

RESULTS THROUGH SPECIFIC SCRIPTURE AND SPECIFIC PRAYER

THE PRAYER WORKSHOP



By Susan Sherwood Parr

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Dedication

*I dedicate this book to my brothers and sisters in Christ,
my precious prayer partners with whom I have shared the joy
of seeing our answers in the news and in outward circumstances,
and all to the glory of the Lord:*

My dear husband Monte Parr

My friend and loving sister Jackie Sherwood

My dear sisters in Christ Maria Fiore and Gayle Villalongja

My wonderful brothers in the Lord

Lloyd Bivens and Chris Okoh and Buzz

*To my dear mother Nereide Sherwood,
with whom we have often and joyfully joined in prayer.*

*...And especially to the Lord Jesus Christ who has so
blessed us by drawing us to Himself to share these
spectacular joys in Him...and for how His marvelous
grace has moved in us all in a new way as we
have joined in the Lord's Mission of Prayer.*

Thank You, Jesus!

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Prayer's Adventure

Getting Started



Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7

The above verse is the theme Scripture for *The Prayer Workshop*. This bit of advice from the apostle Paul sums it up: Don't worry, instead, pray about everything. It then adds that the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, will keep our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. What a promise! Of course, we must pray according to God's will and in line with what Scripture teaches us. But as we will see in chapter four, many things *are* God's will.

In the Old Testament, David prayed that God would overthrow and overturn the works of darkness, and in response God sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, lightnings in abundance, and He vanquished them (Ps. 18:14). There are many answers to personal prayers in the Bible.

Have you ever wanted to pray but didn't know how to begin? Or have you tried everything but not received the joy and fulfillment you had hoped for in prayer?

Through this workbook, you will take an adventure in prayer. You will become renewed in your excitement for spiritual things and about God Himself, His faithfulness, and the integrity of His Word. You will begin *At the Workbench*. You are going to receive answers to your prayers. If you

What's the Point?



- Do I need to forgive anyone? Am I blaming God for disappointments or things I do not understand?
- Do I have any unconfessed sin in my life?
- How is my attitude toward God and others?
- Have I left anything out? Are there things I should have done that have been left undone?
- Do I forgive myself?

already have received answers, you will be further inspired and become even more full of faith in God. Through spending time with God in prayer you will experience the priceless treasure of developing a relationship with God.

The price paid at Calvary affords us the opportunity to be born again and to come into the family of God, which is the Christian's greatest gift. The relationship we can then have with our God is the next greatest gift.

Prayer is the key to a close relationship with God. I promise you, that as you engage in this adventure in prayer, you will never be the same again.

Prayer need not be tedious. God does not require you to perform a list of prerequisites before He will answer you. Yet there are things that God asks of us.

Before you Get Started: Forgiveness

Before you pray, you need to be sure there is nothing between you and God. You need to ask for forgiveness of your sins. You also need to forgive others of anything you have against them. How can we ask for forgiveness if we refuse to forgive others their trespasses against us (Luke 6:37 and 17:3)? If I feel like I can't forgive, I ask for His help: "God, I can't forgive, but I ask You to love and forgive in and through me by Your Holy Spirit. Please give me the grace." This will work!

Leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Matt. 5:24

Enemies to Answered Prayer

Look at the list of hindrances to prayer below. Take time to pray about these issues in your life. Once you've done it, you will be more likely to recognize these things as hindrances in your walk with God. You will want to take each issue to God, removing these obstacles from your life as soon as possible.

Here are some of the enemies and roadblocks to answered prayer:

- Unforgiveness (Matthew 5:23–24)
- Hatred (John 2:11)
- Doubt (Matthew 21:21; Mark 9:14–29)
- Fear (Matthew 14:30)
- Unconfessed sin (Isaiah 59:2)

Steps to Freedom

1. *Confess.* After you examine yourself, ask God to forgive and cleanse you:

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

2. *Accept forgiveness and cleansing.* Walk in faith with a conscience void of offense toward God.

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:22

Noted University Study

Below is an excerpt from *Stanford Medicine*, summer 1999, published by Stanford University Medical Center.

The Art and Science of Forgiveness

If you feel good but want to feel even better, try forgiving someone.

By Frederic Luskin, Ph.D.

For centuries, the world's religious and spiritual traditions have recommended the use of forgiveness as a balm for hurt or angry feelings. Psychotherapists have worked to help their clients to forgive, and some have written about the importance of forgiveness. Until recently, however, the scientific literature has not had much to say about the effect of forgiveness. But that's starting to change. While the scientific study of forgiveness is just beginning—the relevant intervention research having been conducted only during the past ten years—when taken together, the work so far demonstrates the power of forgiveness to heal emotional wounds and hints that forgiveness may play a role in physical healing as well.

What is intriguing about this research is that even people who are not depressed or particularly anxious can obtain the improved emotional and psychological functioning that comes from learning to forgive. This suggests that forgiveness may enable people who are functioning adequately to feel even better. Published studies on forgiveness have shown the importance of forgiveness training on coping with a variety of psychologically painful experiences. Studies have been conducted with adolescents who felt neglected by their parents, with women who were abused as children, with elderly women who felt hurt or uncared for, with males who disagreed with their female partners' decisions to have abortions, and with college students who had been hurt. These studies showed that when given forgiveness training of varying lengths and intensities, participants could become less hurt and become more able to forgive their offenders.

Receive Forgiveness

Forgiving others is powerful. According to the above study, receiving forgiveness brings emotional and physical benefits to the forgiver's life. It also can benefit the lives of those being forgiven. Perhaps there can now be the opportunity for healing in a severed relationship in your life.

Forgiveness gives us a clear conscience and peace of mind. "Forgive and be forgiven" is good advice.

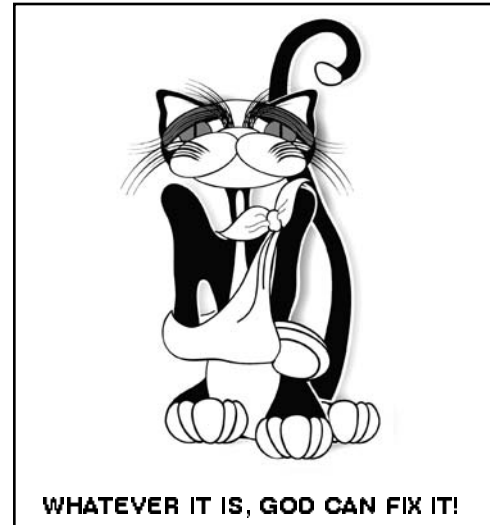
In the Workshop

Getting Started

Before you get to the first Prayer Workshop, you need to examine yourself. Confess all sin; make sure you are willing to forgive. Now you're ready for the workshop!

