



## FBLex Prayer Ministry

# Understanding the power of prayer and the fundamentals of answered prayers

## YOUR HEART

It starts with the heart – II Chron. 16:9

“The eyes of the Lord search to and fro throughout the earth, looking for a heart that is completely His”

Partial obedience/Saul’s heart or Full obedience /Samuel’s heart

Saul’s Heart –Partial obedience

My thoughts

Listen to men

Fears people

Blaming others

Defensive attitude

Centered on his ability

Samuel’s Heart- 100% obedience to God’s

God’s direction

Listen to God’s voice

Respects God

Humble spirit

Accept responsibility honest

Dependent on God’s resources

Do we model our life after Saul or Samuel? Which life comes with purposeful praying, and results in Gods blessings.

As we continue to look at praying with an eternal purpose, the foundation is having a heart that is totally His.

## YOUR MOTIVE

What is the motive and the right motive? Unselfish prayers with eternal focus and direction (James 4:3)

- i. What is Yahweh’s focus
- ii. The Lord tells us that our conclusion to prayer should be about giving glory to him. What it does when we pray with that motive is it brings awareness of his power in the midst of the person or situation. God’s goal in this is to bring someone to salvation or believers back into fellowship with himself.

## HIS GLORY

Our life should be to live for the glory of God. (Psalms 19:1) (Deuteronomy 6)

- i. Our Lord Jesus said his primary purpose in life was to bring glory to his heavenly father. He lived a life of reflecting who God is and what he is like; Jesus came to glorify his father in heaven. “We are to glorify the son, so thus glory goes ultimately to the throne room of God”

Prayer is not to be used as the privilege of a spoiled child seeking to indulge spiritual tendencies; the purpose of prayer is to reveal the presence of God...its ultimate purpose is to bring glory to God. If God is taking us into the understanding that prayer is for the glorifying of the heavenly father, he will give us the first sign of His intimacy: silence. We think this is an unanswered prayer. Look at the case of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus in John 11. Jesus could have stayed at there in Bethany. He sovereignly knew Lazarus was going to die, He could have prevented his death, but our Lord had a bigger plan in mind. These three siblings and their neighbors were to receive and experience a wider and deeper passion expansion of revelation from God. Jesus’ silence during this separation leading up to Lazarus death was for the purpose of bringing them into a fuller understanding of Himself and His power and purpose. (John 11:40)

d) Staying Focus- daily time alone with God is the key to praying with purpose. (Col.4:2)

- i. it is a purpose with eternity in mind

e) A plan to follow- “at daybreak, Lord, you hear my voice” (Psalms 5:3)

In order to pray consistently with purpose, having a foundational understanding of prayer and a practical guide will be helpful. First, there are prerequisites to purposeful praying. You need to know your position before Him. We have an inheritance that will never fade or spoil; we are sealed by the Holy Spirit. Positional we stand as declared righteous people when we pray. Paul states in Eph. 1:4 “for He chose us in Him to be holy and blameless in His sight”...verse 11 “In Him, we were made in the heavens”. This is a position we pray from, we are seated with our Messiah in the heavenly places that are from the same place where Jesus is. Where is He now? Seating at the right hand of the Father (Hebrews 1:3). Hebrews 12:22 supports this by saying “... you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, to myriads of angels in festive gathering”. Purposeful praying beings with realizing our position in Him, the actual place where prayers are initiated. In that position, seated with our Messiah, is where we first cultivate our relationship with YAHWEH by consistent abiding in a daily fellowship.

Secondly, calling on his presence, power, provision, and protection on behalf of self, others, or groups of people with his glory as of the motive. What is the result of praying from that place of authority we have? I believe it is several things:

1. We develop intimacy with God
2. We develop his perspective on life
3. Our faith in Him grows

Having a good plan of purposeful praying involves at least four attitudes:

1. Brokenness – Psalm 51:17 “The sacrifice of God are a broken spirit...”
2. Humbleness – 1 Peter 5:6 “Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God”.
3. Confidence – Hebrew 4:16 “Let us come boldly before the throne of grace”.
4. Persistence – Luke 11:9 “Keep asking, and it will be given to you”.

## WEAPONS OF WARFARE

Most teaching on this subject is based on Ephesians 6. It is a vital element in battling the kingdom of darkness. There are additional passages that are facts in overcoming our enemy. When we look at the national battles of Israel, there was a spiritual battle above, in front of and behind the physical conflict. So it is in our families and our personal lives. 1 Corinthians 15:57. Victory is only thru the Messiah. Preparation for Battle. Before we face the spiritual battles of the day, we need to have a preparation time of planning our day in God's presence. As any military member follows the commander's plans, the believer must follow the written orders of the ultimate commander.

His word reveals the only way to have victory over the kingdom of darkness. Quality time with our creator is the key to receiving the weapons. II Corinthians 3-5. The weapons are his presence, his word in scripture that we obey, recite, re-affirm when we are tempted to act or react in the flesh. This is the key to victory in any battle in our lives, physical, mental, emotional or spiritual. Joshua 5, beginning in verse 13 thru chapter 6 we see the essence of what is the foundation of spiritual warfare. Time in Yahweh presence, submitting to him every day, waiting, listening, praising reading his word. His presence, peace, and power are what sustained me in a war zone. The spiritual weapons are nothing less than his presence in us, before us, and behind us. Joshua saw someone standing in front of him. Yeshua, (Jesus) God in a pre-incarnate form. Joshua soon realize who was really in charge of this upcoming battle. Joshua submitted to the ultimate commander in prostration and worship; and to his battle plan for Jericho. The spiritual battle was first won in Joshua's heart then over the forces of darkness dwelling in and around Jericho. God went before them, and behind them. In Joshua 5, God sought out Joshua; in II Chron 20, King Jehoshaphat sought his creator. To Israel, God gave them a battle plan than a priest. The key is verse 17. This is the Lord battle. The preparation here as Joshua 6 was bowing before Yahweh and singing praises to him. This truth is the same for us, the battle is the Lords. Performing the battle plan. In both Joshua and ii Chron. 20, Israel performed Gods plan for victory over the kingdom of darkness. Praising Yahweh in shouts, songs of dancing, and singing. Praise and worship are what our creator responds to defeat our enemy, Satan and his army. The LORD is always our victory over anything. Our part is bowing in worship and raising up in praise. James 4:6-7 says, "God resists the proud, but gives to the humble." Therefore, submit to God, but resist the devil. We will never to be able to resist the devil unless we are submitted to God in humble prostration. Ephesians 6 also gives a performance of Gods battle plan. It is based on Isaiah 59 and Ephesians 1-5. The putting on and taking up will never work is for training in righteousness. We as believers are in spiritual war every day. Consistent training by God in his briefing room by his instruction manual is vital to resist, stand, win victory against spiritual forces all around us. This is why Paul stated before standing in Ephesians 6, he taught in chapters 1-5 to sit in the truth of who you are in chapter 1-3 and walk it out I chapter 4,5. Then, and only then can you stand and resist on chapter 6. Finally, be strengthened by the Lord: not by your own strength. So, if we are sitting in who we are, walking in obedience, seeking strength from him every day; stand in him. We are putting on, taking up the armor which is the truth of who God is; righteousness as a declaration of who we are in him. Pray at all times against Satan, for the sinner to salvation, and saints unto sanctification. Then the arrows of the enemy will be stopped. This armor is, I believe, is not an end in itself; it is equipment in a war zone in life and shares the truth with lost humanity.