



# THE GLORY & GRACE OF PRAYER

## THE PROMISES OF GOD

"Every sinner who comes to God in Christ, with all [their] needs, finds God coming to [them] in Christ, with all his promises. When a sinful person meets the holy God in Christ, what [they hear] is, yes.

God, do you love me? Yes.

Will you forgive me? Yes.

Will you accept me? Yes.

Will you help me change? Yes.

Will you give me the power to serve you?  
Yes.

Will you keep me? Yes.

Will you show me your glory? Yes.

...all of the promises of God...are yes in Christ Jesus. Jesus is God's decisive yes to all who believe."

// John Piper

## "PRAYING IN JESUS' NAME

Deep down, we just don't believe God is as generous as he keeps saying he is. That's why Jesus added the fine print - 'Ask in my name.' ...

Imagine that your prayer is a poorly dressed beggar reeking of alcohol and body odor, stumbling toward the palace of the great king. You have become your prayer. As you shuffle toward the barred gate, the guards stiffen. Your smell has preceded you. You stammer out a message for the great king: 'I want to see the king.' Your words are barely intelligible, but you whisper one final word, 'Jesus. I come in the name of Jesus.' At the name of Jesus... the palace comes alive. The guards snap to attention, bowing low in front of you. Lights come on, and the door flies open. You are ushered into the palace and down a long hallway into the throne room of the great king, who comes running to you and wraps you in his arms.

The name of Jesus gives my prayers royal access. They get through. Jesus isn't just the Savior of my soul. He's also the Savior of my prayers. My prayers come before the throne of God as the prayers of Jesus.

'Asking in Jesus' name isn't another thing I have to get right so my prayers are perfect. It is one more gift of God because my prayers are so imperfect.

Jesus' seal not only guarantees that my package gets through, but it also transforms the package. Paul says in Romans 8:26, 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.'"

// Paul E. Miller, *A Praying Life*



# GLORY & GRACE IN PRAYER

## GOD'S POWER

**EPHESIANS 1:15-23; 1 PETER 1:3-9;  
ISAIAH 40:26**

**Praise God for his power, then ask him  
to manifest his power in our collective  
weakness (2 Cor. 12:9-10)**

- move in power through the proclamation  
of your word
- fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit
- help us to be aware of your power

## GOD'S GREATNESS

**PSALM 145**

**Contemplate the reality of God's  
greatness. Respond to the psalm  
however the Spirit leads you.**

- ask God to grip our church by the  
reality of his greatness
- pray that our worship will be fueled by  
a view of God's grandeur
- ask that we would have eyes to see  
and perceive his greatness
- pray that our view of God's greatness  
will transform us and motivate us to live  
faithfully to Christ
- confess any areas where life has  
become great and God has "become"  
small

## GOD'S CALL

**1 PETER 2:9-10; EPHESIANS 1:3-6;  
ROMANS 8:28-30; ISAIAH 42:5-8,  
45:2-7**

**Praise God for his joyful work of  
rescuing sinners and reconciling his  
enemies to himself. Rest in his grace.**

- ask God to save those who have not  
trusted Christ
- pray for specific people in your life
- acknowledge/ confess anything that  
threatens your confidence as God's son  
or daughter
- acknowledge/ confess anything that  
you are prone to put your confidence in  
to validate your standing before God
- receive God's grace in Christ, rest in his  
promise to save you in Christ, rejoice  
that nothing can separate you from  
God's love because you are in Christ

## GOD'S PROMISE

**2 CORINTHIANS 7:1**

**2 PETER 1:2-4; 3:8-13**

**God's promises should give us confidence  
and hope, but they should also purify us to  
live godly lives.**

- confess the areas in which you struggle to  
trust God
- ask him to help your unbelief by his grace
- ask him to build the faith of others at CCC
- confess any sins, personally or corporately,  
that deny the promises of God
- ask God to help us live as holy people,  
embracing and enjoying our identity as such
- what promises need to be claimed by faith?