



The Power of Prayer

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¹⁷ Elijah was a human being as frail as ourselves—he prayed earnestly for it not to rain, and no rain fell for three and a half years;
James 5:17 (NJB)

We Must Come Boldly

⁴² Elijah climbed to the top of Mount Carmel and bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees. ⁴³ Then he said to his servant, “Go and look out toward the sea.” The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah and said, “I didn’t see anything.” Seven times Elijah told him to go and look. ⁴⁴ Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, “I saw a little cloud about the size of a man’s hand rising from the sea.” Then Elijah shouted, “Hurry to Ahab and tell him, ‘Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don’t hurry, the rain will stop you!’”
1 Kings 18:42-44 (NLT)

Four Qualities of Effective Prayer

1. Effective prayers are _____ prayers

Elijah ... bowed low to the ground and prayed with his face between his knees
1 Kings 18:42 (NRSV)

It's common knowledge that "God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble." ... ¹⁰ Get down on your knees before the Master; it's the only way you'll get on your feet.
James 4:6b, 10 (MSG)

2. Effective Prayers Are _____ Prayers

⁴³ Then he said to his servant, “Go and look out toward the sea.” The servant went and looked, then returned to Elijah

and said, “I didn’t see anything.” 1 Kings 18:43a (NLT)

You do not have what you want because you do not ask God for it.
James 4:2b (TEV)

3. Effective Prayers Are _____ Prayers

Seven times Elijah told him to go and look.
1 Kings 18:43b (NLT)

The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.
James 5:16b (NLT)

4. Effective Prayers are _____ Prayers

⁴⁴ Finally the seventh time, his servant told him, “I saw a little cloud about the size of a man’s hand rising from the sea.” Then Elijah shouted, “Hurry to Ahab and tell him, ‘Climb into your chariot and go back home. If you don’t hurry, the rain will stop you!’”
1 Kings 18:42-44 (NLT)

²⁴ So I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.
Mark 11:24 (NRSV)

⁴⁵ And soon the sky was black with clouds. A heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm, and Ahab left quickly for Jezreel. ⁴⁶ Then the LORD gave special strength to Elijah.
1 Kings 18:45-46 (NLT)

My Next Step Today Is To:

- Begin a relationship with God today by trusting my life to Jesus.
- Admit that I’m struggling when it comes to having a vital prayer connection with God. So today I’m asking that God would work in me to transform my prayer life.
- Confess that I have given up praying for _____.
But, today, I want to recommit to be persistent when it comes to bringing this need before God.
- Read 1 Kings 17 - 19