



Prayer Changes Things!

**Because God can do anything,
we believe in the power of prayer!**

James 5:16-18, NIV
 The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

Father Knows Best!

**Because God is much wiser than us,
we believe he won't give us everything we ask for!**

Matthew 6:8 & 7:9-11, NIV
 ...your Father knows what you need before you ask him...Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

HOW Should We Ask God For Things?

Since prayer changes things, we should be **ASSERTIVE** when asking God for what we want.

Luke 5:18-20 & 24-25, NIV

Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith, he said...to the paralyzed man... "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." Immediately, he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God.

HOW Should We Ask God For Things?

Since Father knows best, we should be **SUBMISSIVE** when asking him for what we want.

Luke 5:12-13, NIV

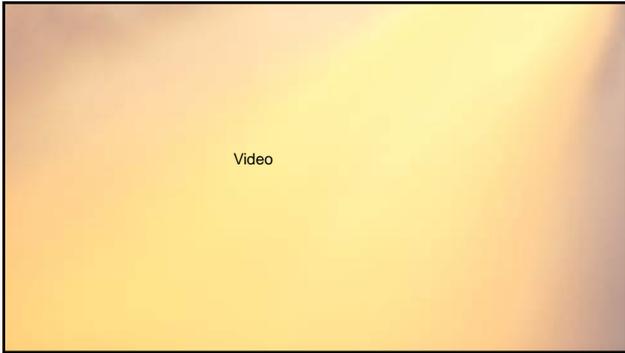
While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.

Prayer in Perfect Balance!

Jesus showed us how we should ask God for what we want: both **ASSERTIVELY** and **SUBMISSIVELY**.

Matthew 26:36 & Luke 22:42-44, NIV

Then Jesus went with his disciples to a place called Gethsemane, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed..."Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.



The Power Of Prayer AND The Wisdom of God

- We ask *assertively* because what we want might be what's best for us, and God will give it to us!

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- We ask *assertively* because what we want might be what's best for us, and God will give it to us!
- But we also ask *submissively* because if we want something that wouldn't be best for us, God won't give it to us!

The Power Of Prayer AND The Wisdom of God

- We ask *assertively* because what we want might be what's best for us, and God will give it to us!
- But we also ask *submissively* because if we want something that wouldn't be best for us, God won't give it to us!
- Our infinitely wise and loving heavenly Father will either give us what we asked for – or what we *would* have asked for if we knew everything he knows!
