

# PRAYER

**To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.**

# BILLY GRAHAM

- Prayer is simply a two way conversation between you and God.
- Prayer is more than a wish; it is the voice of faith directed to God.

**ACTS 6:4** We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.

**2 Chronicles 7:14**

If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, Then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**Luke 18:1** men ought always to pray, and not to faint. (loose heart)

**1 Thessalonians 5:17**  
Pray without ceasing

**Matthew 26:41** Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 1. Unconfessed Sin

- **Psalm 66:18** – If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.
- **Isaiah 59:2** – But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.
- **Isaiah 64:7** – And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.



# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 2. Our relationship with our spouse.

- **Listen up guys!!!**
- **1 Peter 3:7** – Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; **that your prayers be not hindered.**

**Colossians 3:19** – Husband, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.

**Ephesians 5:25** – Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

A. These verses teach that if a man is not considerate and respectful towards his wife that his prayers will be hindered. If a husband does not treat his wife with love, honor, and respect, which she deserves, that his prayers will not be answered.

B. An improper husband-wife relationship hinders prayer because to have a good relationship with God depends on right relationships with others.

# **10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER**

## **3. DOUBT & UNBELIEF**

- **Doubt & Unbelief hinders our prayers to God.**



# DOUBT & UNBELIEF

- **James 1:5-8** If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.
- **Matthew 13:58** And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

As Christians, doubt is an enemy to our faith because we are to believe what God has said will happen. If we doubt God's ability to answer our prayers, then He will not answer them.

When we ask God for something, but deep down in our hearts we doubt that we will receive it, this hinders God from granting our prayer requests.

**Doubt hinders our prayers!**

# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 4. Not praying in accordance to God's Will

- **1 John 5:14-15** – And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.
- Praying according to God's Will, which is His Word.
- **“Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God.”**



## Praying God's Word is the most effective prayer you can pray!

**Isaiah 53:5** But he was wounded for *(your name)* transgressions, he was bruised for *(your name)* iniquities: the chastisement of *(your name)* was upon him; and with his stripes *(your name)* is healed.

**Isaiah 54:17** No weapon formed against *(your name)* shall prosper.

**1 John 4:4** Greater is he that is in *(your name)*, than he that is in the world.

**Philippians 4:13** *(your name)* can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.



# ***What Hinders Our Prayer Life?***

- 1. Unconfessed Sin**
- 2. Unfruitful relationship with our spouse**
- 3. Doubt & Unbelief**
- 4. Not praying according to God's Will**

# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 5. An Unforgiving spirit

**Mark 11:25-26** And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Our prayer for forgiveness  
can be denied if we are  
holding grudges against  
others.

*An Unforgiving spirit can hinder prayers to  
God*

I have heard people say, “I NEVER FORGIVE,  
I’LL HOLD A GRUDGE FOREVER!” .....

I hope they never sin.....

# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 6. Praying for the wrong reasons

- **James 4:1-3** From whence come wars and fightings among you? Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.



# 10 HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

## 7. Failure To Ask

- Matthew 7:7-1
- Philippians 4:6
- Hebrews 4:16
- James 4:2

# THERE IS POWER IN PRAYER !!!!!!!

- The power is there to be released, but the conditions for the releasing must be just right.
- Our part is simply to have faith in God!
- Mark 11:22 **Have faith in God!**

# 8. IN THE NAME OF JESUS

**When we pray using the name of Jesus we have ALL the Power of Heaven & Earth backing us up.**

**Matthew 24:18** - And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and earth.

**John 14:13-14** - And whatsoever ye shall ask IN MY NAME, that will I do that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14) If ye shall ask any thing IN MY NAME, I will do it.

**John 16:23**

**Psalms 91:13-14**

# 9. NOT LIVING & ABIDING B GOD'S WORD

**Proverbs 1:20-33** (*Key verse 28*)

**(If you're going to Talk the Talk you better Walk the Walk!)**

**Proverbs 28:9** - He that turns his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be ABOMINATION.



# **10. NOT HELPING THOSE IN NEED**

**Proverbs 21:13 - Whoso stoppeth his ears at the  
cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but  
shall not be heard.**

# **Summary**

## **10 Hindrances to Prayer**

1. Unconfessed Sin
2. Unfruitful relationship with our spouse
3. Doubt & Unbelief
4. Not Praying in accordance to God's Will
5. Unforgiving spirit
6. Praying for the wrong reasons
7. Failure to Ask
8. Not Praying In The Name of Jesus
9. Not Living by God's Word
10. Not reaching out to those in need