRAYING FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH (or Kingdom), RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:
(Leaders wishing to pray this for themselves must change the words within [brackets])

“Father in Jesus Name, I am believing that [the leadership of the church] would:

- Be spiritually alert, prayerful and guarded against the activities of satan in the Kingdom. *(Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)*
- Feed Your people with knowledge and understanding, so that [we] would be free from fear, discouragement and lack. *(Acts 20:28, Jeremiah 3:15, Jeremiah 23:4)*
- Be blameless, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach. *(1 Timothy 3:2)*
- Give [themselves] continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word. *(Acts 6:4)*
- Be an example for the believers to follow, in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. *(2 Thessalonians 3:9, 1 Timothy 4:12)*
- In all things show [themselves] a pattern of good works: in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, and sincerity. *(Titus 2:7)*
- Be wise as [serpents] and harmless as [doves]. *(Matthew 10:16)*
- Renounce the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the Word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending [themselves] to every man's conscience in the sight of God. *(2 Corinthians 4:2)*
- Be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. *(2 Timothy 3:17)*
- Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness. *(1 Timothy 6:11)*

Father in Jesus name, I am believing that [the leadership of the church] would:

- Not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient; in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves. *(2 Timothy 2:24-25)*
- Prepare the way of the Lord and make His paths straight and make ready a people prepared for the Lord. *(Matthew 3:3, Luke 1:17)*

- Not transgress nor make the commandment of God of no effect through man's tradition. (*Matthew 15:3,6*)
- Be anointed to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, preach deliverance to the captives, give sight to the blind, set at liberty them that are bruised and to preach Jesus our Jubilee. (*Luke 4:18-19*)
- Speak the Word of God with boldness and do mighty signs and wonders through the name of Jesus. (*Acts 4:29-31*)
- Be mighty in the scriptures, expound the way of God perfectly, keep back nothing that would be profitable, and declare to the people all the counsel of God. (*Acts 18:24,26; Acts 20:20,27*)
- Not abuse [their] power in the gospel. (*1 Corinthians 9:18*)
- Do all things decently and in order. (*1 Corinthians 14:40*)
- Pursue to perfect the saints for the work of the ministry and edify the Body of Christ. (*Ephesians 4:11-12*)
- Boldly make known the mystery of the gospel. (*Ephesians 6:19*)
- Present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. (*Colossians 1:28*)

Father in Jesus name, I am believing that [the leadership of the church] would:

- Be protected from unreasonable and wicked men. (*2 Thessalonians 3:2*)
- Labour in the Word and doctrine. (*1 Timothy 5:17*)
- Preach the Word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. (*2 Timothy 4:2*)
- Tend, nurture, guard and guide the congregation willingly without greed and lead [us] by [their] good example. (*1 Peter 5:2-3 – ex Amplified Bible*)
- Be watchful and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die. (*Revelation 3:2*)
- Be diligent to know the state of the congregation. (*Proverbs 27:23*)
- Always sanctify the Lord in the eyes of the people. (*Numbers 20:12*)
- Be full of the spirit of wisdom. (*Deuteronomy 34:9*)
- Not do the work of the Lord deceitfully. (*Jeremiah 48:10*)
- Not cause the people to go astray. (*Jeremiah 50:6*)

Father in Jesus name, I also believe:

- That the unsaved will not be able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which [your servants] would speak. (*Acts 6:10*)
- That You would protect [men that hazard their lives for the name of Jesus Christ]. (*Acts 15:26*)
- That [their] speech and preaching would not be with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that the people's faith should not stand in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. (*1 Corinthians 2:4-5*)
- [They] would not be slothful in [their] work but fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. (*Romans 12:11*)³

IN PRAYING FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE KINGDOM, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing that we would:

- Understand the kingdom of God and its operation. (*Matthew 13:11*)
- Take our rightful place in the Kingdom because:-
 - we are heirs of the Kingdom (*James 2:5*),
 - and it is Your good pleasure to give us the kingdom. (*Luke 12:32*).
- Receive Your Kingdom with humility, not trust in worldly riches, exceed in righteousness and overcome our obstacles to become active members³ of the kingdom of God and its operation. (*Mark 10:15, Matthew 18:3-4, Mark 10:24, Matthew 5:20, Acts 14:22, John 3:5*)
- Put away all unrighteousness and works of the flesh (fornication, idolatry, corruption, adultery, abuse, stealing, covetousness, drunkenness, extortion, uncleanness, lasciviousness, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulation, wrath, strife, sedition, heresy, envy, murder and revelling), to inherit Your Kingdom. (*1 Corinthians 6:9-10, Galatians 5:19-21, Ephesians 5:5*)

Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing we would:

³ William Barclay's translation of the New Testament.
The Online Bible: Family New Testament Notes

- Seek first Your Kingdom and righteousness. (*Matthew 6:33*)
- Live in righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. (*Romans 14:17*)
- Be responsible in using our power and authority in the earth. (*Matthew 16:19*)
- Invest time, money and effort in the Kingdom. (*Luke 18:28-29, Luke 12:33*)
- Be counted worthy of the Kingdom. (*2 Thessalonians 1:5*)
- Do and teach Your Word in the Kingdom. (*Matthew 5:19*)
- Put our hands to the plough and not look back, so that we would be fit for Your Kingdom. (*Luke 9:62*)
- Take the Gospel of the Kingdom into all the world for a witness unto all nations, so that the coming of Jesus Christ would be fulfilled. (*Matthew 24:14*)
- Carry ourselves as ambassadors of Christ and His Kingdom. (*2 Corinthians 5:20*)
- Bear witness of the glory and majesty of Your everlasting kingdom. (*Psalms 145:11-13*)

Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing that we would:

- Not allow satan, unbelief, the problems of life, offences, anxiety, lust and the deceitfulness of riches make the Word of the Kingdom become unfruitful in our lives. (*Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23*)
- Possess the kingdoms of the earth, so that all the people, nations, and languages, would serve and obey Jesus in His Kingdom for ever. (*Daniel 7:18; Daniel 7:14,27*)
- Know You, from the youngest to the oldest. (*Jeremiah 31:34*)
- Walk as children of light. (*Ephesians 5:8*)
- Not despise prophesying, but prove all things and hold fast to that which is good. (*1 Thessalonians 5:20-21*)
- Be holy and without blemish, a chaste virgin to Christ. (*Ephesians 5:27, 2 Corinthians 11:2*)
- Edify one another. (*1 Thessalonians 5:11*)
- Do all things without murmurings and disputings. (*Philippians 2:14*)
- Be of one mind, compassionate one to another, love the brethren, be pitiful and courteous. (*1 Peter 3:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing that we would:

- Not forsake the assembling of the saints. (*Hebrews 10:25*)
- Leave the principles of the doctrine of Christ and go unto perfection. (*Hebrews 6:1*)
- Not be children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men and their cunning craftiness, but speak the truth in love and grow up into Jesus in all things. (*Ephesians 4:14-15*)
- Do nothing through strife or vainglory, but in lowliness of mind each person esteeming others better than themselves. (*Philippians 2:3*)
- Keep the unity of the Spirit. (*Ephesians 4:3*)
- Receive the Word with all readiness of mind and search the scriptures daily. (*Acts 17:11*)
- Be more ready to hear than to give the sacrifice of fools. (*Ecclesiastes 5:1*)
- Be blameless and harmless, the sons of God without rebuke in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation and shine as lights in the world, to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God as it is revealed in Jesus Christ. (*Philippians 2:15, Matthew 5:14, 2 Corinthians 4:6*)
- Keep the Word and not deny Your name. (*Revelation 3:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing that we would:

- Seek perfection, be of good comfort, be of one mind, and live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)
- Greatly reverence You in the assembly of the saints. (*Psalms 89:7*)
- Discern the signs of the time and prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord. (*Matthew 16:3*)
- Be wiser than the people of this world are. (*Luke 16:8*)
- Continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, in fellowship, in breaking of bread and in prayers. (*Acts 2:42*)
- Walk in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost. (*Acts 9:31*)
- Pursue love and desire spiritual gifts (the word of wisdom, word of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, working of miracles,

prophecy, discerning of spirits, divers kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues). (*1 Corinthians 12:1,8-10; 1 Corinthians 14:1*)

- Addict ourselves to the ministry of the saints. (*1 Corinthians 16:15*)
- Not be ignorant of the devices of satan. (*2 Corinthians 2:11*)

Father in Jesus name, I am praying for all the Christians, believing that we would:

- Seek meekness. (*Zephaniah 2:3*)
- Understand that we are no more strangers to God or foreigners to heaven, but members of God's very own family, citizens of God's country and belonging to God's household with every other Christian. (*Ephesians 2:19 ex The Living Bible*)
- Understand that we are carefully joined together with Christ as parts of a beautiful, constantly growing temple, for God to dwell through His Spirit. (*Ephesians 2:21-22 ex The Living Bible/Today's English Version*)
- Not be carried about with divers and strange doctrines but be established with grace. (*Hebrews 13:9*)
- Show forth Your praises because we are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, and a peculiar people. (*1 Peter 2:9*)
- Be clothed with salvation and rejoice in goodness. (*2 Chronicles 6:41*)
- Carry ourselves as the priests and ministers of our God. (*Isaiah 61:6*)
- Be called the redeemed of the Lord. (*Isaiah 62:12*)

Father in Jesus name, I also believe:

- That You are the governor among the nations. (*Psalms 22:28*)
- That You have prepared Your throne in the heavens, and Your kingdom rules over all. (*Psalms 103:19*)
- That the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our God and Jesus Christ. (*Revelation 11:15*)
- That Your kingdom will stand for ever. (*Daniel 2:44*)
- That the inhabitants of the earth will know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men. (*Daniel 4:17*)
- That Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom and Your dominion is from generation to generation. (*Daniel 4:3*)
- That You would add to the church daily such as should be saved. (*Acts 2:47*)
- That Your grace be upon the church. (*Acts 4:33*)

- That the gates of hell will not prevail against the church because it is built on Jesus the chief cornerstone. (*Matthew 16:18*)
- That the church will be a house of prayer and not a den of thieves or merchandise. (*Matthew 21:12-13*)
- The number of disciples would multiply greatly. (*Acts 6:7*)
- The Word of God would grow, multiply and prevail and be published throughout all the world. (*Acts 12:24, Acts 13:49, Acts 19:20*)
- The church would be established in the faith and increase in number daily. (*Acts 16:5*)
- The manifold wisdom of God would manifest through the church. (*Ephesians 3:10*)”

Remember, God expects faith, importunity and persistence in prayer (Hebrews 11:1,6; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8), therefore, if you have released your faith by praying the contents of this chapter, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never-ending cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (pray); until God confirms His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20).

CHAPTER 3

THE WILL OF GOD FOR THE EARTH

**FOCUS: “...Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.”
(Luke 11:2)**

The word “**will**” is translated from the Greek word “*thelema*”⁴, and can also be translated to read determination, purpose, command, desire or pleasure. God’s Word is His written will for the earth. To know His Word is to know His will, to do His Word is to do His will, and to pray His Word is to pray His will. In praying for His will to be done, we are actually releasing our faith for the fulfilment of all that God has determined, purposed, commanded or desired in His Word.

This chapter deals with praying and believing for those things which God has determined, purposed, commanded or desired for your life, your marriage, your country and the earth, as revealed in His Word. Like the previous chapter, the scriptures are presented in a ready-to-pray format. Pray them with understanding in your own words so that they become a meaningful conversation with the Father.

