

Silver Creek Fellowship NOTES

May 7

THE WALK

THE CONDITIONS OF ANSWERED PRAYER

1. You must have an honest relationship with God.

John 15:7 *"But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted!" (NLT)*

God requires that we listen to Him first before He listens to us.

1 John 1:8-10 (NIV) *"If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives."*

Psalms 66:18-19 (NIV) *"If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer."*

Isaiah 59:2 (NIV) *"But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear."*

2. Am I ignoring any of God's principles?

Proverbs 28:9 (CEV) *"If you refuse to obey what you have been taught, your prayers will not be heard."*

1 John 3:21-22 (NIV) *"Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God and receive from him anything we ask, because we obey his commands and do what pleases him"*

God doesn't demand perfection, he simply demands obedience.

3. Do I really want want God's will for my life?

1 John 5:14-15 (NIV) *"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him."*

The issue is not "God, what is your will?" The issue is am I in God's will?

4. You must have a forgiving attitude toward other people.

Mark 11:24-25 (NIV) *"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you've received it and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him so that your Father in heaven may forgive your sins."*

Nothing will kill your prayers faster than resentment.

Hebrews 12:15 (LB) *"Watch out that no bitterness take root among you for as it springs up among you it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives."*

1 Peter 3:7 (NIV) *"Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives and treat them with respect ... so that nothing will hinder your prayers."*

5. You must be willing to share the results.

If you expect God to bless your life you must be willing to bless other people's lives.

Genesis 12:2-3 *"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

Proverbs 11:25 (NIV) *"A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed."*

James 4:3 (NIV) *"When you ask you don't receive because you ask with the wrong motive that you may spend what you get on your own pleasures."*

Why you pray is just as important as what you pray for.

6. You must believe that God will answer.

James 1:5-7 (NIV) *"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives generously to all without finding fault and it will be given to him. But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord. He's a double-minded man unstable in all he does."*

There's only one kind of prayer that God answers: the prayer of faith.

Mark 9:29 (NIV) *"According to your faith, it will be done unto you."*

Hebrews 11:6 *"Without faith it is impossible to please God."* (NIV)

7. You must pray in Jesus' name.

John 14:13-14 (NIV) *"And I will do whatever you ask in My name so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask Me for anything in My name and I will do it."*

Jesus is the bridge between God and man.