

HOW TO PRAY IN A CRISIS

Seeking God for a Breakthrough – Rick Warren
Parts 1-3

DANIEL 9:1-23: HOW TO PRAY IN A CRISIS

1. _____

READ YOUR BIBLE FIRST

"It was the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede who was made king of the Babylonians (by Cyrus). During the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, was studying the Scriptures. I learned from the Word of the Lord, as recorded by Jeremiah the prophet, that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years." Daniel 9:1-2

"God says this to you: 'You will be kept in Babylon for 70 years. But then I'll keep my gracious promise to bring you back to your home again. For I know the plans I have for you' says the Lord. 'I have good plans for you, not plans for your disaster. My plans will give you hope and a future. In those days when you pray, I will listen.'" Jeremiah 29:10-12

2 FACTORS: _____ & _____

2. _____

"So I turned my face to the Lord God, SEEKING him." Daniel 9:3 (ESV)

"So I gave my attention to the Lord to SEEK Him by prayer." Daniel 9:3 (NASB)

3. _____

"And I began pleading with God earnestly in prayer." Daniel 9:3

"I poured out my heart, baring my soul to God." Daniel 9:3 (The Message)

"Then my people will join together in tears to seek the Lord. And they will ask the way to Jerusalem and they will start back home again." Jeremiah 50:4-5

4. _____

"And I started fasting and went without food. To show my sadness I put on rough clothes and sat in ashes." Daniel 9:3

WHY FAST?

5. _____

"Then I said 'Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your promises of constant love to those who love you and keep your commands.'" Daniel 9:4

"Even though we have rebelled against you, you Lord are merciful and forgiving." Daniel 9:9

6. _____
"We have sinned and done wrong. We have rebelled against you and ignored your commands and rejected your laws! We have refused to listen to your servants, the prophets, who spoke your messages to our kings and leaders and parents, and to everyone else in our nation." Daniel 9:5-6

"We have brought disgrace and shame on ourselves . . . because we've been unfaithful to you. This is true of all of us, including our kings, leaders, and parents." Daniel 9:7-8

"We paid no attention to you when you told us how to live, the clear teaching that came through your prophets." Daniel 9:10 (The Message)

"We kept on sinning, never giving you a second thought, oblivious to your clear warnings. So you had no choice but to let disaster loose on us since we persistently and defiantly ignored you." Daniel 9:13-14 (The Message)

"Now, all the other nations mock us." Daniel 9:16

"O God, listen to me and hear my request . . . We do not ask because we deserve help, but because you are so merciful." Daniel 9:18 (NLT)

GOD'S RESPONSE TO DANIEL

"While I kept on praying and confessing my sin and the sins of my people, and pleading with the Lord, suddenly the angel Gabriel appeared in my vision and said 'Daniel, I've been sent to help you understand God's plan. The moment you began praying, an answer was given, and I'm here to tell it to you, for God loves you very much.'" Daniel 9:20-23

GOD'S PROMISE TO HIS PEOPLE

"If my people, who are called by my name, will HUMBLE themselves and PRAY and SEEK my face and TURN from their wicked ways, then I will HEAR from heaven and will FORGIVE their sin and HEAL their land!" 2 Chronicles 7:14

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PRAYING AND FASTING FOR A BREAKTHROUGH

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“When the Philistines learned that David had been made king of Israel, they mobilized all of their forces against him to attack and enslave him, but David heard the news and moved to his fortified place. Then the Philistine army moved in and spread out across the entire valley. So David sought the Lord in prayer. He asked ‘Should I go fight these Philistines? Will you give them over to me?’ The Lord replied, ‘Yes, go ahead! You can certainly count on me to give you the victory!’ So David went out and defeated them. Then David said, ‘I watched the Lord BREAK THROUGH my enemies like a mighty flood.’ So he named the place ‘The Lord Broke Through!’” 1 Chronicles 14:8-11

“After this, 3 enemies joined forces against Judah. Messengers told the king ‘A vast army is coming against you!’ Alarmed and afraid, King Jehoshaphat resolved to SEEK the Lord. Then he proclaimed a FAST for everyone. So ALL of people CAME TOGETHER to SEEK HELP from the Lord. They came from everywhere to seek God.” 2 Chronicles 20:1-4

HOW? PHILIPPIANS 4:6-8

1. _____
“Do not worry about anything!” Philippians 4:6 (NLT)

“Don’t fret or fear or have ANY anxiety.” Philippians 4:6 (AMP)

• **WORRY IS** _____ **INSTEAD OF GOD.**
“Thinking that is controlled by my sinful nature leads to death, but thinking controlled by the Spirit, leads to life and peace.” Romans 8:6

• **HOW DO I SWITCH MY FOCUS?** _____
“I turned to the Lord and pleaded with him in prayer and fasting.” Daniel 9:3

