

God-Centered Prayer

*Restoring the Person and Purpose of God at the core of
prayer lives*

The reward of the
Gospel is God Himself

The power of a vibrant and
fruitful prayer life is Spirit
empowered love for God.

“After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:
“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward.”
Genesis 15:1

One thing I ask from the Lord,
this only do I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life,
to gaze on the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.
Psalm 27:4

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.
Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of
knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of
all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ
Philippians 3:7,8

But I am afraid that as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your
thoughts will be led astray from a sincere and pure devotion to Christ.
2 Corinthians 11:3

“Satan dreads nothing but prayer. His one concern is to keep the
saints from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies,
prayerless work, prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, he mocks
our wisdom, but he trembles when we pray.”
— **Samuel Chadwick**

One of the primary tactics of Satan against our prayer lives is to seduce our hearts to make our desires the primary focus of our prayer not God Himself

You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
James 4:2-4

God-centered Prayer:
Praying as sons rooted in the love of the Father

Pray then like this:
“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be
your name
Matthew 6:9

Praying as sons is very different than praying as slaves.

Slaves offer begging prayers hoping that their “prayer performance” earns them an answer

Sons pray boldly expecting to receive because of the grace of God and confident of their place in the Father's love

Slaves see prayer as a duty to be performed

Sons see prayer as
partnership in the presence
of the Father to be enjoyed

Slaves live and pray in a
culture of heart-condemnation
and shame rooted in the law

Sons live and pray with a
confident and joy-filled heart
rooted in the grace of God

Slaves are working for
their pay from their
Master

Sons are receiving the
free inheritance of the
Father

Slaves walk in fear

Sons walk in faith

Do you live and pray with
a biblical revelation of
sonship?

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.
Galatians 4:4-7

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons[f] of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,
Romans 8:14-16