1. GOD’S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE:

1.1 As His son (*John 1:12, 1 John 3:1, Galatians 4:7, Romans 8:16-17*), **to live a life that is pleasing unto Him** (*1 John 3:22, John 8:29*) **release your faith by saying:**

“Father in Jesus name, to live a life that is pleasing unto You, I believe (*Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24*) that through Your power that works in me (*Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 2:13*), I would:

- Love You with all my heart, soul and strength. (*Mark 12:33, Deuteronomy 6:5, Luke 10:27*)

⁴ The Online Bible: Strong's Concordance

- Seek You with all my heart. (*Jeremiah 29:13*)
- Trust You with all my heart and lean not to my own understanding. (*Proverbs 3:5*)
- Have my mind focused on You. (*Isaiah 26:3*)
- Grow in grace and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ. (*2 Peter 3:18*)
- Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. (*2 Timothy 2:1*)
- Be spiritually alert, have a grateful heart towards You and be persistent in prayer. (*Colossians 4:2*)
- Hear Your voice, do that which is right in Your sight, give ear to Your Word and keep it. (*Exodus 15:26*)
- Serve and follow Jesus. (*John 12:26*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Sanctify You in my heart and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks me a reason of the hope which is in me, with meekness and fear. (*1 Peter 3:15*)
- Walk in love, as Christ also loved us. (*Ephesians 5:2*)
- Worship You in spirit and in truth. (*John 4:24*)
- Abide in the doctrine of Christ. (*2 John 1:9*)
- Know You and Jesus Christ. (*Hosea 6:6, John 17:3*)
- Keep myself in Your love. (*Jude 1:21*)
- Walk in Your perfect ways. (*Joshua 22:5, 2 Samuel 22:31, Psalms 18:30*)
- Not take Your name in vain. (*Exodus 20:7*)
- Always do those things that please You. (*John 8:29, 1 Thessalonians 4:1*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Serve You with fasting and prayer - to remove the chains of oppression, undo heavy burdens, let the oppressed go free, break every yoke, give my food to the hungry, be kind to the poor and clothe the naked – so that my light break forth as the morning, my health spring forth speedily, my righteousness go before me, and Your glory be my rear guard; also that You answer me, guide me, satisfy me and make me like a watered garden and a spring of water, whose waters fail not. (*Luke 2:37, Isaiah 58:6-11*)
- Always pray without fainting or ceasing. (*Acts 10:2, Luke 18:1, 1 Thessalonians 5:17*)
- Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer. (*Romans 12:12*)

- Seek Your strength continually. (*1 Chronicles 16:11*)
- Conform to the image of Jesus Christ and be holy without blame before You in love. (*Romans 8:29, Ephesians 1:4*)
- Be thankful to You always for all things in the name of Jesus Christ. (*Ephesians 5:20, 1 Thessalonians 5:18, Psalms 100:4*)
- Be ruled by the peace that comes from You. (*Colossians 3:15*)
- Make known Your deeds among the people. (*1 Chronicles 16:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Carry the yoke of Jesus and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly in heart, and find rest in my soul. (*Matthew 11:28-29*)
- Wait upon You and have my strength renewed. (*Isaiah 40:31*)
- Understand You. (*Jeremiah 9:24*)
- Be a witness of Jesus and confess Him before men. (*Matthew 10:32, Luke 12:8*)
- Be unashamed of Jesus and the gospel in this adulterous and sinful generation. (*Mark 8:38, Romans 1:16*)
- Seek Your presence all the days of my life. (*Psalms 27:4, Psalms 27:8*)
- Honour Jesus. (*John 5:23*)
- Know Jesus and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His suffering, being made conformable unto His death. (*Philippians 3:10*)
- Forget those things which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before and press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. (*Philippians 3:13-14*)
- Submit to You. (*James 4:7*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not serve or worship other gods besides You. (*Exodus 20:3, Exodus 34:14*)
- Diligently obey Your voice and do Your Word. (*Deuteronomy 28:1*)
- Cleave to You, for You are my life and longevity. (*Deuteronomy 30:20*)
- Honour You and keep Your ways. (*1 Samuel 2:30, 2 Samuel 22:22*)
- Be steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in Your work. (*1 Corinthians 15:58*)
- Be responsible and accountable. (*Romans 14:12, Luke 16:2*)
- Be changed from glory unto glory. (*2 Corinthians 3:18*)
- Have a merry heart and cheerful countenance. (*Proverbs 15:13*)

- Do good and be generous towards others. (*Hebrews 13:16*)
- Stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made me free and not be entangled with the yoke of bondage. (*Galatians 5:1*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Walk worthy, be fruitful in every good work and increase in knowing You. (*Colossians 1:10*)
- Allow patience to have her perfect work in me, that I may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. (*James 1:4*)
- Bear much fruit to glorify You and be a disciple of Jesus Christ. (*John 15:8*)
- Not be slothful in my work but fervent in spirit, industrious, diligent, following them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. (*Proverbs 13:11, Romans 12:11, Hebrews 6:12*)
- Cultivate a contrite and humble spirit. (*Isaiah 57:15*)
- Humble myself in Your sight and be exalted by You. (*James 4:10, 1 Peter 5:6*)
- Be rooted and grounded in love, understand and know the love of Christ and be filled with Your fullness. (*Ephesians 3:17-19*)
- Serve You with gladness. (*Psalms 100:2*)
- Rejoice in You always. (*Philippians 4:4, 1 Thessalonians 5:16*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not neglect my salvation. (*Hebrews 2:3*)
- Submit to authority and every ordinance of man for Your sake. (*Romans 13:1-3, Titus 3:1, 1 Peter 2:13-14, 1 Peter 2:17, Hebrews 13:17*)
- Abound in faith, utterance, knowledge, diligence, love and giving. (*2 Corinthians 8:7*)
- Not be wise in my own conceits. (*Romans 12:16*)
- Hold fast to sound doctrine, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. (*2 Timothy 1:13*)
- Delight myself in You, commit my ways to You, and trust You. (*Psalms 37:4-5*)
- Live to declare Your works. (*Psalms 118:17*)
- In everything being enriched by Jesus Christ, in all utterance and in knowledge. (*1 Corinthians 1:5*)
- Magnify Christ in my body. (*Philippians 1:20*)
- Work out my salvation with fear and trembling, for You work in me both to will and do of Your good pleasure. (*Philippians 2:12-13*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Study to be quiet and to do my own business. (*1 Thessalonians 4:11*)
- Not lose my first love. (*Revelation 2:4*)
- Find favour and good understanding with You and man. (*Proverbs 3:4*)
- Acknowledge You in all my ways, so that You can direct my paths. (*Proverbs 3:6*)
- Be a shining light for You in the earth. (*Matthew 5:14*)
- Seek not mine own will, but Yours. (*John 5:30*)
- Do Your will with delight from my heart. (*Psalms 40:8, Ephesians 6:6*)
- Not conform to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of my mind, to prove what is Your good, well pleasing and perfect will. (*Romans 12:2*)
- Stand perfect and complete in all Your will. (*Colossians 4:12*)
- With well doing put to silence the ignorance of foolish men. (*1 Peter 2:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Walk circumspectly and wisely, redeeming the time, understanding what Your will is. (*Ephesians 5:15-17*)
- Give thanks in everything, for this is Your will in Christ Jesus. (*1 Thessalonians 5:18*)
- Do Your will and receive the promise with patience. (*Hebrews 10:36*)
- Arise and shine for my light is come and Your glory is risen upon me. (*Isaiah 60:1-3*)
- Be a blessing wherever I go. (*Genesis 12:2*)
- Occupy until Jesus comes. (*Luke 19:13*)
- Walk worthy of the vocation wherewith I am called. (*Ephesians 4:1*)
- Walk even as Jesus walked. (*1 John 2:6*)
- Give diligence to make my calling and election sure. (*2 Peter 1:10*)
- Be a disciple of Jesus, by denying myself, taking up my cross, following Jesus, continuing in the Word, and bearing much fruit. (*Matthew 16:24, John 8:31, John 15:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Declare Your doings among the people and make mention that Your name is exalted. (*Psalms 9:11, Isaiah 12:4*)
- Speak as Your oracle. (*1 Peter 4:11*)

- Labour together with You. (*1 Corinthians 3:9, 2 Corinthians 6:1*)
- Bring forth fruit. (*John 15:16*)
- Not neglect the gifts and talents in me. (*1 Timothy 4:14*)
- Be watchful, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of my purpose. (*2 Timothy 4:5*)
- Be a good steward of Your manifold grace. (*1 Peter 4:10*)
- Be diligent in whatever I do. (*Proverbs 22:29*)
- Not despise the day of small things in my life. (*Zechariah 4:10*)
- Be a person of excellent spirit. (*Proverbs 17:27*)
- Win souls by helping to convert sinners from the error of their ways to save their souls from death. (*Proverbs 11:30, James 5:20*)
- Possess my soul through patience. (*Luke 21:19*)

Father in Jesus name, to live a life that is pleasing unto You, I believe that You would:

- Teach me to do Your will. (*Psalms 143:10*)
- Fill me with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. (*Colossians 1:9*)
- Make me perfect in every good work to do Your will. (*Hebrews 13:21*)
- Teach me Your ways so that I may walk in Your truth. (*Psalms 86:11*)
- Make my way perfect. (*2 Samuel 22:33*)
- Give me a heart to know You. (*Jeremiah 24:7*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that You would:

- Be sanctified in me before the eyes of the heathen. (*Ezekiel 36:23*)
- Lead and teach me. (*Psalms 25:5*)
- Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation and uphold me with Your free Spirit. (*Psalms 51:12*)
- Show me the path of life. (*Psalms 16:11*)
- Teach and help me make the right decisions in life. (*Psalms 25:12, Psalms 143:8*)
- Fulfil all the good pleasure of Your goodness and the work of faith with power. (*2 Thessalonians 1:11*)
- Direct and order my steps. (*Proverbs 16:9, Psalms 37:23*)

Father in Jesus Name, I believe that:

- Your purpose for my life would prevail against my plans. (*Proverbs 19:21*)

- My gifts and talents would make room for me and bring me before great men. (*Proverbs 18:16*)
- I would live to show forth Your praises. (*Isaiah 43:21, 1 Peter 2:9*)
- The name of Jesus will be glorified in me and I in Him. (*2 Thessalonians 1:12*)
- Whatever I eat, drink or breathe would be sanctified. (*1 Timothy 4:4-5*)
- Jesus will manifest Himself to me. (*John 14:21*)
- The meek shall increase their joy in the Lord. (*Isaiah 29:19*)

Father in Jesus name, I also believe that:

- It is better to trust in You than to put my confidence in man. (*Psalms 118:8*)
- The people that know their God shall be strong and do exploits. (*Daniel 11:32*)
- Blessings are upon the head of the just. (*Proverbs 10:6*)
- The fear of the Lord prolongs days. (*Proverbs 10:27*)
- The prayer of the upright is Your delight. (*Proverbs 15:8*)
- By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, honour and life. (*Proverbs 22:4*)
- Your eyes run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Yourself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward You. (*2 Chronicles 16:9*)
- The man that puts his trust and hope in You shall be blessed, he shall be like a tree planted by the waters that spreads out its roots by the river, having green leaves, carefree in the year of drought and does not cease from bearing fruit. (*Jeremiah 17:7-8*)
- As I order my conversation aright, I will see Your salvation. (*Psalms 50:23*)⁷

1.2 To live by faith (*Romans 1:17*), release your faith by saying:

“Father in Jesus name, concerning faith, I believe (*Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24*) that through Your power that works in me (*Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 2:13*), I would:

- Live by faith, not by sight (*Hebrews 10:38, 2 Corinthians 5:7*) because:
 - whatsoever is not of faith is sin (*Romans 14:23*),
 - I am justified by faith (*Romans 5:1*),
 - without faith it is impossible to please You (*Hebrews 11:6*),

- faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (*Hebrews 11:1*),
- and through faith the elders obtained a good report. (*Hebrews 11:2*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Be watchful, stand fast in the faith, be strong and single-minded. (*1 Corinthians 16:13, James 1:8*)
- Not harden my heart, tempt or grieve You, as Israel did in the wilderness. (*Hebrews 3:7-10*)
- Incline my ears to the Word because faith comes by hearing the Word of God. (*Proverbs 4:20, Romans 10:17*)
- Walk in love because faith works by love. (*Galatians 5:6*)
- Put action to my faith because faith without works is dead. (*James 2:17,26*)
- Use my faith as a shield to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. (*Ephesians 6:16*)
- Fight the good fight of faith. (*2 Timothy 4:7*)
- Grow in faith. (*2 Thessalonians 1:3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Walk in the footsteps of Abraham:
 - calling those things which be not as though they were,
 - against hope, to believe,
 - not be weak in faith,
 - not to stagger at Your promise through unbelief,
 - be strong in faith giving You glory,
 - and be fully persuaded that what You had promised, You are able to perform. (*Romans 4:12,17-21*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Labour in the Word to enter into the rest that You prepared for me. (*Hebrews 4:11*)
- Earnestly contend for the faith. (*Jude 3*)
- Not be snared or trapped with the words of my mouth. (*Proverbs 6:2*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe (*Mark 11:24*) that You would:

- Perfect that which is lacking in my faith, so that my faith will not fail. (*1 Thessalonians 3:10, Luke 22:32*).”

