

I. The Purpose of Prayer

A. *Conversation*, *intercession*,
and warfare

B. Do not *lose* heart

Luke 18:1

II. The Problems in Prayer

A. Impulsive *anger*

I Tim 2:8

B. Wrong *motives*

James 4:2, 3a

III. The Preparation of Prayer

A. Walking in *agreement*

Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that **you all agree** and that there be no divisions among you, but you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.

I Cor 1:10

B. Preparing our *minds*

I Pet 1:13

C. *Building* up our faith

Jude 20, 21

IV. The Practicalities of Prayer

A. Positions:

- In the Bible, prayer is often
active

Matt 26:39

- Patterns can often turn into *ruts*

Matt 6:7

B. Places:

- *Secret* places

Acts 16:13

- Places of *trouble*

Rev 1:1-2

V. The Power of Prayer

A. “. . . You should have struck it
five or *six* times . . .”

II Kings 13:19

B. The Lord made Jesus a *select*
arrow

Isaiah 49:1-2

Finally:

- Pray *persist* ently
- Pray *unself* ishly
- Pray *expect* antly

¹⁴ When Elisha became **sick with the illness of which he was to die**, Joash the king of Israel came down to him and **went over him** and said, "My father, my father, the chariots of Israel and its horsemen!"

¹⁵ And Elisha said to him, "**Take a bow and arrows.**" So he took a bow and arrows. ¹⁶ Then he said to the king of Israel, "**Put your hand on the bow.**" And he put his hand *on it*, then Elisha laid his hands on the king's hands. ¹⁷ And he said, "**Open the window toward the east,**" and he opened *it*. Then Elisha said, "**Shoot!**"

And he shot. And he said, "The LORD's arrow of victory, even **the arrow of victory** over Aram; for you shall defeat the Arameans at Aphek until you have destroyed *them*." ¹⁸ Then he said, "**Take the arrows,**" and he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "**Strike the ground,**" and ***he struck it three times and stopped.*** ¹⁹ So the man of God was angry with him and said, "**You should have struck five or six times,** then you would have struck Aram until you would have destroyed *it*. But now you shall strike Aram *only* three times."

Care Group Questions

“The Arrow of Victory” Text: II Kings 13:14-19

Joseph Christopherson

January 7, 2007

1. **What are three general kinds of prayer and what might they consist of?**
2. **How might prayer keep a Christian from temptation?**
Luke 22:45, 46 When He rose from prayer, He came to the disciples and found them sleeping from sorrow, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not enter into temptation.”
3. **What have been some of your experiences in “wrestling”**
Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. Colossians 4:12 (**WRESTLE: ἀγωνίζομαι; to contend for a prize, struggle**)
4. **Discuss what praying with “wrong motives” might be in 2007.**
You lust and do not have; *so* you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; *so* you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives...” James 4:2-3a
5. **What can Christians do to move toward “agreement” for prayer?**
I Corinthians 1:10 Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.
 - **AGREE: σὺμφωνος; calling out together**
6. **What can you share with others that will reflect “amazement” at God’s intervention in the world’s problems? (Acts 2:17)**
7. **What circumstances are in my life today that need the “arrow of victory” to strike the ground five or six times?**
8. **Are you ready to ask the Lord for the passion to pray with persistence, selflessness & expectancy?**
9. **Am I ready to commit to pray for my leaders consistently and fervently?**

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