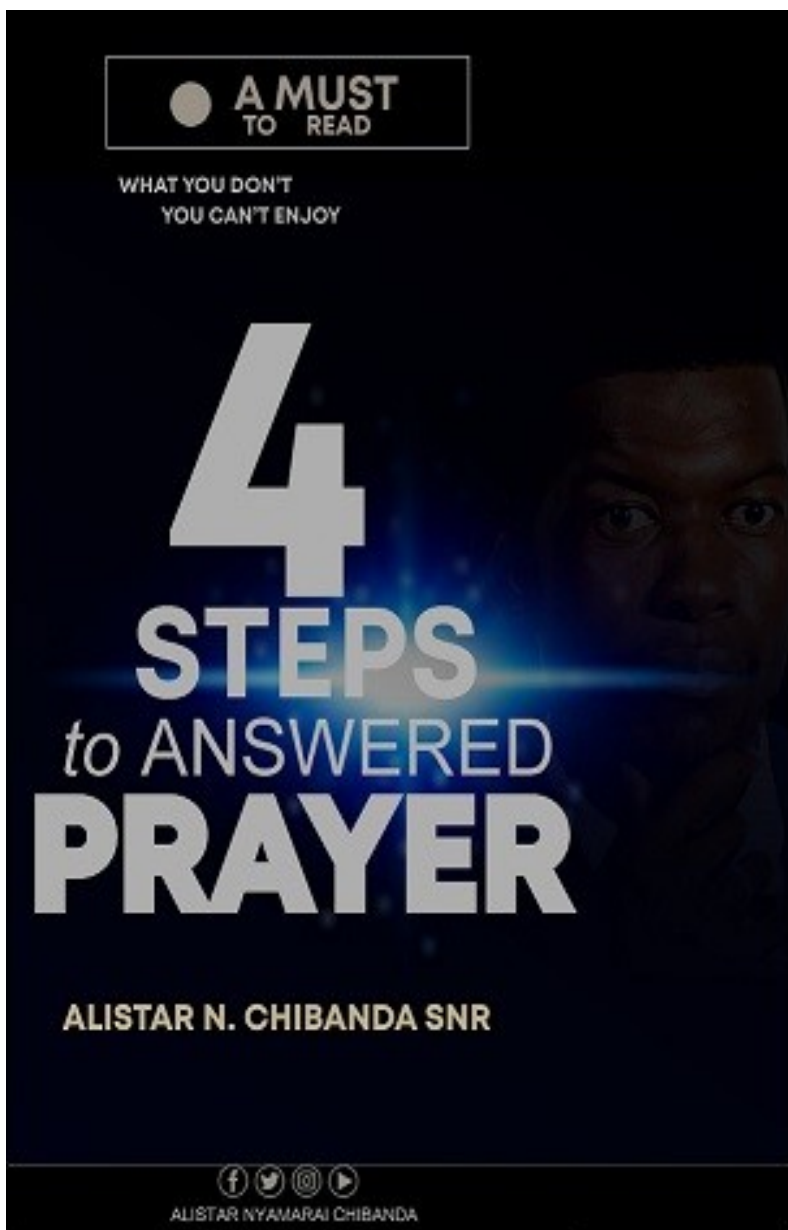




FOUR STEPS TO ANSWERED PRAYER

ALISTAR N. CHIBANDA SNR 2021

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All Scripture quotations are from the King James Version of the Bible, except otherwise stated.

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INTRODUCTION

To many Christians think that prayer is a mystery. They have struggled to get answers from God and over the years they had little answers from Heaven to none.

Some have abandoned prayer and some still do it because they feel it's a good religious exercise or habit.

But prayer is not a mystery at all. It is a two way communication between you and the Father.

We did not invent prayer. It is God Himself who called us to prayer and showed us how to do it rightly.

In Jeremiah 33:3 It was the Lord God Almighty who said, *“Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things which thou knowest not.”*

This is a direct invitation to prayer that all of us must accept and embrace joyfully.

In this book, we are looking at the prayer of faith or petition prayer. This is the most common prayer that so many Christians know and do.

