

Imagine that by some awesome miracle of the century, the government decides to give every citizen \$50,000, or you win the lottery in millions of dollars. Will you not take advantage of what is yours, of what belongs to every citizen? My guess is you will want to go the relevant government office and take advantage of what belongs to you.

You will want to go claim your lottery win. You will travel, if you have to. But only if you know that you have a right to the \$1000, or possess the winning ticket. Then you will boldly claim what is yours.

That is the case with prayer. You discover what is yours in the Word, and when you pray, you want to take advantage of what the Word has said belongs to you.

From the Scripture verse above, you can see that the <u>natural consequence of the Word abiding in us would be asking.</u> Prayer really begins when we come to the Word. Prayer should be a child, a result of discovery of what the Word says, of our realizing what our rights and privileges are in Him.

Basically, if you don't know what belongs to you, you cannot enjoy what belongs to you. If you don't know what the Word of God says about the situation you are praying about, you will not get it, except by His mercies or by the intercession of others.

There should really be no failure in prayer. Personally, I don't believe in what people call unanswered prayer. I believe that if we do and obey the Word, we will always, 100% of the times, get the results that the Word promised.

If the Word said, you can have it. You should have it. When people say, God did not or does not want them to have what His Word has already promised, they are unconsciously calling Him a liar and casting aspersions on His person and integrity.

If His Word says it, then we can and should have it. It would no more be up to Him, it would be up to us to receive it or to take His gift and make it ours.

When people say, "I prayed and God did not give me what I prayed for", they are saying, "I did my part and God did not do His part". They are calling themselves as having more integrity than God.

Many times, people are quick to say that God denied their prayer, when in reality they are in unbelief (or lack of faith) and are in fear. In most cases, that is true.

I suggest you go through Scripture and find out. Write out every Scripture you can find on the subject of prayer..

Meditate on all of them. The Word has a lot to say about prayer.

John 15:7 is very instructive. It is the Lord Jesus Himself speaking here.

"If ye abide in Me and My Words abide in You, you shall ask what ye will and it shall be done to you."

Here you understand that the Lord has

premised effective prayer on maintain fellowship with Him and the Word! How much of the Word dwells in us!!

If My Words abide in you.

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The natural consequence of the Word abiding in us would be asking. Prayer should begin when we come to the Word. Prayer should be a child, a result of discovery of what the Word says, of our realizing what our rights and privileges are in Him.

You should know what the will of God is as expressed in His Word about the situation or you will be praying in vain.

Folks spend long, long hours in prayer. They fast (which is ok) and pray. Effective prayer is not a result of long hours. It is not a result of how loud. It is not based on whether you pray in the day or at night.

May I suggest something? Before spending time fasting and praying, why don't we just spend time studying the Word first? Have a weekend off just studying the Word. This is where prayer starts.

This is where effective prayer begins and springs from. It is always a by-product of revelation and faith in God's Word.

Come knowing that He is a good God and will ANSWER your prayer.

Come, knowing that He will answer you, go knowing that He has answered you.

In the mighty Name of our Lord Jesus.

## Stay in Faith

When our daughter, Pat, was 3 years old, a growth appeared in the corner of her left eye. It was a cause for concern. So I took her to an eye specialist for an examination.

He said Pat had a type of growth that would never go away. He suggested she be operated on, because the growth would eventually hang down over her face.

That night about 10:15 I prayed about it and said, "Lord, the doctor said an operation is necessary, but John 16:23 says, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.' I am standing on that Scripture. I have asked, and now I believe you have done it. I believe tonight for Pat's healing".

The devil told me to turn the light on and see if the growth was gone. Immediately I resisted that thought. Several times during the night I was awakened with the same thought — to go see if the growth was gone yet. I said, "Satan, why should I get up and turn the light on to see if it's gone yet? I know it's gone, because I have God's Word for it."

The same suggestion returned in the morning, Again I pushed it from my mind. I kept saying Pat had received the healing the night before at 10:15. When I saw her at breakfast, the growth was still on her eye, but I ignored the physical evidence of the growth. I walked by faith and kept thanking God for her healing.

I was so engrossed in thanking God for the healing that I really don't know when the growth left. A few days later we were driving along and Pat was standing on the front seat between Oretha and me. I turned to say something to Oretha and I noticed Pat's growth was gone. Oretha told me it had been gone for about 10 days.

We saw a miracle as a result of believing God and thanking Him for the answer, though our physical senses told us it had not happened.

Kenneth E. Hagin.

Prevailing Prayer to Peace.

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the Lord cometh!