What Is MY Part?

1. Confess and receive forgiveness for any sin, including unforgiveness, doubt, unbelief, fear, and anything else that might be between you and God (1 John 1:9).
2. List your requests. "...Let your requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6).
3. Take authority over the enemy. Pray that God will "overthrow and overturn the works of darkness" (2 Chron. 25:8).
4. Pray in detail. Make specific (scriptural) requests to the Father in Jesus' name. You can always add "If it be Your will" on the end of a prayer if you don't know the will of God.
5. Place your trust in His specific promises. Know that it is faith in Who God is, in His integrity, and in the integrity of His Word in which we rest our faith [see chap. 8].
6. Thank God and praise Him for what He *is doing according to His will* "...by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6).



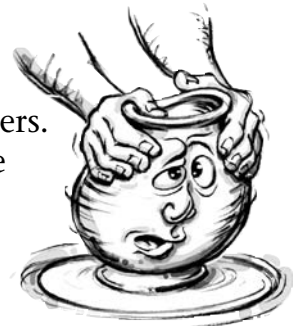
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What Is GOD'S Part?

God is faithful. His promises are true (1 Cor. 1:20). His Word is true (Rom. 3:4). He will watch over His Word to perform it (Isa. 55:11).

At the Workbench

- There is joy in knowing that God is alive and well and that He is interested in you! He wants to answer your prayers. Did you know that in two of the gospels it says, "Everyone who asks receives" (Matt. 7:8, Luke 11:10)?
- Jesus said to ask and we would receive that our joy be full (John 16:23-24).



The Integrity of God's Word

Can I Trust God?



Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7

Just think of it: Our God is the almighty, limitless God, who loves us so much that He sent His only begotten Son to die for our sins. Jesus satisfied the requirement of an atonement for our sins by His death on the cross. He was the Lamb of God. No longer do we need to sacrifice a lamb for our sins, because Jesus, the Messiah promised in the Old Testament, has come.

We Can Trust in God

Throughout the Bible, and in the experience of every Christian, God's integrity is confirmed. What does the Bible say about His integrity? Numbers 23:19 says,

*God is not a man that He should lie...
Has He said, and will He not do?
Or has He spoken, and will He not
make it good?*

In the New Testament, Paul said, "All the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us" (2 Corinthians 1:20).

God never lies. God is true, which means He is faithful to fulfill His promises to us. If you could think about trusting anyone on the face of the earth

What's the Point?



- Can God be trusted?
- Does God lie?
- Is the Bible true?
- If you had to trust someone, do you think it could be God?
- If God says something will happen, do you think it will happen?
- Are God's promises true?
- Will God answer YOUR prayers?
- Is God prejudiced?

or in heaven, it would have to be God. We can trust in God. His Word will never return void.

As the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my Word be that goes forth from my mouth; It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10–11

In the Workshop

God's Integrity and Power

He is almighty. He is limitless. There is nothing impossible with God. He is true and His Word is true. Nothing else may be...but God is true!

What Is MY Part?

1. Stop everything and think about the greatness of God.
2. Meditate on the the Creator of the universe. He is the Creator of all things. God knew about all of technology before we even called it "technology."
3. Think: "I refuse to limit God. God can do anything." Then remove every negative thought from your mind and anything that would make you doubt His glorious power or His amazing love.
4. Find the Scriptures you would like to rest your faith in for this Prayer Workshop. You may refer to the Prayer Promises section of this book, your Bible, or a promises of God book [available at all Christian bookstores] for additional help.
5. Follow steps 1-5 of In the Workshop in the first chapter of this workbook. Don't forget to thank Him and praise Him for what He is doing according to His will.



What Is GOD'S Part?

God will always be faithful to His Word and to His promises. You can praise Him for what He IS doing the Bible says it: "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him" (1 John 5:14-15).

At the Workbench

- Keep thinking about how great God is. He is awesome in power, wonderful in the mighty things He does.
- How awesome it is just to realize that you have eliminated everything from your thinking that limits God. That is good.
- Meditating on His Word and His greatness are good things to do. In fact, they produce health and wholeness to your life (Prov. 4:20-22).



Praying Scripturally and Specifically

It Works!



Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:6-7

In the prayer workshops I have taught, we have always been blessed at how God responds to our prayers. There was a time when I prayed, but didn't see the results I am now seeing. What made the difference? Believe me, there is indeed a difference. There was one key element missing from my prayers. Some events took place in my life that led me to the missing ingredient.

While in Bible college, I made a decision that I would seek the face of God. My plan was to spend as much time as I could with God in prayer and in His Word. The Scriptures say that if we seek Him, we will find Him (Isaiah 45:19), and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).

From the stories in the Bible, I had determined that if anyone spent time with God, he or she would be transformed. I somehow thought that if I spent enough time, I would be saturated with God's glory, presence, and grace and be transformed to the point where I would easily know His voice or will. I was excited at the prospect of such closeness to God. I began my quest.

Strangely enough, instead of feeling marvelous or feeling like God's presence flooded my life, I felt terrible.

What's the Point?



- If God knows my thoughts, why should I pray?
- Why should I pray specifically?
- What does it mean to pray scripturally?
- Does God hear my prayers?
- How do I know He hears ME?
- What will happen if I pray specifically and scripturally?

I was going through spiritual battles and certainly didn't feel holy, spiritual, or bathed in God's presence. What was wrong? I was really confused about it all.

I finished another day of classes and then dropped in on a friend. On her coffee table was a small booklet by a pastor's wife (I don't remember the title). I reached down, picked it up, and started to read a random page that basically told the following story:

As a pastor's wife, the author had been going through one of the most trying times of her life. She felt miserable, and it seemed that nothing she did helped. Finally she realized that she had been praying and praying, but in a random manner. She prayed, "I turn this over to You, Lord. Take care of this."

She discovered that the one thing she hadn't tried was to find specific Scriptures to stand on and place her confidence in.

She became specific in her prayers, relying on specific promises, and she prayed to the Father in Jesus's name. Finally, she thanked God for what He was doing. She did it and everything changed.

Was This It?

