

A background image of Earth from space, showing the blue and white atmosphere and the dark surface. A bright sun is visible in the upper right corner, creating a lens flare effect.

A TIME FOR...

“Effective Prayer”

Why Do We Need to Pray?

Genesis 1:26 NKJV

²⁶ Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have **dominion...**”

Dominion = to tread down, to prevail against,

- to rule especially by curbing or restraining
- to exert control, direction or influence
- to spread out through a land through authority

We get back our authority and dominion power through prayer in the name of Jesus!

Why Do We Need to Pray?

Matthew 18:18-20 NKJV (Matt 16:19)

¹⁸ “Assuredly, I say to you, **whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.** ¹⁹ “Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”

We Partner with the Sovereign LORD (YAHWEH) in Prayer!
We become enforcement officers in Unity!

Effective Prayer Has Real Power

James 5:13-18 NKJV

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him ... ¹⁵ And the **prayer of faith** will save the sick,... And if he has **committed sins**, he will be forgiven.

¹⁶ Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The **effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much**. ¹⁷ Elijah was a **man with a nature like ours**, and he prayed **earnestly** that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. ¹⁸ And he **prayed again**, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

1. God's Ear

Isaiah 59:1 NIV

“Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.”

Psalms 145:18 NIV

“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.”

God is the God of heaven and earth-
Remember, his ears are not stuck in heaven!

2. The Praying Person

Righteous: effective prayer has more to do with the one doing the praying than it does with “how” we are to pray.

1 Peter 3:12 NLT

¹² The eyes of the Lord watch over **those who do right**, and his **ears are open** to their prayers.

Proverbs 15:8 NLT

⁸ The Lord detests the sacrifice of the wicked, but he **delights** in the prayers of the **upright**.

3. Faith and Right kind of 'Hope'

Mark 5:34 NKJV

³⁴ “And He said to her, “Daughter, **your faith has made you well...**”

Hebrews 11:1 NIV

¹¹ “Now faith is **confidence** in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

1John 5:14-15 NIV

¹⁴ “This is the **confidence** we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, **he hears us.** ¹⁵ And **if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.**”

4. Knowing God's Word

This is the key to knowing God's will.

John 14:26 NLT

²⁶ “But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative -that is, **the Holy Spirit**- he will **teach you** everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.”

5. Motive

- False front
- Pretence
- Insincerity
- Enemy-centred?
- Ego-centred?
- **To whose glory?**

Q. What was the motive behind Elijah's Prayer?

1 kings 16:29-34 NLT (Ahab's Evil)

“Prayer is like the dove that Noah sent forth, which blessed him not only when it returned with an olive-leaf in its mouth, but when it never returned at all.”

Edward Robinson (1794-1863)