

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the one who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference.

Max Lacado

God shapes the world by prayer. Prayers are deathless. The lips that uttered them may be closed to death, the heart that felt them may have ceased to beat, but the prayers live before God, and God's heart is set on them and prayers outlive the lives of those who uttered them;

they outlive a generation, outlive an age, outlive a world. That man is the most immortal who has done the most and the best praying.

They are God's heroes, God's saints,

God's servants...

A man can pray better because of the prayers of the past; a man can live holier because of the prayers of the past; the man of many and acceptable prayers has done the truest and greatest service to the incoming generation.

# The prayers of God's saints strengthen the unborn generation against the desolating waves of sin and evil.

E.M. Bounds

### The greatest tragedy of life is not unanswered prayer, but un-offered prayer.

F.B. Meyers

### Fervent prayers produce phenomenal results.

Woodrow Kroll

### The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James

They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42 NIV

## Prayer places us in a posture of faith

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

#### Prayer calms our anxiety.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

#### Prayer changes our perspective.

Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God's right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. Colossians 3:1-2

#### Prayer inspires gratitude.

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:2

#### Prayer results in peace of mind.

"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you." Isaiah 26:3

#### Prayer aligns us with God's will.

"Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!"

Psalm 143:10

### Prayer moves us towards forgiveness and reconciliation.

But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Matthew 6:15

## Prayer keeps followers of Jesus following Jesus.

We should always pray so we don't faint.

Luke 18:1

"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full Matthew 6:5 NIV

But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Matthew 6:6 NIV

And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

"This, then, is how you should pray: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

#### Give us today our daily bread.

Matthew 6:11 NIV

### And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:12 NIV

### And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'

Matthew 6:13 NIV

#### When You Pray...

- 1. Declare God's Greatness.
- 2. Surrender to God's Authority.
  - 3. Trust in God's Provision.
    - 4. Rest in God's Grace.
  - 5. Invite God's Leadership.

Have a time.
Have a place.
Have a plan.

## Pray big prayers because God is a big God.