There it was! My answer was in that little booklet. I went home, sat on the floor in front of the coffee table with a pencil and a piece of paper, and got started. I made a detailed list of requests. I wrote down every need I could think of. When you do this, you can write down physical, emotional, and every other kind of need. I had four pages of stuff. I figured that since this was going to work, I might as well cover everything I knew or knew about.

A Nugget of Gold

When I finished praying, I was amazed! Not only did I feel peace inside of my heart, but to my utter joy, I felt total peace in my mind. I had discovered a nugget of gold on that afternoon. I was rewarded for seeking God, all right. I had received a treasure that would change my life forever.

On another occasion I heard a Bible teacher on the radio teach about prayer. He had said to make a list. The precept was that to write it down was to remember. Then he said to go to the Father in Jesus's name, take authority over the enemy, make one's requests known to God, and thank Him for the answers.

I kept my list with me, thanking God over each request in my devotional time. When I felt troubled, I remembered my prayer list and thanked God for what He was doing. Answers began.

It's funny how we either forget what we prayed about or we forget to pray at all about some things. Maybe we are lazy, preoccupied, or just plain discouraged. Or maybe we never knew God would answer our prayers in the here and now. Do a

search in the Bible. See how many places you can find where someone prayed and God answered.

Writing requests in a journal helps us remember precisely what we have prayed for. This helps us to walk in faith (which pleases God). Thanksgiving is not only obedience to Philippians 4:6, but it also demonstrates faith toward God.

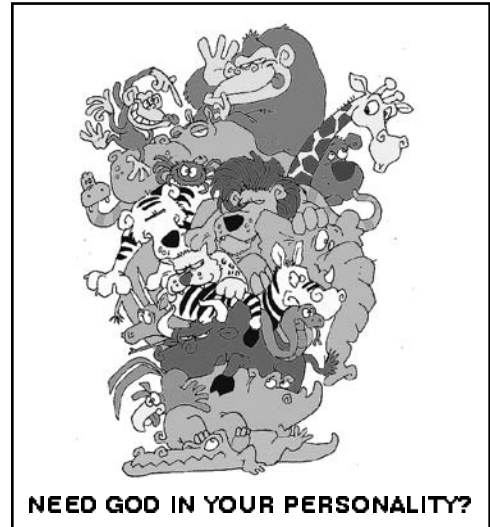
In the Workshop

How Specific Can I Get?

Paul told us in Philippians 4:6-7 to get specific. Also, 1 Peter 5:7 tells us to cast our cares on the Lord. These are commands, and they bring God's peace!

What Is MY Part?

1. Refuse to worry about anything. In fact, confess worry, because it is sin. Did you know that? If we are really trusting in a loving, caring God and have given Him our all, why should we worry?
2. Pray in detail about everything. This will bring great peace to your heart and mind.
"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Phil. 4:6-7).
3. Put Philippians 4:6-7 into practice. It works. You can pray this way: "Father, speak to so-and-so, and move on them by Your Spirit. And Lord, please, if it be Your will, turn such-and-such situation around in Jesus' name." Do the Prayer Workshop (see page 5).
4. Trust in God, His integrity, the integrity of His Word, and His promises. Do not trust in yourself. Thank God and praise Him for what He is doing according to His will.

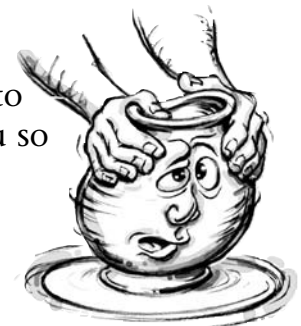


What Is GOD'S Part?

He will fulfill His promises. When you write your specific requests down, apply specific Scriptures to base your faith upon, and thank Him, His promise of peace begins to be fulfilled right away.

At the Workbench

- You can experience the peace of God.
- Think about it: If you haven't prayed in detail, you need to do that right away. Why deprive yourself of the peace you so desperately need?
- Find specific Scriptures to rest your faith upon, and you will find specific answers, much to your delight!



Praying According to God's Will

Getting Results



Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. 1 John 5:14–15

Would you like to have a prayer life that brings results? I'm not teaching you to be selfish in your prayer life. That is not the right way to live. What I would like to do is to teach you to become a prayerful person who consecrated to God. Put God and His Word first and you will see that God is alive, real, and that He hears and answers scriptural prayer *today!*

Things That Are God's Will

If you need to pray according to God's will, what sorts of things can you pray about? If you want to know what God's will is, here are some things that are *always* His will:

1. Salvation (Mark 16:16)
2. Forgiveness of sins (1 John 1:9)
3. Receiving God's grace (Romans 5:1–24)
4. Miracles and healing, according to His will (1 Corinthians 12:28)
5. Deliverance from evil, that is, helping to restore the damage caused by sins and circumstances (Jeremiah 3:22; Psalm 103:3; 107:20; Matthew 4:24; James 5:16)
6. Healing relationships where human will is open (Luke 4:18)

What's the Point?



- What kind of prayers will He answer?
- Why should He answer my prayers?
- I prayed and it didn't seem like God answered.
- Can I pray for my desires?
- What can't I pray for?
- Does God hear me?
- I want results in my praying. What tips can help me?
- Now what do I do?

7. Protection from evil (Psalm 91)
8. Supplying needs (Philippians 4:19)
9. Leading by the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:14)
10. Wisdom and understanding (James 1:5)
11. God's will in our lives (Matthew 6:10; Philippians 2:13)

You can see that there are a large number of things you can ask for in prayer. Look at it like going on an adventure—a prayer adventure. Praying according to God's will is easy and fun. It's fun because He always answers prayers for things that are already His will. His timing is perfect. He may not answer us when or in the way we think He should, but He will definitely come through at the perfect time.

Results come when we pray scripturally and when we rest on Him and His specific promises. Thank Him for the answer in advance. That's faith. Faith pleases God (Hebrews 11:6). There are many types of prayer, and we will cover some of them in this lesson. This will be an overview and not an in-depth study.

In the Workshop

Conforming to God's Will

Have you ever thought about praying for your own spiritual life or for that of another person? It's a great idea. And, by the way, God loves those kinds of prayers. He always answers that prayer. How do I know? It is according to His will.

What Is MY Part?

1. Think about your life. Think about your personality.
2. Think about the areas you need to improve in and grow in.
3. Pray specifically and scripturally about those areas. Pray about your mind, your personality, your spiritual life, and the lives of others.
4. Think of the good things: the power of God, His abiding presence, His wonderful love.
5. Walk with Him, talk with Him, and have faith in God.
6. Get ready to do the workshop. See page 5 if you need help.



