

The Big Challenge

[This document is a partner to the “Intro” document. It is for the impatient, hit-and-run visitor who is not interested in reading these studies. This document tells, very briefly, what the other studies tell: why many prayers do not work and how to fix this problem.

This document only makes sense if the reader skims the foundation studies: “Bible Miracles Explained,” “What Jesus Means by Faith,” and “G154 To Call For.” Also, skim the “How Not Receive From God” study.]

Many Bible passages and verses together tell us how prayer works. The following is the most succinct in telling what makes prayer succeed and what makes prayer fail. Caveat: these verses only apply to what God has already promised us, as shown in the Bible. They do not mean that we can travel to Mars if only we believe. God did not promise us travel to Mars.

Mark 11:22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have **faith** in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and **shall not doubt** in his heart, but **shall believe** that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire (call for, G154), when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

James 5:14 Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them **pray** over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

1 John 5:14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask (call for, G154) any thing according to his will, he heareth us:

15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask (call for, G154), we know that we have the petitions that we desired (call for, G154) of him.

What these verses say:

When we pray, we believe we receive, because the Bible (God's Word) says that it is God's will to give us what we pray for. In other words, we believe, when we pray, that God's Word is true and that God will give that to us.

To do this, we need to know what God says about prayer and what God would give us and that we need to believe God's Word is true. Essentially, we need to respect God's Word, treat it as the truth, and act accordingly.

The absence of the above is the most common cause of failed prayer. [See the "How Not Receive From God" study.] Most Christians do not know well what God says about prayer. This set of Bible studies is my attempt to fix this problem.

All studies in this set help, but the next short reads to help the reader are the "The Big Picture," "Fight the Good Fight of Faith," and "The Work We Do" studies. A slightly longer read is the "Prayer Authority" study.

Disclaimer:

This is not a tutorial. Only the key Bible verses are listed. You may need to look up the context, the surrounding verses, to get the full message/meaning. The verses here are in the King James translation. A popular Internet Bible with many translations and languages: www.biblegateway.com. You may find translations such as NIV and AMP easier to understand. The Bible verses are in Courier New 12 font, and the clarifications that I inserted into a Bible verse are inside parentheses 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 turn 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.

Also, using the name of Jesus to receive healing does not mean refusing medical care. You should receive medical care because God wants you healthy. But you should also use Jesus' name to pray the prayer of faith to receive healing from God.

Lastly, these Bible studies do not address other Bible issues. Other issues are well addressed by other Christian sources. These studies only focus on how to receive miracles faster.
