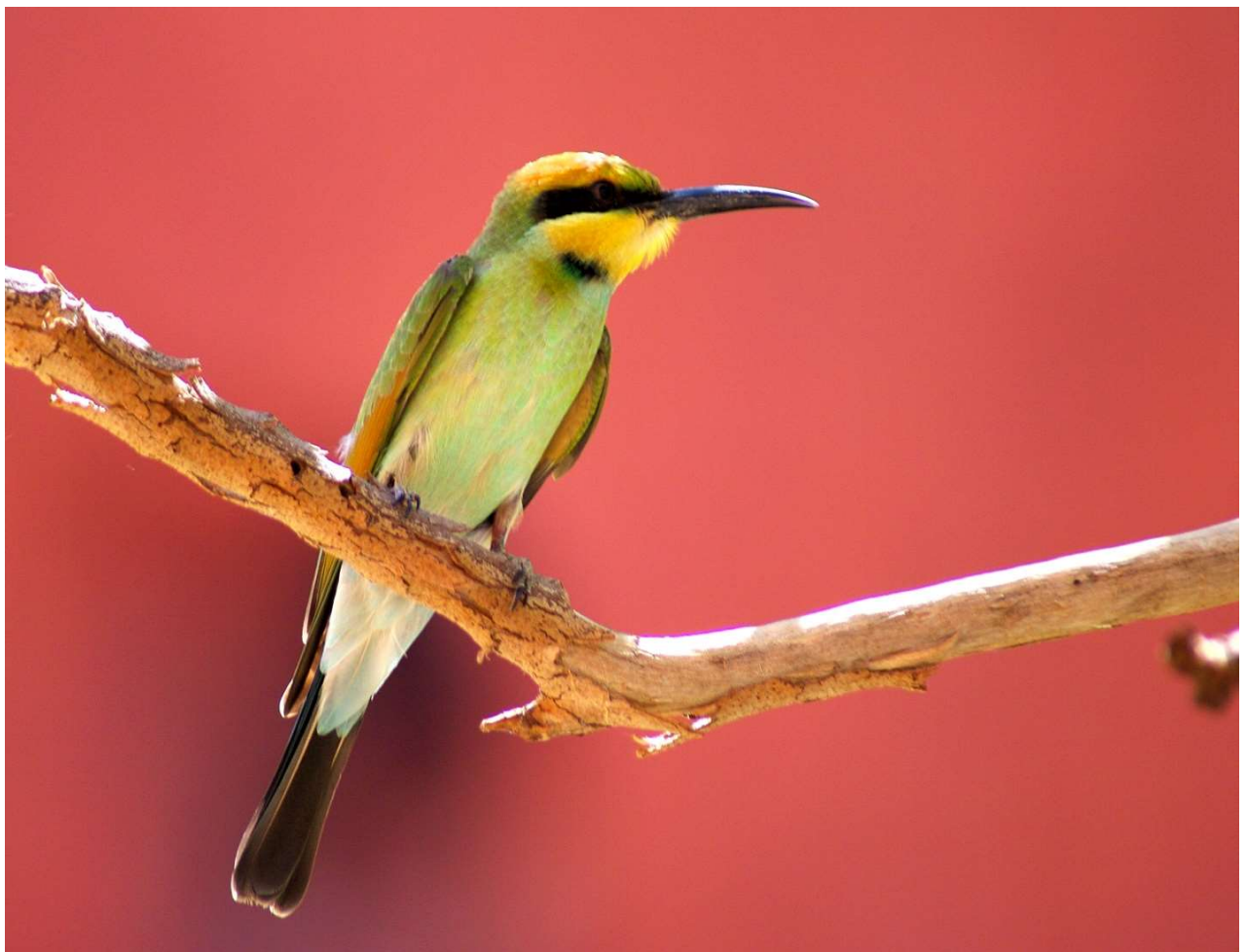


Types of Prayer

And

Effective Praying



Notes for your edification

By

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***“PRAYER IS TO THE BELIEVER WHAT
CAPITAL IS TO THE BUSINESSMAN”***

(Leonard Ravenhill)

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Introduction

In any relationship communication is vital. No relationship will thrive unless there is *regular* and *meaningful* communication. This is true in life and even more important in our relationship with our heavenly Father. We communicate with God through the various facets of prayer.

Jesus said a number of times that He only said and did what He heard and saw from the Father (John 5:19, 30; John 8:28, 30). So how *much more* should we be in the presence of, and listening to, the Father! So the ears of our hearts should be continually attuned to the voice of the Holy Spirit.

We do well to remember when Jesus said over and over again (Matt 6:5, 6, 7) ... “And **when** you pray”... He was implying that prayer is imperative, something we do on a **regular** basis. He did not say ... “**If** you pray ...

A prayerless life is a weak life because Jesus said ... “*Apart from Me you can do nothing* (John 15:5).

Leonard Ravenhill wisely stated, “***Prayer is to the believer what capital is to the businessman.***”

Therefore, the purpose of this study is to understand what prayer is and to look at the different types or aspects of prayer, and then consider how to integrate these into effective praying.

Prayer is first of all direct, personal, two way communication with God. It’s something we can do at any point in time, and the more often the better. It’s us talking to Him and Him talking back to us, revealing Himself to us, and it is the means by which we get insight into who He is and what He is doing and wants to do in our world. By prayer we get to know Him and to see which part of His plan is currently getting His attention. We enter His plan through prayer and we receive His perspective on things by prayer.

Almost always, prayer should start off with worship, consecration and waiting – listening, receiving revelation and instructions. Then once we have His plan and perspective we can then, in prayer, make requests or declarations in line with His plan, purpose and will and see Him bring it to pass. Prayer then becomes a multifaceted weapon we use to enforce the victory of Calvary through worship, praise, thanksgiving, petition, intercession, supplication and travail.

