

How to Pray Pray Effectively to God



MUSTARD SEED
BOOKLETS

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A Mustard Seed Booklet

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Introduction

This teaching explains how to pray scripturally and effectively under the New Covenant so you can get guaranteed results from God. You will learn how to base your desires entirely on what Jesus has already accomplished for you, how to hold God to His Word without letting the enemy talk you out of it, and how to turn your prayers into unwavering thanksgiving and praise.

Praying Scripturally Under the New Covenant

Alrighty, this morning the Lord dropped in my heart about prayer and how to pray effectively to God.

Mark 11:24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

The key thing we want to look at is where it says whatever things you desire when you pray. The question is, what do you desire?

Psalm 37:4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, and He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Who is the Lord under the New Covenant? Jesus is our Lord under the New Covenant. So, delight yourself in Jesus, and God will give you the desires of your heart. When you put those two scriptures together, you can see clearly what Jesus was saying. Jesus is our Lord, our Savior, and our Master. Do you desire what Jesus has done for you? Do you even know what Jesus has done for you? That is the real question.

If you do not know what Jesus has done for you, you cannot pray effectively because you do not even know what to desire. The way you know what Jesus has done for you is by hearing the preached and taught Word concerning what He accomplished. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God under the New Covenant concerning Jesus. That is what we are called to preach and teach. That is why I only preach and teach about Jesus—to build people up in who they are and what they have in Him. When you know who you are and what you have in Jesus from a scriptural standpoint, you believe it in your heart, and now you know exactly what to ask God for.

Jesus is the will of God for humanity.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

God does not want us to perish; that is His will. Jesus also taught us to pray for God's will: "Your kingdom come, Your will be done." Jesus is the King of God's kingdom, and Jesus is the revealed will of God for humanity. It is not rocket science; it is really simple.

Once you understand what Jesus has done for you scripturally, you take that scriptural foundation back to God in prayer. You pray to God scripturally by asking Him for His Word, knowing that He has placed the highest priority on what He has spoken.

Psalms 138:2 For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

He honors His Word above His very name. And when you look at what that Word is sent to do, it brings total deliverance and healing into your life.

Psalms 107:20 He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Well, who was that Word that was sent? Jesus is that Word.

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

From the very beginning, Jesus was with the Father, and that same Word took on human flesh to dwell right here among us.

John 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus is the Word of God in the flesh. So what Jesus did, God will honor. What Jesus said, God will perform. You just cannot let the devil talk you out of it. Once the devil cannot talk you out of it, God Himself cannot talk you out of it.

Let me say it the way God gave it to me one time. I was praying that prayer, and I kept saying, "Lord, Jesus said that whatever things I desire when I pray, believe that I receive them, and I will have them." I kept hearing this voice saying, "I am not going to heal you." I said, "But Jesus said that whatever things I desire when I pray, to believe that I receive them, and I will have them." The voice said, "I am not going to heal you." I kept standing firm: "No, Jesus said that whatever things I desire when I pray, believe that I receive them, and I will have them." Then the voice said, "Well, if I cannot talk you out of it, the devil sure cannot." After that, I did not hear the voice anymore. God was teaching me that if He cannot talk me out of what He said in His Word, the devil certainly cannot. You will not receive from God until you are so rooted in the Word that you refuse to be moved.

Look at the scriptural illustration of the Syro-Phoenician woman who came to Jesus seeking healing for her daughter.

Matthew 15:26–28 But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Jesus told her that healing was the children's bread. What was her response? She said that even the little dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the master's table. Jesus declared that she had great faith. What made her faith great? She did not allow Jesus Himself to talk her out of being healed. She took His exact analogy about the children's bread, even though she was not of the house of Israel, and appealed directly to His mercy.

Jesus also taught that humanity is greater than animals, pointing out that religious leaders would pull an animal out of a pit on the Sabbath but complain about a human being delivered. Her faith stood firm on His mercy, and she received her miracle.

Luke 14:5 Then He answered them, saying, "Which of you, having a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a pit, will not immediately pull him out on the Sabbath day?"

Now, one of the clearest illustrations in the entire Bible of effectively praying the Word of God is in the book of Acts. The apostles were threatened by the authorities not to preach or teach anymore in the name of Jesus. When they went back to their own company, notice carefully how they prayed.

Acts 4:23–31 And being let go, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: 'Why did the nations rage, and the people plot vain things? The kings of the earth took their stand, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ.' For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to

be done. Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Notice what they did: they took the Word of God from the scriptures—quoting what God had spoken through David in Psalm 2—and they prayed that Word right back to the Father. They did not pray their problem or cry about the threats; they said, "Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with boldness we may speak the Word, by stretching out Your hand to heal through the name of Jesus." And when they prayed the Word, the power of God was released. The place was shaken, they were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the Word with boldness. Praying the Word is what releases the power of God.

Standing on the Word with Thanksgiving

You take the specific scripture you desire for God to answer within the framework of what Jesus has done for you.

Galatians 3:13–14 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Jesus is the Christ, and He has redeemed us from the curse of the law. You take that scripture to God in prayer: "Heavenly Father, I come to You in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe who He is and what He has done for me. I am asking You, Father, to manifest Galatians 3:13 in my life. Jesus has redeemed me from the curse of the law, so I ask You to remove every

curse from my life. I do not allow the curse to operate, according to Your Word, and I ask You to perform Galatians 3:13 in my life."

You hold God to His Word: "Father, You said You honor Your Word above Your name, so I am asking You to perform Your Word in my life." That is what you stand on.

Every time it comes to your mind, you go back to God without slipping out of faith: "Father, You said to remind You of Your Word. I am reminding You that I have already asked You for Galatians 3:13, and I thank You that I have received it. I have received it because Your Word says so. Jesus said that whatever things I desire when I pray, believe that I receive them, and I will have them. I believe I have received it because Jesus said so. Lord, I am trusting You and waiting on You to manifest the Word that Jesus accomplished for me."

You do the exact same thing for healing, and you do the exact same thing for your prosperity. You find the scriptures that promise what Jesus has already purchased for you. Get a notepad, write down the scriptures, and note the date and time you took them to God.

The final step that puts the nail in the devil's coffin is thanksgiving. Prayer turns into continuous praise: "Lord, I thank You for Your Word. I thank You for manifesting Your Word and fulfilling Your promises in my life. I believe it, and I receive it in Jesus' mighty name. Father, You are faithful to Your Word." You meditate on it at night, and you think on it when you wake up in the morning. When your prayers are scripturally based—specifically asking God for chapters and verses—those are the prayers that produce results. God honors His Word, and that is how you pray effectively to the Father.