

# Prayer Changes Everything!

## I Believe in the Power of Prayer!

July 1, 2016 Volume 25

**I** thank my God every time I remember you. Philippians 1:3

How often do we remember to pray for or to thank God for the people he sends into our lives? Instead of taking the people in our lives for granted, we should be thanking God for them. But, too often, we treat the people in our lives as though they are our waiters there to do our bidding and forget to even say thank you, for the things they do for us or for just being there. We have for too long been taking good, dependable people for granted and this needs to change. Scripture reminds us, that, we should remember each other in our prayers when we think of them; but, how many of us pray for the people in our lives; and yes, even the difficult ones; because they show us exactly who we do not want to become. We all need reminders, simple, yet powerful reminders, that we are not customers waiting to be served but servants ready to wait on customers. We must show our appreciation to those who are there for us through thick and thin, through all the changing scenes of life. We must sometimes reciprocate! Who is that one person who diligently calls you every morning just to wish you a blessed day? Who is that one person whom you can call on in the middle of the night? Who is that one person that will defend you in front of others? Who is that one person who visited you and cared for you when you were sick or in need? Who was that one person who even after you have just read them the riot act that you could still call them and ask a favor? How do you treat that person? They could be family or friends that turn into family, strangers or acquaintances, they all need to feel our love, our prayers and our support. They all need to know that they too can count on us in difficult times and not just support us when we are in a bind. We need to focus more on being the servant than being the customer. We need to learn to appreciate the good that others do to us and learn to pass it on. We need to get in the habit of saying thank you, just being grateful for the people in our lives, by letting them know that we are praying for them and most times, a simple thank you, is all that is needed. We must be grateful, we must be prayerful, we must be thankful for the people God brings into our lives at all times. Be a part of the happy crowd; it only requires us to be appreciative, thankful and content.

**THANK YOU! I LOVE YOU! I AM PRAYING FOR YOU!**

### A LOOK INSIDE

- ⇒ Do you know God's plans for you?
- ⇒ Are you building bad on a good foundation?
- ⇒ Lord, what will you have me to do?
- ⇒ Where did the Lord bring you from?
- ⇒ Featured Adult Song
- ⇒ Inspirational Quotes
- ⇒ Our Spotlight is on you
- ⇒ Children's Corner
- ⇒ Bible Quiz
- ⇒ Featured Children's Song

# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

**A**nd he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what will you have me to do?

Are you courageous enough to ask God this question? To be able to boldly ask God for directions one needs to be bold and courageous and sometimes fearful. When Saul asked God this question many would say he asked out of fear, because Saul was busy trying to destroy the church, going from house to house, dragging men and women and putting them in prison; and just like when we too are doing wrong, the Lord steps in and blocks our path to destruction and sometimes he redirects us. Saul was redirected, God caused him to see again after blinding him for three days and to be filled with the Holy Spirit; and trembling and astonished he said, Lord, what will you have me to do? He was empowered by God who said to him, "Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told you what you must do. Many times like Saul, God will need to blind us to our faults so that we would serve Him. Many times, we are so busy grieving the Holy Spirit, we are so busy tearing down God's church and God's people; but, how long, how long will our good Lord, stand idly by and watch us destroy what he has built? Saul needed to come to himself, he needed to be made aware that what he was doing was abominable in God's eyes. Saul had seeing eyes but he could not see, so God blinded him for three days so that he would come to himself and when he did, Saul submitted without reserve, desirous to know what the Lord Jesus would have him to do. Would the good Lord have to blind you also for three days for you to come to yourself and acknowledge God? Would you be as courageous as Saul and submissive to do His will?

**I**s anything too difficult for the Lord? If we only believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, we would see his promises come to pass.

Is anything too difficult for God? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son." Romans 4:21 Abraham did not waver through disbelief in the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised. How many of us could say we have such faith as Abraham to believe in what seemed impossible? We are all waiting for one promise or the other from God and waiting is hard for a believer and even harder for an unbeliever. But as we as believers grow in our faith, as we study God's promises that he made to the children of Israel and that were manifested, we have more reason to hold on to his promises to us, that what he said he would do would come to pass. For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope. We must strive more to be more like Abraham. "He did not waver through disbelief in the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God was able to do what He had promised. That is why "it was credited to him as righteousness and it was not for Abraham's credit alone, but also for us, to whom righteousness will be credited—for us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead for our trespasses and was raised to life for our justification." Praise the Lord! There is nothing too difficult for the Lord. Whatever he says he will do he will but in his own timing, we must learn to wait patiently on the Lord.

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# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**I** will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth. Do you know God's plans for you?

Do you believe that the Lord has such great plans for you? Believe that his plans for you are unthinkable. Don't worry about where you are now, just stay the course, God knows when to move us and when he does he makes no mistake, his steps are sure, his plans for us are for good. Thus says the Lord of hosts, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, to be leader over My people Israel. I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth. 1 Chronicles 17:8. My brothers and sisters in Christ, do you know where God brought you from? Are you aware that you have been going through a process all this time? You may not even realize this, but through all that you have been going through, God has been with you, he said, "I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, I have been with you wherever you have gone, I have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make you a name like the name of the great ones who are in the earth. I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and not be moved again; you will be a leader over My people Israel. Are you listening? God has great plans for you and for me. God will bring all of these plans to pass in his own time, we just need to go through each step of the process praising God, knowing that he already has it all worked out. All we need is faith in God!

