

## Powerful Prayers *The One Thing Most Of Us Forget*

### John's Final Thoughts And Parting Shots

#### 7 Things We Can Know For Sure

1 John 5:13-21

What to do with the parts of the Bible you don't understand:

John 5:13-17

1. Check if the rest of the Bible offers **FURTHER CLARIFICATION**.
2. Don't confuse your favorite teacher's **OPINION** with a **BIBLE VERSE**.
3. Focus on the passages that are **CRYSTAL CLEAR**, not the passages that are **UNCLEAR** and **DIVISIVE**.

### The Secret To Powerful Prayer

#### Why Alignment With God's Will Matters

1 John 5:14-15

What does it mean to ask "according to God's will?"

1. Alignment in what I **ASK FOR**
2. Alignment in how I **LIVE**

How to pray in alignment with God's will:

1. Represent **JESUS**

John 16:23/ Luke 11:1-4/ Matthew 6:9-15

2. Ask **BOLDLY** and **HUMBLY**

Philippians 4:6-7/ 1 Peter 5:7/ 1 Chronicles 4:9-10/ Matthew 26:36-46/ 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

7 things that will sabotage our prayers:

1. Praying to **IMPRESS** others

Matthew 6:5

2. Arrogantly **LOOKING DOWN** on others

Luke 18:9-14/ Proverbs 6:16-19

3. Giving up **TOO SOON**

Luke 11:5-10/ Luke 18:1-8

4. Ignoring the **POOR** and **NEEDY**

Proverbs 21:13

5. Ignoring a **COMMAND** I **DON'T LIKE**

Proverbs 28:9/ Psalm 66:18

6. Refusing to **FORGIVE** someone

Mark 11:25/ Matthew 6:12/ Luke 11:4

7. Mistreating my **WIFE**

1 Peter 3:7

## Powerful Prayers

### *The One Thing Most Of Us Forget*

#### **John's Final Thoughts And Parting Shots**

##### **7 Things We Can Know For Sure**

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What to do with the parts of the Bible you don't understand:

John 5:13-17

1. Check if the rest of the Bible offers \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Don't confuse your favorite teacher's \_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Focus on the passages that are \_\_\_\_\_, not the passages that are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **The Secret To Powerful Prayer**

##### **Why Alignment With God's Will Matters**

1 John 5:14-15

What does it mean to ask "according to God's will?"

1. Alignment in what I \_\_\_\_\_
2. Alignment in how I \_\_\_\_\_

How to pray in alignment with God's will:

1. Represent \_\_\_\_\_

John 16:23/ Luke 11:1-4/ Matthew 6:9-15

2. Ask \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Philippians 4:6-7/ 1 Peter 5:7/ 1 Chronicles 4:9-10/ Matthew 26:36-46/ 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

7 things that will sabotage our prayers:

1. Praying to \_\_\_\_\_ others  
Matthew 6:5
2. Arrogantly \_\_\_\_\_ on others  
Luke 18:9-14/ Proverbs 6:16-19
3. Giving up \_\_\_\_\_  
Luke 11:5-10/ Luke 18:1-8
4. Ignoring the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
Proverbs 21:13
5. Ignoring a \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_  
Proverbs 28:9/ Psalm 66:18
6. Refusing to \_\_\_\_\_ someone  
Mark 11:25/ Matthew 6:12/ Luke 11:4
7. Mistreating my \_\_\_\_\_  
1 Peter 3:7

# LIFE GROUPS

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

These questions are designed to help groups discuss the weekend teaching while building relationships with each other and applying God's Word to our lives.

*March 24, 2024* | *1 John 5:13-21*



### WARM UP

1. The passage this week lays out 7 things John wants us to know. Say you just met a new co-worker, friend of a friend, or neighbor. What are 7 things you want them to know about you?
2. Like anything else in life, we all have different lenses we view prayer through. When you think of prayer, what has been your understanding of it? Is there an idea, image, or memory that comes to mind first?
3. What's the most memorable takeaway for you from this weekend's Scripture or teaching?



### KNOW IT

1. Re-read 1 John 5:13-21. Is there anything in these verses you had questions about as you read them? Are there any questions this weekend's teaching helped answer?
2. Larry talked about alignment with God's will. How do we know when a person's prayer or life is aligned versus not aligned with God's will? What are some ways to tell the difference?



## SHARE IT

1. If we ask anything according to God's will, we have what we've asked (verses 14-15). Have you ever had a time God clearly and noticeably answered a prayer of yours that was "according to His will"? If so, feel free to share with the group.

2. Have you ever had a time you realized what you were praying for was not aligned with God's will? If so, how did you realize it?



## LIVE IT

1. How can we seek alignment to God's will in prayer? What do those prayers sound like, and what does the posture of an aligned heart look like?

2. God might answer a prayer with "yes," "not yet," or "no," according to His will. If we feel like we know the answer to a prayer, what are some next steps to take:

- When the answer is "yes"?
- When the answer is "not yet"?
- When the answer is "no"?