1.3 To live in wisdom, knowledge and understanding *(Colossians 1:9, Ephesians 1:17-18)*, **release your faith by saying:**

“Father in Jesus Name, concerning wisdom, knowledge and understanding, I believe *(Mark 11: 24)* that You have given to me:

- A wise and understanding heart. *(1 Kings 3:12)*
- An understanding heart to discern between good and evil. *(1 Kings 3:9)*
- Wisdom from above which is pure, peaceable, gentle, easy to be entreated, full of mercy, good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. *(James 3:17)*
- A mouth and wisdom, which all my adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist. *(Luke 21:15)*
- The tongue of the learned, that I would know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary. *(Isaiah 50:4)*
- The spirit of wisdom, revelation knowledge and understanding, that I may know the hope to which I am called, the riches of the glory of Jesus' inheritance in the saints and the exceeding greatness of Jesus' power towards us who believe. *(Ephesians 1:17-19)*
- Knowledge and skill in all learning, and wisdom and understanding in visions and dreams. *(Daniel 1:17)*

Father in Jesus name, concerning wisdom, knowledge and understanding, I believe *(Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24)* that through Your power that works in me *(Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 2:13)*, I would:

- Be as wise as a serpent but harmless as a dove. *(Matthew 10:16)*
- Pursue knowledge and understanding as hid treasures. *(Proverbs 2:3-5)*
- Not allow myself to be destroyed by the lack of knowledge. *(Hosea 4:6)*
- Commit to hear the Word, do it, fear the Lord and depart from evil; in pursuit to be a wise and understanding person. *(Matthew 7:24, Job 28:28)*
- Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. *(Colossians 4:5)*
- Apply my heart unto wisdom. *(Psalms 90:12)*
- Show out of a good conversation my works with meekness of wisdom. *(James 3:13)*

- Incline my ear to wisdom and apply my heart to understanding. (*Proverbs 2:2*)
- Be prudent in matters and behave myself wisely in all my ways. (*1 Samuel 16:18, 1 Samuel 18:14*)
- Have an aptitude for every kind of learning, be well informed, quick to understand and qualified to serve You and others. (*Daniel 1:4 ex NIV*)

Father in Jesus Name, I also believe (*Mark 11:24*) that:

- Wisdom is the principal thing; wisdom makes a man happy and the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver and fine gold; wisdom is better than precious stones; wisdom strengthens the wise. (*Proverbs 4:7, Proverbs 3:13-14, Proverbs 8:11, Ecclesiastes 7:19*)
- The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, a good understanding have all they that do Your commandments. (*Psalms 111:10*)
- Wisdom will preserve me, protect me, promote me, bring me to honour, give me favour and glory. (*Proverbs 4:6-9*)
- The tongue of the wise is health. (*Proverbs 12:18*)
- I would understand the times. (*Esther 1:13*)
- Wisdom and knowledge shall be the stability of my time. (*Isaiah 33:6*)
- In all matters of wisdom and understanding, I shall be ten times better than the heathens. (*Daniel 1:20*)
- The knowledge of the Holy is understanding. (*Proverbs 9:10*)”

1.4 To live in prosperity (*3 John 2*), release your faith by saying:

“Father in Jesus Name, concerning prosperity, I believe that (*Mark 11:24*):

- Your blessings make rich and bring no sorrow or regret with it. (*Proverbs 10:22*)
- You would teach me to profit and lead me in the way that I should go. (*Isaiah 48:17*)
- Those who obey and serve You, will spend their days in prosperity and pleasure. (*Job 36:11*)
- The willing and obedient, will eat the good of the land. (*Isaiah 1:19*)
- You will prosper my work, health, assets and salary. (*Deuteronomy 30:9*)

- As a judge, You put down the proud and promote the humble. (*Psalms 75:7, Luke 1:52*)
- You would bless me abundantly. (*Psalms 132:15*)
- It is You who give to us the power to get wealth to establish Your covenant with us. (*Deuteronomy 8:18*)
- Jesus was rich, yet for our sake He became poor, that I through His poverty might be rich. (*2 Corinthians 8:9*)
- Slothfulness, laziness, drunkenness, drugs, gluttony, addiction to the pleasures of the world and following vanity - which leads to poverty shall have no hold on me. (*Proverbs 6:10-11, Proverbs 21:17, Proverbs 23:21, Proverbs 28:19*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- I would always be hard-working and diligent. (*Proverbs 28:19*)
- In keeping the Words of Your covenant and doing them, I shall prosper in all that I do. (*Deuteronomy 29:9*)
- Those that seek You with all their heart will prosper. (*2 Chronicles 26:5, 2 Chronicles 31:21*)
- In bringing all my tithes into Your storehouse, You bless me and rebuke the devourer for my sake. (*Malachi 3:10-11*)
- I would abound in the grace of giving not grudgingly or of necessity but in simplicity and cheerfulness. (*2 Corinthians 8:7, 2 Corinthians 9:7, Romans 12:8*)
- They that sow bountifully shall reap likewise. (*2 Corinthians 9:6*)
- All my giving will be done without hypocrisy or pride. (*Matthew 6:3*)
- You would make me compassionate and liberal towards the poor. (*Proverbs 21:13, Proverbs 28:27, Psalms 41:1, Proverbs 19:17*)
- They that honour You with their substance and with the firstfruits of all their increase shall be blessed with plenty. (*Proverbs 3:9-10*)
- I would keep the Word and walk in Your ways to prosper in all that I do. (*1 Kings 2:3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You take pleasure in the prosperity of Your servants. (*Psalms 35:27*)
- I would prosper and be in good health as my soul prospers. (*3 John 2*)
- The wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. (*Proverbs 13:22*)

- I would not devour my tithes and offerings because it is holy. (*Proverbs 20:25*)
- You would promote me and make all the blessings to come to me and overtake me. I shall be blessed in my work, health, income, assets and living. In all that I set my hand upon, You would bless. You would open unto me Your good treasure. I shall lend and not borrow, I shall be the head and not the tail, go forward and not backwards. (*Deuteronomy 28:1-6,8,12-13*)
- In serving You with joyfulness and gladness for the abundance of all things, You would not cause me to suffer hunger, thirst, nakedness or want. (*Deuteronomy 28:47-48*)
- I shall be blessed so that I can open my hand wide unto my brothers, the poor and needy. (*Deuteronomy 15:11*)
- You would restore unto me double for all my losses. (*Joel 2:25-26*)
- You would not allow my employer to oppress me in my salary. (*Malachi 3:5*)
- I would have enough to leave an inheritance for my children's children. (*Proverbs 13:22*)
- You are able to give me more than what I need, so that I will always have all I need and more than enough for every good cause. (*2 Corinthians 9:8 - TEV*)”

1.5 To live in divine health (3 John 2), release your faith by saying:

“Father in Jesus Name, I believe (*Mark 11:24*) that:

- Jesus took our infirmities and bore our sickness. (*Matthew 8:17*)
- By the stripes of Jesus I am healed. (*Isaiah 53:5, 1 Peter 2:24*)
- You sent Your Word to heal us and deliver us from our destructions. (*Psalms 107:20*)
- You heal the broken in heart and bind up their wounds. (*Psalms 147:3*)

I also believe (*Mark 11:24*) that:

- You take sickness away from the midst of me. (*Exodus 23:25*)
- You restore my health and heal me. (*Jeremiah 30:17, Exodus 15:26*)
- You bless me with strength and peace. (*Psalms 29:11*)
- You heal all my diseases. (*Psalms 103:3*)

- You give me good health and reveal to me how to live in abundant peace and truth. (*Jeremiah 33:6*)

I therefore choose to:

- Attend to Your Word, incline my ear unto it, keep it before my eyes and in the midst of my heart, for they are life unto them that find them and health to all their flesh. (*Proverbs 4:20-22*)
- Be merry at heart to stay healthy. (*Proverbs 17:22*)”

1.6 To live in fellowship with the Holy Ghost (*2 Corinthians 13:14*), **release your faith by saying:**

“Father in Jesus name, to appreciate and enjoy the comfort (*Acts 9:31*) and fellowship (*2 Corinthians 13:14*) of the Holy Ghost, I am believing (*Mark 11:24*) that I would:

- Be led by the Spirit of God. (*Romans 8:14*)
- Abide in the Holy Spirit and be taught by Him. (*1 John 2:27*)
- Not blaspheme the Holy Ghost. (*Matthew 12:31*)
- Not grieve the Holy Spirit. (*Ephesians 4:30*)
- Not quench the Spirit. (*1 Thessalonians 5:19*)
- Mortify the deeds of my body through the Spirit. (*Romans 8:13*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Walk in the Spirit and not fulfil the lust of the flesh. (*Galatians 5:16*)
- Be strengthened with might by Your Spirit in the inner man. (*Ephesians 3:16*)
- Not walk after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (*Romans 8:1*)
- Be filled with the Holy Ghost, so that rivers of living water can flow out of me. (*Luke 1:41, Ephesians 5:18, John 7:38*)
- Have more of the Holy Ghost in my life - His anointing, wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge and reverence. (*Luke 11:13, Isaiah 11:2*)
- Build myself on the most holy faith by praying in the Holy Ghost. (*Jude 20*)
- Have every yoke of bondage destroyed because of the anointing of the Holy Ghost in my life. (*Isaiah 10:27*)”

2. GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY:

2.1 If you are married, release your faith by *saying*:

“Father in Jesus Name, I believe *(Mark 11:24)* that my marriage would:

- reflect Christ's relationship with the Church, *(Ephesians 5:32-33)*
- not fail, *(Mark 10:9)*
- be honourable. *(Hebrews 13:4).*”

2.2 For your family, release your faith by *saying*:

“Father in Jesus Name, I believe *(Mark 11:24)* that my family and I would:

- Obey and serve You with all our heart and soul. *(Deuteronomy 30:2, Joshua 24:15)*
- Keep Your ways. *(Genesis 18:19)*
- Walk in our house with a perfect heart and set no wicked thing before our eyes. *(Psalms 101:2-3)*”

2.3 IF YOU ARE THE HUSBAND

Pray this for yourself, by *saying*:

“Father in Jesus Name, as a husband, I believe *(Mark 11:24)* that I would:

- Live joyfully with my wife. *(Ecclesiastes 9:9)*
- Love my wife as my own body. *(Ephesians 5:28)*
- Rejoice with the wife of my youth. *(Proverbs 5:18)*
- Love my wife as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it. *(Ephesians 5:25)*
- Honour my wife. *(1 Peter 3:7)*
- Not betray or be faithless towards my wife who is my

Pray this for your wife, by *saying*:

“Father in Jesus Name, I believe *(Mark 11:24)* that my wife would:

- Be a woman of discretion and virtue. *(Proverbs 11:22, Proverbs 12:4, Proverbs 31:10)*
- Pursue a meek and quiet spirit, which in Your sight is of great price. *(1 Peter 3:3-4)*
- Be grave, not slanderous, sober, faithful in all things. *(1 Timothy 3:11)*
- Submit and respect me, as unto Jesus Christ. *(Ephesians 5:22, Ephesians 5:33)*

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| <p>companion and partner. (<i>Malachi 2:14</i>)”</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue in faith, love and holiness with sobriety. (<i>1 Timothy 2:15</i>) • Be a prudent wife. (<i>Proverbs 19:14</i>)” |
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2.4 IF YOU ARE THE WIFE

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| <p>Pray this for yourself, by saying: “Father in Jesus Name, as a wife, I believe (<i>Mark 11:24</i>) that I would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a woman of discretion and virtue. (<i>Proverbs 11:22, Proverbs 12:4, Proverbs 31:10</i>) • Pursue a meek and quiet spirit, which in Your sight is of great price. (<i>1 Peter 3:3-4</i>) • Be grave, not slanderous, sober, faithful in all things. (<i>1 Timothy 3:11</i>) • Submit and respect my husband, as unto Jesus Christ. (<i>Ephesians 5:22, Ephesians 5:33</i>) • Continue in faith, love and holiness with sobriety. (<i>1 Timothy 2:15</i>) • Be a prudent wife. (<i>Proverbs 19:14</i>)” | <p>Pray this for your husband, by saying: “Father in Jesus Name, I believe (<i>Mark 11:24</i>) that my husband would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live joyfully with me. (<i>Ecclesiastes 9:9</i>) • Love me as his own body. (<i>Ephesians 5:28</i>) • Rejoice with me. (<i>Proverbs 5:18</i>) • Love me as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it. (<i>Ephesians 5:25</i>) • Honour me. (<i>1 Peter 3:7</i>) • Not betray or be faithless towards me because I choose to be his companion and partner. (<i>Malachi 2:14</i>)” |
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2.5 If you are a parent, pray this for yourself, by saying:

