

A hand holding a red compass over a coastal landscape. The background shows a rocky shore with waves crashing against the rocks under a cloudy sky. The compass is held in the foreground, with its red cover open, revealing a blue face with a white needle and cardinal directions (N, S, E, W).

THE “BE ATTITUDES” OF PRAYER

MARLON R OLIVER

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OF
PRAYER

Marlon Oliver

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

Hi Friend,

Thank you for showing interest in 'The Be-Attitudes of Prayer'. I pray that this work will be of great encouragement to you.

My heart's desire in writing this book is to usher believers into a deeper and closer walk with the Lord that results answers to prayer that reveals the Goodness of God to the world.

'Holy Spirit I ask that you reveal Father to every reader. In Jesus name! Amen.'

CHAPTERS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	4
2. BE SIMPLE.....	9
3. BE SPECIFIC.....	15
4. BE CONFIDENT.....	24
5. BE BOLD.....	29
6. BE EXPECTANT.....	36
7. BE PERSISTANT.....	41
8. BE THANKFUL.....	46
9. CONCLUSION.....	51
0. FINAL WORD.....	53

INTRODUCTION

There are very few things that are as important to life in the Kingdom as Prayer, and by prayer, I mean conversation with God. One of the main reasons that Jesus came to earth was to reconcile man to God. He came to restore the unbroken fellowship that man enjoyed with God in the beginning. It is because of this reconciliation to God that we now have through the cross, that everything we do in life must be centred on re-building our relationship with God.

I believe that most important things in life are our relationships. First and foremost being our relationship with the Lord, and then our relationships with others. The primary BE ATTITUDE in prayer is being in a relationship

with God. All real prayer is built on this foundation. However, as long as we are on this planet we are going to face an enemy and situations that are totally against the Kingdom and the purposes of God. It is when faced with these adverse situations that we need to know how to pray effectively.

Prayer is vital to our health and growth as Christians. It is therefore essential that we pray, and pray effectively. As believers, prayer is one of the most powerful weapons that we have in our arsenal. In the book of James 5:16; the Bible says that the effective, fervent prayer of the righteous person makes much power available; and that power is dynamic in its working.

In other words when righteous people are praying, mountains are being moved.

However, we are not merely human doings but human beings. This implies that who we

are is far more important than what we do. And that any activity we engage in is to be an expression of who we are. This is especially true when it comes to our prayer lives, or rather our lives of prayer. It is because we are forever joined to the Lord, that our hearts are forever in conversation with Him.

Having said all this, the purpose of this book is not to provide lessons on building a relationship with God, but rather my aim is to help believers pray in such a way that we get recognisable answers to our prayers.

With that in mind it is important to note that James 5:16 does not say that any kind of prayer makes power available, but that the effective, fervent prayer of the righteous makes power available. This indicates the need for us to pray accurately and according to certain principles or guidelines. We are to

posses certain attributes or attitudes in prayer which I've called the 'be attitudes' of prayer.

I must reiterate that, prayer is to be practised as an art rather than as a science, and that prayer is of the heart and not so much of the mind or emotions (although our minds and our emotions are involved). We are not moved by what we see and feel, no, we are moved by the Spirit in prayer. Prayer is a spiritual conversation with the Living God, not a mental conversation with the idea that there is some greater power out there.

So as we look at these principles/ be attitudes in prayer, realise that they are to act as guidelines in our prayer life rather than a list of rules to follow in order to receive answers to our prayers. There is no specific format or regulations for prayer, only the heart being in rhythm with the Creator

My prayer is that through the understanding of these principles you may experience a more energised, powerful and productive prayer life.

God Bless!

MARLON OLIVER

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BE SIMPLE

'PRAYER MUST BE KEPT SIMPLE.'

MATT6:7 – 'AND WHEN YOU PRAY, DO NOT KEEP ON BABBLING LIKE PAGANS, FOR THEY THINK THAT THEY WILL BE HEARD BECAUSE OF THEIR MANY WORDS'

Prayer must be kept simple! There is no need for prayer to be a complicated affair. Seeing that prayer is talking with our Heavenly Father, there is no need to go through a long drawn out procedure in order to get His attention. So many people miss out on the joy and privilege of prayer because they feel that God is complicated, and therefore

communication with Him must be a complicated matter.

