

# Continuous answers to prayer

God teaches us in Scripture that there are certain things that are of utmost importance for intercession. We could call them preconditions for prayer. Now, what are the preconditions we have to adhere to in order to have continuous answers to prayer?

Among others, the preconditions for a life of continuous answer to prayer are the following:

- Break with sin completely.
- Be united with Christ (Rom.6:5-6) and never leave this position. "If we have been united with Him in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with Him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin..."
- Abide in the risen Christ (John 15:7; Rom.6:11; Gal.2:20) "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal.2:20).
- His words must be in you as food for the inner man.
- Requests to God must not merely come from your emotions, but rather from the will (Phil.2:13) and according to the will of God.  
"For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."
- Faith in God and obedience to God are absolutely necessary (Heb.11:6; John 15:7)  
"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him: (Heb.11:6).  
"If you remain in me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish and it will be given you" (John 15:7).
- Self interest should not be present in your prayers (James 4:2-3)  
"You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures" (James 4:2-3).
- Pray in and through the Spirit, in the power of the Holy Spirit. (Jude 1:20; Eph.6:18; Rom.8:26-27)

"And pray in the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:20).

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions" (Eph.6:18).

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. And He who searches our hearts knows the Mind of the Spirit because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will" (Rom.8:26-27).

- Satan will try to prevent you from praying or hinder the answers to your prayers. When this happens the principles of spiritual warfare should be applied, namely to resist the devil and to address the evil one from your position of authority in Christ.
- Stand on the promises of God. (2 Cor.1:20)  
"For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. An so through Him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God" (2 Cor.1:20).
- To wait upon the Lord for an answer will not mean that God won't answer your prayer.
- The Lord set the following preconditions for prayers to be answered:

If you have faith and do not doubt... (Matt.21:21-22)

If you remain in Me and My words remain in you...(John 15:7)

If we ask anything according to His will...(1 John 5:14-15)

If two of you on earth agree...(Matt.18:19-20)

And I will do whatever you ask in My Name...(John 14:13-14)

Because we obey His commands and do what pleases Him... (1 John 3:22)