

CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: MINISTRY TO ME

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians 5:23

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TEXT: 1 JOHN 5:14, 15 ROMANS 8:26, 27

TITLE: I'M PRAYING, BUT IT FEELS LIKE GOD IS NOT ANSWERING

INTRODUCTION

- A. No one likes to feel ignored ______
- B. Does God ignore people?

PRAY IN GOD'S WILL (1 John 5:14, 15)

- A. Our confidence is in him _____
 - 1. Confidence = the absence of fear in speaking boldly / confidently
 - 2. Hebrews 4:16, ¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- B. What is the Process?
 - 1. I ask according to God's will
 - 2. God hears me
 - 3. Since God hears me, I know I have what I asked for
 - 4. Why? Because it was in His will
 - 5. If it is not in His will, He is not hearing it
- C. Question: Is God obligated to honor what is not in God's will?

PRINCIPLE: SINCE IT IS IN GOD'S WILL, GOD ALREADY HAS IT IN THE FUTURE, WAITING FOR ME TO ASK FOR IT

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT GOD'S WILL IS FOR ME?

PRAY IN THE SPIRIT (Romans 8:26, 27)

- A. We have weaknesses in our praying because we do not know for what we should pray _____
- B. God provides for us the Ministry of Intercession
 - 1. Intercedes =
 - 2. The Holy Spirit intercedes in our spirit
 - 3. Hebrews 7:25
 - 4. Jesus intercedes in Heaven v. 34

C. What is the Process?

- 1. God knows what is in my heart [God searches the hearts? (1 Chronicles 28:9; Revelation 2:23)]
- 2. God knows what is in the mind of the Spirit
- 3. God knows what God's will is
- 4. The Spirit knows the will of God [the Father]
- 5. I listen for the Holy Spirit to instruct me in my praying
- 6. The Holy Spirit gets in between me and my prayers, and assists me in lining them up with the will of God

PRINCIPLE: IF THE SPIRIT GIVES ME SOMETHING FOR WHICH TO PRAY, GOD IS ALREADY IN THE FUTURE WATCHING IT HAPPEN...