

How to Get a Prayer Through for You

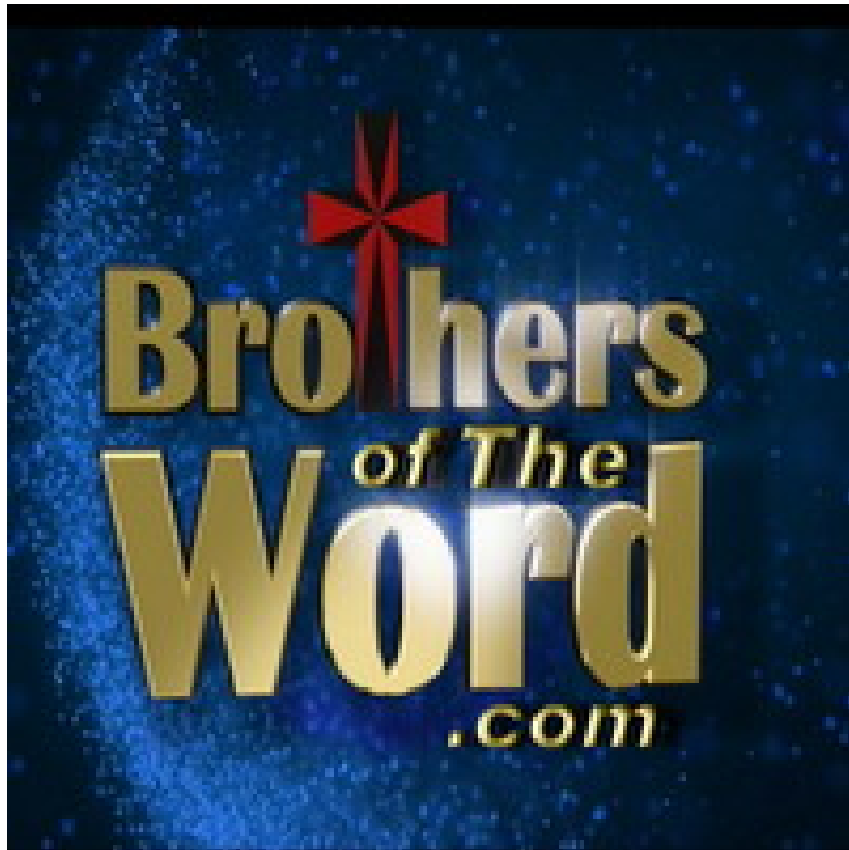
Sermon Title: **How to Get a Prayer Through for You**

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Speaker: **Nathaniel Bronner**

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Nathaniel Bronner: Sometimes, you will not be able to get your prayer through if you don't pray it the right way.

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(Music Playing: 00:00:21 - 00:00:50)

And now for 5700, "How to Get a Prayer Through for You."

Nathaniel Bronner: Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother, you need the word. And today, I am going to speak from the subject of how to get a prayer through for you. How to get a prayer through for you? Some of you are in some situations now. When you've been in those situations for a while and you've just been praying, but it doesn't quite seem that you can get your prayer through.

Today, I want to give you one of the keys of how to get a prayer through for you. At the end of today's sermon, which may be beyond the television time, so some of you who are watching by television, it may be off the television by the time I give you these additional two sermons. God spoke to me to tell the people to go and listen to these two sermons in addition to today's sermon. When I looked at the sermon numbers, I said, "Uh-oh, Lord, this is going to be a little issue." Because I looked at the sermon numbers -- all of our sermon numbers are four numbers. When I looked at the sermon numbers, the four numbers are the same. But it's just the second and the fourth numbers are flipped.

I said, "People are going to see that and they're going to say this is a sign from the Lord." Because I remember once, on the radio, they said, "Don't ever give scripture numbers or anything because people will go play the numbers." And I used to think about that and it sounded crazy and I remember years ago, many of you were here when I preached this sermon and it was dealing with how crazy it was to play the lotto and how illogical and you shouldn't do it. I told the people, I said, "Look, if you all want some lottery numbers, I can give you some lottery numbers and I guarantee you they will hit." And I called out three numbers and what I told the people, I said, "They will hit sooner

or later if you keep playing long enough but the probability is you're going to lose more money than you're going to get, but they'll hit sooner or later if you keep playing." And the thing about it, I was preaching, it was this night sermon, I preached at night, I walked into the office the next day and they said, "Pastor Bronner, you know those numbers you gave out on the service?" I said, "Yes." "Did you know one of them made the hit today?" And I said, "My goodness. That's alright."

