

The Bible gives us Paul's exemplary prayers in Ephesians 1:16-23, Ephesians 2:5-6, Ephesians 3:14-20, and Colossians 1:9-11. Paul continually prayed these faith statements (Mark 11:24 statements) for the church. They show us God's will for Christians and remind us to pray the prayer of faith (James 5:15), just as Jesus did in the Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4). Lastly, they conform to 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18. Therefore, it would benefit us to continually pray these for Christians, our family and ourselves. I added the name of Jesus because Jesus always spoke Mark 11:23 statements with authority (Mark 11:14; 11:22-24) and because Jesus gave us his name/authority to use (Luke 10:17-19, Acts 3:6; 3:16; 16:18, Mark 16:17-18, 1 John 3:8, John 14:12).

Father God, in the mighty name of Jesus (Philippians 2:9-10) I thank you that, according to Ephesians 1:16-23 and Ephesians 2:5-6, You have given [*substitute Christians*] the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of you and Jesus Christ. I thank you that the eyes of their understanding are being enlightened to know the hope of Your calling and the riches of the glory of Your inherence in the saints. You are revealing to [*substitute Christians*] the exceeding greatness of Your power, according to the working of Your mighty power, which raised Christ from the dead and set Him at Your right hand, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, And has put all things under our feet, and gave us to be the head over all things, for we are the church, Which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

According to Ephesians 3:14-20, I thank you that you grant [*substitute Christians*] according to the riches of Your glory to be strengthened with might by Your Spirit in their inner man. That Christ may dwell in their heart by faith; that they being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth and length and depth and height; and to know the love of Christ which passeth knowledge, that they might be filled with all the fulness of God. I praise You, Lord, that You are able to do exceeding abundantly above all that they ask (*call for*) or think, according to the power that worketh in them.

According to Colossians 1:9-11, I thank you that You fill [*substitute Christians*] with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that they might walk worthy of You unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of You; strengthened with all might, according to Your glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.

Unto You, Lord, be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

The prayer above is based on Bible verses in the King James translation. Here is a popular Internet Bible with many translations and languages: www.biblegateway.com. You may find the NIV or AMP translations easier to understand. The verses are in Courier New 11 font, and my clarifications are inside parenthesis in italics. If you want more precise translation, go to www.blueletterbible.org, choose the King James Version (KJV), input the book and chapter #, and click on the Strong word option. The returned web page will show Bible verses as well as each word's Strong number, its meaning, and cross references.

These 3 verses (below) show how God views our words in our prayer of faith (Mark 11:24):

Numbers 14:28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the LORD, **as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:**

Numbers 14:28 says that God will do to us what we say in general or say in prayer. As always, we want to speak in agreement with what God said in his Word. If you study the situation surrounding Numbers 14:28 you'll see that those who disagreed with God's Word provoked God and only those who agreed with God's Word received the manifested promise: go into the Promised Land.

The lesson here is to know and agree, in word and action, with what God said. More specifically, when you pray, tell God which part of His Word you are counting on to work. Jesus taught us/disciples to do this in the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13). The Lord's Prayer consists of all Mark 11:23 statements that affirm God's will. More specifically, "give us this day our daily bread," "forgive us our debts," "lead us not into temptation," and "deliver us from evil" are all Mark 11:23 statements of God's will that change the world to conform to God's will. Speaking these clauses implements God's will to provide us sustenance, forgiveness, protection. God's will is determined from God's Word.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall **my word** be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it **shall not return unto me void**, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

The second is Isaiah 55:8-11 (above). Verses 8-9 say that God's ways are not our ways. Therefore we should pay attention to God's ways as described by God's Word. Verses 10-11 say that God sent His Word to us (regarding each specified topic such as healing for us, provision for us, protection for us, etc.) to prosper us. How? Verse 11 says that God's Word will be effective when we return it to God. How? God promises that God's Word will prosper us when we return (or affirm or agree with) God's Word to God in our prayer of faith.

Jeremiah 1:12 Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for **I am watching over My word to perform it.**" (New American Standard, 1995)

The third is Jeremiah 1:12 (above), which is a repeat of Isaiah 55:11. Here God says that God is looking for people who expect God's Word/promise to be true and then God will perform His Word/promise to change the world to match His promise. An example of this is in Mark 16:20, " ... the Lord ... confirming the Word with signs following."

1 John 5:14 (below) says that God hears us if we ask (call for, require, G154) according to his will. If we ask according to what the Bible says, then we are assured that we are asking according to God's will.

1 John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we **ask** (call for, require, G154) any thing **according to his will**, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask (call for, require, G154), we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

John 15:7 If ye abide (live) in me, and my words abide (live) in you, ye shall ask (call for, require, G154) what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:7 (above) says that if God's Word lives in us, then we will ask (call for, require, G154) according to God's will (God's Word) and God will hear us and we will have the petition we desired of God.

Proverbs 4:20-22 (below) shows how important it is to God that we know God's Word and keep God's Word in our heart. It says that we should always keep God's Word fresh in our mind and then in our heart. One benefit is that our body will be healed and made whole.

Proverb 4:20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21
Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22
For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

Another reinforcement is Joshua 1:8 (below). God told an untested young leader, Joshua, that prosperity and good success would come if Joshua would (1) meditate continually upon God's Word, (2) speak/mutter continually God's Word, and (3) act in agreement with God's Word. The prayer of faith at the beginning of this study conforms to these 3 points, especially if we do as Paul did: pray this prayer continually.

Joshua 1:8 This book of the law (*God's Word*) shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

God's position on basic issues:

Blessing/Favor ("Grace" means favor, good will (Strong's word G5485))

2 Peter 1:2 Grace (*favor*, Strong#: G5485) and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord,

2 Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace (*favor*) abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:

The blessing of Abraham: Deuteronomy 28:1-13; (especially verse 8: The LORD shall command the blessing . . . in all that thou settest thine hand unto . . .)

Restoration to Health

1 Peter 2:24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes (Strong#: G3468, bruise, wale, wound that trickles with blood) ye were healed.

Matthew 8:17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias (*Isaiah*) the prophet, saying, Himself (*Jesus*) took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Protection

Psalm 91:2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. . . . 91:10 There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. 11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Luke 10:19 Behold, I give unto you power (authority, Strong#: G1849) to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

Our Needs Met

Philippians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

Guidance/Wisdom/Knowledge

Romans 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

Isaiah 30:21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.

Colossians 4:6 (New American Standard) Let your speech always be with grace (favor, Strong#: 5485), as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

James 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask (*G154, call for, require*) of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

Daniel 1:17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

General

John 14:12 Verily (*truly*), verily (*truly*), I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

2 Timothy 1:7 For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Galatians 3:26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

1 John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he (Holy Spirit) that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Proverbs 10:4 . . . but the hand of the diligent maketh rich.