

Duewel, Wesley L.

Mighty Prevailing Prayer: Experiencing the Power of Answered Prayer

26. How Long Must You Persevere?

This chapter answers the question of how long to keep praying: until the answer comes. It gives three markers for persistence and argues that prevailing prayer costs real time you must deliberately plan for. It closes with testimonies of people who 'prayed through' and saw God answer.

Key takeaways

- Persevere as long as Christ intercedes — He is still praying, so you dare not stop.
- Persevere as long as the Holy Spirit gives you desire; a holy hunger for another's good is evidence the Spirit is stirring you to pray.
- Persevere as long as Satan resists — the harder he fights a prayer, the more strategic it is to God's kingdom.
- Scripture's pattern is 'until': the disciples tarried, Moses held up his hands, Elijah stayed on his knees, all until the answer came.
- Real prevailing takes time. You must plan for it and sacrifice lesser good things (even good church activity or TV) to make room.

- Focus on one or two priority requests at a time and pray through to inner assurance the answer is granted, even before you see it.

Passages worth keeping

“Whether we like it or not, asking is the rule of the kingdom.”

Spurgeon: God's answers come to those who keep asking, not to casual prayers.

“The time we give to prayer by deliberately planning is the measure of our value of prayer... perhaps the truest measure of our love for Jesus.”

Ties perseverance directly to genuine love, not sentiment.

How it connects

The chapter frames the believer as Christ's prayer partner (seated with Him, Eph. 2:6), so persistence is joining an intercession already underway rather than begging a reluctant God.

Scripture referenced

- **Col. 4:2** -- Paul's command to devote/persevere in prayer, watchful and thankful.
- **Luke 24:49** -- Disciples to wait 'until' clothed with power — the 'until' pattern.

- **1 Kings 18:44** -- Elijah prays repeatedly until the rain cloud appears.
- **Exod. 17:13** -- Moses keeps hands raised until Amalek is defeated.
- **Matt. 22:21** -- Give God what is God's — including a major portion of your time.