

1 John 5:14

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

Don't you love today's verse which says, "*Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything, He hears us.*" Yeah, we have confidence when we go to prayer that when we ask for anything from God, that "*He hears us*" and if He hears us, then we will get whatever we ask for.

But actually, that's not what today's verse is saying, in fact, if you read the verse at the top, which is straight from the bible, and then the one I quoted in my opening statement; if you look carefully, you will note that I omitted part of the verse, and it's the part that we tend to overlook or skim over, which is "*according to His will*" and we do, because we know that there are things that we pray for that are not according to "*His will*", but rather according to our own wants and desires.

Even at the end of our prayers we pray, "*In Jesus Name*" or will throw in, "*Not my will, but Your will be done Lord*", which are both excellent things to pray. But if you pray those things, yet continue to try and convince the Lord that He should answer your prayer according to your will, then the words of, "*Not my will, but Your will be done Lord*" are really a bunch of fluff with no real meaning or heart behind them. It's pretending to be spiritual so that your non spiritual request will be answered. (It's ok to say ouch right here, because I have done the same thing in my prayer life at times too)

I've said this before, but we tend to pray a "Honey Do" list to God, and as I said before, "Honey Do" lists are ok to pray, except we have it backwards, because we should be going in prayer to receive a "Honey Do" list from God, not give Him one.

So how do we pray in confidence the things of the Lord, or how do we pray the Lord's will? Simple, ask Him. I know that sounds too simple, but we tend to over complicate the simplicity of the gospel and God's Word.

Have you ever asked the Lord in your prayer time what His will is?

Have you ever asked the Holy Spirit to guide you in your prayers because you want to pray the Lord's will? If you do, He will guide you in your prayers, because you will start thinking of people and things to pray for, and about, that you did not think of before. That's the Holy Spirit guiding your prayers so that you are praying the Father's will.

Also, as you read your bible, you will find what the Lord's will is, and as you do, then pray it. Here's one example:

† **2 Peter 3:9** *The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.*

So, if God does not want any to perish, then His will is that they come to repentance and eternal life in Jesus Christ. So there is one example of God's will and what you can pray for.

Also, how we pray is also a will of God's. He is not looking for grumpy, unthankful prayers, but rather, those who are thankful in their prayer life.

† **1 Thessalonians 5:18** *in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*

So, be in God's word, pray daily or several times a day, because the more you spend times with someone, the more you find out what they like and dislike. Just like the more time you spend with the Lord, the more you find out what His will is!

† **Psalm 115:1 & 3** *Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth. But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.*

† **Psalm 27:8** *When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek."*