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What Is GOD'S Part?

You will see speedy results when you pray for your mind and emotions. These are prayers that are according to His will. Some of these types of prayers are answered immediately. At the very least, you will definitely know God is working.

At the Workbench

- It's rewarding to evaluate where you are and know that because you have prayed correctly, there will be help!
- God is great, and it is encouraging to think that the "Head Artist" is sculpting your personality, your spiritual life, and your circumstances.
- The God who made you in the first place can heal you. He can do absolutely anything. He is a personal God, who wants to be personally involved in your life!



Kinds of Prayer

To a Glorious God



Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise. Psalm 100:4

There are many types of prayer and we will cover some of them in this lesson. This will be an overview and not an indepth study.

Intercession

In Genesis 18, Abraham talked (prayed) to God. He interceded and asked God to spare Sodom and Gomorrah if he could find a certain number of righteous people. This was intercession, which is going to God on behalf of another person or situation.

Intercessory prayer has a number of methods, all of which are the Holy Spirit working through the intercessor. First, it is the simple form mentioned above. Second, the intercessor will pray for a person or situation until the intercessor knows he or she is done. Third, it is a “work of prayer” that may take a long time, where the intercessor will be called upon to pray for the same person or situation whenever led by the Holy Spirit until the intercessor knows he or she is finished with the task.

We may not know exactly how to pray, but the Holy Spirit knows. We can rely on the Holy Spirit to lead us in prayer.

What's the Point?



- Some people say you can have a conversation with God. Can I?
- What should I say to God?
- What kinds of prayers are there?
- Is one kind of prayer better than another?
- If God already knows everything, why should I tell Him anything?
- What do I do when I don't know what to do?

Seeking the Face of God

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God tells His people what to do to be spared from judgment: “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.” Here are other examples of seeking God:

You will seek the LORD your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. Deuteronomy 4:29

Seek the LORD and His strength; seek His face evermore! 1 Chronicles 16:11

In the sight of all Israel, the assembly of the LORD, and in the hearing of our God, be careful to seek out all the commandments of the LORD your God, that you may possess this good land, and leave it as an inheritance for your children after you forever.
1 Chronicles 28:8

[Azariah] went out to meet Asa, and said to him: “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin. The LORD is with you while you are with Him. If you seek Him, He will be found by you; but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you.” 2 Chronicles 15:2

Seeking God should be a regular part of our Christian lives. We need to remain close to Him. He is our life and the strength of our lives (Psalm 27). Here is an example of not seeking God: “[Rehoboam] did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the LORD” (2 Chronicles 12:14).

Worship and Praise

Second Chronicles 20:12–22 tells the story of the prophet Jahaziel. The Spirit of the Lord told him to tell the people not to be afraid of the great multitude that was coming against them. It was the Lord’s battle and not theirs. When they began to sing and to praise, the Lord caused an ambush against their enemies. This is an exciting example of what God can do when we look to Him, worship Him, and praise Him!

[King Jehoshaphat said:] “O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You.” Now all Judah, with their little ones, their wives, and their children, stood before the LORD.

Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. And he said, “Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: ‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God’s.

Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you."

And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the LORD, worshiping the LORD. Then the Levites of the children of the Kohathites and of the children of the Korahites stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with voices loud and high.

So they rose early in the morning and went out into the Wilderness of Tekoa; and as they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, O Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem: Believe in the LORD your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and you shall prosper." And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying:

"Praise the LORD, for His mercy endures forever."

Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated.

Prayer of the Spirit

When we pray in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit takes over, praying through us according to God's will. The following Scriptures mention this kind of prayer:

The Spirit ... helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Romans 8:26

You, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit ... Jude 20

Waiting in the Presence of God

I have found waiting in the presence of God to be a type of prayer that always brings results.

While I was attending Bible college, one of my teachers was an intercessor. During one of his classes, he told us that the most powerful and greatest kind of prayer was waiting in the presence of God on behalf of someone or some situation. He said he didn't know why it was so powerful, but his experience had proven it to be so. I listened and wondered.

“Mom” Goodwin

I left class that day to drive to Mom Goodwin’s house. “Mama,” as I called her, was my spiritual mother. She was living in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, at the time. She had moved there after her husband went home to be with the Lord. She and her husband, Rev. J. R. Goodwin, were pastors for forty-eight years in the Assemblies of God church, were written about in many books. and ministers met with them for prayer and solid counsel. They knew about the moving of the Holy Spirit.

Mom had a ministry of intercession. She would have an experience, dream, or word of knowledge, then pray about it. In the next few days she would see what she prayed about on the news or in the lives of those they ministered to. She and J. R. were known for their counseling ministry to ministers.

Frequently, I went to her house to fix her hair, clean her house, cook a meal, or enjoy fellowship and prayer. We spent many hours together. My association with Mom Goodwin was a special blessing to my life. (I will use fictional names for my other friends in the story.)

I continued driving to Mom Goodwin’s house, and twice these thoughts came to mind: “Jennie and John can’t get out of the Middle East. If someone would wait in God’s presence on their behalf, God could get them out of the country.” Mind you, I didn’t know they couldn’t get out of Jordan. John was from Jordan. He and Jennie had married and gone to visit his family.

I pulled into the driveway, got out of the car, and walked up to the door where Mom Goodwin met me. Before I even stepped inside, she said these words: “Susan, I just got a call from Voralee [Jennie and I used to rent from her while in Bible school], and she got a letter from Jennie and they say they can’t get out of the Middle East.”

I said, “Mom, you won’t believe what just happened while driving over here.” I told her about the Bible teaching on prayer and about the thoughts that came to me on my way to her house.

“Honey, that sounds like God to me. You better do it.”

I was excited. That night I sat in the presence of God on their behalf. I had sought the Lord many times, but this time I just sat there feeling foolish and wondering, *Should I read a Scripture? Do I do anything?* I pretty much just sat there in the presence of God, remembering part of Brother Lawrence’s book *The Practice of the Presence of God*. But I didn’t feel anything.

In two days I got word that my friends had gained legal permission to leave the Middle East. While I know that others were praying too, I also know that God had moved when I waited in His presence.

The proof that my impression from God while driving was true came in the result. This was really God’s Spirit speaking to me. Everything that God said would happen came to pass when I prayed as He directed me to pray.

The Next Year

Almost a year to the date, Jennie and John told me that John's brother couldn't get out of the Middle East. He wanted to come to the United States to go to school but had been turned down eleven times by Europe and the U.S.

