



# Foundation For Answered Prayers

**“And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (I John 5:15).**

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“And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (I John 5:14-15).

It is often said that where the will of God directs, His grace provides. A story is told of an African son whose father sponsored to study at an American University. On arrival, he attended a church service and became so inspired that he decided to go to Bible college. His father objected to it, insisting that he must first finish the University education before going to bible college. The son was adamant and used the money the father gave him to start a study in a Bible college. When the money ran out, he contacted the father for more fund. The father refused to give anything but reminded him that he must first finish a University Education before Bible college. Frustrated with lack of money he dropped out of the Bible college. He then registered in a University; and on informing him, the father resumed funding. He had enough money to live on as long as he was doing the will of His father. This is how things are in the Spiritual realm. God will provide all that we need as long as we are living and operating in His perfect will.

Our text reveal that:

- 1) Living in the will of God gives us confidence to approach God in prayer (vs 14). Such confidence is not only the foundation for, but also the ignition and pilot light for faith.
- 2) Living in God's will give us the assurance that our prayers will be answered (vs 14). This also builds up faith to receive, for “... without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).
- 3) Living in God's will guarantees God's answer to prayers as His word declares “if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth

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- 4) Living in the will of God leads us to touch and receive the substance of things hoped for. “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). It produces that inner knowing of what God has done, before it becomes physically manifested “And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him” (I John 5:15).

A live in the will of God eliminates doubt, confusion and uncertainties on the probabilities of answered prayers, but rather produces boldness and confidence of faith that appropriates heavenly resources and translate them to reality for the successful implementation of faith plans. Such a life does not experience failure because it is anchored on the unfailing promises of God that is guaranteed by God Himself.

It is on the back of this knowledge that James admonished believers “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways” (James 1:5-8).

The challenge for all today is to leave the sidewalks of Luke-warmness and plunge into living on the highways of obedience and faith - at the very centre of the will of God. God's will can be known if we are willing to seek his face, with all our heart and be determined to do it when He reveals. His will is pleasant and delightful to follow.