

Prayer that Gets Results (Part 3)

7. Pray in faith

Heb 11:1 NASB

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Heb 11:1 NKJV

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hope = Joyful, confident expectation and anticipation

Evidence = proof, test (e.g. letter of guarantee, promissory note)

Faith occurs in a climate of hope.

Have you stopped hoping? Many people have stopped hoping because of past disappointment.

Prov 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life. Proverbs 13:12.

Mk 9:23

"Jesus said to him, 'If you can believe? All things are possible for one who believes.'"

Possible = Dunamai = powerful, mighty

Believes = Pistis = trust, confidence, God's divine persuasion

When we are fully persuaded upon investigating His Word, the result is possibility (divine power is released).

Mathew 21:22

"And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

Receive = lambano = to actively lay hold of

Rom 10:17

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

The Good News: A large part of your faith comes from learning, believing, listening, and acting out the words in the Bible. The deeper you dive into the word of the Lord, the deeper your faith will grow.

Ask yourself, "what is the action associated with my faith?" True faith is acted upon. I saw this principle at work when I bought tickets for a cello concert.

Are you gathering evidence for what you are hoping for?

Matthew 15:28

"Then Jesus answered her, 'O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed instantly."

Mark 10:52

"'Go,' said Jesus. 'Your faith has healed you.' Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road."

Matthew 17:20

"Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

I am responsible for my level of faith.

Faith speaks. So when you moan and groan it's a reflection of your faith level. Fear is faith in reverse.

What is your faith causing you to say?

8. Watch what you say

Mark 11:22 – 24

²² "So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. ²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

Note that the scripture says you will have what you say. This tells me that we can pray one thing and say another thing and then end up only having what we say. What we confess with our mouth is crucial. Believing and confessing is a law in the kingdom. There has to be alignment between the two.

Rom 10:9

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. In the Kingdom, believing is never separated from confession (speaking with the mouth).

Someone once said, "What you think about and what you thank about is what you eventually bring about."

You get what you appreciate. We pray for our kids to be great but then we speak death over them in how we relate. Make a decision today to create with your words. **Death and life is in the tongue.**

Prov 18:20 – 21

²⁰ *From the fruit of his mouth a man's belly is filled; with the harvest from his lips he is satisfied.* ²¹ *Life and death are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

You will have what you say. What are you saying to yourself? Some of the things we say about ourselves and to ourselves we would be sent to jail for saying them to others. You can use your words to shape your life, family, business and nation. Imagine if for one day we devoted ourselves to speak life over our nation. Imagine the power of everyone in this nation spending a week speaking life over it. Speak Life Week. You can do this over your business or school. I sometimes get teams to do this in my seminars and the climate changes positively. I ask them to just declare what they like about the company.

The power of affirmations or prophetic declarations. Let your spirit speak to your soul and body. (The laws in the spirit realm need to be learned. Things are created through words)

Ps 43:5

Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Our voice is one of the most powerful weapons on earth. God has given you your voice as an instrument of war. Use it. I came across an interesting article that highlights advanced futuristic weapons that were never used.

<https://www.ranker.com/list/weapons-that-never-saw-action/richard-rowe>

I wrote out 28 affirmations in 2004. Here are some of them:

1. I always influence the people around me to think Kingdom and they love being around me.
2. Christ lives in me and I enjoy reflecting Him in all I say and do to give others a picture of His heart.
3. I have enjoyed seeing lasting cultural transformation come to my world through the best-selling, world-class material I have developed.
4. I am a servant leader who enjoys lessening the load for my leaders and followers.
5. As an apostle and teacher, I am devoted to studying the Word and to prayer.
6. I net at least X per month, which is normal for me.

7. I am a pastor who influences greatly beyond the church building walls and I am graced to do it.
8. I am a proactive get-it-done now person who is always at peace.
9. I am a reformer on our continent and love the way I have influenced people through my writings and talks.

Affirmations or prophetic declarations operate on certain principles:

They are personal; They are in present tense; They are stated with passion; They are stated in the positive

Your subconscious mind (heart) does not distinguish between fact and fantasy.

Don't say things like "I am not good with names" or else your subconscious little man in your basement goes and shuts down the part of your brain that remembers names. Rather, locate yourself in scripture and speak that over your life.