

POWERFUL PRAYING

The Power of Prayer – Part 1

September 26, 2010

Acts 12:1-19

“...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”

James 5:16 (NIV)

1. WHAT IS PRAYER?

A. IT IS SUPERNATURAL.

“Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. ‘Quick, get up!’ he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.” Acts 12:7 (NIV)

B. IT IS RELATIONAL.

“Our Father, in heaven...” Matthew 6:9 (NIV)

■ He HEARS

*“This is the assurance we have in approaching God... He hears us.”
I John 5:14 (NIV)*

■ He CARES

“Let Him have all your worries and cares, for He is always thinking about you and watching everything that concerns you.” I Peter 5:7 (LB)

■ He ANSWERS

“Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.” Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)

2. THREE ATTITUDES FOR POWERFUL PRAYER.

A. AN ATTITUDE OF SURRENDER.

“Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever lives in Me and I in him shall produce a large crop of fruit. For apart from Me you can’t do a thing...But if you stay in Me and obey My commands, you may ask any request you like, and it will be granted!” John 15:5, 7 (LB)

“This is the confidence we have in approaching God; that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.” I John 5:14 (NIV)

B. AN ATTITUDE OF SUPPLICATION.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Philippians 4:6 (NIV)

C. AN ATTITUDE OF COOPERATION.

“Believe Me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father.”

John 14:11-14 (NIV)

