

Copeland, KennethPrayer - Your Foundation For Success

6. Prayer That Changes Things

This chapter teaches that prayer changes circumstances, not God, who never changes. It walks through several kinds of prayer a believer can use to bring situations into line with God's will: the prayer of agreement, binding and loosing, petition and supplication, and united prayer.

Key takeaways

- Prayer changes things, not God. Use faith and the Word to line up your circumstances with His will; He is already open to the prayers of the righteous.
- Prayer of agreement (Matthew 18:18-20): agree first with the Word, then with another believer. Writing agreements down keeps your mind and actions aligned. Once agreed, don't waver—thank God and treat the matter as settled.
- Agreement means harmony—'making a symphony together.' Spirit, mind, and actions must all line up. Your confession and behavior have to match what you prayed.
- Forgiveness is a condition of answered prayer. Forgive when you pray, because God said to, not when you feel like it—an unforgiving heart paralyzes your prayer life.

- Binding and loosing (Matthew 12:29; 18:18): you have authority over Satan through Jesus' work at Calvary. Bind him, refuse to give him place, and loose God's angels to minister on your behalf.
- Petition and supplication (Philippians 4:6; Hebrews 4:16): come boldly and prepared. Know what God's Word already provides for your situation before you present your request.
- United prayer (Acts 4): believers praying together in one accord release great power. Get in one accord on the Word and expect results.

Passages worth keeping

“Forgive because God said to, and not because you feel like it.”

Sums up the chapter's hard condition for effective prayer—obedience over emotion.

“Instead of talking the problem, talk the answer—God's Word.”

The practical discipline after binding Satan: keep confession aligned with the answer, not the problem.

How it connects

The throughline is authority and alignment: because Jesus stripped Satan of authority at Calvary, the believer prays not to beg God but to enforce what He has already provided—so long as the heart stays in harmony through forgiveness (Galatians 5:6, faith works by love).

Scripture referenced

- **Matthew 18:18-20** -- Basis for binding, loosing, and the prayer of agreement.
- **Mark 11:25-26** -- Forgive when you pray, or you won't be forgiven.
- **1 John 3:22** -- We receive petitions when we do what pleases God.
- **Matthew 12:29** -- Bind the strong man to spoil his house—authority to bind Satan.
- **Philippians 4:6** -- Make requests known through prayer and supplication with thanksgiving.
- **Acts 4:21-31** -- Model of united prayer and its power—the place was shaken.