



Get a Breakthrough in the Way You Pray [Episode 100]

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Hey everybody, Doug Addison here. Welcome to another *Spirit Connection* podcast.

You know, we're in trying times right now. And this is a time we need to press in and pray. We need to ask the Lord to speak to us. And that's one of my gifts, is to be able to hear God and be able to direct people in ways. Also I have a gift of intercession. I've got a watchman gift, in which I get up every morning about 4:30 to 5 o'clock or so. And I have a prayer assignment. I pray for the government, I pray, you know, over leaders, and I pray over many people ... even on the internet.

And I heard the Lord just recently that I need to really help people to get a breakthrough right now in the way that you pray. And since I have this gift, many people ask me, you know, "How do I pray? What do I need to do right now to be able to, you know, grab hold of what God has for me?" So let's just jump into this.

Lord, we pray right now for the download or the impartation that You have for each person listening. Each person is in a different situation, a different season. But one thing has not changed, and that's Your Word. The Word of God has not changed. Jesus, You have not changed. The Holy Spirit has not changed. God, You have everything that we need, so we ask, we come into agreement—on Earth as it is in Heaven—with what You have right now for us in Jesus' name. Amen.

Well, you know, one of the things that the disciples said to Jesus, "Teach us to pray." And one day Jesus was in a certain place, and when He had finished praying, His disciples came up to Him in Luke 11:1–4. They said to Him, when you pray, you know, "Teach us to pray," but He said to them, "When you pray, Father, hallowed be Your name. Your Kingdom come. Give us this day Your daily bread and forgive us our sins, and we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation."

Now this is a kind of a framework for the Lord's Prayer in Luke 11. I don't think it was meant to be prayed, you know, kind of stiff or brittlely, you know, or ... It's okay. It's okay to pray it reverently. In fact, I do pray the Lord's Prayer. But there was two important parables that take place right after Luke 11. Now, He teaches them to pray, you know, "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your Kingdom

come, Your will be done ...” You know that prayer. But right after that, this is what I want you to notice here ... after Jesus talks about prayer, He immediately shares two parables.

Now, parables are stories. They’re prophetic stories to tell you more about it so you get a deeper insight into it. And so in Luke 11:8, right away, Jesus goes into this. He says, “A friend came over at midnight to ask a favor. I tell you, even though this man did not get up to give the bread because of this friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity.” In other words, what happened is if you read the parable, this guy’s knocking on the door. He says I have people coming to my house. I need some bread. And he kept saying it over and over. But this, I tell you, Jesus says this. He says, “Not because my friendship with you, but it’s because of your shameless audacity that he would get up.” In other words, God wants you to press in when it comes to prayer.

Here’s another one. Luke 11:11, “The Father is a giver of good gifts. Which of your fathers, if your son asks for a gift, asks for a fish, would give a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, would give him a scorpion? If you, even though you’re evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more would the Father in Heaven give you the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

Now, this is an important principle to understand. All of Luke 11 is based on how to apply the Lord’s Prayer. That you need to press in. You need to be able to ask and believe, first of all, that God is a good God. He’s the giver of good gifts. He’s not the one who’s causing all this bad stuff to happen in the world. He can’t be ... because He’s the God of love. And the enemy, Satan, is the one doing these things and blaming it on God.

So now, let’s move to Luke 11:9. Just open a Bible if you have it, ‘cause these are all in Luke 11 here. Here’s the third thing Jesus said in Luke 11:9—the A.S.K. strategy. “Ask and you will receive. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. And anyone who seeks, finds. And anyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” Jesus says ask, seek and knock. That’s, by the way, an acronym: A.S.K. That’s how I remember it to get the door opened.

In other words, don’t just sit on the couch and wait for God to open the door. Sometimes there is a season of waiting. But there’s proactive steps that you can do during your time. And you know, if you have a prayer testimony and, in other words, if God has answered a prayer in your life, it’s a good idea to remember that. It’s a good idea to remember the goodness of God. Go back and think of the time in your life when God has answered a prayer, and remind Him of that. Put Him into remembrance that it says as well in the Bible in Matthew 21:22, “If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.”

When I was six years old, we had lost all the food in our house. Now my mom was a single mother all of a sudden, there were some things that happened in my life, and we

were praying. And she was a woman of prayer. And we were in a terrible time. They came and repossessed the refrigerator, and all the food, the little bit of food we had, some of it we had gotten from welfare. Terrible time back in 1965. But my mom was a woman of prayer, and we joined hands and prayed, and asked the Lord.

