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THINGS THAT HELP US IN PRAYER

(Ephesians 6:10 – 20)

INTRODUCTION

Throughout the Psalms, David cried out to God and confidently declared that God “heard” him:
(Psalms 3:4; 18:6; 34:4; 66:19; 118:21; 120:1)

Just as God heard the prayers of His servant David, we may be certain that God will hear us; however, there are some divinely mandated conditions that are to be met for effective prayer.

1. STRIVE FOR “CLEAN HANDS”

David expressed it: (Psalms 24:3 – 5; 66:18 – 19)

The prophet Isaiah admonishes the same: (Isaiah 1:15 – 16; 59:1 – 2)

Apostle Paul wrote: (1 Timothy 2:8)

2. STRIVE FOR CONFIDENCE IN PRAYER

(1 John 5:14 – 15) “Now this is the confidence that we have in Him ... “

(Mark 11:24) “ ... when you pray, believe that you receive them ... “

(James 1:5 – 7) “ ... But let him ask in faith, with no doubting ... “

3. STRIVE TO BE CORRECT

(Colossians 3:17) “ ... do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God ... “

(John 4:23 – 24) “ ... must worship in spirit and truth.” (note John 17:17)

When we give our worship to God in prayer, it must be according to His word.

4. STRIVE TO BE CONTRITE IN HEART

(Psalm 51:17) “ ... a broken and contrite heart – these, O God, You will not despise”

(2 Kings 22:19) “because your heart was tender, and you humbled yourself before the Lord,
... I also have heard you, says the Lord.”

5. STRIVE TO BE CONSISTENT IN CHRISTIAN LIVING

(Matthew 6:12 – 14) It is inconsistent to ask forgiveness of God and not give it to others.

(1 John 4:20 – 21) It is inconsistent to say you love God and not love one another.

6. STRIVE TO CONTINUE IN PRAYER

(Romans 12:12) “ ... continuing steadfastly in prayer”

(1 Thessalonians 5:17; Luke 18:1; Matthew 7:7 – 8)

7. STRIVE TO BE CHARITABLE

(Proverbs 21:13; 1 Timothy 6:17 – 19; Ephesians 4:28)