

## Prayer is a Tool

”The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.”<sup>1</sup> Prayer is the most efficient way to get things done. Prayer is the *only* way to get some things done. This is the pragmatic side of prayer, the one we usually focus on, usually the only reason we pray. Let’s face it, we want something that will alter the negative things in our lives, people and circumstances. We want somewhere to go to get things done. That is a part of what prayer is, God meeting our needs, and He loves to do this.

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.”<sup>2</sup> Some of the implications of these words of the Lord Jesus were discussed in the short study on relationship. We see them now speaking to prayer as a tool to get things done. Relationship and effectiveness are not separate animals, they go together, not either/or, but, both/and. Relationship motivates and guides “effective prayer” and effectiveness brings us back for more, as we see the dependability of our Lord.

What concerns do you have? What work has the Lord directed you to do? Where are the needs in your life and in the lives of others? Do them through prayer. God can work through great distances and in matters too complicated or sensitive for us. He has a thousand ways to accomplish something we can think of only one way to do. He does not always need us to be directly involved, in fact it may be better if we are not. Do not be limited in your vision to only those things you can accomplish. Get it done. Pray. Give God the glory.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father.  
<sup>13</sup> “Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup> “If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do *it*.  
<sup>15</sup> “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”  
John 14:12-15

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<sup>1</sup> James 5:16

<sup>2</sup> John 15:7