

## I. PRAYERS THAT INFLUENCED WORLD WAR II

- A. Rees Howells was known for a life of deep prayer and intercession. During World War II, he believed God led him and a small group of students to pray for specific outcomes in the war—things that seemed impossible at the time. One of those moments came when the future of Britain hung in the balance. Enemy forces were advancing, and defeat looked certain. Instead of reacting in fear, Howells gathered his students and said, “God is calling us to ask Him to intervene.” They prayed—not casually, but persistently—asking God to turn the tide. Later, key moments in the war shifted in ways military leaders couldn’t fully explain. Howells believed those turning points were directly connected to people who dared to ask God boldly in prayer.
- B. They had no political or military power, but they had access to God.

1. ***It’s a reminder: difficulties change not just when we talk, but when we ask God to move on them.***

## II. THE SIMPLICITY OF ASKING OUR FATHER

- A. In the New Testament alone, “ask” in the context of prayer appears over 40 times, and across Scripture, words like “call,” “seek,” and “cry out” appear more than 100 times.
- B. Prayer is simple because God made it relational, not complicated—it’s not a formula, but talking to a Father who loves us. Like a child asking for food, we don’t overthink it—we simply ask and expect to receive.

1. ***If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”-Lk 11:13***

## III. EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE ASKING IN THE BIBLE

### A. MOSES ASKED FOR GODS PRESENCE

1. ***Show me Your glory-Ex. 33:18***

B. HANNAH ASKED FOR A CHILD. GOD GAVE HER A PROPHET

1. **10 And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish. 11 Then she made a vow and said, "O LORD of hosts, if You will indeed look on the affliction of Your maidservant and remember me, and not forget Your maidservant, but will give Your maidservant a male child, then I will give him to the LORD all the days of his life, and no razor shall come upon his head.-Sam 1:10**

C. KING DAVID ASKED FOR DIRECTION AND TO SEE GOD'S BEAUTY

1. **David inquired of the Lord, saying, 'Shall I go and attack these Philistines?-1Sam 3:2**
2. **One thing I have desired... that I may dwell in the house of the Lord-Ps 27:4**

D. SOLOMON ASKED FOR WISDOM

1. **9 Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. -1 Kings 3:9**
2. **I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you.-1 Kings 3:12**

E. ELIJAH ASKED FOR FIRE AND IT FELL

1. **LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word.-1 Kings 18:36**
2. **38 Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.-1 Kings 18:37**

F. SYRON PHOENICIAN WOMAN ASKED FOR DELIVERANCE FOR HER DAUGHTER

1. **26 The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.-Mk 7:26**

G. BLIND BARTIMAUS ASKED FOR MERCY

1. ***47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"-Mk 10:46***

H. THE DISCIPLES ASKED JESUS TO LEARN HOW TO PRAYER

1. ***Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.-Lk 11:1***

I. THE EARLY CHURCH ASKED FOR BOLDNESS

1. ***29 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,-Acts 4:29***

J. JESUS ASKED FOR THE CUP TO BE TAKEN FROM HIM

1. ***Going a little farther, he fell facedown and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.-Mt 26:39***

K. JESUS HAS TO ASK THE FATHER FOR HIS INHERITANCE

1. ***Ask of Me, and I will give YouThe nations for Your inheritance,And the ends of the earth for Your possession.-Ps 2:8***

IV. **SOME THINGS THE NEW TESTAMENT EXHORTS US TO ASK FOR**

A. THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. ***How much more will your Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him-Lk 11:13***

B. GOD'S KINGDOM AND WILL

1. ***Your kingdom come, Your will be done-Mt 6:10***

C. WISDOM

1. ***If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God-James 1:5***

D. JOY

1. ***24 Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.-Jn 16:24***
2. ***One of the greatest ways to access joy is through asking in prayer. Why? We get answers***

V. TESTIMONIES OF PRAYER

A. GEORGE MULLER

1. George Müller cared for over 10,000 orphans in England—and made a radical commitment he would never ask people for money, only pray. One morning, there was no food for the children. Müller gathered them at the table and thanked God for breakfast anyway. Moments later a baker knocked on the door, saying God woke him up to bake bread for them. After that a milk cart broke down outside, and the driver gave all the milk to the orphans before it spoiled. Over his lifetime, Müller recorded 50,000+ specific answers to prayer.

B. CORRIE TEN BOOM

1. While imprisoned in a Nazi concentration camp, Corrie and her sister Betsie were assigned to a barracks infested with fleas. They chose to thank God even for the fleas. Later they discovered that the guards avoided their barracks because of the fleas. This allowed them to hold Bible studies freely without interruption.

