

*"And whatsoever ye shall ask in **my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of Truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him; for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." **John 14:13-18 KJV***



For what do we pray? The first thing that comes to mind is need, but Jesus adds, “keep my commandments” We assume when God answers our prayers because of some disobedience, while it may be true, I believe another reason is, we “ask amiss.” We ask for physical healing before we ask for spiritual healing. How can we know what to ask for if we do not know God’s Word? It plainly details His desires for us. Under Holy Spirit inspiration John wrote, “I have no greater joy than to know that my children walk in Truth.” Jesus said, “If ye love me keep my commandments.” And therein is the secret. Loving God. We cannot love who we do not know and we cannot truly know God unless we know His Word. God commands, “This Book of the Law (God’s Word) shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate (think) therein DAY AND NIGHT.” Whatever you think, you do! Many like to claim only what is on the inside that counts to God, but fail to realize that the inside is manifested on the outside. God’s Word says of man, “As he THINKETH in his heart so is he.” I can know your heart by your deeds, dress, and speech! If you dress slovenly for church, you think slovenly of God! God’s Word says, “Ye (believers) are the Light of the world.” The believer is to manifest (make known) God to the world which cannot be done if we live like, dress like, and talk like the world! The desires of the flesh are lusts. “Every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.” Did not The Curse come because of sin? If our mind and spirit are whole, then our prayers would be free of physical desires and we would have what we ask. “And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask any thing ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, He heareth us: And if we know that He hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of Him.” The carnal impulses of the flesh have no place before the Throne of Mercy. Our Lord taught us the etiquette of prayer which we often refer to as “The Lord’s Prayer.” It is not a prayer Jesus prays or could pray, nor is it one we should vainly repeat. Our Lord’s Prayer is found in John, chapter seventeen, where He prays for believers, only hours before the Cross, for their needs and comfort. Effectual prayer is selfless. Desire the “mind of Christ.” God’s Word is the mind of Christ. Fill your mind with it! It is more vital than physical comfort. How do you pray? What do you pray for? Answered prayer is visible proof of invisible faith!

The pure in heart will see God’s face,  
They won’t assume upon His Grace,  
They will not want, for which they came,  
Because they came “in Jesus’ name.” ~CGP

Are you asking to gratify lust? Interceding for others with a pure heart keeps selfishness at bay. My lack of purity may be the cause of another’s discomfort. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God...and ALL these things will be added unto you.” We “will have what we ask” if we ask “according to His will in Jesus’ name.”

*"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James 4:3 KJV*