

PRAYING EFFECTIVELY FOR THE UNSAVED AND OTHER BELIEVERS

(Shiloah Christian Ministries – 24/9/98 – EKB)

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1. **Our prayers need to be specific**, not vague and general. The blind man cried out repeatedly to Jesus to have mercy on him, *Lk 18:35-39*. But when he actually stood before Jesus, He said, “What do you want Me to do for you?” *Lk 18:41*. So the blind man said, “Lord, that I might receive my sight.” Then Jesus spoke the word of healing and immediately he was healed, *Lk 18:42,43*. As a result, he, and all the people glorified and praised God. **BE SPECIFIC IN PRAYER.**
2. When we pray for other believers, or ourselves **be specific, fervent, persistent**, *Lk 11:5-8* **in faith, believing that we have received what we have asked for**, *Jam 1:5-7*, *1Jn 5:14,15*, *Mk 11:24*. **Ask according to the promises of God**, *2Pet 1:4*, *2Cor 1:20*. For example, when Jabez prayed to God, *1Chr 4:10*, he asked God to bless him, but then asked specifically **how** he wanted God to bless him.
 - a. **“Enlarge my borders,”** my ministry, my sphere of service, *2Cor 10:13-15*, my vision, my effectiveness, my witness and work for God, whatever that is.
 - b. **“That your hand would be with me,”** the hand of God’s powerful anointing and the Holy Spirit. The hand is that part that does the work, that helps, supports, upholds, strengthens and guides. That is the Holy Spirit. He is the One that does the work of God, the Executor of the Godhead. In *2K 3:13-19*, Elisha was seeking revelation from God so that he could operate in his prophetic ministry. When the musician played the “hand of the Lord came on him.” That is the powerful anointing of the Holy Spirit to prophesy.
 - c. **“That You would keep me from evil,** that I (or “it”, KJV) may not cause pain.
3. Other examples in Paul’s prayers, *Col 1:9-11*, *Eph 1:17-21*, *2Thes 1:11,12*. Be specific in prayer. Ask God how to pray.
4. **When praying for the unsaved, be specific.**
Ac 26:18 – to open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive the forgiveness of sins and inheritance among those that are sanctified. Pray these five things for the unsaved and then thank God that he has heard your prayer and answered it, *1Jn 5:14,15*. Receive your answer now, *Mk 11:24*, *Jam 1:5-7*.
5. **Also pray for:**
 - a. The Lord to bring witnessing believers across their paths each day, *Mat 9:38*.
 - b. That the Holy Spirit would convict of sin, righteousness and judgment, *Jn 16:8*.
 - c. For the Lord to destroy and remove apathy and hostility to the Gospel.
 - d. That the Father would draw them to Jesus, *Jn 6:44*.
 - e. For the Lord, in His goodness to grant them full repentance, *Rom 2:4*.
 - f. That the Lord would lead them to repentance, faith and full salvation, *Mk 1:15*.
6. **With regard to ourselves being witnesses to the unsaved**, pray for opportunities, words to speak, boldness, compassion, and the Holy Spirit’s leading, *Mat 4:19*, *Rev 3:8*, *1Cor 16:9*, *Mat 10:20*, *Pro 28:1*, *Ac 18:9,10*, *Lk 5:10*, *Is 44:8*, *Ps 126:5,6*, *Ac 8:29*.