Then when it played on television, somebody called me up and they said, "Look, Pastor Bronner, you know I had my mother watching your sermon because she's playing the lotto, I want her to see, sir(ph). Do you know one of the numbers you gave out, it made the hit that night." I said, "Good gracious of a mercy."

And the third time the sermon played on television; the third number hit. And I was sitting and just thinking about it. I think (00:03:27) asking me about it, I said, "Lord, what is up with this?" I just called out and then all three -- and he spoke these words and I actually preached the sermon dealing with this, that dealt with that situation, he said, "What would they say about a man who made wine at a party?" And I then began to understand it. So, I had to change my mentality even about the lottery because the very seats you are sitting in were paid for by the lottery. So, I had to change my opinion on that.

First of all, I'm not telling you to go play these numbers. I want you to get that really clear. So, when I give these two sermons, I'm telling you, God says for you to go listen to the sermon. Listen to the sermon! He didn't tell you to go play the numbers; go and listen to the sermon. But I got to admit, when I did look at the numbers and I said, "Oh, four of these numbers are the same." And then I looked at the second and fourth and I said, "They just flipped." And then when I looked at the second and the fourth numbers, the second and the fourth numbers are 4 and 2. I said, "My goodness!"

So, anyway, I'm not telling you to go play these numbers. I want you to get that really, really clear. But some of you -- because the lottery is real high right now, some of you are going to play the numbers anyhow. Some of you are going to play the numbers anyhow -- I'm just saying...

We will be studying today from the book of Matthew chapter 6, beginning at the first verse, The New King James Version and I'm going to tell you today, how to get a prayer through for you.

00:04:58

Jesus says, "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do charitable deeds, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly."

"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room." The King James Version says, "go into your closet." "And when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore, do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."

And it was interesting that this verse was read today in our Bible verse for the congregation and I didn't even know what was there. So, it co-relates. "In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."

"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Now, I want you to listen to these words in the Lord's Prayer that Jesus told us to pray in light manner. Our Father, give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation but deliver us from the evil one.

I was reading one of John Maxwell's book and he talked about the Lord's Prayer and how in the Lord's Prayer -- there is no me, there is no my, there is no I, and there is no mine. All of the way Jesus told us how to pray involves not just praying for us individually, but to pray corporately for more than just you.

Now, one of the sermons that I am going to give you at the end of this sermon, that God says for you to go and listen to again, has to do with when I preached the same message, but I preached it nearly six years ago. The problem was I forgot it. And I was no longer doing it. Because when I was praying for me, I was praying for me. I was praying for my stuff. I was praying for my company. I was praying for my delivers. I was praying for the trials and the tribulations that I was going through. And to be perfectly honest with you, I forgot all about you. I was praying for my stuff.

See, sometimes, we have to be reminded. We hold up family study several times a week at the house and if I'm not there, my wife will carry it on and I got in right at the time it started yesterday. Always, we will spend a few minutes in just prayer and meditation and always before we begin, I'll have them go over our seven rules of prayer and meditation.

So, when I got there, they were getting ready to start. I said, "Did you go over the seven?" They said, "No, we don't do it if you're not here." I said, "Let me explain why Daddy has you to go over the seven rules. Because if you don't go over them constantly, you forget them. And you stop practicing and you just pray any old kind of way and you forget how you need to pray."

The same thing happened to me. I preached the sermon. And when I read it again, it was so fresh and new like I hadn't even heard it. And when I went back in service, I said, "Oh my goodness. Six years ago, I preached the sermon on this very thing and I had forgotten it because I had latched back into my old manner of prayer." Sometimes, you will not be able to get

your prayer through if you don't pray it the right way.

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And there's a reason why Jesus told us to pray this -- when some of you have been praying and you just have not been able to get your prayer through any kind of way.

Once, there was a ship sailing on the ocean and it got caught in a storm and wrecked. Two men survived from the ship and they made it to a small island. There were only two survivors and they didn't know what to do and they were fairly religious men. "So, let me tell you what we're going to do. We're going to divide the island in half and each of us will pray and we'll just see whose prayer gets through."

