

September 12/13, 2009
Enjoy Answered Prayer Together

Jesus Christ wants to lighten up our lives with the joy of answered prayers! He will do that when we live in a tight, obedient connection with Him and pray together in agreement with His Word.

1 John 5:14-15 – *“And we are confident that He hears us whenever we ask for anything that pleases Him. And since we know He hears us when we make our requests, we also know that He will give us what we ask for.”*
John 15:7-11

Today’s Timeless Truth:

Light Walkers live and pray confidently because they know Whom they believe in, they know who they are in Him, and they know what His will is. The more we know and pray what we know, the more Christ will show us amazing answers to our prayers.

Praying Confidently What We Know

1) If I believe that Jesus is the Christ, I know I am a child of God. I have eternal life and my Father loves to hear my prayers. Prayer and obedience are not burdensome, but part of a dynamic partnership with Christ where I see how real He is.

1 John 5:1-13

2) As His believing children, we know we have victory over this evil world, and Christ wants us to use our victory to help one another live sin-free lives.

1 John 5:4-5 – *“For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.”* **1 John 5:16-21**

3) When we pray confidently together for what we know pleases Him, we can expect our lives to be filled with the joy of answered prayers. Answered prayers create a positive chain reaction of faith, love and obedience that everyone gets blessed by.

1 John 5:14-15; Matthew 18:18-20 – *“I tell you the truth, whatever you forbid on earth will be forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven. I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three gather together as My followers, I am there among them.”* **Acts 4:23-24; Acts 4:31-35; Matthew 7:7-11**

Discussion Questions:

1. Share a time you experienced a joyful answer to prayer. Now share a prayer request you would be very joyful if God answered. Read 1 John 5. Do you know with confidence who you are, Whom you are praying to and what is His will to pray? Talk honestly about that.

2. Do you have a deep assurance of your salvation? Is there any fear of the unknown about dying in your heart? If so, what bothers you? What friends or family members are on your heart regarding their salvation and eternal life?

3. Do you honestly see yourself as victorious over sin through faith in Christ? Where do you struggle to experience that victory? When you pray, do you expect God to answer? What would increase your "batting average" in prayer? Now take time to pray together for the answers you know would bring joy to all your hearts.