Yes! God is omniscient, meaning that he knows everything. He is also everywhere at the same time, and has all power. There is nothing that is impossible with God, absolutely nothing. This is very important to keep in mind when praying. One needs to be fully aware of who God is and what He is capable of working in our lives. Prayer can do anything that God can do.

Although God is wise beyond all comprehension, He has chosen the simple things of this world to confound the wise. And He desires that we remain in the simplicity that is in Christ. Jesus even went as far as saying that unless we become as little children we will not enter the kingdom of heaven. I don't believe He is calling us to be childish and immature, but He has called us to be childlike

(I.e. to be simple, honest and straightforward in our walk with Him).

(God values simplicity, so should we.)

There is no need to use convoluted, compound and excessive words when praying. Words which we think, and hope will, impress God. The Lord is not amazed by the amount of words we use. In fact according to the above verse He commands us to avoid vain repetition. He says that the hypocrites love to pray. Referring to how the hypocritical Pharisees enjoy praying in the synagogues or on the street corners to be seen of men. I'm sure the Pharisees chose their words carefully during these 'prayer times', intending to show off during prayer. Unfortunately we still have some of these modern day Pharisees today, although not in the synagogues, but in our

churches and home meetings. Some are plain ignorant, whilst others are plain hypocrites.

Not only is the Lord not impressed with our diction, but our tone of voice or the amount of melodrama we add to our prayer doesn't move Him either.

I remember my early days as a believer; all I wanted to do was pray. I thought that the more I prayed the more power I would have. (This is partly true, but not entirely). Anyway, my desire to pray led me to attend our daily 5am prayer meeting at the local church I grew up in. I learnt much about prayer in those days from my Pastor and from those who attended. But I also learnt not to judge a person's sincerity in prayer by their words, expressions or the amount of melodrama that they added to their prayer.

I also soon realised that if we as human beings can often times see through peoples facades in prayer, how much more does God see through theses masks?

So what then is the simplicity in prayer that God requires? What does He look for?

I believe it is the simplicity of an honest, humble and childlike heart looking unto our heavenly Father, which really gets God's attention in prayer. Psalm 51 clearly shows that the sacrifices that God will not despise are those of a broken and a contrite heart.

So whenever the temptation arises to make a long, drawn out and complicated prayer, remember this, your Heavenly Father knows what you need before you even ask. So keep the prayer request simple, honest and straight to the point.

'NEVER TRY TO IMPRESS GOD OR OTHERS WHEN
PRAYING, LET GOD IMPRESS YOU WHEN HE
ANSWERS'

BE SPECIFIC

'PRAYER MUST BE SPECIFIC'

MARK 11:23- 'FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU,
THAT WHOSOEVER SHALL SAY UNTO THIS
MOUNTAIN, BE THOU REMOVED, AND BE THOU
CAST INTO THE SEA; AND SHALL NOT DOUBT IN
HIS HEART, BUT SHALL BELIEVE THAT THOSE
THINGS WHICH HE SAITH SHALL COME TO PASS;
HE SHALL HAVE WHATSOEVER HE SAITH.'

We must be specific when we pray, specific and intentional. God is a God who pays attention to detail. The scripture says that even the hairs on our head are numbered. There is nothing in all creation that is hid from

God. No detail is too small that it escapes his knowledge. He literally knows everything; and works all in all to serve His purpose in the earth.

God has a specific plan for each of our lives; there is no aspect of our lives that He is not fully aware of. He knows and sees it all, the good, the bad and the ugly; everything in all creation is laid bare before His eyes. It is because of His detailed and precise plan for our lives that we need to be specific in our prayers. We are to pray specifically according to His will.

In the beginning, many people may not understand this 'Be attitude' in prayer, I know I didn't. I thought being specific meant that I could be selfish and self centred in what I asked of God. I assumed I could simply make a wish-list of whatever I desired and clasp my

hands together and ask the 'genie in the bottle' to make it happen.