“We fasted and earnestly prayed that our God would take care of us, and he heard our prayer.” Ezra 8:23 (NLT)

2. _____
“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need.” Philippians 4:6 (NLT)

“Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about what happens to you.”
1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)

“EVERY DAY Lord, I lift my hands to you in prayer and I call to you.” Psalm 88:9



LEFT: WHO to pray for
Thumb:
Index:
Tallest:
Ring:
Small:



RIGHT: WHAT to pray
Thumb:
Index:
Tallest:
Ring:
Small:

3. _____
“Ask God for whatever you need, but always do it with THANKSGIVING, asking him with a thankful heart for all he’s done.” Philippians 4:6

“Give thanks IN all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”
1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NIV)

“I will offer you my sacrifice of thanksgiving.” Psalm 116:17 (NLT)

HOW?

1. _____
“Tell the Lord how thankful you are.” Psalm 118:1 (CEV)

2. _____
“Celebrate the Harvest Festival, to honor the Lord your God, by bringing him a thanksgiving offering in proportion to the blessing he has given you.”
Deuteronomy 16:10 (GNT)

3. _____
“Fix your thoughts on things that are TRUE and honorable and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely and admirable, and fill your mind with thoughts that are excellent and worthy of praise.” Philippians 4:8 (NLT)

Mornings: Pastor Rick’s DAILY HOPE devotions (email & podcast)
Evenings: Pastor Tom’s DRIVETIME devotions (audio)

“If you do this you’ll experience God’s peace, which is far more powerful than we can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and emotions at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:7

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HOW TO PRAY A BREAKTHROUGH PRAYER

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Jesus: "Anytime you ask for anything in prayer, believe that you HAVE received it, and you WILL receive it." Mark 11:24

THANKING GOD AFTER HE GIVES SOMETHING IS: _____
THANKING GOD BEFORE HE GIVE IT IS: _____

2 CHRONICLES 20:1-26

"After this, 3 enemy nations united to attack King Jehoshaphat. Spies told him, 'A huge combined army is marching to Jerusalem right now to defeat you!' Scared and worried, King Jehoshaphat RESOLVED TO SEEK THE LORD, and he announced a nationwide fast. So everyone came together to fast and pray and seek help from God. When they all got to the Temple in Jerusalem, the king stood up and prayed aloud." 2 Chronicles 20:1-5

HOW TO PRAY FOR A BREAKTHROUGH

1. _____
"Jehoshaphat was afraid, so he set his face to seek the Lord." Vs.3
 - _____
"O Lord, ARE YOU NOT the God who is in heaven? You rule over every kingdom and nations. You are so powerful and mighty that nothing and no one can defeat you!" Vs.6
 - _____
"And God, DID YOU NOT drive out those who tried to keep us from living here when you brought us back home?" Vs 7a
 - _____
"And also, DID YOU NOT give this promised land to your friend Abraham's descendants, to be theirs forever?" Vs.7b
 - _____
"Our enemies want to destroy us. WILL YOU NOT stop them from defeating us?" Vs.10-12a

2. _____
"Lord, we are powerless against this mighty army that is coming to attack us and we don't know what to do BUT we are looking to you for help." Vs.12

"Then all the men of Judah stood before the Lord, waiting with their wives and young children and even babies." Vs.13

3. _____
"This is what the Lord says to you: 'Do not be afraid or discouraged because of this vast army. For the battle is not yours, but God's!'... You won't need to fight in this battle! Just take up your position and stand strong! Then just wait and watch, and you will see the Lord deliver you! Again, do not be afraid or get discouraged, because the Lord is with you! Then the King and everyone else all bowed down on the ground and worshipped God!" Vs.15-18

WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT YOUR BREAKTHROUGH:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

4. _____
"Then the king appointed musicians and singers in choir robes TO MARCH IN FRONT OF THE ARMY and loudly praise and thank the Lord! This is what they sang: "WE THANK GOD! His love never quits!" Vs.21

"AT THE MOMENT they began to sing and to praise, THE LORD caused the armies of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir to begin fighting among themselves, and they destroyed each other!" Vs.22-23

5. _____
"When the army of Judah finally arrived at the battleground, the valley was covered with dead bodies for as far as they could see. No one had survived. So they went out to gather the plunder and they found huge amounts of equipment, clothing, and other valuables—more than they could carry back! In fact, there was so much loot it took three days to collect it all! On the fourth day, they gathered for a worship service in that valley, which they named 'The Valley of Beracah' because the people had thanked and praised God there." Vs. 24-26

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TALKING TO YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER

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“Jesus’ followers said, ‘Lord, teach us to pray!’ Then Jesus said, ‘When you pray, begin by saying ‘Our Father in heaven.’” Luke 11:1-2

Matthew 7:7-12

1. _____
“Keep on asking, and you will be given what you ask for. Keep on looking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened. For anyone who asks will receive; and anyone who seeks will find, and to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.” Matthew 7:7-8

