

# Prevailing Prayer



Night and day we pray most earnestly ...  
1 Thessalonians 3:10

## 2. Pray clearly and confidently

1 Peter 4:7 Be clear minded and self-controlled so that you can pray.

### Don't be *hindered* in your praying

#### 1. Remove any hindering roadblocks

##### ▼ Sinful situations hinder prayer

Psalms 66:18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the LORD would not have listened.

##### ▼ Relationship roadblocks hinder prayer

Matthew 5:23 If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar.

Matthew 6:15 If you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

1 Peter 3:7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect...so that nothing will hinder your prayers.

##### ▼ Misplaced motives hinder prayer

James 4:3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

1 John 5:14 This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.

#### 2. Rejoice in a healthy relationship

##### ▼ We have a Father in God

Matthew 6:9 This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven,"

##### ▼ We have forgiveness from God

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

##### ▼ We have the favor of God

Hebrews 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

### Don't be *hesitant* in your praying

#### 1. Build faith

##### ▼ Build faith by feasting on the Scriptures

Romans 10:17 Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

##### ▼ Build faith by being filled with the Spirit

Jude 20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.

##### ▼ Build faith by fellowshiping with the saints

1 Thessalonians 5:11 Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

#### 2. Believe fervently

##### ▼ Believe in God's ability

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, <sup>21</sup> to him be glory

##### ▼ Believe in God's attention

2 Chronicles 16:9 The eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

##### ▼ Believe in God's assurances

Hebrews 11:6 Anyone who comes to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

##### ▼ Believe in God's authority

Daniel 3:18 Even if God does not save us, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.

#### 3. Believe feistily

##### ▼ Note the invisibility issue

Hebrews 11:1 Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

##### ▼ Note this important information

Matthew 13:58 And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

##### ▼ Note this important illustration

Mark 9:24 Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

### Don't be *half-hearted* in your praying

#### 1. Pray with vigor and violence

Luke 18:1 Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Matthew 11:12 The kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it.

#### 2. Pray with the vision and voice of victory

Genesis 32:26 Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."