However most of them they don't do it rightly and that is why they are always frustrated when they get no answers from Heaven.

This book will help you to have every of your prayers answered. It will open up your mind and give

you the necessary light,
knowledge, wisdom and
understand of petition prayer.

In the Kingdom of God revelation
knowledge is power. If you don't
know the scriptures well you'll be
a victim of circumstances,
situations, sicknesses, poverty and
even of Satan.

This is why the Apostle Paul
always prayed "That the God of
our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father
of glory, may give unto you the
spirit of wisdom and revelation in
the knowledge of him: The eyes of
your understanding being
enlightened; that ye may know
what is the hope of his calling, and
what the riches of the glory of his
inheritance in the saints"
(Ephesians 1:17-18)

And in 2 Peter 1:2-3 the Bible says, "Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue."

It is through the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ (not any other knowledge) that grace and peace will be multiplied unto you and that you will have all things that pertain unto life and godliness.

Your inheritance in Christ is deliverable through the knowledge of Christ. If you don't know you'll not enjoy it.

The Prophet Isaiah said, "Therefore my people are gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge: and their honourable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst." (Isaiah 5:13).

I want you to see what lack of knowledge will cost you. The prophet said you will be in captivity if you lack knowledge. You will be famished (starved to death), you'll have lack and poverty, and you will be dried up with thirst if you lack knowledge of the scriptures.

Imagine the things you should be enjoying freely you are lacking them because you don't know how to access them or receive them through prayer.

Many Christians are wallowing in poverty, lack, sicknesses and diseases not because God doesn't want to answer their prayers but because they don't know how to pray and receive answers from Heaven.

Some still insist that they know how to pray and receive answers but if you check on them you'll see that their lives are empty; there is nothing to emulate about them. It seems they have no God but they are very born again tongue talking Christians.

If what you know is not helping you to be better then you know nothing.

Sit back, relax and read this book. It's time to swallow your pride and

listen to another man of God preaching.

This book is my message to every Christian who is struggling with his/her prayer life.

Staying longer hours in prayer doesn't mean God has heard you. You may be praying amiss for seven to ten hours and not know it until the light of God's Word shines in your heart.

I am not against praying long hours. I do it daily but I am saying do it with wisdom and understanding. Know the scriptures and do it rightly.

You cannot win in a soccer match by using wrong rules. If you don't know the rules of the game no

matter how long you play it you'll still be disqualified.

Prayer is like a game too and God expects you to know the rules of the game before you play it otherwise you'll be disqualified.

Brothers and sisters, over the years I have learnt through the scriptures and the teachings of our fathers in the faith about these things.

I have learnt that it is not all prayers that God listens to. Some of our dumb and ignorant prayers God will not hear.

He wants you to have knowledge of His Word and to pray intelligent prayers, by that I mean prayers of the Word of God!

Let's get into the book and learn about the four easy steps to answered prayers.

It's not a very long book so don't be lazy to read. Take your time and read meditatively so that you will grasp these truths on petition prayer and do them.

After reading this book you'll have an exciting prayer life and trust me, you'll not want to stop praying again.

STEP ONE

DESIRE

*"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
(Mark 11:24)*

In petition prayer or in the prayer of faith which is the prayer of asking and receiving, the first thing that you must have is desire.

According to my dictionary a desire is "someone or something wished for." This means "desire" is a specific thing.

In our opening scripture our Lord Jesus said, *"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever YE*

DESIRE," This shows you that He is expecting you to bring your desires to God in prayer.

If you have no desire then you have nothing to ask for. Your petition prayer is weak if it lacks strong desires for the things you want from God.

Desire means a specific thing. So when you ask be specific in your requests to God. Don't be vague but clearly state exactly what you want.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. (Mark 11:24)

Desire is a specific thing. You can't desire to have what you don't

know. It ought to be a specific thing.

There are people who just pray without clearly laid out desires. They don't know what they really want. These are confused Christians who are not versed in the scriptures.

For example, don't just say God I ask for a husband. But be specific.

