

When Prayer Is Answered

2. Faithfulness
3. Cheerful giving
4. Compassion

Scripture: 1 John 3:22

Introduction

Promises of answered prayer are conditioned by meeting God's requirements for the answer. The promise and the conditions are a whole and cannot be separated. Our faith in receiving an answer to our prayer must thus be built on our faith in the promise as well as our obedience to the conditions.

I. The promise

1 John 3:22a And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him....

- A. Indicates God's abundant reserves
Ephesians 3:20a Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think....
 1. Focus on His ability
 2. Focus on his reserves
 3. Focus on his desire to help
- B. Indicates God's willingness to answer
Luke 12:32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

II. The conditions

1 John 3:22b ...because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

- A. Doing his commandments
Matthew 7:21 Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.
 1. His commandments are not optional
 2. His commandments are mandatory
- B. Doing the things that please him
Hebrews 11:5 By faith Enoch was translated ... for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.
 1. Loyalty