The bible teaches in the James 4:3 that we don't have because we don't ask, it then goes on to say, you ask and don't receive because you ask amiss, that is; you ask for something you wish to consume on your own lust. - In other words if our prayers are only centred on satisfying our own desires, we are missing the point in prayer. Jesus taught us to pray; '*your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*' Prayer, then, is essentially about God's will being done in the earth.

Fortunately for us, God is ridiculously in love with us. It is because of His great love for us, that He desires the absolute best for us. I don't know of any parent who does not desire the best for their children?

Psalm 35 confirms that the Lord delights in our prosperity; another verse says that no good thing will be withheld from those who walk uprightly. There are an overwhelming amount of verses in scripture that declare God's intention to bless His children.

With these thoughts in mind I say, avoid being to general in prayer. Paul says in the book of Ephesians 5:17; 'do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is.' As believer's we are to know God's will for our lives.

By avoiding general prayers I mean don't pray prayers like; 'Lord if it's your will, please heal me', 'Lord if it's your will please bless me and meet my needs'.

We are to pray like a believers; and not like doubters. If scripture is clear about an issue you are facing, then aim your weapon of

prayer directly at the target and fire. And if scripture is not clear on the issue you are facing, then ask yourself this question. How does the situation I'm facing affect God's will for my life.

Here is an example and testimony from my own life.

It was during the very beginning of my time in ministry. My wife and I at the time had owned a hatch back Volkswagen. One day, whilst returning from church our car suddenly broke down and caught on fire. For no apparent reason it seems that a fuse had caught alight. The car burnt down and had to be written off. Fortunately nobody was harmed during the incident. However, this event did set us back and although the car was insured we only received two thousand five hundred rand after

the bank was settled with the outstanding amount owing on the car.

We desperately needed a new car; but since we had been trusting God to get out of debt we did not want to borrow from the bank, my wife was also pregnant with our first child at the time. I knew that it would not be possible to continue building the ministry without a vehicle, and since God had called me to the ministry I was confident that He would provide.

So we began to pray, we knew that we needed a family car, we needed an air conditioner since Durban can be so hot and humid during summer and we needed sufficient boot space to transport some of the sound equipment for service. We knew what we needed and so we prayed with theses specifics in mind.

To cut a long story short, God came through beyond our expectations. He provided a wonderful car with all the details we needed and we were able to pay cash for it. Furthermore, we ended up paying 30/40 % less than the book value of the vehicle. Praise God!!!

That simple testimony may not seem like much to some, but for us at the time it showed without a doubt that God was with us.

The reason I shared this testimony is to illustrate the lesson that even though we are walking with God we will still have obstacles in our path, and sometimes walking with God causes us to have specific needs in order to fulfil His purposes for our lives. The point then is to be specific in our requests to God. Ask for the things we need in order to enjoy life and fulfil God's will in the earth.

Here's a simple example to show why we are to avoid general prayers. Let's say that Brother James is unemployed, he needs a job to support his family. Brother James is also an Evangelist and God has been using Him mightily to win souls in his hometown. Everybody believes that He is right in the will of God for His life. Nevertheless because of his need for finances, he prays for a job, (nothing wrong with that) but he is not specific about the job he needs. Later on somebody offers him a job in another city and he takes it thinking that it must be God. Only to realise later on that brother James is no longer active in ministry and his family misses him terribly to the point where it is now affecting his marriage.

On the other hand if Brother James was specific in his prayer for a job, He would know

immediately if it was the Lord that was answering his prayer or if the enemy trying to draw him away from the plan of God for His life.

Dear Friend, God desires to answer your prayers. However, one must be specific in prayer so that when the answer comes, we know without a doubt that it is in fact the Lord **that has answered our prayer. If we pray very vague and general prayers, how will we know if the answer is really from God?**

'GENERAL PRAYERS RECIEVE GENERAL ANSWERS, THEY ARE HARD TO RECOGNISE'

BILL JOHNSON

BE CONFIDENT

'HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOUR GOD'

1JOHN5:14; 15- 'THIS IS THE CONFIDENCE WE HAVE IN APPROACHING GOD: THAT IF WE ASK ANYTHING ACCORDING TO HIS WILL, HE HEARS US. AND IF HE HEARS US- WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE THE PETITIONS FOR WHAT WE HAVE ASKED OF HIM'

The next key attitude to have in prayer is confidence. The Oxford dictionary defines confidence as having a firm trust, or having a feeling of certainty. The Strong's dictionary defines it as having an assurance. God is not in the life insurance business but the Life assurance business. He assures us eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord!

