

## LESSON 9

# OVERCOMING EVERYTHING WITH PRAYER

PRAYER is the over-arching \_\_\_\_\_ to being an Overcomer. DJ

Q: What is your first thought when you consider your prayer life?...

Instead of examining what we *can't* do, let's look at what we *can* do by the grace of God. DJ

Prayer is our \_\_\_\_\_ of communication... DJ

## 7 Critical Characteristics of Prayer

The **PERSISTANCE** of the Overcomer's Prayer

Jesus and Paul both told believers to persist in prayer

Q: What does it mean to "pray always?"

The **POSSIBILITIES** of the Overcomer's Prayer

- PRAY in all \_\_\_\_\_
  - When we're thankful, confession, sick, tempted, in danger
- PRAY in all \_\_\_\_\_
  - NT – in the temple, on a mountain, on a housetop, by the river, on a ship
- PRAY at all \_\_\_\_\_
  - Never a time when we cannot pray
- PRAY for all \_\_\_\_\_
  - NT – safety, forgiveness, other people, faith, healing, wisdom, relief from suffering, children, health, prosperity, strength

## The **PETITION** of the Overcomer's Prayer (Asking)

James 4:2 "You don't have because you don't ask."

If God already knows our needs, why pray?

### 4 Reasons

- Maintain and deepen our connection with God
- God wants us to want what He knows we should have
  - E. Stanley Jones puts it this way: "Prayer is surrender—surrender to the will of God and cooperation with that will. If I throw out a boat-hook from the boat and catch hold of the shore and pull, do I pull the shore to me, or do I pull myself to the shore? Prayer is not pulling God to my will, but the aligning of my will to the will of God."
- So we will acknowledge that He is the source of all we have
- Preparation - So that our capacity to receive His gifts would be enlarged

## The **POWER** of the Overcomer's Prayer

The Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_ our prayer for us.

*(Illus) The daughter of a friend of mine played oboe in the sixth-grade beginners band, and my friend was looking forward to their first concert. His neighbor, who also had a daughter in the band, asked, "How can you stand it? All those missed notes, squawking violins, and the whole thing off-key?" My friend replied, "Well, I guess I just hear what they intend!"*

## The **PRECISION** of the Overcomer's Prayer

Be \_\_\_\_\_

## The **PERSEVERANCE** of the Overcomer's Prayer

- "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers" (Acts 2:42).
- "We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word" (Acts 6:4).
- "Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer" (Rom. 12:12).

To pray effectively is to persevere, no matter how soaring or how earthbound your prayers feel. No matter how focused, failing, or frantic you feel. The more you pray in all circumstances, the more you align your will with God's, which will mean more visible answers. DJ

### The **PURPOSE** of the Overcomer's Prayer

Pray for \_\_\_\_\_

- Jesus set the example when He prayed for His disciples: "I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours" (John 17:9).
- Paul regularly prayed for those in the churches he visited, making mention of them always in his prayers (Rom. 1:9; Eph. 1:16).
- Job's three friends angered God with their presumptuous judgments, but we read "the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends" (Job 42:10).

DJ

### The **PRACTICE** of the Overcomer's Prayer

We learn how to pray by \_\_\_\_\_

We have a praying pastor. He firmly believes in the power of prayer.

- In the office, before sound check, each morning, in staff meeting, for delivery man, for servers in restaurants

We must become a praying believer. We must become a praying church.



Today's lesson may be found later today by going to [hbchickory.net/resources](http://hbchickory.net/resources) and scrolling down to the "Overcomer" series.