

Want Your Prayers Answered? Try These Secrets

When you pray, do you have an uneasy feeling that something is lacking—that there isn't any power in your prayers? Do you struggle with doubt, fear or simply lack confidence that God even hears you?

I used to have feelings like this. I would think, "Maybe I didn't say the right thing, or pray long enough or my words weren't eloquent enough." It was so upsetting because I didn't want to waste time, wondering if it was doing any good. After I pray, I want to know God is working and my prayers make a difference.

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It's easy to complicate our relationship with God and think we have to do certain things a certain way if our prayers are to be effective. But I've discovered that powerful, life-changing, dynamic prayer is amazingly simple.

To start, it's vitally important for us to have faith in God as we pray. Hebrews 11:6 (AMPC) says, "But without faith it is impossible to please *and* be satisfactory to Him. For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out]."

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Ask yourself, "Do I believe God hears me, that He cares about me and wants to be involved in every area of my life?" If we don't genuinely believe God loves us and wants to help us, we

will struggle to have faith in Him. That's why knowing and experiencing the love of God is critical to developing a dynamic prayer life.

It's also important to approach God with sincere hearts. James 5:16b says, "The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working]." A sincere heart is focused on God, trusting that He hears and will answer. It doesn't mean you must cry or yell to pray with sincerity; it's all about your heart-attitude toward God.

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