

## HOW TO PRAY “FAITH PRAYER”

### Acts 4:23-35 (NLT)

<sup>23</sup> As soon as they were freed, Peter and John returned to the other believers and told them what the leading priests and elders had said.

<sup>24</sup> When they heard the report, all the believers lifted their voices together in prayer to God: “O Sovereign Lord, Creator of heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them— <sup>25</sup> you spoke long ago by the Holy Spirit through our ancestor David, your servant, saying, ‘Why were the nations so angry? Why did they waste their time with futile plans? <sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth prepared for battle; the rulers gathered together against the LORD and against his Messiah.’ <sup>27</sup> “In fact, this has happened here in this very city! For Herod Antipas, Pontius Pilate the governor, the Gentiles, and the people of Israel were all united against Jesus, your holy servant, whom you anointed. <sup>28</sup> But everything they did was determined beforehand according to your will. <sup>29</sup> And now, O Lord, hear their threats, and give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching your word. <sup>30</sup> Stretch out your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

<sup>31</sup> After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness. <sup>32</sup> All the believers were united in heart and mind. And they felt that what they owned was not their own, so they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> The apostles testified powerfully to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and God’s great blessing was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There were no needy people among them, because those who owned land or houses would sell them <sup>35</sup> and bring the money to the apostles to give to those in need.

### Acts 4:23-30 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup>And being let go, they went to their own *companions* and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them.

<sup>24</sup>So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: “Lord, You *are* God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, <sup>25</sup> who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: ‘Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things? <sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the LORD and against His Christ.’ <sup>27</sup> “For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together <sup>28</sup> to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose determined before to be done. <sup>29</sup> Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, <sup>30</sup> by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”

<sup>31</sup>And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

<sup>32</sup>Now the multitude of those who believed were of one heart and one soul; neither did anyone say that any of the things he possessed was his own, but they had all things in common. <sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> Nor was there anyone among them who lacked; for all who were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the proceeds of the things that were sold, <sup>35</sup> and laid *them* at the apostles’ feet; and they distributed to each as anyone had need.

**The prayer of faith does not begin with when we get on our knees.**

Vs 7-12; 18-20 - Contending for the faith amidst persecution.

Vs 13 – It constitutes a lifestyle of being with Jesus.

## The Components of the prayer of faith

Vs 23 – Believe.

Vs 23 – Agreeing with believers (...Peter and John returned to the other believers...).

Vs 24 – Understanding the problem/situation (...and when they heard the report...).

Vs 24 – Praying to God; in oneness; acknowledging God.

Vs 24-26 – Finding and using an applicable scripture to the problem.

Vs 27-28 – Corresponding the scripture(s) found with the “understood” situation at hand.

Vs 29 - 30 – Declare what you want to see happen on the basis of the scriptures read.

Vs 31 – Follow by action (acting upon the solution prayed) in oneness.

## Other aspects to note about prayer

-Prayer is a command. (Acts 4:31... “when”)

-Prayer is fellowship.

-Prayer will cause us to be bold in proclaiming the word. (Prayer is a place of exchange of our nature for the nature of Christ). (Acts 4:31)

-Prayer is spiritual and has a physical effect on the environment.

-Prayer will cause us to function more effectively as spirit beings

-Prayer changes situations.

-Prayer must be done faithfully and in faith. (Acts 4:24-30).

-Prayer must be done in oneness to guarantee results. (Acts 23-24).

## Compiled by TOMS – 01/2020

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