

# Power of prayer answers

Isaiah 36:1-37:38

1. King Hezekiah is in a bad way. The most powerful army in the world is knocking at his door. This Rabshakeh, which is a high ranking official in the Assyrian army, is mocking the king saying there is nothing he can do to save you. Egypt will do nothing for you. He even goes as far to start mocking God saying we have defeated other gods so what makes you think yours will stop us? So king Hezekiah hears this and tears his clothes and covered himself with a sack cloth and went to the temple to humble himself before God. By human standards, this is an impossible situation he is in. His kingdom is all but taken over and he is dead. So then God's prophet at the time, Isaiah, sent to the king and says (look at verse 21 of chapter 37) God says he will save him and to make a long story short the angel of the Lord comes down takes care of the Assyrians.
2. Hopefully praying, looking for guidance from the Lord. As sinful creatures, we have a tendency trust in ourselves first, though.
3. Prayer is the key to the whole thing. It is saying that he is putting his trust in a completely sovereign God and that in a hopeless situation, God is the only one you can trust. (Psalm 46:1-3)
4. It shows we have a faith and trust in our heavenly father. (James 1:5-8, James 5:13-16)

1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 1:1-2:11

1. Hannah is not able to have children and she is being mocked by Peninnah. Hannah went to the tent where she prayed and said she would give her son to Lord if He would grant her one. Notice the wording in this short prayer of hers in vs 11 "but will give your servant a son." There is no doubt in her that God can do this. It is complete faith in God she is showing here. She is then rebuked by Eli because he

thought she was drunk. She pleads with him that she is not, and then Eli blesses her. A while later, she has Samuel. After he is weaned, Samuel is taken to the temple and given to God like Hannah had promised to the Lord. Then comes a beautiful prayer from Hannah.

2. In those days a woman's standing was built upon the sons she could produce for her husband. With her not able to have children, it would have been a disgrace. People would have talked about her said it was because of sins she had done. She would have been mocked like we see in scripture.
3. Prayer changes everything. Hannah was given the son which would take away her disgrace. (Mark 11 22-26)

Matthew 6:5-15, Luke 22:39-46

1. Do it humbly don't make a spectacle out of it, don't just fill your prayer with empty words

2/3. adoration- it is worship towards God vs 9-10

Confession- admitting your sins to God vs 12

Thanksgiving – Being thankful to God for what he has provided vs 11 ( I know it is not the most obvious use of thanksgiving. It is a very important part of prayer look at 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:16-18. The reason I say vs 11 here though, it is for our daily provisions. We don't demand them from God, we need to be thankful for them. I feel this implies showing a reliance upon Him for what he provides.)

Supplication- asking for something earnestly or humbly vs 11-13

4. No. In Luke 22:42, this is the Son of God asking for something, but he is in submission to the Father. Jesus says not my will, but your will be done. God is and will always be sovereign and in control of everything.