

# THE FIVE CONDITIONS OF ANSWERED PRAYER

ENGAGE: Part Two

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*“Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.”*  
(Matthew 6:9–13, KJV 1900)

## **THE FIVE CONDITIONS OF ANSWERED PRAYER**

### 1. I MUST BE IN A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

- Born again

*“But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!” (John 15:7, NLT)*

- Confessing my sin

*“Your sins are the roadblock between you and your God. That’s why he doesn’t answer your prayers or let you see his face.” (Isaiah 59:2, CEV) cf. Psalm 66:18*

*“If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.” (1 John 1:8–9, NLT)*

- Living for Him

*“God detests the prayers of a person who ignores the law.” (Proverbs 28:9, NLT)*

*“And we will receive from him whatever we ask because we obey him and do the things that please him.” (1 John 3:22, NLT)*

### 2. I MUST BE IN A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS.

*“and forgive us our sins, as we have forgiven those who sin against us.” (Matthew 6:12, NLT)*

*“When you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against...” (Mark 11:25, NLT)*

*“So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you, leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.” (Matthew 5:23–24, NLT)*

**3. I MUST BELIEVE THAT GOD ACTS ON MY PRAYERS.**

*“But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord.” (James 1:6–7, NIV)*

*“I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you’ve received it, it will be yours.” (Mark 11:24, NLT)*

*“You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.” (Matthew 21:22, NLT)*

*“...According to your faith let it be done to you” (Matthew 9:29, NIV)*

**4. I MUST PRAY ACCORDING TO GOD’S WILL.**

*“When you pray for things, you don’t get them because you want them for the wrong reason—for your own pleasure.” (James 4:3, GW) See 1 Kings 3:11-12.*

*“Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.” (Psalm 37:4, NASB95)*

*“And we are confident that he hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases him. And since we know he hears us when we make our requests, we also know that he will give us what we ask for.” (1 John 5:14–15, NLT)*

**5. I MUST BE WILLING FOR GOD TO HAVE THE LAST SAY.**

*“Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:10, NIV)*

*“For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will.” (John 6:38, NLT)*

*“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.” (Luke 22:42, NIV)*

**LAST THOUGHT**

The goal of prayer is not to change what happening around me,  
but to change what’s happening INSIDE ME.