Understanding the different types or parts of “prayer” is important. For example, if you want to go on an off-road trip over rugged terrain you would use a 4x4 SUV not a sedan or other similar low clearance vehicle or you will get stuck. Cars, sedans, station wagons, SUVs, and trucks are all covered under the one heading “motor vehicles”, but each is built for a different purpose or function. Similarly, “prayer” is the overall heading but there are many different types of prayer, each, or combinations of each, are used for a different purpose or reason.

To assist believers in understanding the various aspects of prayer, we will look at each in turn.

But before we start looking into the types of prayer, let us remind ourselves that the scriptures tell us that we, believers in Jesus Christ, are engaged in a **battle**. It's a battle between the will of God for mankind and the deceptive and destructive wiles of the devil, who seeks our demise.

1 Pet 5:8 ... *"Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."*

Satan uses misinformed and deceived people through whom to carry out his divisive attacks. But we must be careful **not to attack the people**, but the evil forces behind the people being used.

Eph 6:12 ... *"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."*

2 Cor 10:3-5 ... *"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ."*

Jude 3 ... *"contend earnestly for the faith."*

In this battle we are not fighting **for** a position of victory, we fight **from** a position of victory. Through His death and resurrection Jesus defeated the enemy, and now we as His ambassadors are here to enforce the victory. We are to find out, understand and know what the will of God is and in prayer to enforce it.

To be effective, whether in the events of our individual lives and families or in the affairs of our nation, our prayer, whether private or public, whether individual or corporate, needs to be *specific, focused, passionate* and *Spirit-empowered* prayer.

One further thing we need to clarify concerning any form of prayer, is what prayer is or is not: **prayer is not** an occasional random exercise akin to the 'rubbing a rabbit's foot' or 'waving a magic wand' when we are in trouble or have some need in the hopes that something miraculous will happen or some terrible situation we face will suddenly disappear.

Prayer is a discipline – it's a life engrossed in God, His Word, His will and His ways. It's a life of constant listening, learning, receiving empowerment and obeying in order to bring about His will in our daily lives and in the lives of the people around us.

The types or components of Prayer we will consider include:

Worship	Praise	Thanksgiving
Confession	Consecration	Waiting
Petition	Intercession	Supplication
Impartation and Separation	Agreement	

Part 1: Types of Prayer

Worship:

Jesus taught His disciples that prayer should begin with worship.

Matt 6:9 ... *"Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name"*.

God is not just a resource centre from Whom we can get all the things we need, no matter how pure our motives. He is primarily a living being, our Father, who seeks and desires our fellowship.

John 4:23 ... *"But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers"*.

Worship in spirit and in truth is simply living a life being led by the Spirit and operating in line with the truth (the Word of God) in every aspect of our life.

Worship shows God how much "worth" we place in Him. By a daily, moment by moment lifestyle of honouring and obeying God's Word in our words and actions, by exalting His Son with our lips in our daily conversation, and by giving the Holy Spirit a place to work in our lives by our love and actions towards God and others, we tell Him we 'value' Him or place 'worth' in Him. Then when we stand before God and worship in song or in prayer, we are saying by the backing of our lifestyle of worship that we truly place great "worth-ship" in Him.

Worship is an act of submission to His rule in our lives in response to which He enters with His loving blessing and liberating power. When we worship God in humility and love, He will respond with a show of His presence. His response, blessings and glory presence, will become the portion of those who pursue a pathway of humility and worship before His throne.

So in prayer we commence with worship, everything else follows.

Praise:

Praise is **not**, as some people think, a means by which we do something to gain God's favour by massaging His ego. God has no ego. He is the very essence of humility.

Rather, praise is an instrument of violence. It upsets and destroys the atmosphere in which suffering, confusion, turmoil, strife, sickness, disease, discouragement and futility flourish. Praise is not violent in its practice, but it is violent in its impact when it is exercised with faith and power. **Praise is faith in action.** As we praise God hell's fires of evil are put out and heaven's life is released to fill death's vacuums in our community. Praise reverses Satan's plans and releases God's power to bring about His plans and purposes. Praise is an atmosphere through which Satan and his forces cannot move.

It was the shouts of praise that brought Jericho's walls down (Joshua 6:15-21). The praisers preceded the army of Judah against Ammon, Moab and Mount Seir and routed the enemy (2 Chr 20:21-22).

Acts 16:25-34 ... *"But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of **praise** to God, and the prisoners were listening to them; and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer awoke and saw the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here!" And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house. And he took them that very hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his household. And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household".*

Praise loosed physical and spiritual chains!

Praise is not always easy, especially when you're doing it tough and times are hard. Sometimes it requires a sacrifice in effort.

Heb 13:15-16 ... *"Through Him then, let us continually offer up a **sacrifice of praise** to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. And do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased".*

Praise coming from you in the midst of adversity will cause God to have great pleasure in answering and blowing Satan out of the water!

As we praise, and through praise and thanksgiving learn more about the spirit of praise, we will see that it will not only change our adverse circumstances, it will also change us!

Thanksgiving:

Giving of thanks releases the supernatural. Good examples are:

1. The thanksgiving that Jesus gave which released the miracle of the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:41-43).
2. The leper who was healed from leprosy returned to give thanks to Jesus, and as a result the miracle of being 'made whole' (restoration of worn out digits or limbs) took place (Luke 17:12-19).
3. The feeding of the five thousand.

John 6:11 ... *"Jesus then took the loaves, and **having given thanks**, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted".*

The miracle of multiplication came as a result of the thanks given to the Father for His provision. In the giving of thanks Jesus was acknowledging to His Father that He had heard the Father's will for the situation and was acknowledging this with gratitude. He was then in a position to carry out the will of the Father. Remember Jesus said, in John 14:10 and other places, that He only did what He saw the Father doing and said only that which He had heard from the Father.

