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Finding Hope Daily

- Everyone needs a daily dose of **HOPE**
- Everyone needs to know they are *loved* . . . Unconditionally
- God's promises offer us what we need – and there are lots of them!



Memory Verse:

2 Peter 1.4

- ***Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature, having escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.***
- **2 Peter 1.4, NIV**

Lesson 7: The Power of Prayer

- Actually, the power of God released through prayer!
- We need help in our praying
- We need to know that God hears and answers us
- But ...
- What if He doesn't?

I. When to pray – Phil. 4

- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, ***but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.*** ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Prelude to Praying:

- Rejoice in the Lord *always*.
- I will say it again: *Rejoice!*
- ⁵ Let your *gentleness* be evident to all.
- The Lord is *near*.

The Command to Pray:

- **6 Do not be anxious about anything,**
- **but in every situation,**
- **by prayer and petition,**
- **with thanksgiving,**
- **present your requests to God.**

The Promise:

- ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding,
- will guard
- your hearts and your minds
- in Christ Jesus.

2. Pray According to God's Will

- ¹³ I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. *1 John 5*

First things first:

- ¹³ I write these things to you who **believe** in the name of the Son of God so that you may **know** that you have **eternal life**.
- **Do you??**
- Your answer: _____

Confidence in the Almighty:


- ¹⁴ This is the confidence we have in approaching God:
- that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.
- ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him. / John 5

But ..There is the waiting

- And it will be said in that day:
“Behold, this *is* our God;
- We have ***waited for Him***, and He will save us.
- This *is* the LORD;
- We have ***waited for Him***;
- We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation.” *Isaiah 25.9, NKJV*


Keep at it - persevere

- Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,² saying: ..
- Read it tonight! – Luke 18
- ¹⁶ Rejoice always, ¹⁷ pray without ceasing, ¹⁸ in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. – *1 Thess. 5*

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- Perseverance is the great test of ***genuineness*** in the Christian life. I praise God that some of you have persevered in prayer 60, 70, or 80 years! O, let us be a praying church .
 - Pastor/Author John Piper. 1982
 - <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/persevere-in-prayer>

Your assignment:

- Start a **prayer journal**
- **Write out** your requests and needs
- Be **faithful** in prayer
- Write down the **date/time** of the answer! (and **how** God did it)
- Pray more for **the salvation of others** than anything else!

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- *“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything; tell God your needs, and don’t forget to thank Him for His answers. If you do this, you will experience God’s peace, which is far more wonderful than the human mind can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and your hearts quiet and at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:6-7 TLB).*