I believe that the Lord wants us to be confident when we approach Him, confident in whom He is and sure of what He is able to do. Confidence in Him is a sign of trust in his goodness, and of faith in the integrity of His Word. The book of Hebrews exhorts us not to cast away our confidence which has a great recompense and reward.

So how then, do we learn to pray with such confidence? On what basis can we have such confidence? Is it even possible to have this firm trust of which we speak; or such a certainty that God will answer?

Yes! I believe it is possible. Not only is it possible to be confident, but it is essential if we are to see how prayers being answered.

The answer to these very relevant questions is answered so beautifully by the Apostle John in the above mentioned verse. He states quite

clearly where our confidence lies in prayer. Our confidence is based entirely on the fact that when we pray, we pray according to the will of God. We do not pray for a victory, rather we pray from a place of victory. We are victorious already because we are seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Doubt and uncertainty come in when we are not sure of the Father's Will.

Once again I'm reminded of Ephesians 5:17 where Paul exhorts the church to know what the will of the Lord is. Some people believe that God's will is a mystery, something they have no way of finding out, and to the unbeliever it is. However to the believer in Christ, scripture teaches that we have received the Holy Spirit from God so that we may know the things that are freely given to us by God. If a Christian is ignorant of the will of God it is simply because he or she has not

taken the time out to seek God to determine His will.

How then do we pray according to the will of God? Where do we begin learning about His will and ways?

We are to begin with the Word of God, The Bible. The Word of God is the will of God. Therefore, praying according to the will of God is praying according to the Word of God. We cannot pray as we please with a whole bunch of selfish agendas and still expect to be confident when we talk with God. Making a request of God is nothing like making a wish-list. We must ask in line with His promises and purpose found in the Bible. This is why we need to accompany our prayer time with regular reading and study of the scriptures.

It is as the word of God dwells in us richly; that we grow in our understanding of His will

and are therefore able to pray with more and more confidence.

'BE CONFIDENT THAT GOD IS A REWARDER OF
THOSE WHO DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM'

BE BOLD

‘THE RIGHTEOUS ARE AS BOLD AS A LION’

HEBREWS 4:16 ‘SO LET US COME BOLDLY TO THE
THRONE OF GRACE, THAT WE MAY OBTAIN
MERCY, AND FIND GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF
NEED’

The idea of praying boldly may be difficult for some folk to comprehend. One of the reasons for this is that religion keeps telling us we are insignificant sinners who should not expect anything except judgement from a holy God. Religion perpetually questions our worthiness

to approach the Almighty. It seeks to stifle any genuine relationship with our Loving Father, by painting us as filthy sinners and the Lord as an angry Judge. A person with a religious mindset will never be bold in prayer.

Jesus did not come to earth to start the Christian religion; He came to restore prodigal sons to their Heavenly Father. The book of Hebrews teaches that he came to bring many **sons** to glory. God's emphasis has always been family; His family; a family of sons and daughters and not merely a household of servants.

Religion teaches folk to be slaves, Jesus teaches us to be sons.

(I recommend a detailed study of the book of Galatians to better understand the contrast between law and grace, and the difference between slaves and sons)

When a slave is bold it is seen as arrogance, when a son is bold it's because He knows he's identity.

Knowing your identity in Christ is essential.

The Lord once told me that until we know who we are in Him, we shall not enter into our promised land. When you discover your true identity you discover your inheritance. In other words, 'we must discover who we are before we can discover what we have access to.'

Sadly so; many Christians do not know how to distinguish between a godly boldness in prayer and an ungodly arrogance in approaching God. Knowing how to distinguish between the two is vital if we are to remain humble before the Lord and still be able to **'come boldly to the throne...'**

Proverbs 28:1 says that the righteous are as bold as a lion. To understand being bold in

prayer one must understand the teaching about righteousness. According to the basic principles recorded in the book of Hebrews, babes in the Lord need the milk of the Word because they are still infants in Christ and are not acquainted with the teaching on righteousness.

