

The Relationship Between Faith and Prayer

NKJV Ephesians 1:15 – 17

¹⁵ Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,

- Faith gives us **access** to all the rights, benefits and **privileges** of the kingdom of God.
- Prayer **activates** all the rights, benefits and privileges of the Kingdom of God.

I

NKJV Hebrews 11:6

⁶ But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Why is God pleased when you diligently seek Him through faith?

1. According to **Matthew 6:33** when I seek first the **Kingdom** of God and His righteousness, all these **things** shall be added to you.
2. He is pleased when we know that all things work together for good to those who are **called** according to His **purpose**.
3. **Hebrews 11:1** *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

The word **substance** points to **things**. These things exist in two dimensions;

A. Tangible

I Corinthians 2:9 speaks of tangible things that the eye has not seen, nor ear heard, no mind has conceived the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.

B. Intangible

Verses 11-13 speaks of intangible things in terms of comparing spiritual things with the spirit, which the **Holy Spirit** teaches.

^{NIV} verse 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except their own spirit within them? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

(Consider **Psalm 139:17-18**)

II

Your Faith impacts your prayer.

Mark 11:23-24 Chronicles the elevation of faith and prayer.

1. In verse 23 Jesus exhibits two principles of faith; **substance** of things hoped for, **evidence** of things not seen?
2. Your faith moves mountains, your prayer moves **heaven** and **earth**. Verse 24 says whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.
3. How does your prayer move heaven and earth. (consider **Matthew 18:18-20**) In **Matthew 18:18**, Jesus says whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.
4. Elevated faith has a **prophetic influence** on your prayer life. **Isaiah 65:24**. *It shall come to pass that before they call, I will answer, and while they are still speaking, I will hear.*