



PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Then God said, “Let us make human beings in Our image, to be like Us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground.” Genesis 1:26 (NLT)

The heavens belong to the Lord, but He has given the earth to all humanity. Psalm 115:16

1 Kings 17-18 Elijah

Note especially chapter 18:44,45, and 39

Elijah was as human as we are, and yet when he prayed earnestly that no rain would fall, none fell for three and a half years! ¹⁸ Then, when he prayed again, the sky sent down rain and the earth began to yield its crops. James 5:17-18

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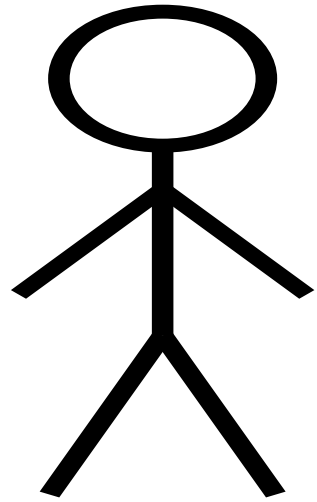
Isaiah 62:6-7: “Give the Lord no rest...”

What is something you need to pray through? Something you have been praying about for some time? Stop in this moment, and pray through the thing that God brings to mind.

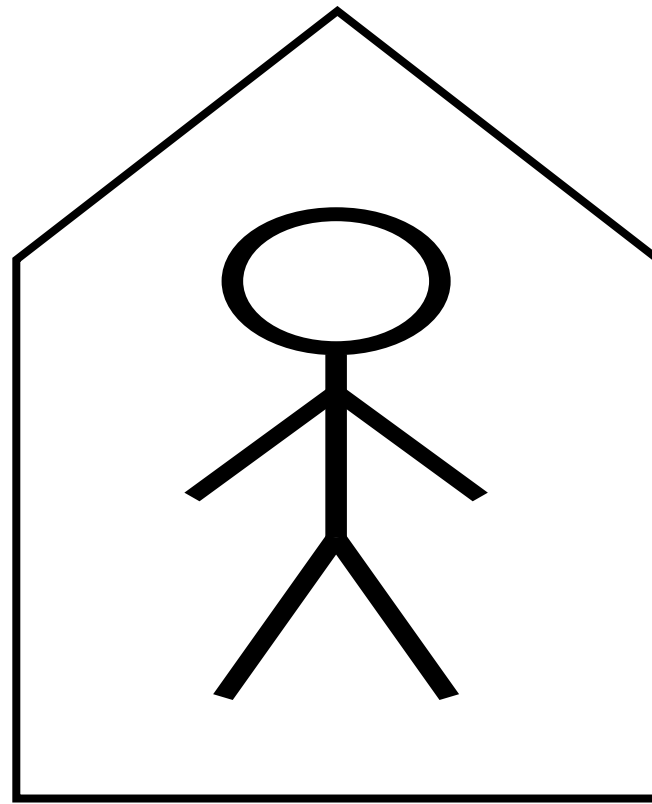
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⁵ Then, teaching them more about prayer, he used this story: “Suppose you went to a friend’s house at midnight, wanting to borrow three loaves of bread. You say to him, ⁶ ‘A friend of mine has just arrived for a visit, and I have nothing for him to eat.’ ⁷ And suppose he calls out from his bedroom, ‘Don’t bother me. The door is locked for the night, and my family and I are all in bed. I can’t help you.’ But I tell you this—though he won’t do it for friendship’s sake, if you keep knocking long enough, he will get up and give you whatever you need because of your shameless persistence. Luke 11:5-8

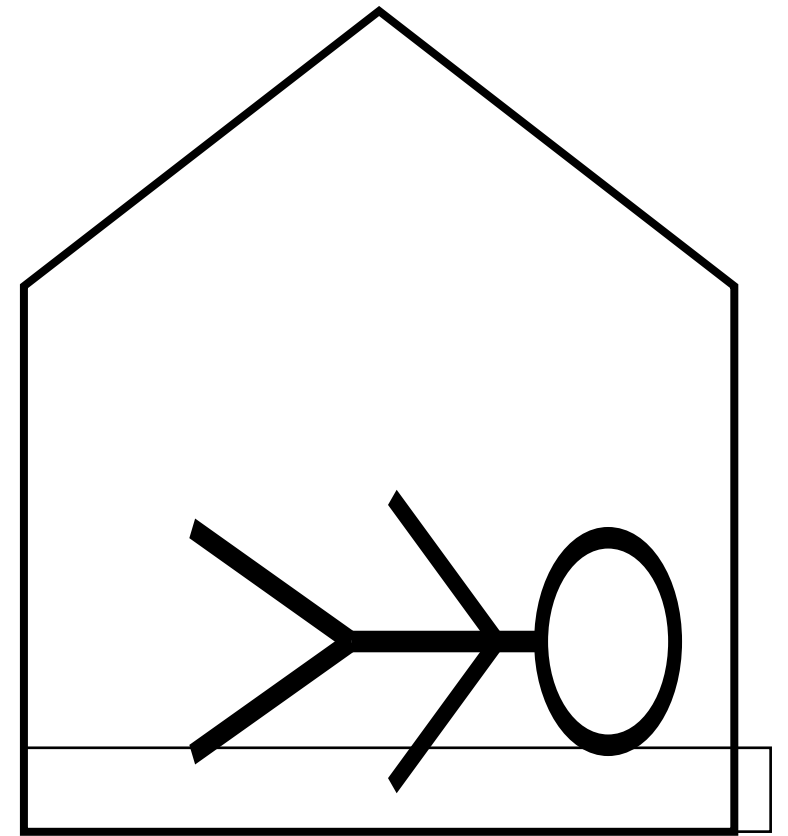
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“Can I stay the night?”



“I’m out of coffee, let me check with my neighbor Tim. He is known in our village for his coffee and he loves to give it away. I will knock until he answers.”



“I need a doorbell. So much knocking! I better get up and give him coffee so my good name isn’t tarnished, sending people to Starbucks.”

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Exodus 32:12-13

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Is there something you've prayed or hesitated to pray because you have not been convinced He can or wants to answer? Pray through that now.

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“You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? ¹² Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! ¹³ So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.” Luke 11:11-13

- Romans 8:32 (NIV) He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?
- Acts 2:38 (NIV) Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

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Stop and recognize somewhere God has answered your prayer(s) and it has been good. Thank Him. If there's something you've hesitated to pray because you are concerned about how He'll answer, pray it now.

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And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Luke 11:9-10

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And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. ¹⁵ And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for. 1 John 5:14-15

2 Cor. 12:7 (Paul's thorn in the flesh)

2 Cor. 4:17 "Light and momentary afflictions"

James 4:2-3

Stop and take 20 seconds to pray that God's kingdom purposes would be fulfilled as He answers your prayers. Pray for a request that is on your heart by relating it to who God is and why He is able to answer. (Give example.)

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- **God will not eliminate the intercessor: Pray earnestly!**
- **God desires to answer our prayers: Keep asking!**
- **God desires to give us good gifts:
Know His character!**
- **God has promised to answer our prayers and keep on answering: Ask, seek, knock!**

Ephesians 1:15-18



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