And then suddenly, I don't remember if it was that moment, but I knew it happened because of those prayers. A woman knocked on the door, and her name was Mrs. Giddy, and she had brought these two ... I don't know if it was two or one bag of groceries, but she brought groceries. And I remember tangibly seeing a result of an answered prayer at that moment. Now, she was also a Pentecostal woman. Back in 1965, I had never really met a Pentecostal from Alabama, but she had an amazing gift of intercession.

She began to pray over me. And she actually prophesied that I would be a great preacher for God someday. She saw crowds opening up a long time ago. And so she kept praying, over and over, that was 1965. It was not until 1991 that I actually preached my first sermon. Might have been '92. I preached my first sermon in a homeless ministry where we were giving out bags of food, which was pretty interesting. But all those years, Mrs. Giddy prayed for me to fulfill the prophecy that she had gotten. And she was old back then in '65. So later on, she kept in touch with my family, and she kept asking, "Has he answered the call yet? Has he answered the call?" Then right around '91-'92, I preached my first sermon, and I went into ministry years later. But still, I got a breakthrough.

Now, prayer can break things. Prayer can break things off of us. It can break you through to something new. So also needs to break off what I call the spirit of poverty. Popular message today is to die to everything, and let the Lord live in you. Which is a true thing. It's built on truth, this is. But it's not the full message of the Bible. It's only a part. You still need to have a breakthrough. And I call it the "spiritual identity theft" that can hit you. And I help people, I've become a prophetic life coach because I saw so many people suffering under this spirit of poverty, even though we have everything. We have everything in the Bible, we have everything we need, yet we sometimes move in a spirit of lack.

And so in Psalm 37:4, "Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart." We definitely need to die to the sinful nature according to Romans 6. But die too hard to everything in your life, that's what I had done. It held me out of my calling for years. It caused me to miss what God had for me. Now I'm prophesying right now to many people right now who are listening that there are things that you can do right now.

And prayer changes things. Philippians 4:6, "Do not be anxious of anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving ..." by the way, that's different than grumbling, "... present your requests to God." I remember I was grumbling to God. I mean, I was interceding one day. And the Lord said, "You know what? You complain so much, you're praying so much like a laundry list." He goes, "I've been trying to give you

the answer, but you're not listening." So I had to shift gears and take time to, yes, present my requests to God. I had to be thankful as well, and also I had to take time to listen. So we don't wanna be legalistic about praying. What matters is that we do it.

And so, one of God's greatest prayer miracles is ... Once you get these testimonies of how God does it ... A woman, you know, who was not a Christian, cried out to God, "If You could save my brother who is living on the streets, I'll give my life to You." And I know this was actually a prayer that was being prayed by a woman. I know this woman. This was my sister, and she had not even given her life to the Lord at the time. It was back in the '80s, and she had prayed for my brother who was living on the street. He got a job as a maintenance man, and he was living on the streets. So he gets a truck, a company truck. He gets tools. He gets an apartment, and even clothing with his size was left in the closet. And needless to say, my sister gave her life to the Lord after that.

And these are the times that we are living in, that we need to go back right now. I want you to go back and think about how God may have spoken to you in prayer. How God may have answered prayers. It's important to go back and record those. But also, it's important to get a breakthrough in prayer. You wanna break off the spirit of lack, the spirit of poverty, whether that's spiritually, whether it's physically. Many people live in an impoverished state, spiritually. They don't understand the promises of the Bible. So every time I find a promise, I write it down in a file. I have a Word document, or Pages, or Notes—a note on my iPhone. I put it in there so that I can go back to it and begin to pray in these things because these are the things that God wants to release over you.

The Word of God, sometimes, can be like a legal document. You know, I know it's a relationship, as well. But it can be like a legal document to break you through, to get that breakthrough. So one thing I want you to do: Go back to the last time you heard God answer a prayer. I want you to study that today. How did it come to you? Did it just come out of the blue? Maybe He just did it divinely. Or maybe there was something that you can learn from that process.

And so also, I want you to go back and record some things that the Lord has done over the last few years. And I want you to ask God right now, take one thing that you've been believing for. And I want you to find maybe a Bible verse that will line up with it. Just google it, that's all. Do an internet search. You'll find 'em. And maybe you need healing. Maybe you need a financial breakthrough. I'm just saying, you know, Bible verses on financial breakthrough ... it'll be there. And I want you to start praying. I wanna come into agreement with you right now that God would open the doors for you. He's gonna do something new in your life. I believe this a time, in the name of Jesus, right now.

Lord, I thank You that You're moving in this area of prayer. That You're moving in the area of being able to hear the voice of the Lord. I ask, Lord, that You would answer the prayer that have been on the hearts of many people. I pray that You would open the heavens right now. Make Yourself real. I pray in Jesus' name, amen.

God bless you, see ya soon.

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