Paul encourages us to give thanks:

Eph 5:20 ... *"always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God the Father"*

1 Thess 5:18 ... *"in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus".*

Giving of thanks honours God as the Provider of all good things and opens the way for God to demonstrate His love and power over the situation at hand. Thanksgiving is particularly important in times when we have to press in over long periods of time in supplicatory prayer and where it seems like no answer is imminent, because **seeds of discouragement cannot gain root in a heart of gratitude.**

Confession:

Psalm 24:3-4 ... *“Who may ascend onto the hill of the Lord? And who may stand in His holy place? One who has clean hands and a pure heart, who has not lifted up his soul to deceit and has not sworn deceitfully.”*

If we want to be effective in prayer it is important that we operate from a position of honesty and purity with no hidden sin or hidden agenda. So if we have failed God in any way it is important to repent and confess our sin. If we do this our Father promised us He would forgive and cleans us so that we could once again walk in purity.

1 John 1:9 ... *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness”.*

Very important is the fact that once God has forgiven, the matter is put behind us and we can move on in full confidence. David is a good example of this (Ps 51).

Ps 51:2-4 & 10-13 ... *“Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight” ... “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners will be converted to You”.*

A broken and contrite heart is vital for anyone who will be used of God in effective prayer.

Matt 5:8 ... *“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see (perceive, know & understand) God.”*

Consecration:

This is a prayer of devotion to God. This is where we bow before God and say, *"I am Yours in totality, use me as You please, so that my life may bring glory to You"*.

God has placed within us the desire to commune and fellowship with Him. This is the "olam" (Heb.) "eternity" – which speaks of the desire for eternal things which God has placed in our hearts – spoken of in Eccl 3:11. This void can only be satisfied by genuine communion with Him.

The Apostle Paul stands as an example of one who lived a consecrated life in communion and prayer with Christ.

Phil 3:7-8 ... *"But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ"*.

What Paul means by "gaining Christ" is more than receiving salvation, it is the coming into a deep personal fellowship and communion with Him. The purpose of this fellowship and communion is:

Phil 3:10 ... *"that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death"*

So Paul continues by saying:

Phil 3:14 ... *"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus"*.

Consecratory prayer is the pressing in, laying down of self, submitting ourselves to Christ that we may know Him and be conformed to Him in all aspects of our lives. In submitting to Him we surrender our minds, wills, hands, feet and voices so be instruments in His hands to accomplish His will in and through us.

Waiting:

This is the prayer of meditation and listening. It is often linked to and may form part of the prayer of consecration. This is where we pray and meditate in the Word of God and listen to the voice of the Spirit as He leads us in the Word and reveals His purposes and plans to us, and in which we also receive assurance and renewal of strength for the tasks He assigns to us.

Isa 40:31 ... *"Yet those who wait for the LORD Will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary".*

Psalm 19:7-8 ... *"The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes".*

Psalm 32:8 ... *"I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you"*

Psalm 33:18-20... *"Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness, to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine. Our soul waits for the LORD; He is our help and our shield".*

Waiting on God is vital as it does not matter how much we do for God, how much we read the Bible, how great we may be, or what we have achieved or possess – nothing can replace the fellowship and personal communion with God who alone fulfils the very essence of our being and gives purpose to life and nourishes our soul, as we wait on Him. For, as Jesus said in John 15:5 ... *"I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing".*

This waiting in prayer is not a works program where we gain merit and thereby obtain results. It has to do with the development of our relationship with the Father, where we get to **know Him** better. We learn to understand His heart and His ways and gain His wisdom to guide and direct our lives and our prayers.

We seek Him in whom are hidden all the truths and valuable things of life.

Col 2:3 ... *"in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.*

John 16:13-14 ... *"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take from Mine and will disclose it to you."*

John 10:27 ... *"My sheep listen to My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me"*

Petition:

Petitioning God is a basic aspect of prayer. God is a Father that loves His children and enjoys giving to His children, and therefore likes to have His children express their requests of Him. Jesus told us to ask:

John 16:23-24 ... *"Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be made full"*.

Matt 7:11 ... *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!"*

The gift of salvation, which has been made available to everyone, must be appropriated through asking.

The fullness of the Holy Spirit is also available to us through asking. Luke 11:13 ... *"how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him"*.

Wisdom is ours if we ask for it: Jas 1:5 ... *"But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him"*.

Healing, deliverance and blessings are all things for which we should be asking.

When we ask God we must be mindful that He answers, not in accordance with our need, but out of His abundance.

Phil 4:19 ... *"And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus"*.

Note it is not **out of** His riches in glory, but **according to** His riches in glory In Christ Jesus. An example will show the difference. If I needed some money to start a business and went to a billionaire relative to ask for financial assistance and his response was a cheque for a mere \$1000, he would have given to me **out of** his wealth. On the other hand, if he gave me a whole lot of signed blank cheques and said, "Use as much as you like", he would have given me **according to** his wealth. God supplies **according to** His riches.

Jesus also instructed us to ...*"Ask and keep on asking"* and He added to this that ... *"everyone who asks receives"* (Matt 7:7-8). Heaven's storehouse never runs out of supply.

Isa 59:1 ... *"Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short that it cannot save; nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear"*.

Jer 33:3 ... *"Call to Me, and I **will** answer you"*.

Heb 4:16 ... *"Therefore let us draw near with **confidence** to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need"*.

The four main conditions to be met for us to be assured that our petitions will be answered in the affirmative are:

1. Ask in faith.

Matt 21:22 ... *"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive"*.