It is not my intention to give a detailed teaching on righteousness in this book, as the purpose for this book is instruction in prayer. But nevertheless, to help with the understanding of scriptural boldness, here is my brief teaching on the subject of righteousness.

There are numerous scriptures in the Bible that teach righteousness from God's perspective. There are also many different opinions from different religious groups and even certain Christian denominations about what it means to be righteous. I am going

teach it from God's perspective as our heavenly Father, from our position in Christ and not our condition of weakness.

Let us look at 2COR 5:21

2Co 5:21 'For He hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

If you are a born- again believer in Christ, then you are the righteousness of God in Jesus. To be righteous means to be justified, to be justified means to be declared innocent. In other words to be righteous means we are not guilty in God's court of law.

The Bible teaches that righteousness comes by faith in Jesus and not by our own good works. The scriptures also say that by the works of the law shall no man be justified.

Being right with God can only happen as we trust in the finished work of Jesus on cross. When Jesus died on that cross it was a full payment for the salvation of mankind. Nothing can be added to that; salvation cannot come through Jesus and something else. Christ alone is the saviour of the world. And the Father accepts as righteous, all who come to God through the Son.

The key words to understand our righteousness in Jesus, is just that. It is our righteousness ***in Christ***, Not a righteousness earned by our own efforts.

When we approach God; we approach him on the premise of being ***in Christ***. And because we are in Christ ***we have been made the righteousness of God***. We can therefore pray boldly, because we are righteous, and because we are righteous; we have a right to receive all the promises of God in Christ.

So then, how then do we pray boldly, whilst remaining humble before the Lord?

For me, I believe that the way we are to guard our heart against arrogance in prayer is to ask ourselves the question.

Are we approaching God on the basis of what we have done by our own efforts or on the basis of what Jesus did for us at the cross? In other words do we feel that we are righteous enough by our own works to receive from God , or do we come to Him knowing that we are not perfect but because of His grace and mercy he has made us righteous and therefore we 'come boldly…'

'WHEN WE APPROACH GOD ON THE BASIS OF WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR US AND NOT ON THE BASIS OF WHAT WE HAVE DONE. WE CAN BE BOLD IN OUR PRAYER.'

BE EXPECTANT

'ONE SHOULD BE EXPECTANT IN PRAYER'

**MARK 11:24 'THEREFORE I TELL YOU,
WHATEVER YOU ASK FOR IN PRAYER,
BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED IT, AND
IT WILL BE YOURS'**

Prayer is certainly about miracles; believing God for the seemingly impossible to be done. When Jesus taught on prayer, he gave us the pattern, teaching us to pray that God's will be done on earth the same way that it's done in heaven. With the idea of praying for 'on earth as it is in heaven', how can prayer be boring

or mundane? Conversation with God becomes an exciting adventure when we pray with the possibilities heaven in mind.

Prayer has the potential to do anything that God can do, and expectancy is the breeding ground for miracles. Expectation is a sure sign of faith, whilst a lack of expectation reveals a lack of faith, and we know that without faith it is impossible to please God. When we come to God we must believe that He rewards those who seek Him. Father is pleased with those who believe in His goodness and in His ability to perform the impossible on their behalf. He has no problem at all with us coming to Him time after time after time. In fact he is more than happy with us being fully dependant on Him to meet our every need. Our God is the God who provides.

**'WHAT WE BELIEVE AND SAY AFTER WE PRAY
IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT WE BELIEVE
AND SAY WHEN WE PRAY'**

In the book of Romans chapter 8 verse 25 it is written that: '...if we hope for what we do not yet have, we **wait** for it patiently'. The word used for 'wait' in this verse literally means to be **expectant**. That is to say that after we have prayed according to the promise and plan of God we are to be expectant of a positive outcome to our requests in the same way that a pregnant mother is expectant to give birth to her baby. There should be an excitement in our hearts as we await our miracle, breakthrough or answer to our petition.