What kind of a husband do you want, what type of a husband do you need ? Be specific.

For example, it is better to say, "God give me a God fearing husband who is a Christian, a medical doctor, tall, slim, light in complexion and a humble one, etc.

That's very specific. God can locate that one for you and give you.

But if you are not specific in your requests God won't answer. He will simply ignore. And you will wait for a dead donkey to arrive some day. The end result is frustration and disappointments.

When I got my first car I was specific in my requests to God. I asked Him for the very car that I wanted and I got it.

I told Him the make, the colour, the type, etc of the car. I tried my best to be as specific as possible because I needed that car. I also had a prophecy for that car.

I am not saying know all the engine types of cars and some speedometers and some deep

things about cars that mechanics know.

All am saying is at least know what you want, be specific that if you describe the car you want an ordinary man can be able to picture it in his mind.

For example, if you say you want a shiny black Mercedes- Benz, C200 that is still in good condition then that's being specific. It's better than just saying I want a Mercedes Benz.

When I got my second car I was specific too in my requests and even when I got my third and fourth car I was very specific in my requests.

I told God the types of cars I wanted, the colors, the make, the models, etc and I got them.

As I said, that's better than just saying God give me a car. He will ask you which one because there are so many thousands of different makes and models of cars in the world.

Now Jesus didn't say have money for the things you want before you ask for them. He said have "a desire first."

Maybe you don't have money for a car and you don't have anywhere to get it from. Well, your faith is enough currency to buy you a car from God. Just have a desire first.

How strong is your desire for that car or for that thing you want? That's important.

If you have a strong desire for it then you need to believe and to know how to ask and receive it. That will settle the deal with God.

God will talk to someone of His kids to give you one or He will give you wisdom of how to get it, etc. I want you to read my book on "THE POWER OF DESIRE" for more on this topic.

STEP TWO

BELIEVE

*"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."
(Mark 11:24).*

The second thing that you need when you pray is to believe.

The question is to believe what ? Jesus said, *"believe that ye receive what things soever ye desire."*

If you don't believe you won't please God and therefore you will not receive anything from Him.

Remember in Hebrews 11:6 He says, *"But without faith it is*

impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."

So learn to ask in faith. Don't doubt when you pray and even after prayers. Doubting doesn't please God.

The Apostle James, the Lord's brother also said, "*But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.*" (James 1:6-7)

This is very informative.

When it comes to asking God, ask in faith. Don't doubt. God hates doubting. He doesn't like it at all.

Some Christians like doubting a lot and they boast about it. You hear them saying, "I don't quickly believe anything."

They think it's fashionable to doubt but little do they know that they are displeasing the Lord.

So the next time you ask believe and you will make God happy!

Believing is having a single mind. Therefore when you ask be single minded.

The Bible says, "*A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*"
(James 1:8)

Many Christians don't receive from the Lord because they are double minded. In other words they have no single mind or eye!

Jesus said, *"The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness."* (Luke 11:34).

So refuse to be double minded. Have a single mind. And then ask for the thing you want.

Let me give you an example, If you wanted a black shiny Mercedes Benz C200, and you asked for it, don't then go back and say "ah no Lord, change of mind, I now want a red BMW," just because you saw a friend driving it.

Before you ask for anything make sure you know what you want and you are single minded.

Ask for that very thing you want and receive it. Don't be double minded.

Ladies usually make this mistake when they don't know exactly what they want.

Two good Christian guys may approach a single lady for marriage and she will get so confused about who to take. Her problem is she doesn't really know what she wants.

You may not know the actual names of the person you want to marry but if you know all his or her qualities you won't be confused when he or she shows

up. And ofcourse you are only allowed to marry someone of different sex with you and only a Christian.

In the year 2001, as a form 2 student, I had all the specific qualities of the woman I wanted to marry written down in my diary which I still have today.

I wrote about her stature, complexion, church ministry qualities, abilities or gifts, etc that I required to see in a woman and so forth. I was so clear on what I wanted in a lady.

