

## The Path to Effective Prayer

“A Christian living without a prayer life is one who lives life in his own power.”

### 1. Answered Prayer Is Up To The Believer As To What He Wants.

**Ps 84:11** - *For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.*

**1 John 3:21f.** - *Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him.*

### 2. Everything In Jesus Begins With Relationship.

**John 15:10** - *If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.*

### 3. Our Relationship With Christ Was Created And Is Maintained By Obedience!

*Spiritual planning...  
Inward fulfillment...  
And **stability of heart.***

**Rev 22:14** - *"Blessed are those who wash their robes, that they may have the right to the tree of life and may go through the gates into the city. NIV*

### 4. Obedience Opens The Gates Of The Holy City, And Gives Access To The Tree Of Life.

**Isa 5:1-7** - *I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. 2 He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. 3 "Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? 5 Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. 6 I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated, and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it." 7 **The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.***

### Judgment on God's Vineyard

1. I will take away the hedge from it.
2. The vineyard shall be eaten up.
3. I will break down the wall from round about it.
4. The vineyard shall be trodden down.
5. I will lay it waste.
6. I will not prune it or cultivate it.
7. There shall come up briers and thorns.
8. I will command the clouds that they do not rain upon it.

## 5. A Life Lived Apart From Obedience Brings Judgment And Fruitlessness Regardless Of Place Or Position.

### THE RESPONSE

**John 15:5-8** - *"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not remain in me, he is like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. 7 **If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.** 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.*

- **The Power Behind Prayer Becomes The "Closeness" Or "Abiding In" (Remain, Continue, Dwell) The Lord.**

*"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."*

### RESULT OF AN OBEDIENT LIFE

*"If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."*