The next morning I had a dream before waking: I felt an intense love in my heart. Then I heard myself speaking to John. "John, I will pray. God can get your brother out of the country." I awoke with that.

What will John think if I tell him that? What if that wasn't the Lord? I thought about it for quite a while with mixed feelings of excitement, wonder, and concern. I knew that God could do this. The experience was mixed with a tremendous amount of love and the knowledge that God had done it for my friends a year earlier. I decided that I would be careful how I said it, but that I would go and tell them that night.

"John," I began, "I'll pray. God can get your brother out of the country."

"Oh, thank you, Susie," he said.

That was it! I went home and did it. I spent about an hour waiting in God's presence. I also spent some time the next day, hoping to feel like I was done waiting in His presence for James's need. In two days, permission was granted for my friend's brother to come to the U.S.

Through this kind of prayer, God moves mountains, binds devils, overthrows the powers of darkness, sends His mighty heavenly armies, and subdues the enemy in the situation. I don't know why it is so powerful. Maybe part of it is just spending time with Him. He is high and lifted up; I am a helpless one coming to Him.

When all hope seems gone and you don't know what to do, wait in God's presence on behalf of the situation.

Miracle in Spain

My son decided to take a trip to Spain with just his backpack to "live off the land." I prayed all the way through his absence, and there were countless little miracles. Just before he came back to this country, some interesting things happened. Here is the condensed version.

Two mornings in a row I was awakened and felt led by the Holy Spirit to wait in God's presence on my son's behalf. Each of those days, I felt I should share specific things with my son. For instance, my son wanted God to show him that Jesus was God. He didn't want to believe in Jesus just because he was raised in a Christian church; he wanted to know for himself that Jesus Christ is God.

I felt led to tell my son about an experience I had at about his age. It was a time when God caused deep feelings that clearly made me feel a certain direction was wrong. I had those intense feelings for almost a month. I couldn't figure it out because I had never had anything like that happen before. I didn't listen to the "don't do it" feelings, and I ended up in a bad situation. I told my son that this was the first time

God had spoken to me that way and that I wished I had known it was God. I then told my son that I would trust his wisdom and asked him to be sensitive to his gut feelings.

The next morning I woke with the knowledge that I was to pray again. I felt like I should call my son. If I hadn't called him at that moment, I wouldn't have reached him. He was on a train headed toward France. He said, "Mom, I just wanted to tell you: It happened to me. I felt inside of me that I should come home. But I want to test it. Nothing like this has ever happened to me."

I thought, *Oh no. If God wants him home and he's headed toward France, now what?* I knew that he could be headed for trouble. Soon he was out of cell phone reach. I called a few of my prayer partners and asked them to pray, and then I went on to work.

The next morning I felt that I should try and call him one more time and that perhaps he was now in an area when he could be reached by cell phone.

God Speaks to My Son

Here is what had happened after my son had last talked to me.

He got off the train in France and found somewhere to sleep for the night. Waking, he had a feeling come over him that he couldn't do this anymore, that he was drained, and that this was the end of his trying to live off the land in Europe. That was it! God spoke to my son even though he wasn't sure it was God. He got on a flight that stopped in Madrid on its way to New York. When I called him, he was indeed in calling range (his cell phone was only for Spain).

"Mom, I'm so glad you called me. I was hoping you would. I'm getting on a plane for the United States right now. In fact, if you had waited a minute, we would be taking off and you couldn't have gotten through to me." My son got on the plane and was soon back at work in the States.

God's Power Manifested in Loss

Another beautiful example of waiting in God's presence took place in 2004.

It was four in the morning and my husband couldn't sleep. I was also stirring. I am an early morning person anyway. This is when I usually spend time with the Lord. I went downstairs and was ready to start my devotions when the phone rang.

It was a friend of mine calling from Michigan. "Jimmy is on life support. He's brain-dead and on a respirator. They're going to stop using the respirator at 11:00 this morning."

I couldn't believe it! This is a young man our prayer group had been praying for. His father said that he had been experiencing sleep apnea and that he just stopped breathing.

I told him that I had gotten up to pray and would pray for Jimmy. I made a couple of calls to prayer partners and began to wait in God's presence.

Around six, I felt something in my heart that I couldn't explain. I didn't know what it meant, so I just remained before the Lord. I prayed a few different things as I waited, such as that God would send His angels to the hospital in Michigan, that He would pour out His Spirit, and that, if He could speak to Jimmy even in a coma, He would.

"Have mercy on him, Lord. Remember him as a child. I ask for Your kindness toward him. You are the only One who can help him. Please don't let him die without being ready." Those are basically all the prayers I could think of.

At 8:10 AM, John 11:25–26 came to my mind. "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die." I didn't know what God was saying to me. I thought I'd start some housework, but then I felt strongly that God wanted me to stay before Him for Jimmy.

Next, from 8:15 to 8:30 AM, the most wonderful thing I've ever experienced happened to me. God poured out His powerful, supernatural presence upon me. I was filled with gratitude and worship. I was praising Him with a supernatural awareness of His goodness, kindness, and compassion. How wonderful God was to Jimmy! God was almighty—He was great! Jesus had filled my being. I wept with joy in the Spirit. It was a greater experience than I have ever yet enjoyed.

I knew Jimmy was okay. It was only thirty minutes till they were going to remove the respirator. I decided I should stay before the Lord until that time. At 11:00 Michigan time, a tremendous, silent presence of God came over me. I felt like a child. I thought Jesus and His angels must be ready to take Jimmy.

He was. As the respirator was removed from Jimmy, his dad holding his hand, Jimmy left this life... and stepped into glory with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Spiritual Warfare

Spiritual warfare is something you will become more aware of as you dig deeper into the things of God. Until that happens to you, life's obvious battles are what you will think require spiritual warfare. Let me tell you, it goes deeper than that.

I begin this chapter by making it clear that where spiritual warfare is concerned, there is no question in whom the victory lies. It lies in Jesus Christ, in His power, and in the power of God's Word.

Unless God specifically leads you to address the devil, don't. Keep your focus on God and on what He has called you to do.