I had not met her at the time and she was not living near my world. She lived about 300km away from where I lived. So there was no way I knew her but when the time to get married drew nearer God

brought her closer to me. And we met at school in 2004 and became friends and later got engaged in 2011 and our wedding was on the 15th of January 2012.

Today she is still my wife and we have three kids.

When I wrote the qualities of the woman I wanted to marry in my diary I wrote down my vision in specific terms. I believed it and prayed.

"And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.

For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will

*surely come, it will not tarry."
(Habakkuk 2:2-3)*

STEP THREE

RECEIVE

*Therefore I say unto you, What
things soever ye desire, when ye
pray, believe that ye receive them,
and ye shall have them.
(Mark 11:24)*

This is very important. Many Christians pray but they don't know how to receive.

Let me begin from somewhere far and we will get back to this point. I have to address all the Christians now not many or few, but all.

Listen, whatever you need from the Lord God Almighty, you will get it. Let me tell you how.

Our Lord Jesus said, *"Ask, and it shall be given you....For every one that asketh receiveth..."*Matthew 7:7-8)

If you have money you just buy it but if you don't have money ask the Lord to give you the thing you need/desire and you will have it.

Many Christians have two problems:

1. They don't know how to ask and some

2. They don't know how to receive from the Lord.

They are not schooled rightly from the scriptures about asking and receiving, therefore for years they pray and still have nothing!

How To Ask

For a moment let's look at these points:

1. You Don't Have Because You Ask Not

"Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not." (James 4:2)

Many Christians are so ignorant that everything they don't have

money for they don't ask God to give them.

It is not everything that you will acquire by using money.

Sometimes you have to believe God for the provision of the very thing you need.

So if you don't have money for it, don't ask God for the money, ask God for the very thing.

However it is not wrong to ask God for money but in most cases I found out that God is able to give you what you want to buy with money.

Child of God learn to ask God in prayer for the things you want. Don't go another day hungry or in

lack. You can have that thing you need if you only ask and receive it!

2. Don't Ask Amiss
But Ask According
To God's Word

"Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. (James 4:3)"

When you want it go for it but make sure it's not contrary to God's word.

If you ask for things amiss, or against the teachings of the Word, then God won't answer you.

For example, if you ask God to give you your neighbor's husband to be

yours, He is not going to answer you.

Another example is, if you ask God to give you a job so that you'll prove to the world that your God is powerful or so that you'll prove to your friends that you can be above them then God won't answer you.

He doesn't want you to prove anything to anyone. Jesus is the ultimate proof that God loves you!

Ask because you need it or because you want it. Ask because it's something you want or need as a child of God.

Don't ask so that you will prove your friends and enemies wrong. God doesn't want you to ask amiss.

3. When You Ask Believe And Receive It There And There

*Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, BELIEVE THAT YE RECEIVE THEM, and ye shall have them.
(Mark 11:24)*

Don't make the mistake of trying to receive it after prayer. Many Christians make this mistake.

They ask for it in prayer and then after prayer they try to receive it. That's wrong. The problem is they are either carnal, or ignorant of the scriptures.

Jesus said receive it while in prayer. Let me give you examples

so that you may understand this better.

Let's say you are asking God for a US\$100. Don't say, "God I ask you to give me a US\$100, in Jesus Name. Amen." And then get up and try to receive it later. It doesn't work like that.

But Jesus said while you are asking for it receive it there and there.

For example, you say, "Father I am asking you to give me a US\$100, and right now I believe that I receive it; it is now my present our possession, in the Name of Jesus Christ. Amen!"

That's how you receive it. And Jesus said sooner or later on you'll have it.

Take note that receiving it and having it in Mark 11:24 is in different realms. Let me show you.

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe THAT YE RECEIVE THEM, and YE SHALL HAVE THEM." (Mark 11:24)

"YE RECEIVE THEM" is in the spiritual realm. It means receiving things you asked for into your heart, into your spirit.

And "YE SHALL HAVE THEM" is in the physical realm. It means having the things you received in prayer materializing before you or brought to you physically!

Listen, you cannot have what you didn't receive in your heart when you prayed.