“Father in Jesus Name, as a parent, I believe (*Mark 11:24*) that I would:

- Not neglect to teach my child/children the Word of God.
(*Deuteronomy 6:7*)

- Train up my child/children in Your ways. (*Proverbs 22:6*)
- Be a good parent and provide for my child/children. (*2 Corinthians 12:14*)
- Not provoke my child/children to wrath but bring him/her/them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (*Ephesians 6:4*)
- Rule my house well, having my child/children in subjection with all gravity. (*1 Timothy 3:4*)
- Correct and discipline my child/children. (*Proverbs 13:24, Proverbs 19:18, Proverbs 22:15, Proverbs 23:13*)”

2.6 In praying for your child/children, say:

“Father in Jesus Name, I believe (*Mark 11:24*) that my children/child would:

- Walk in obedience that it may be well with them/him/her and live long on the earth, for this is well pleasing unto You. (*Ephesians 6:1-3, Colossians 3:20*)
- Keep Your Word. (*Psalms 132:12, Proverbs 28:7*)
- Know the Word which is able to make them/him/her wise unto salvation. (*2 Timothy 3:15*)
- Love wisdom and be wise. (*Proverbs 29:3, 15:20*)
- Respect You and keep Your ways. (*Deuteronomy 31:13, Proverbs 8:32*)
- Be taught by You, have Your peace in them, be established in righteousness, be free of oppression, fear and terror. (*Psalms 34:11, Isaiah 54:13-14*)
- Remember You in the days of their/his/her youth. (*Ecclesiastes 12:1*)
- Grow up to be spiritually mature and strong, filled with wisdom and Your grace be upon them/him/her. (*Luke 2:40*)
- Not be yoked together with unbelievers. (*2 Corinthians 6:14*)
- Walk in the way of good and wise people. (*Proverbs 2:20, Proverbs 13:20*)
- Flee from youthful lust and follow after righteousness, faith, love and peace with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart. (*2 Timothy 2:22*)”

3. CONCERNING GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR COUNTRY, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus Name, I am standing in the gap before You for my nation (*Ezekiel 22:30*), believing (*Mark 11:24*) that:

- All the politicians would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. (*1 Timothy 2:4*)
- The rebellious would be restrained from exalting themselves. (*Psalms 66:7*)
- You would choose our nation as your inheritance, bless it and be Lord over it. (*Psalms 33:12*)
- Your Word would be the foundation to all the laws and statutes of our nation. (*Psalms 11:3*)
- Every leader in our nation who stands against Your Word would be brought to nothing. (*Psalms 33:10-11, Isaiah 40:23*)
- You would not allow evil men to triumph in our nation. (*Psalms 9:19*)
- The government would faithfully judge the poor, decree righteous laws and seek You in all things. (*Proverbs 29:14, Isaiah 10:1, Proverbs 28:5*)
- Our country would be free from violence, oppression and exaction. (*Ezekiel 45:9*)
- Leaders of our country would serve You with reverence; be just, righteous, honest, do nothing by partiality and rule in the fear of God. (*Psalms 2:11, Leviticus 19:15, 1 Timothy 5:21, Proverbs 14:34, Proverbs 16:12, 2 Samuel 23:3, Psalms 72:1-4*)
- The wicked would be removed from government. (*Proverbs 25:5, 28:15*)
- Christians would humble themselves, pray, seek Your face and turn from our wicked ways, so that You would hear from Heaven, forgive our sins and heal our land. (*2 Chronicles 7:14*)
- Our government would be under Your care and control and be established in righteousness. (*Proverbs 16:12, Proverbs 21:1*)
- The righteous to be in authority so that the people would rejoice. (*Proverbs 29:2*)
- Politicians would not err through wine and strong drink. (*Isaiah 28:7*)

- Every knee on earth would bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to Your glory. (*Philippians 2:10-11*)
- All the inhabitants of the earth will fear and stand in awe of You. (*Psalms 33:8*)
- You would be exalted in the earth above all gods. (*Psalms 97:9*)
- Your ways would be known upon the earth, and Your saving health among all nations. (*Psalms 67:2*)
- The whole earth will be filled with Your glory and be full of Your mercy. (*Psalms 72:19, Psalms 119:64*)
- Heathens would fear Your name and their leaders to fear Your glory. (*Psalms 102:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You would execute judgement against the gods of the nations and deliver people from oppression. (*Exodus 12:12, 3:7*)
- The counsel of the heathen will be brought to nought, but Your counsel and thoughts would stand for ever and to all generations. (*Psalms 33:10-11*)
- The people of the earth will know that the Lord is God and that there is none else. (*1 Kings 8:60*)
- Men would say among the nations, the Lord reigns. (*1 Chronicles 16:31*)
- People would see Your glory and excellency. (*Isaiah 35:2*)
- All the ends of the earth shall see your salvation. (*Isaiah 52:10*)
- The people of the earth would fear Your name. (*Isaiah 59:19*)
- Nations would bless themselves and glory in You. (*Jeremiah 4:2*)
- You would be known in the eyes of many nations. (*Ezekiel 38:23*)
- The inhabitants of the earth would tremble and fear the Living God of Heaven, who is steadfast for ever, and seek You. (*Daniel 6:26, Zechariah 8:22*)
- The earth to be filled with the knowledge of Jesus Christ, as the waters cover the sea. (*Habakkuk 2:14, Isaiah 11:9*)
- The earth be full of Your praise. (*Habakkuk 3:3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein, therefore all men would come to repentance. (*Psalms 24:1, 2 Peter 3:9*)

- You would send forth more labourers into Your harvest. (*Luke 10:2*)
- The gospel of the Kingdom would be preached in all the world for a witness unto all the nations and the preached Word would be confirmed with signs following. (*Matthew 24:14, Mark 16:20*)
- Every church would be actively involved in spreading the gospel into all the world, preaching to every creature, teaching the nations, and baptising the new believers. (*Matthew 28:19, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:47*)
- The Israelites would be saved. (*Romans 10:1*)
- You would give us the heathen for our inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for our possession. (*Psalms 2:8*)
- All the ends of the world would turn to You, worship You, and glorify Your name. (*Psalms 22:27, Psalms 86:9*)
- Your glory would be declared among the heathen and Your wonders among all people. (*Psalms 96:3*)
- The Lord's house would be exalted and all the nations to flow into it. (*Isaiah 2:2*)
- Your name would be great among the Gentiles and the heathens. (*Malachi 1:11*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The unsaved would turn from darkness to light, from the power of satan unto God, that they receive forgiveness of sins, and an inheritance among them which are sanctified. (*Acts 26:18*)
- Christians would not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes. (*Romans 1:16*)
- Christians would be effective witnesses for Jesus Christ. (*Acts 1:8*)
- All the nations would come to worship and serve You. (*Revelation 15:4, Psalms 72:11*)
- Men would repent, be baptised and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (*Acts 2:38*)
- Men would turn from their vanities unto the Living God. (*Acts 14:15*)
- All the ends of the earth would look unto You and be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. (*Isaiah 45:22, 1 Timothy 2:4*)
- You would be exalted among the heathen in the earth. (*Psalms 46:10*)

- Nations would open their doors for the gospel to be preached unto them. *(Colossians 4:3)*
- The Word of God would have free course and be glorified in the earth. *(2 Thessalonians 3:1)*”
- *Also pray that mankind would protect and preserve the earth. (Genesis 2:15)*

5. IN PRAYING FOR OTHERS *(Ephesians 6:18)*, **SAY:**

“Father in Jesus Name, I am depending upon the Holy Spirit to help me make intercession for the following people according to Your will: *(Romans 8:27)*

| <i>Name of the person</i> | <i>Prayer request</i> |
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Remember, God expects faith, importunity and persistence in prayer (Hebrews 11:1,6; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8), therefore, if you have released your faith by praying the contents of this chapter, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never-ending cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your

mouth (pray); until God confirms His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20).

CHAPTER 4

PERSONAL NEEDS

FOCUS: “Give us day by day our daily bread.” (Luke 11:3)

It is comforting to know that God cares about us, our every day and our every need. Going to Him with needs was not our idea, but His. That means He does not get weary of us coming to Him daily with needs and placing demands on His Fatherhood ability.

Jesus used the word “**bread**” to describe our needs, since bread in the scriptures symbolized:

- spiritual needs (the Word of God - Deuteronomy 8:3 and Matthew 4:4);
- emotional needs (Psalms 80:5, Psalms 127:2);
- physical needs (strength - Psalms 104:15; healing - Matthew 15:26-28; food - Matthew 7:9-11);
- financial needs (Ecclesiastes 11:1); and
- material needs (Proverbs 12:9, Psalms 37:25).

Philippians 4:19 assures us that God would supply **all our needs** according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

The word “Pater”, Greek for “Father”, also means nourisher. Throughout the New Testament, we see God fulfilling His role as Father in the lives of His children, as a gracious nourisher or provider. Matthew 6:25-33 presents a beautiful account of the Father's responsibility, as provider.

*Therefore I say unto you, **Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on.** Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; **yet your heavenly Father feedeth them.** Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow;*

*they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? **Therefore take no thought, saying,** What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) **for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.***

Should we for any reason doubt His ability, God asks us to consider the birds of the air and the grass of the field. Then Jesus draws our attention to the fact that the Father, who provides for the animals and the plants, is aware of our basic needs (food, water and clothing) and is more than able to provide for His children, because we are precious to Him. All that God asks of us is that we:

1. Be not of little faith or anxious, **saying** “What shall we eat? What shall we drink? Wherewithal shall we be clothed?”. [Do the words “**saying**” or “**say**” remind you of anything? If they don’t, please read the Introductory Chapter again. These words have everything to do with your faith, without which it is impossible to please Him.]
2. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and that's exactly what we did in Chapters 2 and 3.

Continuing His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus compared our Heavenly Father with earthly fathers in this manner:

*Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, **how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?** (Matthew 7:9-11)*

Even the Old Testament is full of God's providence. In the wilderness, He sent food from heaven, water from a rock and

preserved the Israelites' clothing from perishing, and then finally made them inherit the land of plenty.

*All the commandments which I command thee this day shall ye observe to do, that ye may live, and multiply, and go in and possess the land which the Lord swore unto your fathers. And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and **fed thee with manna**, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that **man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years. Thou shalt also consider in thine heart, that, as a man chasteneth his son, so the Lord thy God chasteneth thee. Therefore thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to fear him. For the Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey; A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any thing in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee.** (Deuteronomy 8:1-10)*

Notice God's intention for blessing them is expressly stated in the last sentence and it reads "**when you have eaten and are full** (that is, satisfied), **then you must bless the Lord**" for all the good He has given to you. That's a message for us as well, because we have a covenant of better promises.

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| <p>For easy understanding and praying for your needs, the scriptures in this chapter are presented in a ready-to-pray format, but in no way imply that you have to adhere to the format. Please read through</p> |
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the list, understand it and then pray it in your own words so that it becomes a meaningful conversation with Father God.