Ask God to fight your spiritual battles in Jesus's name and trust in His power.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

In this life we aren't playing games. There is a real battle going on. And God's Word is a spiritual weapon. In the book of Ephesians, when Paul is teaching the Body of Christ about their armor, he says,

Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. Ephesians 6:17–18

Another biblical writer echoed Paul's sentiments about the power of God's Word as a weapon. "The Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

Learn to Use the Sword

Learn to use the Word of God properly. The difference between improper application of the Word and its proper application is like the difference between children who play at sword fighting and a swordsman who, after much training, has developed his skill. The swordsman is a master at what he does. The muscles he uses have become developed and strong. He has become quick, and when he strikes with the sword, he hits his target forcefully.

It doesn't come overnight, but after much training, we become master swordsmen with the Word of God!

Jesus stood on Scripture when He faced temptation (Matthew 4). The very Word of God proceeded from His mouth.

The Word of God is the sword of the Spirit. Remember this vital part of Scripture: "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit" (Ephesians 6:18). Praying in the Spirit is a spiritual weapon.

There is power in the Word of God. It is spiritual food, and it is the sword of the Spirit. The enemy must flee in the name of Jesus, and God's Word is a weapon. "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it" (Colossians 2:15).

One example of prayer using the Sword of the Spirit follows:

Father, Your Word says in Psalm 27 that You are the strength of my life. I thank You for it! You are no respecter of persons. Your Word says that You are able to do more than I can ask or even think. There is nothing too hard for You. You are the mighty God, limitless in power. Your Word will not return void! I praise You for what you are doing in my life.

Can you find the Scripture within the above prayer? There are seven mentioned in this prayer.

Jesus has already defeated Satan for you through His redemptive work of the cross. We make this a living reality through prayer and by the appropriation of God's promises for our own lives (2 Corinthians 10:4; 1 Peter 5:9).

In the Workshop

Review the Workshop

What Is MY Part?

1. Confess sin. Confess and receive forgiveness for sin.
2. Give thanks and praise. Come into His presence with thanksgiving and enter His gates with praise.
3. Take spiritual authority. Pray that the Father will bind, overthrow, and overturn the works of darkness that are moving in your life and in the lives of those you are praying for. Do this in Jesus' name. Follow David's example:

Let those be put to shame and brought to dishonor who seek after my life; let those be turned back and brought to confusion who plot my hurt. Ps. 35:4.

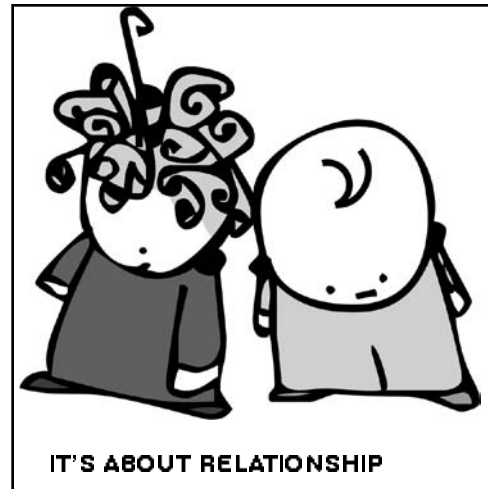
But if you go, be gone! Be strong in battle! Even so, God shall make you fall before the enemy; for God has power to help and to overthrow. 2 Chron. 25:8.

Ask God to send His armies to fight on the behalf of the person or situation you are praying for. Will this work? Yes, indeed!

4. Petition and pray with supplication. Let your scriptural requests be made known to the Father in Jesus' name.
5. Rest upon specific promises. Find promises upon which you can rest your confidence.
6. Thank Him, in faith. Thank God and praise Him for what He is doing according to His will. Stand and see the salvation of the Lord with you.

What Is GOD'S Part?

He will hear you and answer your prayers.



At the Workbench

- He truly does inhabit the praises of His people.
- God is no respecter of persons. He loves you like anyone else. You can draw near to God. He will indeed draw near to you.



Forget the Past

Look Forward



Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:13–14

How can you forget the past? By God's grace. What is grace? It is free, undeserved favor or blessing. Here is what the Bible says about the grace of God given to you when you become a Christian:

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:1–2

For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. Romans 5:17

And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

John 1:16–17

Confirmation that this grace exists in the Christian's life is found in the following Scriptures:

When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. Acts 11:23

What's the Point?



- If it feels like I can't forget, I can still pray that God will give me grace to forget. I want to forget the past. I want to look ahead.
- I will look forward. I will not look back.
- God is the Creator. He can help me with the entire process.
- I can forget what God says to forget.
- I will begin a new day, looking ahead.

So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. Acts 20:32

God Says Forget the Past

God says, "Forget the past." Forget it! What God is doing is in front of you. Think about that for a moment. Thirty seconds ago doesn't exist anymore. Your whole future is in front of you. What God will and can do is ahead of you. What does the Bible say about this?

Paul Said...

"Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
Phil. 3:12–14

God Said...

"I am the LORD, your Holy One, the Creator of Israel, your King." Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea and a path through the mighty waters, who brings forth the chariot and horse, the army and the power (they shall lie down together, they shall not rise; they are extinguished, they are quenched like a wick): "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isa. 43:15–19

Forget About It!

Forget the past. If you have trouble with this concept then just look ahead instead: the view is better. God can change whatever effect the past has had on you. Do not limit your belief. Have faith in God.

I once taught a message about forgetting the past. During my preparation, the Holy Spirit inspired me with these thoughts, "Don't base anything or any way you think God might do things on your past experience. Look forward and think of the past as nonexistent." Let's do that. Let's look to the future trusting in God Almighty.

Good Things to Come?

God wants to bless you and is more than able to do so. Realize this.

Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed. Josh. 23:14

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Isa. 52:7

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jer. 29:11

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. Rom. 8:28

And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

2 Cor. 9:8

What If...You Have Misunderstood What God Is Doing in Your Life?

There are times when we don't understand what God is doing in our lives. We can't really see the direction God is taking.

Have you ever thought somebody didn't like you because they ignored you, only to find out that they didn't even see you? You went through this ridiculous depression over the whole thing for no reason at all. This is similar to what can happen in our walk with God. Sometimes we misunderstand circumstances, leading us to misunderstand what God is doing.

What If...God Can Change What the Bad in Your Life Has Done?

God can cause your feelings, thoughts, moods, and emotions to change. He can change your circumstances. Statements such as "God doesn't like me;" "God has something against me;" "God doesn't care;" "God let this terrible thing happen to me" are simply untrue. God loves you and He is a good God. He can and will help.

What If...God Didn't Do It?

Man's will and his own evil desires can be the cause of different circumstances and events. God is the One who can free you from the effects of your past.