The only things that you are going to have manifested in your life are the things you received when you prayed.

If you didn't receive them when you prayed then you may never have them in your life.

It's like a woman. She will not have (give birth) to a baby she didn't receive (conceive).

So do what Jesus said and you will have results.

Jesus said ask the Father in Heaven. This means He doesn't want you to ask Him.

In John 16:23-24 Jesus said,

"And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

So know how to ask here. He said ask the Father in the name of Jesus and the Father will give you what you are asked for.

Jesus said, *"Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you."*

Jesus didn't say, "Whatsoever ye shall ask Me in my name, I will

give it you." But He said, *"in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you."*

This is the rule. Ask the Father in the name of Jesus. You don't ask Jesus in the name of Jesus.

This doesn't mean we don't worship or praise the Lord Jesus. We do. But when it comes to asking He said ask the Father in my name, the name of Jesus.

In summary, learn to receive the moment you pray not after prayer. In other words when you pray receive. Don't finish praying and then try to receive.

But when ye pray receive....!

STEP FOUR

GIVE THANKS

*"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."
(Philippians 4:6)*

After you asked and received keep on in the mood of thanksgiving.

It is a fact that God hates complaining, worrying, griping, whining or being anxious.

Some Christians worry a lot even after they have prayed and received. That's why they don't have anything manifesting in their lives from their prayers.

They pray good, ask well, and
receive well yet they short circuit
their prayers by worrying and
complaining.

Let me give an example, if you
asked God for school fees and you
received it while in your prayer.
Don't have any business worrying
about it even if the the deadline of
paying the fees is today!

Just have the wisdom from God's
Word on how to have it
manifested. And in all that be busy
giving thanks to God.

If you worry, gripe, whine and
complain ah then you will have
nothing good coming through to
you except fears, stress,
headaches and some times stroke!

Whenever you prayed and received the Holy Spirit will lead you or give you wisdom on what to do to have what you received manifested or brought to you.

For example, He may tell you to sow a special seed offering for it. Sometimes He may lead you to do some corresponding actions that will make what you received to materialize.

One day, in the year 2006, I received a prophecy from a renowned prophet of God that I was going to own a car. I believed it and received it.

But the problem is by 2016, that is, ten years later I had no car. Not even car charger!

Every Sunday I waited for someone from somewhere to drop the car keys in the offering basket but no one did.

I got so frustrated and I went into prayers about it. I asked God if the Prophet had lied to me or if he had prophesied some vain dreams to me.

The Holy Spirit told me that the prophet didn't lie but you I was the one who was not acting on the word of prophecy.

I asked the Holy Spirit how do I act on that word of this prophecy I had received ten years ago ? He said, go and look for a car that you were told about and God will pay for it.

It was on a Sunday morning when I heard that and immediately after the church service I went out to look for that car that the prophet described in his prophecy to me.

By 6PM that day I saw the car and it was being sold by one lady who was relocating to Botswana.

I told our church treasurer that this is the car I ignorantly waited for ten years and today am taking it home and he said, Sir, the car is going for US\$2500 but we have no money. I told him not to worry because God will pay for it and that's how I got it.

Maybe you are there sitting on a prophecy hoping that one day it will happen. It may never happen until you do something about it.

Remember *faith without works is dead. (James 2:26).*

Lastly, if you asked, and you believe that you received it but still you don't see results, start again to ask afresh but this time with strong reasons.

Isaiah 41:21 says, "*Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.*"

Tell God why you need it. And there can be no stronger reasons than God's Word. So take time to search for the scriptures to prove to God that you really need this thing.

Bring forth your strong reasons - the Word to God.

For example, not everyone will be married. Some will die without being married because God want them to remain single. (See 1 Cor 7:7).

But if you really want marriage you have to then bring forth your strong reasons why you want to be married.

You see, that is why I always say read your Bible everyday to know these things. Don't be too busy to read your Bible because it may cost you a lot!

Oh I have shared the teachings of the Word of God with you and I have to stop here for there is no end to the writings of books. May my God richly bless you.