CONCERNING YOUR SPIRITUAL NEED [or spiritual food, which is God's Word (*Deuteronomy 8:3*)], RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I choose to live by Your Word (*Matthew 4:4*) because I believe:

- I am born again, not of corruptible seed, but of the incorruptible ever living Word of God. (*1 Peter 1:23*)
- Your Word is quick, powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (*Hebrews 4:12*)
- It is pure, as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. (*Psalms 12:6*)
- It gives me life. (*Psalms 119:154*)
- It endures for ever and will never fail. (*Matthew 5:18, Matthew 24:35, 1 Peter 1:25, Luke 16:17*)
- It sanctifies, cleanses and washes me. (*John 17:17, Ephesians 5:26*)
- It fills my heart with joy and happiness. (*Jeremiah 15:16 ex TEV*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that Your Word is:

- A lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (*Psalms 119:105*)
- Able to build me and give me an inheritance among all them which are sanctified. (*Acts 20:32*)
- Like a fire and hammer that breaks the rock in pieces. (*Jeremiah 23:29*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Your Word is spirit and life, it is perfect, sure, right, clean, true, holy, just, good and stands for ever. It converts me, makes me wise and happy, gives me understanding, endurance and righteousness. It is more to be desired than money or food. It warns, rewards and cleanses me from my faults and keeps me from presumptuous sins. Therefore, I pray that the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight. (*John 6:63, Psalms 19:7-14, Romans 7:12, Isaiah 40:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Your Word makes me wiser than my enemies, gives me more understanding than all my teachers and senior citizens. Therefore I choose to refrain from evil and falsity. *(Psalms 119:97-104)*

I believe that:

- The law of the Spirit of life in Christ has made me free from the law of sin and death. *(Romans 8:2)*
- Your Word was written for my learning, that through patience and comfort of the scriptures I can have hope. *(Romans 15:4)*
- Great peace have they which love Your Word and nothing would offend them. *(Psalms 119:165)*
- The secret things belong to You, but things which are revealed belong to my children and me for ever. *(Deuteronomy 29:29)*
- The entrance of Your Words brings light to me and gives me understanding. *(Psalms 119:130)*
- Through Your Word, You give to me all things that pertain to life and godliness and called me to a life of glory and excellence. You have given to me exceeding great and precious promises, so that I could be a partaker of Your divine nature and escape the corruption that is in the world. *(2 Peter 1:3-4)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The Word of Christ would dwell in me richly in all wisdom. *(Colossians 3:16)*
- You put Your Word in my mind and wrote it in my heart, to make me an epistle of Christ. *(Hebrews 8:10, Jeremiah 31:33, 2 Corinthians 3:3)*
- All scripture is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness. *(2 Timothy 3:16)*
- Obedience to the Word purifies my soul. *(1 Peter 1:22)*
- Not one word of all Your good promise would fail. *(1 Kings 8:56)*
- All Your promises are yea and amen. *(2 Corinthians 1:20)*
- You will not break Your covenant, nor alter the thing that is gone out of Your lips. *(Psalms 89:34)*
- Because I respect and delight in Your commandments, I will be blessed, my children shall be mighty upon the earth and be

blessed. Wealth and riches shall be in my house and my righteousness will endure for ever. (*Psalms 112:1-3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You watch over Your Word to perform it. (*Jeremiah 1:12*)
- Heaven and earth shall pass away, but Your Words shall remain. (*Mark 13:31*)
- I am clean through Your Word. (*John 15:3*)
- Grace and peace is multiplied unto me through the knowledge of Your Word. (*2 Peter 1:2*)
- You magnified Your Word and made it honourable. (*Isaiah 42:21*)
- As the rain and snow comes down to water the earth, to give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so is Your Word that came forth out of Your mouth, it will not return to You void, but it shall accomplish that which You please and prosper in the thing whereto You sent it. (*Isaiah 55:10-11*)

Father in Jesus name, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (*Philippians 4:13*), I therefore believe (*Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24*) that I would:

- Lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness and receive with meekness the engrafted Word which is able to save my soul. (*James 1:21*)
- Be a doer of the Word, not a hearer only. (*James 1:22*)
- Look into the perfect law of liberty and continue therein. (*James 1:25*)
- Desire the sincere milk of the Word and grow thereby. (*1 Peter 2:2*)
- Confess, meditate and do Your Word to be prosperous and have good success. (*Joshua 1:8*)
- Give ear to the Word so that my prayer would not be abominable. (*Proverbs 28:9*)
- Delight myself in Your Word and meditate upon it day and night and be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, bring forth fruit in my season, have leaf that does not wither, and enjoy prosperity. (*Psalms 1:2-3*)
- Give myself wholly to the Word, read it, give heed to it, hide it in my heart, remember it, trust it, love it, believe it, put my hope in it, and order my steps in it. (*1 Timothy 4:15, Revelation 1:3, Psalms 119:9,*

Psalms 119:11, Psalms 119:93, Psalms 119:42, Psalms 119:48, Psalms 119:66, Psalms 119:113-114, Psalms 119:133)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Stand in awe of Your Word and rejoice, as one who finds great treasures. *(Psalms 119:161-162)*
- Esteem Your Word more than food. *(Job 23:12)*
- Continue in Your Word to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. *(John 8:31)*
- Not despise or reject Your Word. *(2 Chronicles 36:16, Amos 2:4, Mark 7:9)*
- Be like the fertile soil that hears the Word, receives it, understands it, keeps it in an honest and good heart and brings forth fruit. *(Matthew 13:23, Mark 4:20, Luke 8:15)*
- Know the scriptures and be free from error. *(Matthew 22:29)*
- Study to show myself approved unto You, rightly dividing the Word of truth. *(2 Timothy 2:15)*
- Know the truth and be free. *(John 8:32)*
- Not allow the cares of this world, riches, pleasures of this life and the lusts of other things to choke the Word and make it unfruitful. *(Mark 4:19, Luke 8:14)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Be very attentive to the Word, and be quick to believe it, for it is the Word of faith. *(Luke 19:48, Luke 24:25, Romans 10:8)*
- Give earnest heed to the things which I have heard, lest at any time I let it slip. *(Hebrews 2:1)*
- Be skillful in the Word of righteousness. *(Hebrews 5:13)*
- Be established in present truth. *(2 Peter 1:12)*
- Not forget the Word but keep it in my heart for length of days, long life and peace it shall add to me. *(Proverbs 3:1-2)*
- Have great respect for the Word. *(Proverbs 13:13)*
- Not go aside from any of Your Words. *(Deuteronomy 28:14)*
- Be mindful of Your Word. *(1 Chronicles 16:15)*
- Be a ready student of Your Word and search the scriptures, to do it and teach it to others. *(Ezra 7:6,10)*
- Keep Your Word that it may be well with me and my children and enjoy longevity. *(Deuteronomy 4:40)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that You would:

- Teach and give me understanding of Your Word, so that I may keep and do it, for it is my wisdom and understanding in the sight of the people. (*Psalms 119:33-34, Deuteronomy 4:1,6*)
- Open my understanding that I may understand and see wonderful things in Your Word. (*Psalms 119:18, Luke 24:45*)
- Circumcise my ear to hear Your Word. (*Jeremiah 6:10*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that You would:

- Set before me a blessing, because I choose to obey Your Word. (*Deuteronomy 11:26-27*)
- Teach me Your Word, letter by letter, line by line and lesson by lesson. (*Isaiah 28:13 ex TEV*)
- Reveal Your Word to me, the deep and secret things as well. (*Isaiah 42:9, Daniel 2:22, Matthew 13:35*)
- Put Your Words in my mouth. (*Jeremiah 1:9*)”

CONCERNING ALL YOUR OTHER NEEDS, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving I make my request known to You (*Philippians 4:6*). I cast all my cares upon You, for You care for me (*1 Peter 5:7*) and I give You thanks that:

- Through the Blood of Jesus, I can come boldly to the throne of grace and obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (*Hebrews 4:16, Hebrews 10:19*)
- Whatsoever I ask You in Jesus’ name, You will give it to me. (*John 15:16*)
- You give food to them that fear You because You are mindful of Your covenant. (*Psalms 111:5*)
- You know what things I have need of before I can ask You. (*Matthew 6:8*)
- Because I abide in Jesus and His Words abide in me, I can ask what I will and it shall be done unto me. (*John 15:7*)

Father in Jesus name, I give You thanks that:

- The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man avails much. (*James 5:16*)
- You will not allow the soul of the righteous to famish. (*Proverbs 10:3*)

- When I call upon You, You will answer me and show me great and mighty things. *(Jeremiah 33:3)*
- You would help me not to ask for things to consume upon my lusts. *(James 4:3)*
- Because I choose to keep Your Word and do those things that are pleasing in Your sight, I will receive what I ask for. *(1 John 3:22)*

Father in Jesus name, I am believing You for the following needs:

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Father in Jesus name, I thank You:

- All things are possible to him who believes. *(Mark 9:23)*
- You supply all my needs according to Your riches in glory by Christ Jesus. *(Philippians 4:19)*
- I can ask and receive anything in Jesus name. *(John 14:14)*
- You will withhold no good thing from them that walk uprightly. *(Psalms 84:11)*
- You fulfill all my petitions and satisfy my mouth with good things. *(Psalms 20:5, Psalms 103:5)*
- The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not lack. *(Psalms 23:1)*
- Whatsoever I shall ask in prayer, believing, I shall receive. *(Matthew 21:22, Mark 11:24)*
- They that seek You shall not want any good thing. *(Psalms 34:10)*”

Remember, God expects faith, importunity and persistence in prayer (Hebrews 11:1,6; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8), therefore, if you have released your faith by praying the contents of this chapter, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never ending-cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (pray); until God confirms His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20).

CHAPTER 5

RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND MAN

FOCUS: “And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us.” (Luke 11:4)

Whilst this section of our prayer involves pursuing holiness, peace, perfection and righteousness with God and others, confession of sins in the middle of prayer would not be the right order of prayer. The New International Version of James 5:16 reads: “*The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective*”. God promised that “***If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness***” (1 John 1:19). Confession of sins should therefore precede prayer. In fact, as soon as our conscience bears witness that we have sinned, we should immediately confess it to God, repent of it, receive pardon and cleansing, rather than wait for prayer time to do it.

However, blood washed born again believers serious about holiness, righteousness, peace and perfection must not only be quick to repent from their sins, but should also attend to weaknesses of the flesh and faults that cause us to sin. Character flaws, the lack of godly knowledge, association with the world, addictions, old habit patterns, ungodly desires and motives, the lack of self control, irreverence for God and His Word, a carnal mind, etc is what we should confess at this juncture of prayer, to receive God's forgiveness and grace to overcome it in pursuit of His righteousness, peace, holiness and perfection.

It must be understood that God's forgiveness towards us is determined by our forgiveness towards others. Matthew 6:14-15 tells us that: “*For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses*” (Matthew 6:14-15).

Why does God view unforgiveness towards others so offensive?

1. It shows disrespect and dishonour for the Blood of Jesus which was shed for the forgiveness of sins. (Colossians 1:14)
2. It is disobedience to the commandment of God. (Matthew 6:14-15, John 13:34-35)
3. It opposes the spirit of unity in the Church. (Ephesians 4:1-3)
4. It opposes the ministry of reconciliation which God has given to every believer. (2 Corinthians 5:18)
5. It opposes the power of agreement between believers. (Matthew 18:19)
6. It opposes healing in the Kingdom. (James 5:16)
7. It opposes faith and prayer in the Kingdom. (Mark 11:24-26, Galatians 5:6)
8. It opposes worship and consequently your prosperity in the Kingdom. (Matthew 5:23-24)
9. Satan has an advantage over us and he takes us at his will. (2 Corinthians 2:10-11, 2 Timothy 2:23-26)
10. It prevents the believer from advancement and progress. (Philippians 3:13)
11. It forces God to hand us over to the tormentors for punishment. (Matthew 18:34-35)

God is not only building a lasting covenant relationship among His children, but He is also raising up leadership. No person in the eyes of God can rightfully qualify for leadership position in His Kingdom, if they do not possess the skill of managing personal relationships. I pray that the spirit of unforgiveness will not cause you to forfeit your place for leadership position in God's glorious Kingdom. Remember, God is not asking you to forgive in your own strength, but His (John 15:5, Philippians 4:13).

Like the previous chapters, the scriptures are presented in a ready-to-pray format. Please pray them with understanding in your own words so that they become a meaningful conversation with the Father.