C. HEIDI BAKER

1. A missionary in Mozambique once had very little food to feed the many hungry children she was once ministering to. They prayed and began distributing anyway. The food kept supernaturally multiplying and everyone ate.

## VI. MY PERSONAL TESTIMONIES OF ANSWERED PRAYER

### A. BAPTISM OF THE SPIRIT ON A DIFFICULT DAY

1. A dear friend, Susan Washington, lost both her mother to suicide and her sister to cancer—each on Memorial Day in different years. Her mother died on her high school graduation day, and her sister later in life.
2. In 2006, a friend and I fasted and prayed that she would receive the baptism of the Spirit on that very day. She came to our prayer meeting, and on the most painful day of her year, she encountered God—receiving the baptism of the Spirit, praying in tongues, and experiencing deep freedom and His love.

### B. AUGUST 17TH EARLY MORNING BURDEN IN PRAYER

1. While hosting our all night prayer meeting in our home, around 2am I was suddenly burdened with great urgency to pray over the city of McKinney. With unified prayer, and mostly praying in tongues we prayed until the release came.
2. That following Thursday, August 19, 2010 on the way home I heard the Holy Spirit instruct me to buy a Dallas Morning Newspaper. To my shock and surprise this article was on the front page. “An attempted Bomb Plot in McKinney”. This attack happened literally 6 hours after our burden was lifted.
3. Summary of the DMN article
  - a) *On August 17, 2010, at 9:00 AM, a 29-year-old man named Patrick Gray Sharp carried out a planned attack on the McKinney Public Safety Building. He arrived with a truck and trailer loaded with explosive materials—including ammonium nitrate, gasoline, flares, and wood chips—along with multiple firearms and large amounts of ammunition.*
  - b) *He set his truck on fire in the parking lot, intending to detonate the explosives and/or lure officers outside. The bomb never*

*ignited, likely preventing mass casualties. He then moved to a wooded area and fired over 100 rounds at the building, shattering 23 windows and targeting people exiting.*

*c) Police returned fire, and within minutes the attacker was dead from a gunshot wound, likely self-inflicted. No officers or civilians were killed.*

*d) The The Dallas Morning News described it as a planned mass-casualty attack in which multiple factors failed—the explosives did not detonate, officers were not drawn into a kill zone, and the attack ended quickly*

#### C. JANUARY 2011 HUMAN AND SEX TRAFFICKING FRUSTRATED

1. In January 2011, we held an all-night prayer meeting in response to the expected rise in human trafficking during the Super Bowl in Dallas. Shortly after, a series of Arctic cold fronts hit the Dallas–Fort Worth area, covering the region in ice just days before the game. The severe conditions created major disruptions across the city and for the Super Bowl itself disrupting the trafficking.

#### D. PLANNED PARENTHOOD IN MCKINNEY CLOSED

1. After strategically praying and fasting on Monday nights, the office on 1720 El Dorado Parkway closed because of loss of state and federal funding in 2011.

#### E. CHILD MOLESTORS EXPOSED IN MCKINNEY

1. In 2012, we were burdened for children being sexually abused in McKinney, so a small group of us committed to prayer and fasting. Within two weeks, two major cases were exposed: Victor Calderon-Cardona was sentenced to life in prison for abusing two children, and David Allen Russell, a McKinney chiropractor, received 23 years for molesting patients.

F. CORPORATE 40 DAY FAST FOR ISIS KIDNAPPED 8YR OLD BOY

1. In November 2015, we learned about an 8-year-old Yazidi boy named Whaid whose parents and family were brutally killed by ISIS. He had been kidnapped in 2014 and forced to train as a child soldier.
2. In response, I called for a 40-day season of fasting and prayer for his deliverance. After the fast, an unexpected door opened for me and a team to travel to Jerusalem to help lead a conference raising awareness of the ISIS genocide against the Yazidi people. While there, I met the man who had supernaturally rescued Whaid—just two days after the rescue.
3. On April 25, 2016, I received a prayer request from a friend in northern Iraq who ministers to women abused by ISIS. He asked me to pray for an 18-year-old girl who had been kidnapped and repeatedly raped and abused.
4. She managed to escape under the cover of night with another young woman. During their escape, one of the girls tragically died after stepping on a landmine. The other miraculously survived, though she suffered severe facial injuries and lost her sight from the explosion.
5. The young woman who survived was later discovered to be the sister of the boy we had prayed for during a 40-day season of prayer and fasting—that he would be found.