God loves you. He will help you if you ask Him. God is moving by His Spirit the minute you ask in faith, in Jesus' name, believing in His promises. Just because you can't see what He is doing doesn't mean He isn't working.

As you do not know what is the way of the wind, or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, so you do not know the works of God who makes everything. Eccles. 11:5

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Isa. 55:8-13

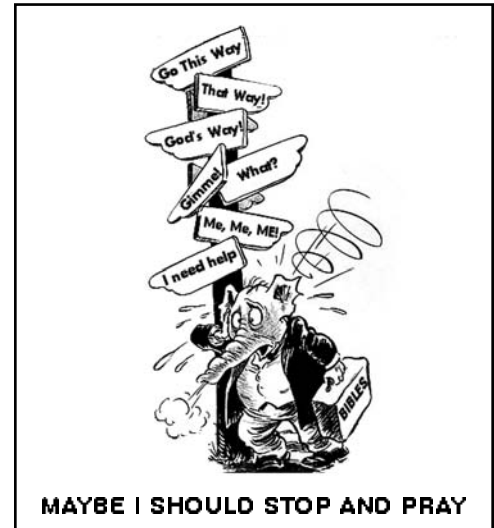
Think about what God can do!

In the Workshop

Five Minutes Ago...Doesn't Exist!

Gone is the past. Five minutes ago doesn't exist. What God is doing is in front of you. As you read the phrase "five minutes ago doesn't exist," realize that it's not only a wonderful idea but it is truth!

1. Forget the past. Whatever you've been holding on to, whatever you have done, whatever anyone has done to you...DROP IT.
2. Think about your future. God is in front of you. Think about it. Pray about it.
3. Pray specifically and scripturally. Pray to the Father, in Jesus' name. Forget the past. The apostle Paul said, "Forgetting those things which are behind..." (Phil. 813). The Old Testament says "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing. Now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Isaiah 43:18-19).
4. Look forward to new things that God will do. He is in your life.
5. Do the Prayer Workshop with a prayer focus on forgetting the past.



What Is GOD'S Part?

God says He will watch over His Word to perform it (1 Kings 6:12; Jer. 1:12; Ezek. 12:25). God will do exactly what He says He will do. He will fulfill His Word and promises and give you grace to look forward.

At the Workbench

- God wants you to forget the past and go on.
- God is doing new things. How do you know? His Word says He is doing new things (Isa. 43:18).
- The Bible says you are His workmanship (Eph. 2:10), and God doesn't make anything bad. The Bible says that He has foreordained steps for you to walk (Eph. 2:10). This proves that He has thought about you, that He has a plan for your life. God can give you grace to forget the past...just ask Him.



Walk with God

Four Keys to a Close Walk with God



Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

James 4:8

Your relationship with God is your greatest gift. Nurture it. It will grow. All you are and can be finds comes from your life in Jesus Christ. Draw near to Him. Walk with Him. Talk with Him.

Some years ago, the Lord gave me a message to teach. It was called “Four Keys to a Close Walk with God.” I wanted to know how to safeguard my own spiritual life and began to seek the face of God for some answers. He gave me the message to help me as well as others. Here are those keys:

1. Put God and His Word first. Spend time in the Word and in prayer each day.
2. Have a healthy social life. You must have fun with other Christians. You need fellowship. Perhaps you can join a Bible study at your church, through which you can make some friends. You need fun in your life.
3. Stay physically active. You need some sort of physical exercise or outlet. You need to attend to physical health—spiritual health and physical health are important.
4. Get involved in a ministry at your church. You need to get involved. You will feel stagnant if there is no outflow from your life. Be a blessing.

What’s the Point?



- I can put God first.
- I can dedicate some time to God’s Word. I can read it, listen to it, meditate upon it.
- I will meet some new Christian friends.
- I can reevaluate my personal health. I can exercise and eat right.
- I can find out about the many ways to get involved at my church.
- I will get involved.

Learning to walk with God is our joy. I remember when I was born-again and enjoyed this new living reality of Christ in my life. I couldn't believe how awesome it was. I was attending Bible studies, meeting new friends there, and praying about everything. I read every recommended Christian book I could get my hands on. It was wonderful!

Then something happened. I didn't leave God and He didn't leave me, but I entered a season of dryness in my spiritual walk. I felt like I was in a desert. I was in an onslaught of temptation that previously had never existed in my life.

I talked to God about it. "What's going on, God? It feels like You are not there. There must be something more. Am I doing anything wrong?"

I didn't realize that these times happen to all of us. When asking other Christians about it, I often heard statements like "God wants you to learn to walk in faith." I have found that this is true. He wants us to know by faith that He cares.

God gave me the teaching "Four Keys to a Close Walk with God" out of my own need and a desire to know the truth about walking closely with Him.

Remember the four keys as a guideline to help you to stay spiritually on target with your relationship with God. Never get discouraged. Although life can get tough, you have the keys to victory!

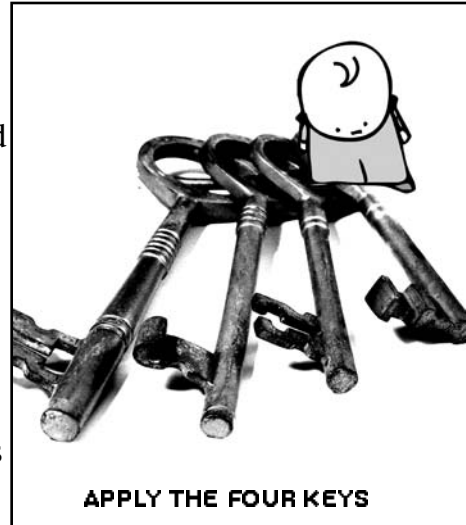
In the Workshop

Four Keys to a Close Walk with God

Key to a close walk with God? Yes. What does that mean? It simply means that there are a few things that, when practiced, allow the blessing of a close walk with God into our lives.

What Is MY Part?

1. Put Key One into practice. There's no time like the present. Adjust your schedule. Put God and His Word first in your life.
2. Enlarge your life. Find Christian friends; find healthy places to go and clean and fun things to do. Put Key Two into practice.
3. Reassess your physical health. Our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit. Remember that you need proper nutrition and exercise. That is Key Three.
5. Get involved. This will rid you of that stagnant feeling. You will become spiritually healthy and happy when you get involved and give of yourself in some way. That's Key Four.
6. Pray about these aspects of your life. Thank God and praise Him for what He is doing according to His will. Enjoy your Prayer Workshop.



