

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PRAYERS THAT **REACH** GOD'S HEART & THE PRAYERS THAT **TOUCH** GOD'S HEART

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(Luke 18:9-14)

Every prayer does not touch the heart of God. The prayers that touch God's heart are not based on articulation, religious affiliation or the depth of your knowledge. The prayers that **REACH** God's heart are **NOT** the ones He will necessarily fulfill but they are the ones He will respect. There is a huge difference between God **RESPECTING** your prayer request and God **ANSWERING** your prayer request.

God answers the prayers that **ALIGN** with His divine will. James 4:3 says "When you ask, you do not receive because the **REASON** you ask is **WRONG**. You want things so you can use them for your own pleasures." This scripture reminds us

that God **ONLY** answers the prayers that are established on righteous motives and generous intentions. When your prayers do not align with God's plan your request will not manifest on the earth but it does not mean that He will not respect your prayer.

In order for God to respect your prayer it must contain one key component and that is **HONESTY**. A heart that is honest and the words that come from an innocent place are the elements that causes prayers to reach God's heart. In the prayer chamber God does not want to hear fancy words, He wants to hear **HONEST** words.

KEEP THIS IN MIND:

"God does not answer an honest prayer, He **RESPECTS** an honest prayer." Why? Because you can be honest in your prayer time & still pray with the wrong intention.

A FOOLISH BELIEVER AND A WISE SINNER

Luke 18:9-14

In this scripture Jesus elaborated on a story between the prayer of a foolish pharisee and the prayer of a wise sinner. The foolish pharisee can be compared to a modern day arrogant church member. This foolish Pharisee prayed to God by saying *"I thank you that I am not like other people who steal, cheat, or take part in adultery, or even like this tax collector. I give up eating twice a week, and I give one-tenth of everything I get!"*

Even though this prayer was based on his pride and self righteousness it was still honest. The motive of his prayer was arrogance but the content of his prayer was completely honest. The Pharisee foolish prayer **REACHED** the heart of God because what he said was honest but his prayer **DID NOT PLEASE** God because it was prideful. **AN HONEST PRAYER IS SIMPLY CONSIDERED AS SOMETHING YOU STRONGLY BELIEVE IN.**

The Pharisee **BELIEVED** that he was righteous, he **BELIEVED** that he was right with God. Please remember this Wisdom key, when you say something that you firmly believe in that will be the most honest thing you will ever say. An honest prayer will always be respected by God but it will **NOT** always be accepted by Him.

The Pharisee's prayer **REACHED** the heart of God but it did not touch the heart of God because of his motive. In the same scenario there was a tax collector, a sinner who was in the same vicinity as the Pharisee but the motive of his prayer was **NOT** based on his pride, it was based on his **HUMILITY**. When the tax collector prayed he would not even look up to heaven.

According to verse 13 this man "*beat on his chest because he was so sad. He said, God have mercy on me, a sinner.*"

The tax collector prayed under the conviction of humility but the content of his prayer was completely honest. This man's prayer was accepted because it **TOUCHED** God's

heart. His motive was righteous and his words were honest. Verse 14 tells us that "*when the tax collector went home he was right with God & the Pharisee was not.*" The prayer of the wise sinner was accepted. The prayer of the foolish Pharisee was rejected.

SAME ACTION DIFFERENT RESULT

Both of these men prayed to God but only one of these prayers were accepted. The prayers that **REACH** God's heart will be **RESPECTED** by him but the prayers that **TOUCH** God's heart will be **ACCEPTED** by him. When you pray to God make sure you are praying like the wise sinner who was humble in his approach but honest in his disposition. Most people are not getting their prayers answered because their prayers are **NOT** touching God's heart, their only reaching His ear.

It is amazing how a wise sinner's prayer was accepted
before the prayer of a foolish pharisee.

IT IS NOT ABOUT WHAT YOU DO, IT IS
ABOUT WHO YOU ARE!

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