The verse above clearly shows us that after we have prayed we should believe that we have received what we have asked of the Lord. It is interesting to note that Jesus did

not say that we must believe that we are **going to** receive, future tense. He said that we must believe that we **have** received it already, past tense. Authentic faith does not doubt its prayers, but gives glory to God, knowing that what he promised; He is well able to perform. It is because of this authentic faith that we wait expectantly for the promise, because what we have asked for has already been provided for us by His grace, our part now is to wait in patience expectation.

However, let me exhort you dear friend, the answer to our request does not always come in the exact way or at the exact time that we expect. Similar to the way an expectant mother cannot precisely predict her baby's arrival. We too cannot know all the details surrounding the manifestation of our miracle. Some deliveries are early and happen quickly whilst others are late and take a little longer than expected. Always remember that God is

creative and so we should never attempt to limit Him by of our limited understanding.

**'EXPECT AN ANSWER FROM GOD, BUT
LEAVE THE DETAILS UP TO HIM'**

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BE PERSISTANT

'ONE MUST BE PERSISTENT IN PRAYER'

**LUK 18:1-'JESUS TOLD THEM A STORY
SHOWING THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR
THEM TO PRAY CONSISTENTLY AND NEVER
QUIT.'** (THE MESSAGE)

The Lord Jesus is a master story teller. I love the way He would use the simplicity of a parable to explain deep, divine truths. The stories were simple enough for a child to understand, yet the wise religious leaders of the time could not decipher the mystery of the kingdom contained in them.

Be of good cheer my friend; the Lord has promised that it has been given to us to know the mysteries of the Kingdom.

The story told of the persistent widow in Luke 18 is a classic illustration of what it means to be persistent in prayer. I don't believe that any teaching on prayer is sufficient without an emphasis on the 'be attitude' of persistence. The parable tells the story of a persistent widow and an unjust judge who had no regard for God. Day and night this widow would cry out to the judge: 'My rights are being violated. Protect me! The Judge, however, was not moved, as he had no regard for God. Nevertheless the widow persisted and the judge was eventually worn out by her and said to himself 'I care nothing what God thinks, even less what people think. But because this widow won't quit badgering me, I'd better do something and see that she gets justice--

otherwise I'm going to end up beaten black and blue by her pounding.'" "

What an encouraging story this is for those of us who sometimes feel like our prayers are hitting the ceiling, and that no help from the Lord seems near. - Remember Daniel? The bible says that the answer to his prayer was given immediately after he set his face to seek the Lord, but the angel sent to him with the answer was delayed by the prince of Persia. - Thus, the answer was delayed by twenty one days.

Dear friend don't be discourage or disheartened when the breakthrough is delayed, Jesus said that it was the Father's good pleasure to give us the entire kingdom. However, it is the enemy who resists the will of God as much as he can. He is the reason that we need to persist, not God. Some folk believe that God is withholding their miracle.

This is not true because he does not withhold any good thing from those who walk uprightly. Any delay to the promise of God is the work of the enemy. It is the enemy who would have us to doubt the goodness of God and the Lord's willingness to bless His people.

I tell you dear friend, submit to God; resist the devil and he shall flee from you. The devil is not all powerful; he has limited resources and cannot resist you forever. You however, have the unlimited power of the Holy Spirit working in you and as long as you remain dependant on the power of God working in you, you will eventually wear the devil out.

The answer to our prayer never appears magically; often times we need to possess patience and exercise persistence before we receive the breakthrough we desire in prayer.

Heb 10:36 'For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.' (KJV)

But always remember that;

'GREATER IS HE THAT IS FOR YOU THAN HE THAT IS AGAINST YOU'

Ask and you shall receive, **S**eek and you shall find, **K**nock and the door will be opened to you

'PERSITENCE WEARS OUT RESISTENCE'

BE THANKFUL

'GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART'

***1TH 5:18: 'IN EVERYTHING GIVE THANKS:
FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST
JESUS CONCERNING YOU'***

Lastly brothers and sisters I'd like to encourage you to be thankful. To have an attitude of gratitude is a great part of God's will for us. We live in a time of much ingratitude, a time when many people are totally ungrateful for what they have. In this age of materialism, folk have an insatiable

appetite for more and more stuff which they hope will bring lasting satisfaction. The bible speaks about these last days as a time when people will be lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

But I believe than in the midst of these dark days the genuine lover's of God will arise and let their lights so shine before men that they will glorify our Father in heaven. We are called to be salt and light in the earth and not to follow after everything the world follows after. We are to influence the culture around us and not allow culture to influence us. The world is desperate for us to show them what God looks like. Non-believer's do not read their bibles; they do however read us, watching closely in hope of seeing truth and the reality of salvation.

