

# Romans 12:12 - Continuing Instant in Prayer

Message preached on Wednesday, May 14, 2025

When we are looking through Romans12, we are mostly looking at things that are directed at our whole lives...every day...no matter good or bad.

Verse 12 is no different...but is also focused on those times of trial and tribulations.

Don't get stuck in the trials...don't pull back...

- ~ look ahead with expectation (confidence)...
- ~ stick with it (patient) and don't quit...

Now...we need to continue in prayer.

Have you ever gone through a time in life when you were tempted to give up? That what you have been praying for has seemed too long in arriving?

**BELOVED:** We all have!

Often, we have prayed the prayer of faith...but the answers seem too slow in coming.

APOSTLE: "That place between amen and there it is."

#### We ask questions like:

- ~ How long should I continue believing God for my prayer to come to pass?
- ~ Should I give up hope that my answer will come?
- ~ Is there anything special I should do while waiting?
- ~ I am getting weary!

<u>Galatians 6:9</u> – "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

2 Thessalonians 3:13 - "But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing."

QUESTION: What are we suppose to do when our prayers are delayed?

**ANSWER:** Continue instant in prayer!

### Let's take a look at the words:

"Continuing instant" - compound word

"Pros" - close, intimate, leaning forward

"Kartereo" - to be strong, to be stout, to bear up, fortitude, steadfast, heavy duty

**DEFINED:** To never give up with a goal of obtaining

"Prayer" - compound word

"Pros" - close, intimate, leaning forward

"Euche" – a wish, a desire, prayer, vow. It is a desperate need for an answer, to give themselves fully for the answer.

**NOTE:** This is a surrendering of yourself, all of yourself, yielding to Him and His ways, His voice,

~ if He directs you go;

~ if He tells you to change, you change.

**DEFINED:** This is more than a mechanical prayer...it is a face to face with God, leaning in, close, inimate time with Him.

Prayer is more than just asking God for stuff...it is going before Him, surrendered...to know Him, please Him.

THIS VERSE: Stay forward-directed (don't draw back) and focused in prayer...time with God.

Keep pressing in the spirit.

Refuse to give up until we have obtained that which we are praying.

Dig in and press forward in the spirit.

If we need to make changes...we change.

KENNETH HAGIN: "If you are willing to stand forever, then it won't be very long!"

### Reasons why prayers that don't work or are delayed: We may need to change.

1.) Praying inconsistently.

1 John 5:14,15

- And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:
- And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

"Ask" - aiteo - means to be adamant in requesting and even demanding assistance.

"**Petitions**" – aitema – exact, specific, explicit, precise, detailed request.

Making sure there is no room for misunderstanding.

2.) Praying incorrectly.

<u>James 4:3</u> – "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts."

3.) Lack of faith

<u>James 5:15</u> – "And the *prayer of faith shall save the sick*, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

**UNDERSTAND:** Faith MUST be present in any prayer...so keep your faith full.

4.) Negative confession.

Watch the words of your mouth.

Don't pray one thing and then talk something else to everyone else.

One main problem? Complaining in prayer. Just because you are saying it to God and not to someone on earth...doesn't make it right.

5.) Bad relationships.

<u>1 Peter 3:7</u> – "Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered."

1 Corinthians 11:29,30

- 6.) Spiritual oppression.
  - The enemy does NOT want you to get your answer. Daniel 10:12-17 The enemy withstood him.
- 7.) Sin.
- 8.) Timing.

## So what do we do when our prayers are delayed or hindered?

Quit? Nope!

- ~ Check the things we just talked about.
- ~ Keep on praying.
- ~ Draw closer...more intimate...surrender to Him.
- ~ Give thanks!

Colossians 4:2 - "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;"

There is the very same combination of words for continuing in prayer.

But don't forget to watch for the answer with thanksgiving.

RICK RENNER TRANSLATION 4:2b: "While you are persistently and aggressively praying, you also need to stay wide awake, constantly keeping your eyes open as you look for and expect your answer. And while you are doing all of this, don't forget to stay in an attitude of thankfulness that gives thanks to God in advance for the things you are seeking."

**RICK RENNER TRANSLATION 12:12c:** "Be committed and ongoing and relentless in prayer. You have to press toward that answer you are seeking. You have to be devoted to the goal or obtaining it as you stay engaged in the robust, strong, stout, never-give-up kind of prayer that brings you straight into the presence of God."

#### Here some questions to answer:

- 1.) Can you say that you've been unrelentingly committed to continuing in your prayers until you receive the answers you have sought from the Lord?
- 2.) Where is your area of prayer that you have missed?
- 3.) How has your thanksgiving been...versus your complaining?