What Is GOD'S Part?

God cares about every aspect of your life and definitely wants you to draw near to Him.

At the Workbench

- You can follow the advice in the Four Keys to a Close Walk with God. Pray about it.
- God wants you to have an abundant life!
- Forget the past...go forward...implement and/or pray about doing the four keys. Don't worry, be happy.
- Put God first; follow the plan; enjoy peace with God, a hope, and a future.



Today's Date _____

My Answers...

Prayer Promises

Standing on the Promises



*For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen,
to the glory of God through us. 2 Cor. 1:20*

Included in this chapter are some of the promises I trust in when I pray. I have also included some others that have brought great comfort to my heart. I hope they will bless you as well. My advice is to get a Promises of God booklet (in Christian bookstores). There are approximately seven thousand! It is fun to see all that belongs to us as a Christians! Now, for some last advice.

Keep Your Mind on God

Keeping your mind on Jesus and praying about everything will bring great victory. Too much emphasis has been placed on the devil, though it is still important to address this area. Be aware; be vigilant in prayer. Jesus is the big guy. The enemy is defeated. Talking to the devil so much did not work for me. In fact, it left me a wreck, praying for hours and in constant fear. I was always afraid I had forgotten to say or command something. That was so wrong.

God is huge. In the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus said that He could pray to His Father and that the Father would send Him legions of angels (Matthew 26:53).

If you go through a time of trouble, pray to the Father in Jesus's name and ask Him to send His holy angels to fight.

What's the Point?



- I will trust God's Word.
- I will memorize some of His promises.
- I will pray about my every need.
- I look forward to seeing God move in my life.
- I will write my requests.
- I will pray in line with His Word.
- I will trust specific promises.
- I will thank God for His answers.

Even though Jesus made it so simple, that in no way diminishes the limitless power of God moving on our behalf when we pray to the Father in Jesus's name, rest in Him and His Word, and thank Him for what He is doing and will do.

The promises of God have the limitless power of God backing them. No need for formulas to get answers to prayer. The answer comes when you pray in line with God's Word. You will get results when you follow the scriptural principles in this book.

The Bible tells that all provisions and promises contained in His Word belong to you. "Peter opened his mouth and said: 'In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality' " (Acts 10:34). What God gave to Christians in the Bible, He gives to all Christians today.

Partakers of His Nature

We know that through the new birth we are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is His divine nature. Think about that! Scripture says we are partakers of His divine nature!

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2 Peter 1:3–4

Abide in God

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. John 15:7

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Joshua 1:8

[We] thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

1 Thessalonians 2:13

God Is Powerful

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. John 6:63

So shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11

And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead... Ephesians 1:19–20

We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:10

In Time of Trouble

He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6

The Lord will deliver me from every evil work and preserve me for His heavenly kingdom. To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen! 2 Timothy 4:18

For Protection

No evil shall befall you, nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; for He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. Psalm 91:10–11

Promises for Answered Prayer

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:6–7

Whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. John 14:13–14

Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full. John 16:23–24

All the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. 2 Corinthians 1:2

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Ephesians 3:20–21

My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

This is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. 1 John 5:14–15

Jesus's Words

When you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. In this manner, therefore, pray:

*Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed be Your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
As we forgive our debtors.
And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Matt. 6:5–15

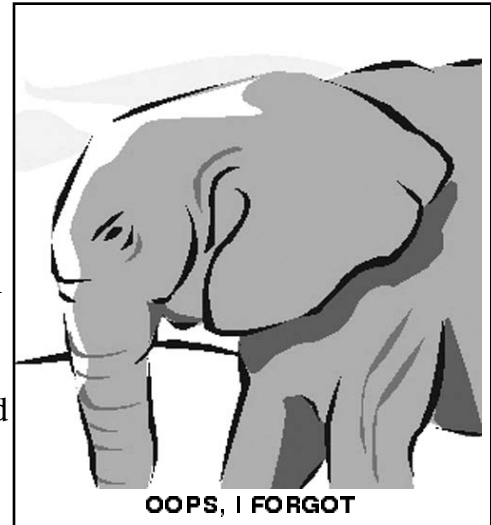
In the Workshop

Oops! I Already Prayed About It

You already prayed about it. You prayed correctly. The good thing is that you also wrote the requests down. Did you HAVE to? NO! It just helps you to remember you prayed about “it.” God is pleased by faith (Heb. 11:6).

What Is MY Part?

1. Pray. Keep your list or journal close at hand.
2. Take out the list during your devotion time. Add to it the list or make another list.
3. Thank God for what He is doing. God is not your puppet at your command. Thanking Him for what He is doing is not wrong. He doesn't do things that are against His will. Thanksgiving shows God you believe His Word and that you believe HIM.
4. Find new ways to pray. Sometimes you will find that as you thank God, the Holy Spirit will bring to mind another way to pray about something you've already prayed about. God gets involved in praying. He will lead you.
5. Be thankful. You will get excited as you see God move by His Holy Spirit in answer to your prayers.

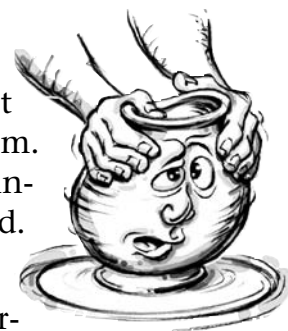


What Is GOD'S Part?

God will be a mighty warrior on your behalf. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is mighty, limitless, powerful, holy, lovely, pure. He is our faithful God!

At the Workbench

- How wonderful it is to see God move in our lives.
- When a certain prayer group that I was a part of kept meeting, the joy grew continually. We couldn't wait to get to the next prayer session. Why? We saw God. We saw Him. He also began to show up again in our lives as in the beginning, as newborn babes. We were, and are today, delighted.
- You will never be the same again! How can I say that? I know it for a fact. He will answer YOUR prayers. Don't forget it!



9

C H A P T E R

After the Workshop

My Time with God



*Look back to refresh your memory...
Journal more of your prayers, answers, and thoughts.
God bless you in your prayers!*

Today's Date _____

My Prayers...

Today's Date _____

My Answers...

Lined writing area consisting of 25 horizontal lines.

Today's Date _____

My Answers...

Lined writing area consisting of 28 horizontal lines.

Today's Date _____

My Prayers...

Today's Date _____

My Answers...

For More Resources by Susan Sherwood Parr

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www.prayerworkshop.com

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