CONCERNING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I believe that I am forgiven of my sins and cleansed from all unrighteousness because I have confessed all my sins to You. (1 John 1:9, Psalms 38:18) I thank You that:

- You not only forgive all my iniquities, but You remember my sins no more. (Psalms 103:3, Hebrews 10:17, Isaiah 43:25)
- The man unto whom You impute not iniquity and in whose spirit there is no guile, is blessed. (Psalms 32:1-2)
- You are good, ready to forgive, merciful, gracious, slow to anger and great in kindness unto all that call upon You. (Psalms 86:5, Nehemiah 9:17)
- As the heaven is high above the earth, so great is Your mercy toward them that fear You. As far as the east is from the west, so far have You removed my transgressions from me. (Psalms 103:11-12)

I now believe that You will help me overcome the following weaknesses and faults in my life that are causing me to sin:

*Whatever is causing you to sin, name it and ask the Father for help to overcome it. **Examples of weaknesses and faults are:** character flaws, lack of godly knowledge, association with the world, addictions, old habit patterns, ungodly desires and motives, the lack of self control, irreverence of God and His Word, a carnal mind, etc.*

Father in Jesus name, in pursuit of a right relationship with You, I believe that through Your power, which is at work in me (Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 2:13), I would:

- Cleanse myself from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God. (2 Corinthians 7:1)
- Purge myself from sin and be a vessel of honour, sanctified, and meet for Your use and prepared unto every good work. (2 Timothy 2:21)
- Not defile myself, because I am the temple of God. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)
- Serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life. (Luke 1:74-75)
- Depart from iniquity. (2 Timothy 2:19)

- Confess and forsake sin. (*Proverbs 28:13*)
- Cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. (*Romans 13:12*)
- Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. (*Ephesians 5:11*)
- Cease from anger and forsake wrath. (*Psalms 37:8*)
- Awake unto righteousness and sin not. (*1 Corinthians 15:34*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not allow sin to reign in my mortal body or obey its lusts. (*Romans 6:12*)
- Lay aside every weight and sin and run with patience the race that is set before me. (*Hebrews 12:1*)
- Abstain from fleshly lusts and all appearance of evil. (*1 Peter 2:11, 1 Thessalonians 5:22*)
- Not regard iniquity in my heart. (*Psalms 66:18*)
- Bring forth fruits worthy of repentance. (*Luke 3:8*)
- Be perfect, upright, fear God and eschew evil. (*1 Chronicles 29:19, Job 1:1*)
- Always draw near to You with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having my heart sprinkled from an evil conscience and body washed with the Word, holding fast the profession of faith without wavering. (*James 4:8, Hebrews 10:22-23*)
- Seek the honour that comes from You only. (*John 5:44*)
- Follow in the steps of Jesus Christ and not walk in darkness but have the light of life. (*1 Peter 2:21, 1 John 2:6, John 8:12*)
- Love righteousness and hate iniquity and be anointed with the oil of gladness. (*Hebrews 1:9*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Live a crucified life with Christ. (*Galatians 2:20*)
- Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. (*Micah 6:8*)
- Be perfect and thoroughly furnished unto all good works. (*Matthew 5:48, 2 Timothy 3:17*)
- Fear You, walk in all Your ways, love You, serve You in sincerity and truth with all my heart and soul. (*Deuteronomy 10:12, Joshua 24:14*)
- Serve You with reverence and godly fear. (*Hebrews 12:28*)
- Live as a servant of righteousness and serve You in the newness of spirit and not in the oldness of the letter. (*Romans 6:18, Romans 7:6*)

- Serve You with a pure conscience. (*2 Timothy 1:3*)
- Be holy in all manner of conversation. (*1 Peter 1:15*)
- Walk before You in truth with a perfect heart and do that which is good in Your sight. (*Isaiah 38:3*)
- Give no place to idolatry in my life. (*Ezekiel 14:3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Add to my faith: virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love. (*2 Peter 1:5-7*)
- Take heed to my ways that I sin not with my tongue. (*Psalms 39:1*)
- Cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. (*Romans 13:12*)
- Be renewed in the spirit of my mind and put on the new man, created in Your image in righteousness and true holiness. (*Ephesians 4:23-24*)
- Set my affection on things above, not on things on the earth. (*Colossians 3:2*)
- Keep my body under subjection. (*1 Corinthians 9:27*)
- Be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. (*Philippians 1:10*)
- Walk in the newness of life. (*Romans 6:4*)
- Deny ungodliness and worldly lusts, live soberly, righteously and godly in the present world. (*Titus 2:12*)
- Be an example to believers - in word, in conversation, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (*1 Timothy 4:12*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not be weary in well doing. (*Galatians 6:9*)
- Keep my heart with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life. (*Proverbs 4:23*)
- Always maintain a conscience void of offence towards God and men. (*Acts 24:16*)
- Have my senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (*1 Kings 3:9, Hebrews 5:14*)
- Be faithful. (*1 Corinthians 4:2*)
- Have self-control. (*Proverbs 25:28*)
- Shine my light before men, that they may see my good works and glorify You. (*Matthew 5:16*)
- Glorify You in my body and spirit. (*1 Corinthians 6:20*)

- Walk in Your fear. (*Proverbs 1:7*)
- Keep away from greed and covetousness. (*1 Timothy 6:10, Luke 12:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Speak the truth in love and grow up into Jesus Christ in all things. (*Ephesians 4:15*)
- Do that which is right in Your sight with a perfect heart. (*2 Chronicles 25:2*)
- Be clothed with humility, for God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble. (*1 Peter 5:5*)
- Walk in integrity. (*Psalms 26:11, James 5:12, Psalms 41:12, Proverbs 11:3, Proverbs 20:7*)
- Be patient, kind, polite, generous, calm, holy, loving, merciful, humble, meek, patient and forgiving. (*1 Corinthians 13:4-8, Colossians 3:12-13*)
- Not love the world, neither the things of the world. (*1 John 2:15*)
- Put on love which is the bond of perfectness. (*Colossians 3:14*)
- Live in love. (*1 John 4:16*)
- Maintain a pure heart so that I can see God work in and through my life. (*Matthew 5:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Keep myself pure and unspotted from the world. (*1 Timothy 5:22, James 1:27*)
- Hunger and thirst after righteousness and submit myself to the righteousness of God. (*Matthew 5:6, Romans 10:3*)
- Be filled with the fruits of righteousness, which came through Jesus Christ, to Your glory and praise. (*Philippians 1:11*)
- Follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness. (*1 Timothy 6:11*)
- Consider my ways and have my conversation honest among all men. (*Haggai 1:5, 1 Peter 2:12*)
- Not allow corrupt communication to proceed out of my mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying that it may minister grace unto the hearers. (*Ephesians 4:29*)
- Lay aside all guile, hypocrisies, envies, bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, malice, lies, idle words, evil speaking and be kind, tender-hearted, forgiving. (*Ephesians 4:31-32, Matthew 12:36, 1 Peter 2:1, Psalms 34:13, Proverbs 12:22*)

- Offer the sacrifices of righteousness. (*Psalms 4:5*)
- Swear to my own hurt and change not. (*Psalms 15:4*)
- Fulfil all righteousness. (*Matthew 3:15*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Be faithful even in the smallest of things. (*Luke 16:10*)
- Present my body a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto You. (*Romans 12:1*)
- Put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh, for they that are in the flesh cannot please God. (*Romans 13:14, Romans 8:8*)
- Be gentle to all. (*Philippians 4:5 - NIV*)
- Do all things heartily unto You and not unto men, knowing that of You I shall receive the reward of inheritance. (*Colossians 3:23-24*)
- Not be weary in well doing. (*2 Thessalonians 3:13*)
- Always do good, be rich in good works, ready to distribute and willing to communicate. (*1 Timothy 6:18*)
- Not be a friend of the world. (*James 4:4*)
- Love in deed and truth. (*1 John 3:18*)
- Not be wise in my own eyes but fear You and depart from evil. (*Proverbs 3:7*)
- Hate evil, pride, arrogance, and a perverse mouth. (*Proverbs 8:13*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not be hasty in my decisions. (*Proverbs 14:29*)
- Not sin against You in ceasing to pray. (*1 Samuel 12:23*)
- Always encourage myself in You. (*1 Samuel 30:6*)
- Walk before You in truth with all my heart and soul. (*1 Kings 2:4*)
- Not depart from You. (*Jeremiah 32:40*)
- Not defile myself. (*Daniel 1:8*)
- Be a person of excellent spirit, innocent, faithful, free from faults and errors. (*Daniel 6:3-4, Daniel 6:22*)
- Not walk in the counsel of the ungodly, or stand in the way of sinners, or sit in the seat of the scornful. (*Psalms 1:1*)
- Not enter the path of the wicked. (*Proverbs 4:14*)
- Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. (*Ephesians 5:11*)
- Keep away from every believer that walks disorderly. (*2 Thessalonians 3:6*)

- Not follow vain persons. (*Proverbs 12:11*)
- Overcome evil with good. (*Romans 12:21*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that You would:

- Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me. (*Psalms 51:10*)
- Correct me through Your Word. (*Hebrews 12:7*)
- Help me to understand my faults. (*Job 6:24*)
- Sanctify me wholly, my whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of Jesus Christ. (*1 Thessalonians 5:23*)
- Remove from me vanity and lies and teach me to stay free from sin. (*Proverbs 30:8, Job 34:32*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Your goodness leads me to repentance. (*Romans 2:4*)
- My heart would be perfect towards You always. (*2 Chronicles 16:9*)
- I am sanctified according to Your will. (*1 Thessalonians 4:3*)
- My speech would always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that I would know how to answer every man. (*Colossians 4:6*)
- My mouth would be free of guile. (*Revelation 14:5*)”

CONCERNING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, in obedience to Your Word, I choose to forgive the following persons that have sinned against me:

| <i>Name of the person</i> | <i>Reason for forgiveness</i> |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

I choose to love them, bless them, do good to them and pray for them. (*Matthew 5:44*)

I also believe for Your grace and help to make my peace with the following persons:

| <i>Name of person</i> | <i>Reason for wanting to make your peace with them</i> |
|-----------------------|--|
| | |
| | |

In pursuit of a right relationship with others, Father in Jesus name, I believe that through Your power which is at work in me (*Ephesians 3:20, Philippians 2:13*), I would:

- Love others with a pure heart fervently, for love is of God and everyone that loves is born of God and knows God. (*1 Peter 1:22, 1 John 4:7*)
- Love others as Jesus loves me, so that all men would know that I am a disciple of Jesus. (*John 13:34-35, John 15:12*)
- Follow after the things which make for peace and things wherewith I may edify others. (*Romans 14:19*)
- Not use my freedom to indulge the sinful nature but by love serve others. (*Galatians 5:13 – ex NIV*)
- Speak evil of no man, not be quarrelsome, but be gentle, showing meekness unto all men. (*Titus 3:2*)
- Be tolerant of others. (*Ephesians 4:2, Matthew 5:41*)
- Be a peacemaker. (*Matthew 5:9*)
- Depart from evil, do good and pursue peace until it rules in my heart. (*Psalms 34:14, 1 Peter 3:11, Colossians 3:15*)
- Love my neighbour as myself. (*Mark 12:33, Galatians 5:14, James 2:8, Luke 10:27*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Judge righteously if need be and not according to appearance. (*John 7:24*)
- Follow peace with all men, and holiness. (*Hebrew 12:14*)
- Not recompense to others evil for evil. (*Romans 12:17*)
- Eagerly show respect for others. (*Romans 12:10 ex TEV*)
- Love my enemies, bless them that curse me, do good to them that hate me and pray for them that despitefully use me and persecute me. (*Matthew 5:44, Romans 12:20*)
- Owe no man anything but love. (*Romans 13:8*)
- Love sincerely, hate that which is evil and cling to that which is good. (*Romans 12:9 – ex NIV*)
- Be merciful like You. (*Luke 6:36, Proverbs 11:17, Matthew 5:7*)
- Not despise, judge, condemn, offend or be a stumbling block to others. (*1 Corinthians 10:32, Romans 14:21, Matthew 18:10, 1 Corinthians 4:5, Matthew 7:1, Romans 14:13, Luke 6:37*)

- Live in peace with others and not speak evil of anyone. (*2 Corinthians 13:11, James 4:11*)
- Not glory in bitter envying and strife. (*James 3:14*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Put away all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, evil speaking and malice. (*Ephesians 4:31*)
- Bear the infirmities of the weak and edify others. (*Romans 15:1-2*)
- Bear the burdens of others and fulfil the law of Christ. (*Galatians 6:2*)
- Not use my liberty in Christ to offend my brother. (*1 Corinthians 8:13*)
- Be hospitable and not grudge others. (*1 Peter 4:9*)
- Provoke others to love and to good works. (*Hebrews 10:24*)
- Pursue peace with others and the things which contribute to peace and try to live peaceably with all men. (*Mark 9:50, Romans 12:18, Hebrews 12:14, Romans 14:19*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not be angry with others without cause. (*Matthew 5:22*)
- Continue in Jesus' love. (*John 15:9*)
- Not look at man's outward appearance. (*2 Corinthians 10:7*)
- Be slow to anger. (*Proverbs 14:29, Proverbs 16:32*)
- Be my brother's keeper. (*Genesis 4:9*)
- Not oppress or exploit others. (*Leviticus 25:17, Proverbs 3:31*)
- Bridle my tongue. (*James 1:26*)
- Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath. (*James 1:19*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that You would:

- Guide me in the way of peace. (*Luke 1:79*)
- Help me not to offend in word. (*James 3:2*)
- Make me increase and abound in love toward all men so that I would abide in the light without stumbling. (*1 Thessalonians 3:12, 1 John 2:10*)
- Use me in the ministry of reconciliation. (*2 Corinthians 5:18*)
- Bring me into favour and tender love with people. (*Daniel 1:9*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- My freedom in Christ would not become a stumbling block to them that are weak. (*1 Corinthians 8:9*)
- My love would abound more and more in knowledge and in all judgement. (*Philippians 1:9*)

- If anyone is overtaken in a fault, I would restore him or her in the spirit of meekness. (*Galatians 6:1*)
- I would not let the sun go down upon my wrath. (*Ephesians 4:26*)”

Remember, God expects faith, importunity and persistence in prayer (Hebrews 11:1,6; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8), therefore, if you have released your faith by praying the contents of this chapter, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never-ending cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (pray); until God confirms His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20).

