Isaiah 56:7 (NKJV)

⁷ Even them I will bring to My holy mountain and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices *Will be* accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."

They key to spiritual breakthrough always has and always will be prayer

To become a genuine House of Prayer it will take all of us living with an attitude and spirit of prayer as a state of mind

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV)

⁶ But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who *is* in the secret *place;* and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

- Prayer is a place
- A secret place in the Spirit
- Our relationship with God is established there
- Everything we ask from there, according to His will is given to us
- Jesus often went alone to the desert to pray
- You and I can designate a place and dedicate it to prayer

Communication with God is not so much based on what we say, but what we hear from Him

Practical Steps for Breakthrough Prayer

Verbalize Your Requests to Father God

Philippians 4:6 (NKJV)

⁶Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God

- Many of us often think about the things we want but never verbalize them
- The apostle James says, "You do not have because you do not ask" James 4:2

Even though God already knows our needs, He requires us to make specific requests because it causes us to interact with Him and grow in our relationship with Him

• As we have said, at times God will answer vague prayers, yet scripture teaches us to make specific requests

When we verbalize our prayers clearly identifying our requests it will...

- Keep our minds from wandering and stay focused during times of prayer
- Strengthen our faith
- Create a sense of partnership with God

Receive Your Request in the Spirit Realm

1 John 5:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

- When we ask according to God's will He hears or (approves) our requests
- We are then supposed to receive it in the spirit realm

First, we receive it in the spirit realm, later in the natural realm

- This is the law of sowing and reaping
- When we sow to the spirit The word of God, we will reap what we sow if we do not lose heart Galatians 6:7-9
- We must see it with our spiritual eyes before we see it with our natural eyes

Believe That You Receive What You Ask For

Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

- This is conditional for receiving what you ask for
- This is where we put our faith into action
- This is how the spirit of faith works -2 Corinthians 4:13
- Its as if we are presenting the title deed to our answer

Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV)

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ

- Through Jesus' work of the cross we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing that exists in heaven
- This includes the indwelling of the Spirit
- The right to use Jesus' authority
- The promise of God's provision, protection, and direction to do His will, and more

God has given all we need for life and godliness

2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

• The promises of God move from the spiritual realm to the natural realm through holy, persevering, believing prayer

Ephesians 6:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints

Remind God of His Word

Isaiah 62:6–7 (The Message)

^{6–7} I've posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem. Day and night they keep at it, praying, calling out, reminding GOD to remember. They are to give him no peace until he does what he said, until he makes Jerusalem famous as the City of Praise.

- Scripture is like a legal document
- This is also true of the things God speaks to our heart (that line up with His will)
- In prayer we state our cause and put Him in remembrance of a word that He has already given
- Be careful not to be presumptuous with personal circumstantial blessings

Isaiah 43:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ Put Me in remembrance; Let us contend together; State your *case*, that you may be acquitted.

- We remind God of His promises and thank Him that He has already given them to us in the spirit
- We must be willing to be subject to God's timing

As we continually remind God, with thanksgiving, we position ourselves to receive the promise in the natural realm

Remember Jesus often talked about being persistent in prayer – Matthew 7:7-8, Luke 11:5-10; 18:1,7

Receive Your Requests in the Natural Realm

We must always remember that answered prayers according to God's will are subject to His timing and in His way

- Do not give up to quickly or become discouraged
- There are reasons that answers are sometimes delayed
- Many times, the answer is released progressively
- Sometimes over the course of months, years, or decades

Philippians 2:13 (NKJV)

¹³ for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

Philippians 1:6 (NKJV)

⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ.

- Remember sometimes God's timing can be quite different from ours
- Demonic resistance can also cause a delay
 - Ephesians 6:12; Daniel 10:13
- Man has a free will and God may allow it for a season

Remember God is more interested in a relationship with us through prayer than simply answering every desire when we want it The Father has ordained that His ideas must be spoken, and when they are spoken the Spirit releases power

- How many healings have been delayed because we do not speak Gods word?
- The sword of the Spirit is a powerful weapon against the enemy
- When Jesus was tempted, He spoke the word

At the second coming Jesus will judge the nations by speaking the Fathers words over them, removing all resistance to His loving, righteous rule

Revelation 19:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

- Much can be achieved in the Lord's purposes as we declare His word
- He has ordained for all of eternity that His word will be in our mouths so that we can intercede and release His power in the earth
- Remember we cannot do God's part, and He will not do our part
- Some assume that if Gods wants something to happen it will
- He calls us to co-labor with Him in His plan for all of mankind

To pray effectively we must stop praying from our emotions and start praying according to the foundation of God's word

- The word of God is constant
- It does not change or contradict itself
- We must be willing to boldly declare what the word of God says

The prayers of others are a blessing in our lives, but we must learn how to pray the word over our own lives

- When Jesus was on the earth, He relied on His own prayer life and the knowledge of God's word
- We will never rise above or grow beyond our knowledge of God and His word

Isaiah 55:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it.

- There is no earthly or demonic power that can say no to the Word of God
- No wall can stop it, no distance can delay it
- No sickness, disease, depression, or poverty can thwart its fulfillment

The only requirement is that it must be declared according to the will of God and in the name of Jesus

1 Peter 4:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ If anyone speaks, *let him speak* as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, *let him do it* as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- The power of God resides in His word and then it acts in us
 Ephesians 3:20
- The power of God resides in His mouth, because that is where it proceeds Matthew 4:4
- The word of God does not have an expiration date
 Matthew 24:35
- God upholds all things by the word of His power
 Hebrews 1:3

This is why we should never go to God with our human opinions, ideas, or experiences, but only His word

- God is greater than our opinions, ideas, or experiences
- Let Him perform His word

Jeremiah 1:12 (NKJV)

¹² Then the LORD said to me, "You have seen well, for I am ready to perform My word."

Breakthrough prayer must be continuous, perseverant, and persistent

Hosea 10:12 (NKJV)

¹² Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For *it is* time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you.

- God wants us to conquer spiritual territories in our lives
- You cannot be casual about prayer and live a breakthrough life
- It's not a sprint, it's a marathon it's a lifestyle

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV) ¹⁷ pray without ceasing

- Prayer is not about vain repetition
- Each time we pray God gives us more revelation of His word and purposes
- This allows us to pray "fresh" prayers according to what He reveals to us
- You see this theme of "praying without ceasing" throughout the Bible Psalm 88:1; Nehemiah 1:4

Luke 18:1 (NKJV)

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart

Have you ever prayed for something over a long period of time? It is like a small drop of water that seems harmless to an enormous rock; however, over time the water can penetrate it Acts 12:5-10 (NKJV)

The church put in a claim or demand on behalf of Peter, based on God's will for His life and offered constant prayer

- An angel appears to Peter who was sleeping and bound with two chains between two soldiers
- A light shown in the prison and the angel struck Peter on the side and told him to "Arise quickly"
- The chains fell off and the angel told him to tie his sandals, put on your garments and get ready to leave

The angel leads him past the guards and through the city gates and he joins the disciples who had been praying for his release

- Their prayers were so persistent that they brought deliverance from the invisible realm to the visible realm
- It is clear that in the realm of prayer natural laws can be put on hold and spiritual laws take over
- You see this with three men thrown in the fire
 - Daniel 3:24-25
- Daniel knelt down and prayed three times a day
 - Daniel 6:10
- God delivered him from a den of lions Daniel 6:20-23
- Its time for the church to get back to continuous, persevering, and persistent prayer