Jas 1:6-8 ... *"But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways"*.

Heb 11:6 ... *"And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him"*.

Asking in faith is saying to God, *"You said it, I trust and believe you and so I expect it to happen!"* God is never the barrier, it's only our hesitance to ask that stops us receiving. God is our covenant "friend" who is available at any moment to help us. Boldness is our privilege. Our assignment is to ask, and His commitment is to answer.

2. Ask from a position of an abiding relationship with Christ.

John 15:7 ... *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you"*.

Abiding in Christ we develop an understanding of His will and we grow to a place where our will is conformed to His. When our desires are His desires He gives us the blank cheque of John 15:7. When He who is the Word abides in us, as we speak out the word He honours it and we see the answers manifested.

3. Ask with the correct motives.

Jas 4:3 ... *"You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures"*.

Requests generated from selfishness will simply be denied. Our requests must align with His will, word and purposes. God desires that our motivation in asking should be such that the result or answer to our request will bring glory and honour to Him.

4. Ask in accordance with the will of God.

Spend time with God and in His Word so that you can find out His will, so that once you know His will you can ask with confidence that your prayer will be answered.

1 John 5:14-15 ... *"This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him"*.

Intercession:

This is the form of prayer where we share the burden of Christ for a person, group of people, nation, circumstance, or specific need somewhere in the world. As intercessors we become partakers of Christ's suffering. Intercession is "praying in the Spirit" where we may not always necessarily know the details or exact need, but because the Holy Spirit does know He uses the intercessor to pray through until we know God has met the need (Rom 8:26-27).

This form of prayer is necessary for the fulfillment of God's will and divine plans. This doesn't mean that God cannot bring His will and His plans into being without us, it just means that He has sovereignly chosen to include us in the realisation of His will. So intercessors are part of a ministry that becomes an integral part of the fulfillment of God's plans, will and purposes for this world.

Sometimes intercessory prayer will need to extend over a protracted period of time as the Holy Spirit "broods" over a matter for years before it comes to fruition. This is also known as "travailing" in prayer.

And now, to further help our understanding, let us look at a couple of Hebrew words that are translated into the English word "intercession" or "intercede".

The first is the root word *palal* (translated "intercede" in Nu 21:7 and 1 Sam 2:25) which means "mediate" or "bring together". An intercessor is one who stands in the gap and mediates upon God and His purposes with the intention of bringing the unsaved together with God.

The second is the root word *paga* (translated "intercede" in Isa 59:16 and Jer 7:16) which means "encounter" or "contact" or "fall upon". The intercessor falls upon, encounters or contacts the enemy to destroy his forces and release the captives. But this word (*paga*) is also found in passages such as Josh 19:11, 22, 26, 27 and 34 where it is translated "reached to"; referring to borders or boundaries of land "reaching to" (touching or contacting) certain limits or positions. In other words, the boundaries described are intended to stretch all the way to prescribed points.

As intercessors we are concerned with the boundaries of God's inheritance for individuals, groups and nations. Where the enemy has encroached upon a person's life, family, business or nation to diminish or shrink back the boundaries of God's inheritance for that person, group, business or nation, it's our responsibility as intercessors to push back those boundaries until they "reach to" their God intended position. We are here to enforce Calvary's victory and see people walk in their blood bought inheritance.

As intercessors we have **specific functions**:

1. Matt 5:13 – We are the ... "**salt of the earth**"... to add flavor, and have a preserving function (restraining the process of corruption) and the responsibility of withholding the final judgment, giving the unsaved time to accept, or reject, Christ as Saviour.
2. 2 Cor 5:20 – We are ... "**ambassadors for Christ**" ... representing the Kingdom of God on foreign soil.

3. 1 Pet 2:9 – We are a ... *“a chosen race, a royal **priesthood**, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvellous light”*. The priest’s function is to stand in the gap for the needs of the people.
4. We are **co-rulers** with Christ. Eph 1:22-23 ... *“And He (God the Father) put all things in subjection under His (Christ’s) feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all”* and Eph 2:6 ... *“and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus”*.

God’s great desire on the earth today through His people is repossession of that which was lost. Through rebellion man’s relationship with the Father was lost as well as man’s God given authority to rule over the earth. Jesus came to seek and to save the lost, and to restore our dominion of peace and joy in the earth. The blood of Jesus broke Satan’s hold on the power of death and destroyed Satan’s rulership. Christ’s resurrection paved the way for man to have eternal life and live in victory. So God has delegated responsibility and authority to us, the church, to assist in enforcing His dominion over the forces of darkness. He has given to those who know and obey Him the “keys of the Kingdom”. These keys lock up or bind the works of hell and they free-up or loose the blessings of heaven. They shatter Satan’s chains and unlock the captives.

So every believer, as an intercessor, is a member of heaven’s occupational force on earth with the principal purpose of enforcing Calvary’s victory. We are co-rulers with Christ.

Heb 7:25 says ... *“Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them”*.

Not only does Christ stand in the gap as the Intercessor on our behalf and mediate for us as individuals when we mess up and call upon him in repentance, but Christ lives in us and wants to intercede through us; we are His mouth, His hands and His feet here on earth. The Head has chosen to function through His body on earth.

Where principalities and powers have shut the doors and placed blinders on the eyes of the unsaved, it’s **our responsibility** to intercede and stand against these forces. Once our Spirit enabled prayers break through, the Holy Spirit opens the doors, removes the blinders and entire cities can be won to Christ. Paul encourages us to do this:

Col 4:3-4 ... *“praying (interceding) at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak”*.

If we will intercede the spiritual forces of darkness will be bound and the doors will be opened in the name of Jesus and our city and nation will come to Christ!