CHAPTER 6

DELIVERANCE AND VICTORY

FOCUS: “And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.” (Luke 11:4)

The word “temptation” from the Greek word “peirasmos”⁵ refers to:

1. an enticement to sin,
2. testing and trials,
3. adversity, affliction or trouble.

“Lead us not into temptation” is not about asking God not to entice you to sin, because James 1:13-15 states:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Nor does “lead us not into temptation” imply that we must ask God not to test or try us. Throughout the Bible, God tested and tried the faith and obedience of men and women. Let’s look at some examples:

And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. (Genesis 22:1-2)

And thou shalt remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to

⁵ The Online Bible: Strong's Concordance

***prove thee**, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Lord doth man live. (Deuteronomy 8:2-3)*

*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into **divers temptations**; Knowing this, that **the trying of your faith worketh patience**. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. (James 1:2-4)*

*Blessed is the man that **endureth temptation**: for when he is **tried**, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. (James 1:12)*

*When Jesus then lifted up his eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat? And this he said **to prove him**: for he himself knew what he would do. (John 6:5-6)*

*Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be **tempted** of the devil. (Matthew 4:1)*

The only temptation that we can ask God not to lead us into, is the great tribulation (trouble or affliction) which is coming upon the earth.

The Biblical account of the great tribulation, trouble or affliction which is coming upon the earth, is recorded as follows:

Matthew's gospel reads: *For then shall be **great tribulation**, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened. (Matthew 24:21-22)*

Mark says it in this way: *For in those days shall be affliction, such as was not from the beginning of the creation which God created unto this time, neither shall be. And except that the Lord had shortened those days, no flesh should be saved: but for the elect's sake, whom he hath chosen, he hath shortened the days.* (Mark 13:19-20)

Luke, the physician wrote: *For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled. But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people. And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.* (Luke 21:22-24)

The message to the church that kept the Word of God in the book of Revelation reads:

*Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee **from** the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth.* (Revelation 3:10)

Notice, it does not say that God will keep (guard) us **in** the hour of temptation, but **from** the hour of temptation.

The Apostle Peter in his epistle declared:

*“The Lord knoweth how to **deliver the godly out of temptations**, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.”* (2 Peter 2:9)

Jesus ended the statement “*and lead us not into temptation*” with “*but deliver us from evil*”. The word “**evil**” does not refer to satan in this context. Remember that Colossians 1:13 declares that we have been delivered from the power of darkness (satan) and transferred into the Kingdom of his dear Son (Jesus). The word

“evil” from the Greek word “ponerous” is derived from the root word “ponos”. Both these words “ponerous”⁶ and “ponos”⁶ do not refer to satan or the devil, but to a great trouble, pain, hardships, perils, or a bad condition. In praying “lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil” we are actually asking the Father not to take us through the tribulation, but to deliver or rescue us from it.

In addition to praying for deliverance from the great tribulation, scriptures regarding temptation (the enticement to sin), persecution, fear, victory, deliverance and protection are also presented in a ready-to-pray format. Please pray them with understanding in your own words so that they become a meaningful conversation with the Father.

IN PRAYING FOR YOUR DELIVERANCE FROM THE GREAT TRIBULATION, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I believe (*Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24*) that You would not lead me into the tribulation but deliver me from it. I choose to:

- Be sober and watchful unto prayer because the end of all things are at hand, and I choose to stay in faith, love and hope, for You have not appointed me to wrath but to obtain salvation through Jesus Christ. (*1 Peter 4:7, 1 Thessalonians 5:6-9*)

I believe that I would:

- Keep Your Word to endure patiently and stand firm so that You would keep me from the hour of temptation which is coming upon all the world to try them that dwell upon the earth. (*James 5:8, Revelation 3:10*)

I believe that You would:

- Deliver me from the day of judgment and punishment which is reserved for the unjust. (*2 Peter 2:9*)

I believe that:

- The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God, and the

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dead in Christ shall rise first, then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
(1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)”

TO BE VICTORIOUS OVER TEMPTATION, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I believe *(Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24)* that I would not yield to temptation because whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin *(John 8:34)*. I therefore choose to:

- Make Jesus the source of my strength and help in temptation. *(Hebrews 2:18)*
- Watch and pray. *(Matthew 26:41)*
- Be spiritually minded and enjoy life and peace. *(Romans 8:6-7)*
- Think soberly. *(Romans 12:3, 1 Peter 1:13)*
- Think on whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of a good report, virtuous and praiseworthy. *(Philippians 4:8)*

I believe that I would:

- Not be vain in my imaginations. *(Romans 1:21)*
- Not conform to this world but be transformed by the renewing of my mind. *(Romans 12:2)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds, I therefore cast down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and bring into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ, believing that my thoughts would be pleasing to You. *(2 Corinthians 10:4-5, Proverbs 15:26)*”

ALL WHO LIVE GODLY IN CHRIST JESUS SHALL SUFFER PERSECUTION *(2 Timothy 3:12)*, AND YOUR OBEDIENCE WILL ALWAYS BE TESTED AND TRIED. THEREFORE RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, all who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. I therefore believe *(Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24)* that I would:

- Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, continue instant in prayer. (*Romans 12:12*)
- Be of good cheer because Jesus overcame the world. (*John 16:33*)
- Look to Jesus the author and finisher of my faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross and despised the shame. (*Hebrews 12:2*)
- Endure, rejoice and be glad when persecuted for righteousness' sake. (*Matthew 5:10-12, Matthew 10:22*)
- Glory in tribulation because my patience is being developed. (*Romans 5:3*)
- Endure testing and trial and receive the crown of life which You have promised to them that love You. (*James 1:12*)
- Count it all joy when I fall into divers temptations, knowing that the trying of my faith works patience. (*James 1:2-3*)
- Be an overcomer. (*Revelations 2:7*)
- Endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. (*2 Timothy 2:3*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that I would:

- Not consider my trials as strange, but rejoice because I am a partaker of Christ's suffering. (*1 Peter 4:12-13*)
- Not allow affliction and persecution to destroy the Word in my life. (*Mark 4:17*)
- Not be ashamed of my Christian suffering but glorify You. (*1 Peter 4:16*)
- Not deny or tempt You in suffering. (*2 Timothy 2:12, Deuteronomy 6:16*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You hide me in the secret of Your presence from the pride of man and from the strife of tongues. (*Psalms 31:20*)
- You comfort me in all my tribulation, so that I would be able to comfort them which are in trouble by the comfort wherewith I was comforted. (*2 Corinthians 1:3-4*)
- You help me to bear in my body the suffering of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus might be made manifest in my body. (*2 Corinthians 4:10*)
- You are the God of all grace, You called me to Your eternal glory by Christ Jesus, and after I have suffered a while, You perfect, establish, strengthen and settle me. (*1 Peter 5:10*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- In the time of trouble You would hide me in Your pavilion and in the secret of Your tabernacle and set me upon a rock. (*Psalms 27:5*)
- The light affliction which is but for a moment works for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory and is not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in me. (*2 Corinthians 4:17, Romans 8:18*)
- The trying of my faith is more precious than gold that perishes, that it may be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. (*1 Peter 1:7*)

I believe that:

- I cannot be tempted with that which is not common to man, but You are faithful and will not allow me to be tempted more than what I can take, but with the temptation You will make a way of escape. (*1 Corinthians 10:13*)
- In trouble, I would not be distressed; in perplexity, not be in despair; in persecution, not be forsaken; and if cast down, never destroyed. (*2 Corinthians 4:8-9*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You are good and a stronghold in the day of trouble and know them that put their trust in You. (*Nahum 1:7*)
- You try my heart and have pleasure in uprightness. (*Proverbs 17:3, 1 Chronicles 29:17*)
- You search my heart and try my reins to give me according to my ways and according to the fruit of my doings. (*Jeremiah 17:10*)

Father, I thank You that:

- Christ suffered for me, leaving me an example, that I should follow His steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth, who when he was reviled, reviled not again, when He suffered, He threatened not, but committed Himself to God that judges righteously. (*1 Peter 2:21-23*)”

IN PRAYING FOR DELIVERANCE, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, concerning deliverance I believe (*Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24*) that:

- You deliver me from every evil work and preserve me unto Your heavenly kingdom. (*2 Timothy 4:18*)
- You deliver me from my enemies and from them that hate me. (*Psalms 18:17*)
- You deliver me from falling. (*Psalms 56:13*)
- You cause my enemies that rise up against me to be smitten before my face; they shall come out against me one way and flee before me seven ways. (*Deuteronomy 28:7*)
- You preserve me from trouble and compass me about with songs of deliverance. (*Psalms 32:7*)
- You deliver me from the striving of the people. (*Psalms 18:43*)
- You avenge and deliver me from my enemies and the workers of iniquity, You lift and defend me from them that rise up against me, You deliver and save me from violent persons and from him that is too strong for me. (*Psalms 18:47-48, Psalms 59:1-2, Psalms 35:10*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You deliver me from the snare of the fowler and from the noisome pestilence. You cover me with Your feathers and under Your wings I will trust, for Your truth is my shield and buckler. (*Psalms 91:3-4*)
- You deliver me, promote me, and answer me when I call. You are with me in trouble, You honour me, satisfy me and show me Your salvation, because I love and know You. (*Psalms 91:14-16*)
- You deliver me out of the hand of the wicked and redeem me out of the hand of the terrible. (*Jeremiah 15:21*)
- You delivered my soul from hell, my eyes from tears and feet from falling. (*Psalms 116:8*)
- You are my help and shield. (*Psalms 33:20*)
- You redeem my life from destruction and crown me with loving kindness and tender mercies. (*Psalms 103:4*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- There is no other God that can deliver like You. (*Daniel 3:29*)
- At Your rebuke the sea and rivers dry up. (*Nahum 1:4*)
- He that touches me touches the apple of Your eye. (*Zechariah 2:8*)”

IN PRAYING AGAINST FEAR, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I will not succumb to fear because I believe *(Mark 9:23, Mark 11:24)* that:

- I have the mind of Christ. *(1 Corinthians 2:16, Philippians 2:5)*
- You are with me, You strengthen me, help me and uphold me with the right hand of Your righteousness, You redeemed me, called me by Your name and made me Your own, and therefore I choose to be strong and of good courage without fear or dismay. *(Isaiah 41:10, Isaiah 43:1, Deuteronomy 31:6)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Neither pestilence nor destruction will come near me, my heart will not be troubled; neither will I fear the reproach of men nor their revilings because the Word of God is in my heart. *(Psalms 91:5-8, John 14:1, Isaiah 51:7)*

I believe that:

- You are on my side; I will not fear what man can do unto me. *(Psalms 118:6)*
- You are my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid, for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and song. *(Isaiah 12:2)*
- You are my helper and deliverer. *(Hebrews 13:6, Psalms 34:4)*
- You have not given me the spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. *(2 Timothy 1:7)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The fear of man brings a snare, but they that put their trust in the Lord shall be safe. *(Proverbs 29:25)*
- Only in the fear of the Lord is strong confidence and the perfect love of God in my heart protects me from fear. *(Proverbs 14:26, Romans 5:5, 1 John 4:18)*”