An attitude of gratitude is not something that is promoted in today's self-centred society, but is definitely promoted by God. Psalm 50:23 in the NIV says: 'He who sacrifices thank offerings honours me and he prepares the way so that I may show him the salvation of God.' This verse teaches that thankfulness opens up the way for greater blessings.

I'm reminded of a story I've heard told by Dr Yongii Cho pastor of the Yoido Full Gospel Church, currently the largest church in the world. Dr Cho tells the story of a lady in their church that was tremendously blessed by God in every possible area of her life. Her health, finances and family etc, showed no shortage of divine favour. So one day at a prayer meeting he decided to stay close by and listen in on this lady's prayers, hoping he would find 'the secret' to her supernatural favour.

To his surprise this lady would only pray these few simple words: "Lord I thank you, just I thank you'.

She would repeat these words to the Lord over and over, honest words from a heart of gratitude. One day Dr Cho decided to ask the lady: 'Sister, why is it that you only pray these simple words during prayer? Do you not know any 'deeper prayers?' She responded so sweetly saying: 'The Lord is in heaven and I am on earth, He knows everything that I need before I ask. The Lord makes all things work together for my good and so all I can say is thank You!, Lord I thank you!'

What a wonderful testimony this Lady is of simply of devotion to the Lord, of childlike faith and gratitude to the Lord. The fact that God did wonders in her life is also a testimony of the Lord's goodness to the humble in heart.

I pray that we all experience the overflow of God's blessing in our lives, yet never be overcome by greed or covetousness. May we remain grateful to God for all He has already done and still allow Him to shower us with abundance.

**'LORD WE THANK YOU, YES WE THANK
YOU'**

CONCLUSION

It is my heart's desire that the 'be attitudes' of prayer taught in this book are most helpful and beneficial to your prayer life; or rather, life of prayer. If you are not living a life of prayer, may the lessons taught in this book inspire you to grow and develop in your walk with God. Remember; that prayer is not just an activity we perform as a religious duty, but rather it is the constant conversation of our hearts with our Papa in heaven.

Prayer also, is an extremely vast topic and these few pages can in no way do justice to explaining all that there is to prayer. This book should be seen as only an introduction to

prayer and not a conclusive study on the subject. As long as we remain on the earth, we shall be forever learning.

I have heard it said that: 'the highest form of learning, is application' this is so true, especially when it comes to the life of prayer. To really grow and understand the spiritual life of prayer, one must actually begin and engage God in prayer. The best time to start is right now, and the best place to begin is right where you are. Setting time aside to spend in fellowship with the Lord is great, but there is no time like the present.

Open up your heart to Jesus, He has been waiting for you.

Rev 3:20: "Look at me. I stand at the door. I knock. If you hear me call and open the door, I'll come right in and sit down to supper with you' (MSG)

FINAL WORD

Thanks again for taking the time to read this short work; I trust that you are blessed encouraged and strengthened. I also encourage you to forward it to anyone whom you think will benefit from these teachings.

Please take the time to respond to me, I'd love to hear from you.

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And if you'd like to give financially into this Work so that it can be edited, printed and given away for free to others.

You can use the paypal link on our site www.marlonroliver.com or sow directly into our bank account.

Our banking details are as follows:

CAPITEC Bank of South Africa

Name : MR OLIVER

Account number : 1448569808

Account type : Savings

Branch : SOUTHWAY MALL

BRANCH CODE : 470010

SWIFT Code : CABLZAJJ

**MAY YOU EXPERIENCE YOUR FULL
INHERITANCE AS A CHILD OF GOD!**