There are certain qualities an intercessor should possess:

1. Devout and devoted to prayer.

An intercessor should “walk in the light” and be given to prayer. If you are not walking in the light you will have a problem facing the enemy. “Given to prayer” means you may be required to be available for substantial periods in prayer. It also means you are to be available 24/7 to be quickened by the Holy Spirit to “fall upon” or “encounter” the enemy on behalf of a person, group or nation.

Example: Intercession saved a farmer from the guerilla forces during the war in Zimbabwe. Intercessors were awakened and alerted to pray. The attacking guerillas saw angels around the farmhouse and stopped shooting ran for their lives. Later the farmer gave testimony of what had happened, and when the intercessors heard this report they found it was at the very time they prayed. Later the guerillas were caught by the national army and confessed that they had run away because they saw the angels around the farmhouse.

2. Patience and persistence.

Sometimes it may take many years for the answer to manifest. We are told to “keep watching and praying” (Matt 26:41), “devote yourself to prayer” (Col 4:2), “this kind comes out only by prayer and fasting” (Matt 17:21), “Men ought always to pray and not faint” (Lu 18:1) and “pray without ceasing” (1 Thess 5:17).

3. Full of the Holy Spirit.

Being “full” has more to do with “control” than it has to do with quantity. Your mind, your attention, is to be filled with, focused on, or fully occupied by the Holy Spirit. As intercessors we are to habitually and continually have our minds filled (minds occupied with) with the Spirit. Christ, the Intercessor, lives in you and wants to live and express Himself through you every moment of the day. The Holy Spirit is in us to teach us Christ, to reveal Him to us so we can give Him expression through our mouths, hands, feet, minds and emotions. We must be dominated and controlled by the Holy Spirit so that we can be directed by Him in accordance with the will of the Father.

4. Trust and obey God.

What the Holy Spirit reveals to you, you can stand assured will come to pass. No matter what is happening in the visible realm, trust God that He will bring that which He has purposed in the spiritual realm to be realised here on earth, no matter how long it takes or how apparently ‘strange’ His direction appears to you. Trusting Him and what He reveals and obedience to Him are what counts.

5. Vision.

The desire and ability to see in the realm of the Spirit. Visions and dreams are the language of the Holy Spirit. This includes the desire to function in the revelatory gifts of the Spirit; gift of knowledge, gift of wisdom and gift of discerning of spirits. It also includes the ability to clearly “hear” what the Spirit is saying to you. This ability comes only through spending time in prayer the presence of God. Hear in and seeing what God is saying and doing is a learned thing. That’s why waiting on God is absolutely vital.

A good example of intercessors who possessed these qualities are Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:25-39).

Supplication:

Supplication is earnest, diligent fervent prayer that cuts through the obstacles of darkness and lays hold of God's sovereign order. In eternity past, before the world was created, according to His sovereign will and eternal purpose for mankind, God established an order and timing for all things. Supplication reaches out to the Father to call forth from Him the reinstatement in perfect line with and timing of His original decree in whatever matter we bring before Him. We do this in accordance with the authority He has given to us, His church, through Jesus His Son.

Supplication is that prayer that first seeks the will of God for a specific situation, and then acts as His voice in declaring it in a binding manner or a loosing manner.

Supplication includes but is more than just praying in the will of God, or the intercessory pushing back of boundaries to their original God ordained positions; it is

- *Continual* praying – an ongoing plea for a matter to be settled according to God's will. Consistent praying for as long as it takes.
- *Contingent* praying – a calling for God's order in God's timing. There may be other lives and circumstances involved apart from the one for whom you are specifically praying. God will honour the limitations that the rebellion and disobedience of those involved imposes. The individual themselves may be in a state of rebellion. God will not go against their will. He is patient and will wait for the people involved to submit willingly. So either way, supplicatory prayer requires great patience and persistence. Paul alludes to this in [Gal 4:19](#) ... *"My children, with whom I am again in labour until Christ is formed in you"*. KJV says ... *"of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you"*. Travail in birth gives us a good picture of what supplicatory prayer is like!

Christ has decreed salvation and signed His side of the contract with His blood. He now waits for us to devote ourselves to the fervent, diligent praying that provides the countersignature that releases His decreed will upon those for whom we supplicate. We are partners with Christ in this; He has sovereignly chosen to rule through His church.

Jack Hayford puts it very nicely: *God still holds to His original proposition: "man is in charge on earth. If hell is allowed to take over, or if the flesh fumbles the ball, it's man's duty to call on Me for the remedy. If he doesn't call – if prayer isn't uttered – I have bound Myself not to be involved. If prayer is extended, I have bound Myself to conquer everything that would destroy or diminish My beloved creature, man". His is the power. Ours is the prayer. Without Him we cannot. Without us, He will not.*

Note: An important and more detailed explanation of "supplication" is provided in an appendix to this document.

Impartation and Separation:

This is prayer with laying on of hands to impart gifts or separate a person to specific ministry as directed by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 13:2-3 ... *"While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Then, when they had fasted and prayed and laid their hands on them, they sent them away"*.

1 Tim 4:14 ... *"Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery"*.

1 Tim 5:22 ... *"Do not lay hands on anyone hastily, nor share in other people's sins; keep yourself pure"*.

Agreement:

There is power in the prayer of agreement.

Matt 18:19 ... *"Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven"*.

This is the principle of Deut 32:30 ... *"one will chase a thousand and two will chase ten thousand"*.

So, praying with a prayer partner, in group or through corporate prayer, is very powerful.

We must always remember that our prayers, to be effective, must be in agreement with God's will as declared in His Word. Prayer that does not align with God's word, or with directions you have received from the Holy Spirit, will be totally ineffective as they will not be answered.

