

The Kind of Prayer God Answers

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

JOHN 15:7

Written by Bill Perkins

Jesus doesn't begin with prayer.
He begins with remaining.

Because the kind of prayer God answers
does not start with what I want.
It starts with where I live.

If I remain in Jesus,
I am praying from inside
the Son's relationship with the Father.
And the Father always answers the Son.

If His words remain in me,
they shape what I ask.
They steady my fears.
They purify my motives.
They bend my desires toward His.

This is not me
trying to pray the right way.
This is His life
forming the prayer within me.

The Father answers the prayers
His Son inspires.
And when I remain in Jesus,
those prayers rise from my heart
almost without effort-
because they come from His life
flowing through mine.

Jesus showed us this kind of prayer
in Gethsemane.
He brought His desire-

"Let this cup pass"-
but He surrendered His will-
"Not My will, but Yours be done."
(Luke 22:42)

That prayer rose from perfect union
and perfect trust.
It was honest, surrendered,
and shaped by the Father's purpose.
And the Father answered it-
not by removing the cup,
but by strengthening the Son
to drink it.

This is the kind of prayer God answers:
honest desire,
surrendered will,
shaped by His words,
rooted in remaining.

Where do my prayers come from-
my desires, or His words remaining in me?

When I remain in Jesus,
I am not praying alone.
His words shape what I ask.
His desires shape my desires.
And the Father answers the prayers
that carry the heart of His Son.

You may not know this about Jesus:
the prayers God answers carry the heart of His Son.

Father,
teach me to remain in Your Son
so that my prayers rise
from His life within me.
Let His words settle in my heart
until they shape what I ask,
purify what I desire,
and align my will with Yours.
Answer the prayers
Your Son inspires in me.
In Jesus' name, Amen.