

PRAYING FOR THOSE FAR FROM GOD....

A. Pray in FAITH based on the word of God

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him. Hebrews 11:6

1. Believe that God wants to save the person in mind

Do I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked? declares the Sovereign Lord. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live? – Ezekiel 18:23

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance- 2 Peter 3:9

Are you really convinced that God has a deep concern regarding the lostness of the one for whom you pray? *He wants them to come to a place of repentance over sinful action and attitude, so they do not have to perish in judgement.*

2. Believe that **your** prayers can make a difference

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people— 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 *This is good, and pleases God our Saviour,* 4 *who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.* 5 For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave himself as a ransom for all people – 1 Tim 2:1-6a

NB The link between prayers and Intercessions and the fulfilled desire of God to see men and women saved...

The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) can accomplish much [when put into action and made effective by God—it is dynamic and can have tremendous power]. 17 *Elijah was a man with a nature like ours [with the same physical, mental, and spiritual limitations and shortcomings], and he prayed [d]intensely for it not to rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months.* 18 *Then he prayed again, and the sky gave rain and the land produced its crops [as usual] - James 5:16b-18 AMP*

Elijah was no different to us , his prayers prevailed and so can ours!

B. Get ready for WAR!

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God- 1 Cor 4:3-4

This blindness has to be removed.. and we have been given the authority to prevail against the darkness!

Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you - Luke 10:19

Serious declarations have to be made against this agenda of darkness:

In the name of Jesus, I resist and reject every evil assignment against ----- (name them), that is designed to keep them from clearly seeing the truth about the gospel of Jesus Christ. Let the darkness be broken and their eyes be opened in Jesus name!

Do not forget or forsake this action until the breakthrough comes...

C. Pray that Our *triune* God will *draw* them to himself

1. The Father will draw them..

For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up. As it is written in the Scriptures,[i] 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me –John 6:44-45

Pray like this:

Father God, I know that "no one can come to [Jesus] unless the Father . . . draws them" (John 6:44). I ask that You draw _____ to Your Son, that he/she may know You personally and spend eternity with You.

2. The Son will draw them to the revelation that he is the only way to true salvation..

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.- Acts 4:12

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me John 14:6

3. The Spirit will draw them to the place of conviction over their sin..

And when he comes, he (Holy Spirit) will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment – John 16:8

D. Ask God to send.. 'Labours' across their path!

These were his instructions to them: "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields - Luke 10:2

God is able to bring your loved one in contact with other believers who can share the gospel with them...ASK HIM

E. Pray that God will hinder and remove the sinful influence of others

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers Ps 1:1-3

NB: You do not have control over the will of the person you are praying for or the negative relational network they are connected to *but* God in his own sovereign way can block the negativity of the others around the person you are interceding for, and undermine their influence.

In conclusion don't forget to pray in other tongues over the requests you make in intercession!