Part 2: Effective Praying

Applying the principles of each type of prayer in effective praying

As an example, we will consider the prayer Jesus taught His disciples in order to see how we integrate the different aspects or types of prayer in effective praying.

Before He taught the disciples how to pray Jesus started off ([Matt 6:7-8](#)) by saying ... *“And when you are praying, do not use meaningless repetition, as the Gentiles do, for they suppose that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore do not be like them ... Pray then this way:”*

Matt 6:9-13 ... *“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.”*

When you pray, break down this prayer into its components and use each one to guide you in your prayers. We will look at how that is done, step by step.

Note that the first three parts of this prayer are focused upon God – where we are to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving in honour of Him. Then, the next three parts introduce a time for our needs and the needs of others to be expressed. The prayer concludes with the focus back on God. It is important to observe this order as it is way too common for folks to just go to God with a “shopping list” of petitions when they, or their friends or family, are in trouble. Remember, prayer is relational communication.

So let us now see how we can pray as Jesus taught us, step by step, applying the various components of prayer.

“Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name.”

We start with **worship and thanksgiving**. When we pray we are talking to God. Just think of Him, and speak to Him about who He is; His majesty, Splendor, Greatness, Holiness, Purity, Kindness, Graciousness, Lovingkindness, and any of His other mighty attributes you can think of. Think of any or all the names for God given to us in the bible. For instance: He is Abba Father, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, The Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End, The Great Shepherd, The Good Shepherd, The Lord our Healer, Savior, Friend, Counsellor, Prince of Peace, Banner, Jehovah, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, All Sufficient One, Provider, Conqueror, King of kings and Lord of lords (and many more). Meditate on these aspects of who He is and include them in your worship of Him. As we do this we commence our prayer in worship and thanksgiving of Him who alone is worthy of worship.

Speak to God, talk to Him of how much you revere and love Him for who He is. Thank Him that He is, above all, your heavenly Father and for His great love to you in sending His Son to redeem you from sin and re-establish you on the path of life. You may want to talk quietly, or loudly or even sing to Him in worship. It may be useful to use a hymn book or Bible and sing the hymns or songs of worship.

This is also a time for **praise**. We extend our worship into a time of praise. We praise God for all He is and has done. Praise is faith in action. It is a declaration that God is God, He is Our Father, and our trust is in Him. Praise establishes an atmosphere through which Satan and his forces cannot move. Praise is important as it pushes back the forces of darkness and clears the way for effective prayer.

Praise and thanksgiving will not only bring pleasure to God, it also changes us and our perception of God. And remember, His interest is that we are conformed to the image of His Son.

“Your kingdom come.”

Continuing in worship, we now add prayers of **consecration** where we bow before God and say, *“I am Yours in totality, use me as You please, so that my life may bring glory to You”*.

This is where we invite and honour God’s Kingship and rulership over our lives. In our prayers we tell God our hearts desire is to obey Him and submit ourselves to Him and be used of Him so that others may know Him, and so that our lives may bring honour to Him.

As we invite His kingdom to come in our lives we covenant to lay down self, submitting ourselves to Christ that we may know Him and be conformed to Him in all aspects of our lives. In submitting to Him we surrender our minds, wills, hands, feet and voices so be instruments in His hands to accomplish His will in and through us.

It is also a time where we can pray for His kingdom to be established in our nation and the nations of the world. So we move into **intercession**, praying for the salvation and Lordship of Jesus to come to the leaders of our nation, to our friends and relatives and neighbours.

“Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.”

This part of the prayer has a number of aspects. It continues with our prayers of **consecration** as we ask God to lead us in accordance with His will and purpose for our lives. We choose to lay aside anything of self and self-will, and submit our wills to His. His will is that Christ be formed in us, and our prayers should follow this line of thought.

It is also a time of **waiting** on God. It is a good time to meditate in His Word, asking the Holy Spirit to lead us to scriptures through which He can speak to us in accordance with His will. The secrets or hidden mysteries of God are revealed to those who wait on God in reverence and love.

Psalm 25:14 ... *"The secret of the Lord is for those who fear Him, and He will make them know His covenant."*

Eph 1:11 ... *"In Him we also have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the **purpose of Him** who works all things in accordance with the plan of **His will** ..."*

Also, we do well to be reminded of Romans 8:26-27 ... *"Now in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."*

Through **waiting** in prayer we can establish God's will for the situation at hand, knowing what God has bound or loosed, and then we can move into **supplication** and **intercession** with great effect, to bring about His will on earth, as it is in heaven.

"Give us this day our daily bread."

Up to this point our prayers, other than the prayers of personal consecration, have focused upon God and others (Prayers of worship, praise, waiting, supplication and intercession). But now we can begin our prayers of **petition** for ourselves as well as others. We lift our needs before the throne of God. Our prayers of **petition** include prayer for spiritual, mental, emotional and physical well-being for ourselves and others for whom we are praying.

It is good to listen to the Holy Spirit as He leads us in his Word, as He more often than not provides answers or directions to our petitions through His Word.

Our petitions are for today's needs or necessities, and not for greeds.

While God knows our needs even before we ask, He has given us lots of "blank cheques" to fill in with our needs, and as a loving Father He is pleased when we present them to Him in faith.

"and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

We now move into a time of prayer of **confession**, along with continuance of our prayers of **consecration**.

Whenever we pray we must ask God to search our hearts and see if there be any sin or unforgiveness in us, and confess our sin. We must also be ready to forgive anyone who has offended us. God's word is very clear in this respect.

1 John 1:9 ... *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*

Eph 4:32 ... *“Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.”*

Psalm 51 is helpful as a prayer for forgiveness and consecration to God.

Also, we can meditate on the definition of love as clearly declared in 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 and ask God to allow His love to shine through us to those who have been unkind or unjust to us.