- **WHEN I’M CLOSE TO MY FATHER, I JUST _____**
- **WHEN I’M NOT CLOSE TO MY FATHER, I MUST _____**
- **WHEN A BARRIER IS IN THE WAY, I _____**

2. _____
“If your child asked you for some bread to eat, would any of you fathers give her a stone instead?” Matthew 7:9

3. _____
“Or if your child asked for some fish, would you put a snake on their plate?”
Matthew 7:10

4. _____
“Now since even you as a sinful, imperfect parent, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more does you good and perfect Father in heaven give only gifts that are good to those who ask him!” Matthew 7:11

5. _____
“So in every situation, always do to others what you would want them do to you. This sums up all the commands and teachings in the Bible.” Matthew 7:12

Pt 1. HOW TO PRAY IN A CRISIS (5 Steps from Daniel 9:1-23)

“If my people, who are called by my name, will HUMBLE themselves and PRAY and SEEK my face and TURN from their wrong ways, then I will HEAR from heaven and will FORGIVE their sin and HEAL their land!” 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NIV)

Pt. 2. PRAYING & FASTING FOR A PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGH (4 Keys)

“Don’t worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God whatever you need but always ask for it with THANKSGIVING, asking him with a thankful heart for all he’s done. If you do this, you’ll experience God’s peace which is far more powerful than we can understand. His peace will keep your thoughts and emotions at rest as you trust in Christ Jesus. Then fix your thoughts on things that are true and honorable and right. Think about things that are pure and lovely and admirable, and fill your mind with thoughts that are excellent and worthy of praise.”
Philippians 4:6-8

Pt. 3. HOW TO PRAY A ‘BREAKTHROUGH’ PRAYER (In situations that are beyond your control) 6 parts — 2 Chronicles 20

“EVERY DAY Lord, I lift my hands to you in prayer and I call to you.” Psalm 88:9



LEFT: **WHO** to pray for
Thumb: Family & Friends
Index: Leaders & Teachers.
Tallest: Influencers
Ring: weakest—sick, poor, old, kids
Small: Myself



RIGHT: **WHAT** to pray
Thumb: my own heart
Index: my priorities. What’s #1?
Tallest: my influence
Ring: my relationships
Small: material blessings

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WHY MUST I KEEP ON PRAYING PERSISTENTLY?

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“Be persistent in prayer, and keep alert as you pray, always giving thanks to God.”
Colossians 4:2 (GNT)

“One day Jesus told his disciples a story to illustrate that they should always keep on praying and never give up!” Luke 18:1

TWO STORIES OF JESUS:
The Persistent Friend: Luke 11:1-13
The Persistent Widow: Luke 18:1-8

- **The Contrast: God listens & cares even if people don't!**
- **The Point: God is EAGER to answer your prayers!**

WHY DOES GOD WANT ME TO PRAY PERSISTENTLY?

1. _____
“My eyes are continually looking to the Lord for help, for he alone can rescue me from all the trap.” Psalm 25:15

“Look to the Lord and his strength; Seek his face constantly.” Psalm 105:4

2. _____
“I will TEST and PURIFY them as silver is purified by fire. I will test them as gold is tested. Then they will pray to me, and I will answer them.” Zechariah 13:9 (GNT)

- **IT TESTS** _____
“Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”
Psalm 37:4 (NLT)

- **IT TESTS** _____
“Why be like unbelievers who worry about everything? Your heavenly Father already knows all your needs, and he will give you all you need IF your first concern is to live for his Kingdom.” Matthew 6:32-33

“No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who do what is right.”
Psalm 84:11 (NLT)

- **IT TESTS** _____
“God left Hezekiah on his own for a while to see what he would do; God wanted to test his heart.” 2 Chronicles 32:31 (The Message)

“The Lord led you through the wilderness for forty years, humbling and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would really obey his commands.” Deuteronomy 8:2 (NLT)

- **IT TESTS** _____
“For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the Lord. ‘They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.’”
Jeremiah 29:11 (TLB)

“Let us not get tired of doing what is right, for at the right time, we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't get discouraged and give up.”
Galatians 6:9

4 WAYS GOD ANSWERS PRAYER

1. **WHEN MY REQUEST IS NOT RIGHT, GOD SAYS** _____

2. **WHEN I AM NOT RIGHT, GOD SAYS** _____

3. **WHEN THE TIMING IS NOT RIGHT, GOD SAYS** _____

4. **BUT WHEN MY REQUEST, THE TIMING, & MY CHARACTER ARE ALL LINED UP RIGHT, GOD SAYS** _____

“Pray at ALL times, and on EVERY occasion, in the power of the Holy Spirit. ALWAYS stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for ALL Christians EVERYWHERE.” Ephesians 6:18

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