**A**re you building bad on a good foundation?

If we have been raised in Christ we should be equipped for every good work. "For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, his workmanship will be evident, because the Day will bring it to light. 1 Corinthians 3:12 – My brothers and sisters in Christ, our foundation is laid in the faith of God's word, the solid rock of Christ, but, so many of us whose foundation has been laid in Christ Jesus, allow the enemy to build bad on this good foundation. But, make no mistake, God's solid foundation still stands. It has this inscription on it: "The Lord knows those who belong to him and everyone who calls on the name of the Lord, must turn away from evil." Therefore, if you are his and you are daily calling on the name of the Lord, turn away from evil and do good; do not allow the solid foundation on which you stand to be eroded. Anything that we build that is bad on the good foundation it will be revealed. Therefore, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: "Look! I am placing a foundation stone in Jerusalem, a firm and tested stone. It is a precious cornerstone that is safe to build on. Whoever believes need never be shaken." Praise the Lord!

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# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**S**ongs have a way of lifting me up when I am feeling down. Here is one of my favorites as our featured adult song:

How Firm a Foundation!

**"K" in Rippon's Selection**

How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed, for I am your God, and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow, for I will be with you in trouble to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace all-sufficient shall be your supply; the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose I will not, I will not desert to its foes; that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no never forsake!



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# INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES FROM THE DESK OF JEWELLYN GREER

Instead of taking the people in our lives for granted, we should be thanking God for them every day.

We are not customers waiting to be served but servants ready to wait on customers.

To be able to boldly ask God for directions one needs to be bold and courageous and sometimes fearful.

There is nothing too difficult for the Lord. Whatever he says he will do he will but in his own timing.

Anything that we build that is bad on a good foundation will be revealed.

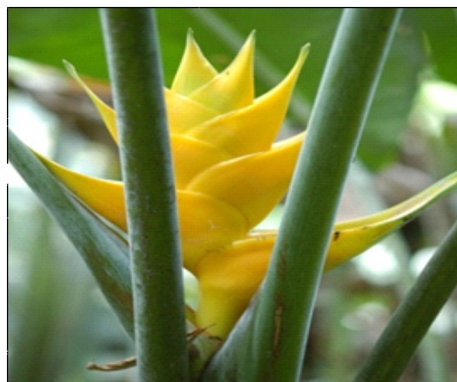
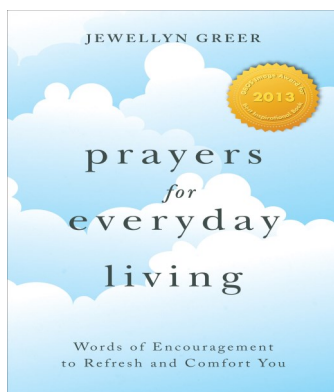
You may not even realize this, but through all that you have been going through, God has been with you.

God knows when to move us and when he does he makes no mistake, his steps are sure.

Be a part of the happy crowd; it only requires us to be appreciative, thankful and content.

Don't worry about where you are now, just stay the course and allow God to lead you.

**Get more quotes like these at: <http://prayersforeverydayliving.com/quotes/>**



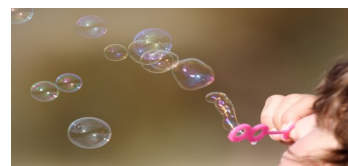
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# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**O**ur Spotlight is on you. My brothers and sisters in Christ, where did the Lord bring you from?

Don't be ashamed. Tell someone just where the Lord brought you from. Many of us were deep down in the valley of sin and shame, many of us were stuck in the miry clay, but, God in His great mercy said, "Come out! Come up! Arise and shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you!" My brothers and sisters in Christ, you and I must remember that we were slaves to sin and the evil way; and the Lord our God brought us out with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Know that the Lord our God has led us all these years, through troubles and trials, pains and griefs he has led us, so that he might humble us, he was testing us to know what was in our hearts, whether we would keep his commandments or not; and thanks be to God, you and I persevered, we held on, we kept saying in our hearts, that, the Lord is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, that, he promised, that he will never leave us nor forsake us and he did not; in the nick of time, he rescued you, he rescued me; he saved us from hell and destruction, so that you and I could give him all the glory and all the praise. Thank you, Lord! May we never be afraid or ashamed to tell our story of where you brought us from and most importantly how you led us all these years. Thank you, Lord!

**C**hildren's Corner: Summer time is fun time. Let's have a Summer of FUN!



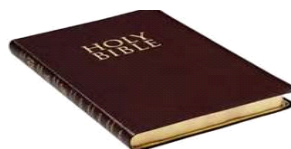
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**Match the correct answers to the questions**

QUESTIONS	ANSWERS
The Lord promised Abraham that he would have this?	No
The Lord gave Moses this animal to sacrifice instead of his son Isaac.	Salvation
The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is this.	His Grace
If we believe and confess God with our lips we will receive this.	Eternal Life
The foundation of our faith is laid in this. What is this?	Rest
The Lord promised that all who are weary and come to him will have this.	A Ram
Is there anything too difficult for God?	God's Word
The Lord promised that this is sufficient for us.	A Child



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# PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING

**C**hildhood songs that we have learned have been passed on for generations. Let's keep it going. If you have a song that you would like to share, email it. Our featured childhood song is a favorite of Davika Greer of St. Augustine of Canterbury Whitton—London UK

Father Abraham!

Author— *Unknown*

**You could do the actions as you sing—ENJOY!**

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm, right foot!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, Chin up!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, Chin up, turn around!

Father Abraham had many sons, many sons had Father Abraham, I am one of them and so are you  
So let's all praise the Lord. Right arm, left arm, right foot, left foot, Chin up, turn around, sit down!



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