

# Prayer Life

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Part 5 – contend



# Prayer Life - review

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- Laying the foundation for a successful prayer life, which is one that gets answers.
- “God does nothing in the affairs of men except in answer to prayer.” —John Wesley



## Prayer Life - review

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Prayer releases the power of God into the earth.

James 5:16 (amp)

The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].



# Prayer Life - review

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## Ephesians 6:18 (voice)

Pray always. Pray in the Spirit. Pray about everything in every way you know how! And keeping all this in mind, pray on behalf of God's people. Keep on praying feverishly, and be on the lookout *until evil has been stayed*.



# Prayer Life - review

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## Ephesians 6:18 (amp)

Pray at all times (on every occasion, in every season) in the Spirit, with all [manner of] prayer and entreaty. To that end keep alert and watch with strong purpose *and* perseverance, interceding in behalf of all the saints (God's consecrated people).



# Prayer Life - contend

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## Ephesians 6:10-12 (voice)

Finally, brothers and sisters, draw your strength and might from God. Put on the full armor of God to protect yourselves from the devil and his evil schemes. We're not waging war against enemies of flesh and blood alone. No, this fight is against tyrants, against authorities, against supernatural powers and demon princes that slither in the darkness of this world, and against wicked spiritual armies that lurk about in heavenly places.



# Prayer Life - contend

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## Contend

- Assert something as a position in an argument.
- To defend a belief or keep affirming it is true.

## Synonyms:

- |            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| • Maintain | • Insist  |
| • Assert   | • Declare |
| • Hold     | • Profess |
| • Claim    | • Affirm  |
| • Argue    | • Assert  |



# Prayer Life - contend

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Contending is what we do between asking and receiving.

John 5:14

If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know He hears us, we know we have granted us as our present possession the things we desired of Him.



# Prayer Life - contend

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- We aren't just contending for what we want. We're contending for what *HE* wants.
- Contending for His Word.
- His will is found in His Word.
- We must know His Word to know Him. To know His will.
- John 15:7 ...and my Words abide in you...



# Prayer Life - contend

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## Daniel 9:1-3 (nlt)

It was the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede, the son of Ahasuerus, who became king of the Babylonians. During the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, learned from reading the word of the LORD, as revealed to Jeremiah the prophet, that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years. So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and fasting. I also wore rough burlap and sprinkled myself with ashes.



# Prayer Life - contend

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1 Kings 18:1-2 (niv)

After a long time, in the third year, the word of the LORD came to Elijah: "Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land." So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab.

1 Kings 18:41 (niv)

And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain."



# Prayer Life - contend

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## 1 Kings 18:42-44 (niv)

So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees. "Go and look toward the sea," he told his servant. And he went up and looked. "There is nothing there," he said. Seven times Elijah said, "Go back." The seventh time the servant reported, "A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea."