

Lesson Notes:

Keys to Successful Prayer

Have you ever felt that your prayers are not being heard or are being ignored? Following are imperatives for God to answer our prayers:

Scriptural Principles

1) Pray in the Name of Jesus

In **John 14:6** we are told that Jesus is the only way to the father. Since that is true praying in the name of Jesus opens the door to our father's heart.

In **Philippians 4:19** Paul tells us that God supplies our needs through Jesus Christ.

2) Pray with Thanksgiving

In **Philippians 4:6-7** Paul tells us that in thanksgiving make your requests known to God. In **2 Chronicles 20:22-23** we see that fervent prayer in Thanksgiving brought Victory for Israel when faced with overwhelming odds.

In **Psalms 51:15** David talks about the importance of praising God in prayer.

3) Eliminate Sin in Your Life

In **Psalms 66:18** David says God will not regard you with iniquity in your heart. Paul tells us in **1 Timothy 2:8** to lift up "Holy Hands" in Prayer.

4) Ask it for the Glory of God

Jesus tells us in **John 14:13** to make our requests so that they may glorify our God in Heaven.

5) Be in a State of Forgiveness

In **Luke 23:34** as Jesus was in agony on the cross he prayed to his father in heaven, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do".

Paul tells us in **Romans 8:8** that those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

6) We need to be in a State of Grace and indwelt by the Holy Spirit

In **Romans 8:14** Paul tells us if we walk in the Spirit we are sons and daughters of God. Naturally, we are more likely to grant the requests of sons and daughters than those of strangers. In **Romans 8:26-27** Paul tells us that the Holy Spirit is our intercessor with God and actually converses with him on our behalf.

7) We Must be Committed

In **Psalms 37:4-5** David tells us that if we commit our ways to the Lord our God he will grant us the desires of our hearts.