This petition is also a covenant to be loving and forgiving to everyone, especially our offenders.

“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil.”

While the bible is very clear, God does not tempt anyone (James 1:13), God does permit or allow trials and temptations to test us, and this petition is more specifically one in which we ask God to protect us from failing the tests and temptations that confront us.

Pride is probably our greatest temptation and potential pitfall.

This is also a time in prayer where we can enter spiritual warfare, praying against the temptations, lies and traps of the devil.

The three R's of spiritual warfare we do well to apply in our lives and prayers are:

Recognise – the presence and source of trouble, temptations and wrong thoughts. Satan will often be very subtle in his attacks, so recognise the lies for what they are.

Refuse – the temptations or bad thoughts to get root in your mind.

2 Cor 10:5 ... *“We are destroying arguments and all arrogance raised against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.”*

Resist – Resist the devil and he will flee. One good way to resist temptations, lies and bad thoughts is to heed Paul's encouragement and check what occupies our minds and thoughts:

Phil 4:8 ... *“whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”*

Part of asking God to deliver us from evil is to ask for help with these three R's of spiritual warfare.

“For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever, Amen.”

As we conclude our time of prayer we finish as we started with **worship, praise** and **thanksgiving**. **Worship** – acknowledging God who is the Almighty Sovereign Lord, who is in control of everyone and all circumstances and situations about which we have been praying. He is the All Powerful One, our Deliverer who leads us in His triumph in every situation.

2 Cor 2:14 ... *“But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us reveals the fragrance of the knowledge of Him in every place.”*

For answering our prayers we offer Him **thanksgiving** in advance.

Finally, we **praise** Him acknowledging that all glory and honour belong to Him alone, now and forevermore. Amen.

Two important prayers we should pray on a regular basis:

These are prayers we can and should pray for ourselves and others every day.

The First Prayer

This prayer is directly linked to what Paul has been saying in the verses that precede [Eph 1:17-23](#). You can almost hear Paul thinking as he writes: I have written and told you what the triune God purposed in His heart before the foundation of the world, for Himself and for mankind, and His plan to realise His ultimate purpose. But do you fully grasp it? I wonder if you really understand how precious and priceless is your inheritance in Christ. I know your faith in the Lord and how much you love the other believers, and I thank to Lord for you, yet I long for you to more fully and intimately know Christ and understand what you possess in Him. Oh that all your potential wealth in Christ may transform into being made personal and actual. And so he prays ... and this is the prayer we should pray ...

[Eph 1:17-23](#) ... *“that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all”.*

The second prayer

The second prayer we should pray is recorded in [Ephesians 3:14-21](#). This prayer relates to the discussion immediately before it concerning the church (revelation of the mystery that Christ came for Gentiles as well as Jews, to break down walls of division and to build us together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit). The first prayer which was found in Eph 1:15-23 focused more on the **individual**. While this second prayer can equally be applied to an individual, the context in which it is offered shows that it is a prayer for the **corporate body**, the church. So Paul is praying for the collective group of believers at Ephesus (and us – “the faithful in Christ Jesus” Eph 1:1) when he prays this prayer.

[Eph 3: 14-21](#) ... *“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses*

knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen”.

The first emphasised **enlightenment**, whereas in the second prayer the emphasis is on **enablement**. The first is a prayer for **revelation** ... “that you may know” – a petition for *spiritual apprehension* of the riches of His grace. The second is a prayer for **realisation** ... “that you may be” – a prayer for *spiritual appropriation* of the riches of His grace. There is interdependence between the two prayers with contrasts and compliments as follows:

First Prayer 1:15-23	Second Prayer 3:14-21
Revelation	Realisation
Enlightenment	Enablement
Light	Life
Know what you are	Be what you know
Know the power of God	Experience the fullness of God
Power working for us	Power working in us
You in Christ	Christ in You
Church the fullness of Christ	Church filled up with Christ

What Paul is really trying to say in this second prayer is get your hands on your spiritual wealth, realize how vast it is, and start using it so that your love for one another and good works may be evident, in order that you may bring glory to God as the outsiders are influenced by your actions and attitudes.

We should note that the two prayers in Ephesians, as well as the prayers also written from prison in Phil 1:9-11 and Col 1:9-12, have to do with the spiritual condition of the inner man and not with physical or material needs. If the spiritual condition is healthy, the material needs will not be a major issue.

So it’s really important to meditate on these prayers and pray them each day for ourselves and others.

Appendix

Supplication (contd.)

These additional thoughts are offered to provide a fuller understanding concerning supplication as a form of prayer.

We start with some foundational thoughts which relate to supplication.

Matt 16:13-19 ... *"Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."*

Caesarea Philippi, also known in the Old Testament as Baal Gad, was located at the southwestern base of Mount Hermon (now also known as Golan Heights). At the time of Christ this was a location of pagan worship, with shrines erected to the Greek god Pan. Springs from within the rock of the mountain formed the main water supply for the nation.

So it was here where Jesus asks the question of His disciples, *"Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"*

- It's the place where His divinity is contrasted with the world's incessant search for spiritual reality amongst pagan gods.
- It's the location of the rock from which the nations water supply issues forth which is contrasted with the Rock and Supplier of living water of whom Paul wrote in 1 Cor 10:4 ... *"all drank the same spiritual drink, for they were drinking from a **spiritual rock** which followed them; and the **rock** was Christ."*
- It's the place on which Jesus says, *"upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.* The place of revelation of His strategy to "build His church" as a people who will penetrate and prevail against the spiritual darkness that engulfs mankind.
- It's the place where Jesus promises to give to those who are His true disciples the "keys of the Kingdom" and introduces the concepts of "binding" and "loosing." Keys "open" or "close" the "locks", and keys are held by those in authority. So this is where Christ provided the capacity and strategy for His people to minister in dynamic prayer, to exercise His delegated authority to "bind" or "loose" in accordance with His Sovereign will.

