

**Effective Prayer Part 3**  
**Series: Open the Heavens | Pastor Ron Strack**

*Because He has inclined His ear to me, Therefore I shall call upon Him as long as I live. Psalm 116:2*

*Will he take delight in the Almighty? Will he call on God at all times? Job 27:10*

*Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have relieved me in my distress; Be gracious to me and hear my prayer. Psalm 4:1*

*Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly... James 5:17*

**Five different qualities of an effective prayer**

**1. EFFECTIVE PRAYERS ARE HUMBLE PRAYERS.**

*...Elijah bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees. I Kings 18: 42*

*God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble...Humble yourselves before the Lord and He will lift you up. James 4:6,10*

**2. EFFECTIVE PRAYERS ARE SPECIFIC PRAYERS.**

- Praying for specific needs brings clarity to our requests.
- Praying for specific needs helps us define our needs.
- Praying for specific needs makes us more alert to answers.
- Praying for specific needs increases our faith

**3. EFFECTIVE PRAYERS ARE BASED UPON A DIVINE PROMISE**

*“...And I will send rain upon the earth.” I Kings 18:1*

Prayer is the hand of faith that translates promise into performance. – Howard Hendricks

*...you do not have because you do not ask God. James 4:2*

**4. EFFECTIVE PRAYERS ARE REPEATED PRAYERS**

*Okay, go and look toward the sea,” he told his servant. And he went up and he looked, and the servant came back and said, “Hey, there’s nothing there.” I Kings 18:43*

*The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. James 5:16*

**5. EFFECTIVE PRAYERS ARE EXPECTANT PRAYERS**

*The seventh time the servant reported, “A cloud as small as a man’s hand is rising from the sea”.*

I Kings 18:44