CONCERNING YOUR PROTECTION, RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:

“Father in Jesus name, I believe *(Mark 11:24)* that You protect me because:

- You keep me as the apple of Your eye and hide me under the shadow of Your wings. (*Psalms 17:8*)
- You thrust out my enemies from me. (*Deuteronomy 33:27*)
- You protect me from them that persecute me and from the secret counsel of the wicked and from the insurrection of the workers of iniquity. (*Psalms 7:1, Psalms 31:15, Psalms 64:2*)
- You give Your angels charge over me, to keep me in all my ways and they shall bear me up in their hands, to keep me from falling. (*Psalms 91:11-12*)
- You preserve me from all evil. (*Psalms 121:7*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- The fear of the Lord tendeth to life and they that have it shall be satisfied and not be visited with evil. (*Proverbs 19:23*)
- The angel of the Lord encamps round about them that fear You and delivers them. (*Psalms 34:7*)
- As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, You are round about me. (*Psalms 125:2*)
- I can lay down in peace and sleep, for You make me dwell in safety. (*Psalms 4:8*)
- All they who put their trust in You will rejoice and shout for joy because You are their defence. (*Psalms 5:11*)

I believe that:

- You are my strong rock, fortress, deliverer, strength, buckler, the horn of salvation, high tower and defence. (*Psalms 31:2, Psalms 18:2, 2 Samuel 22:2-3*)
- You are my refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. (*Psalms 46:1, Psalms 91:2*)
- You are a shield for me, my glory and the lifter of my head. (*Psalms 3:3*)
- You set apart him that is godly for Yourself, You will hear when I call and save the upright in heart. (*Psalms 4:3, Psalms 7:10*)
- You are my refuge in times of trouble. (*Psalms 9:9*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, You are with me, Your rod and staff comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies and anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely

goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in Your presence for ever. *(Psalms 23:4-6)*

- No evil shall befall me neither any plague come near my dwelling, because You are my refuge and habitation. *(Psalms 91:9-10)*
- Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You would revive me; You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies and save me and perfect that which concerns me. *(Psalms 138:7-8)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You preserve the faithful. *(Psalms 31:23)*
- You are a shelter for me and a strong tower from the enemy. *(Psalms 61:3-4)*
- You preserve all them that love You. *(Psalms 145:20)*
- You are with me as a mighty terrible one: therefore my persecutors shall stumble, they will not prevail but be greatly ashamed and not prosper because their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten. *(Jeremiah 20:11)*”

IN BELIEVING FOR VICTORY *(2 Corinthians 2:14)*, **RELEASE YOUR FAITH BY SAYING:**

“Father in Jesus name, to be strong, powerful and victorious in Christ Jesus:

- I choose to use truth, righteousness, peace, faith, salvation, the Word of God and prayer, as an armour to stand against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places and the wiles of the devil. *(Ephesians 6:10-18)*

I also choose to:

- Be sober, vigilant and resist the devil, steadfast in faith. *(1 Peter 5:8-9, James 4:7)*
- War a good warfare holding faith and a good conscience. *(1 Timothy 1:18-19)*
- Overcome the devil by the blood of the Lamb and the Word of my testimony. *(Revelation 12:11)*
- Tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt me. *(Luke 10:19, Psalms 91:13)*

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You fight for me. (*Exodus 14:14, 2 Chronicles 32:8*)
- You send Your fear before me and make my enemies flee from me. (*Exodus 23:27, 2 Chronicles 20:29*)
- You will bruise satan under my feet shortly. (*Romans 16:20*)
- You turn my mourning into dancing. (*Psalms 30:11*)
- You go before me, You are with me, and You will not fail or forsake me. (*Deuteronomy 31:8*)
- You avenge the blood of Your servants and scatter Your enemies. (*Deuteronomy 32:43, Psalms 68:1*)
- You give me rest from sorrow, fear and bondage. (*Isaiah 14:3*)
- You instruct, teach and guide me in the way I should go. (*Psalms 32:8*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- You will not allow my foot to be moved. (*Psalms 121:3*)
- You are faithful, to establish me and keep me from evil. (*2 Thessalonians 3:3*)
- You light my spirit and enlighten my darkness. (*Psalms 18:28*)
- You are my confidence and will keep my foot from being taken. (*Proverbs 3:26*)
- You are my Saviour. (*2 Samuel 22:3*)
- You have graven my name upon the palms of Your hands. (*Isaiah 49:16*)
- You put Your Words in my mouth and cover me in the shadow of Your hand. (*Isaiah 51:16*)
- You are with me, strengthening me, helping me and upholding me with Your righteousness. (*Isaiah 4:13*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- Neither tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, peril, violence, death, angels, principalities, nor powers can separate me from the love of Christ. (*Romans 8:35,38,39*)
- The name of the Lord is a strong tower, the righteous run into it and are safe. (*Proverbs 18:10*)
- Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning. (*Psalms 30:5*)
- They that trust in You shall be as mount Zion which cannot be removed. (*Psalms 125:1*)

- My sleep will be sweet. (*Proverbs 3:24*)
- No one can harm me because I am a follower of that which is good. (*1 Peter 3:13*)
- Greater is He that is in me, than he that is in the world. (*1 John 4:4*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- I would cast out devils; speak with new tongues; take up serpents; if I drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt me; lay hands on the sick and they shall recover in the name of Jesus. (*Mark 16:17-18*)
- I am more than a conqueror through Jesus who loves me. (*Romans 8:37*)
- Vengeance belongs to You; You will repay my enemies. (*Romans 12:19, Hebrews 10:30*)

I believe that:

- Jesus destroyed the devil that had the power of death and delivered me from bondage. (*Hebrews 2:14-15*)
- I have the faith to overcome the world because I am born of God. (*1 John 5:4*)
- The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree, grow like the cedar in Lebanon and never be removed. (*Psalms 92:12, Proverbs 10:30*)
- The righteous are delivered out of trouble. (*Proverbs 11:8*)
- When a man's ways please the Lord, You make his enemies to be at peace with him. (*Proverbs 16:7*)
- People would see that I am called by the name of the Lord and be afraid of me. (*Deuteronomy 28:10*)
- The battle is Yours and the victory is mine. (*1 Samuel 17:47*)

Father in Jesus name, I believe that:

- They that trust You shall not be desolate. (*Psalms 34:22*)
- The joy of the Lord is my strength. (*Nehemiah 8:10*)
- You bless and keep me, You make Your face to shine upon me, You are gracious to me and lift up Your countenance upon me and give me peace. (*Numbers 6:23-27*)
- No weapon that is formed against me shall prosper and every tongue that shall rise against me in judgement I shall condemn. (*Isaiah 54:17*)
- When the enemy comes in, like a flood the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him. (*Isaiah 59:19*)

Father in the name of Jesus Christ, my Saviour and Lord, I:

- Resist and rebuke satan steadfast in faith and I will give no place to him in my life. (1 Peter 5:9, Ephesians 4:27, Zechariah 3:2)”

Remember, God expects faith, importunity and persistence in prayer (Hebrews 11:1,6; Luke 11:5-13; Luke 18:1-8), therefore, if you have released your faith by praying the contents of this chapter, believe what you said (Mark 11:23-24), then release your faith again the next time you pray, then believe what you said, then release your faith again in prayer. As a Christian, you must develop a never-ending cycle of belief and faith (action) in your daily life, as stated in Romans 10:9-10, confess with your mouth (pray) and believe in your heart, believe with your heart and confess with your mouth (pray); until God confirms His Word with signs following (Mark 16:20).

AFTERWORD

And it came to pass, that, as he [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. (Luke 11:1-4)

And in that day ye shall ask me [Jesus] nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. (John 16:23-24)

I believe with all my heart that Jesus taught His disciples the very same prayer He prayed, since it has everything to do with the purpose of His earthly mission. He came to show us that God, who is our Father, must be revered for all that He is; to establish God's Kingdom; to fulfil God's will; to meet the needs of people; to reconcile God and man, man and man; and to bring deliverance and victory to believers. The New Testament provides sufficient evidence of Jesus having this prayer answered in His earthly life. Consequently, the disciples were not only taught to pray what He prayed, but they also witnessed the power of prayer in the life of Jesus.

Jesus also promised that, whatsoever we shall ask the Father in His name, the Father will give us, so that our joy may be full (John 16:23-24). Praying to the Father in Jesus' name is to pray in all that Jesus is to us (righteousness, wisdom, sanctification and redemption – 1 Corinthians 1:30), and all that we are in Him (new creatures – 2 Corinthians 5:17). The Father therefore receives our prayer as if Jesus prayed it because Hebrews 3:1 tells us that Jesus

Christ is the Apostle and High Priest of our confession. This is what makes the prayer of a Christian so powerful and awesome.

Praying God's will also provides a way of sowing the Word into your life (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23; Mark 4:1-9,13-20; Luke 8:4-8, 11-15). Therefore, there is a great responsibility upon you every time you pray. You have to ensure that you are not like the wayside in allowing satan to steal the Word once it leaves your mouth, perhaps through unforgiveness in your life (Mark 11:25-26). Secondly, you cannot be like the stony ground in allowing offence, disappointment or discouragement to get the better of you when affliction, tribulation and persecution comes your way. Thirdly, do not succumb to the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches and lust, which makes the Word unfruitful in your life. With the help of the Holy Spirit be fertile soil. Pray the Word of God with faith and understanding. Pay careful attention to what you are saying (Romans 10:17). Receive your prayer, as if Jesus is praying it for you because He is the Apostle and the High Priest of your confession (Hebrew 3:1). Then protect your prayers by the way you present your life before God, that it may produce results for you, like the way it did for Jesus when He was on earth.

Remember, "His Word in His mouth is just as powerful as His Word in your mouth". (Anonymous)

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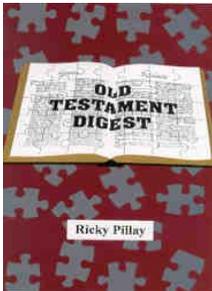
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Other Book by Ricky Pillay - OLD TESTAMENT DIGEST

Endorsement Comments:



Dr. Myles Munroe, Bahamas Faith Ministries: The OLD TESTAMENT DIGEST takes the fear that is commonly associated with reading the Old Testament and provides a simple, comprehensive presentation of a very complex set of biblical books. The seasoned scholar or new student of the Word will find this digest easy to digest and fun to read over and over again while learning the important truths and principles in the Old Testament.

J.M Koberlein, Author, PA, USA: This anointed easy-to-read narrative is a chronological summary of the Old Testament story. It begins with the creation account and covers Israel's flight to Egypt, the deliverance and wilderness experience, the promised land, the establishment of the kingdom, the kings and prophets, and Judah's return from exile, then concludes with the story of Esther. The author has skillfully woven the significant events, characters, and details into well-developed paragraphs and chapters to help the Christian reader to both understand and enjoy reading the Old Testament. He has captured the spirit as well as the story of the Old Testament. The heart of this book is encapsulated in the author's Preface. "Reading the Old Testament could be compared to climbing a mountain. Only when you reach the top (Malachi), are you in a position to see the other side (the New Testament) more clearly. To those who have never reached the top for a better view of the other side, I hope this book will help to get you there". The author is guiding the reader up the Old Testament mountain. He doesn't make the climb for him; he shows him how to get there. This is the gift of an anointed teacher. This book is an invaluable tool for anyone who has an interest in the Old Testament, from elementary readers to pastors and teachers.

Dr. Sagie Y. Govender, Antioch Christian Tabernacle, KZN, RSA: The OLD TESTAMENT DIGEST simplifies complex events and characters of the Old Testament without compromising the integrity of the scriptures. The digest is easy to read and is a useful tool for anyone who wants to study the Old Testament. It makes reading the Old Testament enjoyable and understandable.

Dr. Dirk Buchner, Biblical Studies, University of Durban-Westville: This book is a very good summary of the entire Old Testament. Therefore it would be a good short cut to reading the whole Old Testament. It tells all there is to know for the person who would start off reading in good faith but get stuck as soon as the family lists of Genesis 5 or the curses of Deuteronomy 28. I liked the weaving together of the prophets and the kings, because the ordinary person has no clue where half the prophets fit in historically. It is good that excessive comment is avoided, since that belongs to another type of book.

