

## **20180114 HELP, THANKS, WOW: Part 1 HELP!**

Text: Psalm 12:1 Help, Lord...

There is no more SIMPLE or INTENSE expression/prayer than this one!

I want to focus this afternoon on two implications of this HELP! prayer.

1- Asking God For Help Means I Recognize My Own LIMITATIONS.

“Help, Lord” is a recognition of personal NEED. (Dependence)

Ps 70:5 But as for me, I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer;

The Hebrew word rendered "HELP," is used for all manner of saving, helping, delivering, etc.

Asking/praying for help presupposes that we INTEND to cooperate (you+God/me+God).

As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead. James 2:26

2- Asking God For Help Means I Recognize God's ABILITY.

Only GOD is beyond the need of help.

Matthew 19:26 Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Luke 1:37 For no word from God will ever fail. (For with God nothing shall be impossible.)

Asking God for help must be mixed with FAITH.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Heb. 11:6

Faith in God in practical terms means that I believe...

- God is an ABLE God.
- God is a GOOD God.
- God is a CARING God.
- God is a RESPONSIVE God.

3- Asking God For Help (should) Means I am a Believer in the Power of PRAYER.

“Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. 24 Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.” Mark. 11:23-24

God has PROMISED to answer prayer!

Psalms 34:15 The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are attentive to their cry;

Psalms 34:17 The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them; he delivers them from all their troubles.

Psalms 37:5 Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this:

Psalms 50:14 "Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High, 15 and call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

Psalms 91:15 He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him.

Psalms 145:18,19 The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

Matthew 7:7,8 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

John 15:7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

God will keep His WORD.

Isaiah 41:13 For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.

**Thoughts to meditate on:**

What has formed my view of prayer and how I pray?

Which of these 3 areas do I need to increase my understanding and belief in:

- My limitations
- God's ability
- Power of prayer

What can you do to change the pressure of prayer to the desire to **pray?**