

Day 31

Conditions to Asking

The first condition of prayer in Jesus' name is to *ask*. That's it! Prayer is as simple as asking. You can pray on the lofty heights of worship and praise—but if you don't ask, you may not get what you need. Didn't James remind us, "You do not have because you do not ask" (James 4:2, *NKJV*)?

The second condition is to ask repeatedly or continually. Remember, Jesus said, "Keep on asking and it will be given you; keep on seeking and you will find; keep on knocking fervently and the door will be opened to you" (Matt. 7:7, *ELT*).

Is God telling you to pester Him? No! When God tells us to continually ask, He is telling us to keep strong. Sometimes God waits to see if we are sincere.

A third condition is obeying the Word of God. He said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7, *NKJV*). Usually, people think abiding means meditating or communing with Christ. Its elementary meaning is obeying His commandments or rules. "He who keeps His commandments abides in Him" (1 John 3:24, *NKJV*).

The fourth condition is praying according to God's will. John promised, "Now this is the confidence that we have in Christ, that when we ask for anything according to His will, He hears us" (1 John 5:14-15, *ELT*).

The fifth condition is praying in faith. "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him" (Heb. 11:6, *NKJV*). To get your reward you must believe that God exists, then diligently seek Him for the petitions you want. Isn't that why you are fasting for 40 days? – by Elmer Towns©

-My Time to Pray-

- Lord, I believe You exist so come answer my prayer for our nation.
- Lord, revive our church so it can meet the challenges of our nation.

Day 32

Fasting to Worship God

As we continue fasting and praying, let's focus today on worshipping God. We are instructed to worship God at the beginning of the Lord's Prayer, "Hallowed (or holy) be Your name" (Matt. 6:9, *NKJV*). Why should you worship God when He has all the angels of heaven worshipping Him? They praise Him continually saying, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts" (Isa. 6:3, *NKJV*).

Because angels can't sin, it would seem that their praise is far better than our praise. Why? They worship God with a pure heart. Also, they are not side-tracked influenced by selfishness. Their thoughts do not wander when they're praying as ours wander.

Also, angels worship constantly: "They do not rest day or night, saying: 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!'" (Rev. 4:8, *NKJV*). But we are busy with our jobs or looking after other things that crowd into our schedule.

Since God has a multitude of angels to worship Him continually, and they offer more pure worship than we, why should we worship at all? Technically, worship is the only thing that God can't do for Himself. God can't worship Himself; He wants us to be authentic worshipers. Jesus told us, "The Father seeks worship" (John 4:23, *ELT*). So God seeks worship from His people to manifest all the things that He is and that He can do.

When we worship God, we move out of ourselves and get closer to Him, perhaps closer than ever before. We move away from our prayers and focus on Him and His glory. Worship comes from the old Scottish word *worship*. When we worship God, we give Him the "worth" that's due to Him. Why don't you do that today? – by Elmer Towns©

-My Time to Pray-

- Lord, I worship You for saving me, forgiving my sin, and leading me daily.
- Lord, when I focus on Your greatness, I realize You can do great things for our nation.