Christ has provided the means which enables effective prayer to be applied in distinct and demanding situations. And He has called us to partner with Him to:

1. Pray against the strategies (gates) of hell that they will not prevail.
2. To apply delegated authority and power from on High to “bind” and “loose”, so that His will in heaven may be established here on earth.

In verse 19 ... *“whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven”*, it is important to note:

1. The tense and mood ... *“whatever you bind/loose on earth”* indicate that the “binding” and “loosing” are **conditional**, requiring **our participation** in prayer regarding specific situations on our earth-side of the partnership.
2. The verb form of the ... *“shall have been bound/loosed in heaven”* (perfect passive participle) indicates completed action with a present result. It’s action completed in the past which now becomes effected in the present. The past action refers to the completed triumphant work of Jesus on the cross which has secured in heaven **all** release of redemption’s future workings. *“It is finished”* becomes functional wherever it is appropriated – whether in the visible on earth or in the invisible in the face of satanic forces.

So while we are called to participate, we can’t just bind and loose at our own discretion or in accordance with our presumptions. Through our participation we may only bind or loose on earth that which has already been bound or loosed in heaven. In other words, we are here to enforce on earth that which our Sovereign God has established as His will in heaven. We need to confer with our heavenly Father and ask Him (petition Him and wait on Him) and find out what His will in heaven is so that we can declare it here on earth. We find His will by revelation of the Holy Spirit from His word. What He has declared as His will in His word and confirmed by the Spirit we can boldly declare, and He will do it.

Now with this in mind let’s move on to some scriptures which speak of supplication and see how it fits into this.

1 Tim 2:1-4 (NKJV) ... *“Therefore I exhort first of all that **supplications**, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*

While there are four different types or aspects of prayer mentioned here (supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving) for now we will focus only on ‘supplications’.

The Greek word δέσις (*deēsis*) translated here as ‘supplication’ comes from the root word δέω (*deo*) which means “to bind” (or to “tie” or “confine”). So supplication is the specific kind of prayer which focuses on binding and loosing.

Supplication is that prayer that first seeks the will of God for a specific situation, and then acts as His voice in declaring it in a binding manner or a loosing manner.

So in this passage (1 Tim 2:1-4) we are encouraged to offer supplicatory prayer, prayer of binding and loosing, on behalf of all men, kings, and people in authority in order that we may live quiet, peaceable lives in godliness and reverence. This supplication is to extend to loose people from the chains of darkness that they may be drawn to the light of salvation. The will of God is clear here, that all may be saved. Similarly, those things that are contrary to us living quiet, peaceable lives in godliness and reverence, we are to bind and stand against.

Let's look at a couple more scriptures.

Phil 4:6-7 ... *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and **supplication** (δέησις – deēsis) with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

Supplication, the binding and loosing in accordance with God's will for the situation, will bring peace to the situation and give you peace of mind.

Rom 10:1-2 ... *"Brethren, my heart's desire and my prayer (**my supplication** δέησις - deēsis) to God for them is for their salvation. For I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but not in accordance with knowledge."*

Paul's 'supplication' here is a prayer of loosing of the blinders off the eyes of the people of Israel that they may come to a knowledge of salvation, for this is the will of God.

Heb 5:7-9 ... *"In the days of His flesh, He offered up both prayers and **supplications** (δέησις – deēsis) with loud crying and tears to the One able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His piety. Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation."*

Christ's prayer to the Father would have been to confirm His will (the cross) and His supplicatory prayer would have been the loosing of the Father's will for Him, the cross, which would have been a painful thing to accept but through this obedience to the Father's will Christ became the source of eternal salvation to us. The Father's will established on earth as it was ordained in heaven.

Eph 6: 10-19 ... *"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armour of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armour of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and*

*having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. With all prayer and **supplication** (δέησις – deēsis) pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and **supplication** (δέησις – deēsis) for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.”*

And one last scripture:

James 5:16 ... “The effective fervent prayer (**supplication** δέησις – deēsis) of a righteous man can accomplish much.”

So let us be those who offer up effective fervent supplication, binding and loosing in accordance with the will of God that His will may be established here on earth.

Supplication opens the door to the dynamics that shakes and shatters, and does violence to the world of darkness. Hell’s forces have no choice but to yield to the binding and loosing of supplicatory prayer.

The ‘keys’ have been given to us to unlock, to overthrow and cast down the gates (the strategies) of hell, those strategies that seek to destroy our families and nation. Let us bind and disallow those works of darkness that are seeking to destroy our children. Let us pray for the opening of the eyes of the understanding of the people of this nation. Let’s loose the chains of darkness from the captives, to set free the prisoners that they may come to salvation. Let’s pray and ask for a releasing, a mighty outpouring of the Spirit across this nation! That’s all part of God’s declared will.

So let’s get to it! Let us pray! Let’s bring heaven’s will to bear here on earth!

Recommended Reading on the Subject of Prayer

Leonard Ravenhill	"Why revival tarries"
Jack Hayford	"Prayer is invading the impossible"
E M Bounds	"Purpose in prayer"
	"Prayer and praying men"
	"Power through prayer"
	"Essentials of prayer"
Dutch Sheets	"Beginners guide to Intercession"
	"Intercessory prayer"
	"Authority in prayer"
Derek Prince	"Shaping history through prayer and fasting"
W H Griffith Thomas	"The Prayers of St. Paul"
Michael Green	"A Prayer Journey with the Apostle Paul"
D A Carson	"Praying with Paul"