So, they divided the island in half. One man on one side, the other man on the other side. So, the man on one side, he begins to pray. He said, "Lord, send me some food. Send me some food, Lord." He turned around and there was a fruit tree just laid with and he began to eat. He looked over to the other man's side and nothing was on his side. So, he just began to eat. And then he prayed again, he said, "Lord, I'm lonely." He said, "Send me a wife." And then another storm arose and another ship wrecked and then, a woman swims to his side, a beautiful woman, and he saw it. He said, "Oh! Thank you, Lord. Thank you." And he looked over to the other man's side, he's sitting all by himself, hungry.

And then he said, "Lord, I need some clothes and some shelter and some more food," and he prayed, and all of the stuff manifested. Then he finally said, "Well, I got my wife, I've got plenty stuff." He said, "I need to get off this island. Lord, send me a boat." And the next day, there, he found washed up on a beach, a boat. A nice boat. Plenty of room in it. So, he loaded his stuff up, put his wife in the boat, getting ready to sail off and then a voice boomed from heaven. And the voice said, "What about your companion on the other side?" The man said, "Well, Lord, I don't think he's righteous because all of my prayers have been answered. And I look over him and none of his prayers are answered so I don't think he needs to be in this boat with me. It's my fine wife and all of my fine stuff. I don't think he needs to be in this nice boat with us because his prayers have not been answered. He is not righteous and I am, so I'm not putting him

in my boat.”

And God said, “You don’t understand.” He said, “The companion on the other side only prayed one prayer and his prayer was the only prayer that I answered. His prayer was, ‘Lord, answer the prayers of my companion.’”

So, see, sometimes, we don’t understand that we need to pray for others. That’s why when Jesus gave us how to pray, there was no me, no my, no I, and no mine in the Lord’s Prayer. He gave us several rules of praying.

First, he said, “Don’t be like the hypocrites. When you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward.” Now, that doesn’t mean you ought not pray openly. It doesn’t mean that. What it means is you ought not to pray openly for the accolades and the adoration of men, that you love to pray standing up in front of folk but you’re not doing a hoot of prayer by yourself in the closet, and you pray to get the adoration of folks, “Ooh, that was a nice prayer you prayed today.” That’s what God is talking about, that you ought not to pray for the adoration of men because you have your reward. So, Jesus said, “Don’t pray like that.”

Second, he says, “But when you pray, go into your room, your closet, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.” That’s one of our seven rules of prayer -- is that you ought to have a prayer place that you regularly go to pray. It doesn’t have to be a closet. It’s a room. I don’t care where it is. I have a rug on my floor. I got a rug on my floor and I have a chair, and those are my two prayer places. So, you ought to have a sanctified place that you go to do your prayer.

Third, he says, “And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do, for they think that they will be heard for their many, many words.” Do you remember the prayer that say, “Oh, Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner”? That’s all the man said. “Oh, Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.” It’s not wrong that you have an elegant prayer, that you all sound so sophisticated and so dignified. But that’s not what touches the heart of God. What touches the heart of God is the sincerity in

your prayer.

While I was away this past week, I listened to the weekday word. And I heard Marcus Simmons' prayer. And I could feel the sincerity of your prayer.

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Coming over the internet, all I heard was a voice because I wasn't streaming the video, I was just listening to the sound. And I could hear from your voice, you were not praying for men. You were praying for the love of God. That's the kind of prayer God wants us to have and that's the kind of prayer that we need to feel. You need to pray the same way, whether you're in your closet by yourself, or whether you're in front of 10,000 folks. It doesn't make a difference because you're not praying for men. You are praying to God.

And fourth, He says, "In this manner, therefore, pray:" and it begins with "Our," not "My Father." There is even a flaw in the statement that Jesus is my personal Lord and savior. Yeah, he is your personal Lord and savior, but he's everybody's personal Lord and savior. And the thing is, we've gotten it twisted that it's just for us. No, He came for the world, and we're just a small part of that world.

That's the way the childish nature is. We focus on us so much and we forget that the "us" is all of us, not just me. And I had to be reminded of this. I had forgotten, I had to go back and change the way that I pray. And I got to start praying for some of you all because I just been focusing all of my prayers on my stuff. I will be honest with you, (00:16:19) but I'll just tell you straight. I'm not going to sit up here and lie and tell you about, "I've just been (00:16:23) for you. I've just been in prayer to get sweat just being on my face praying for you." No! Because I that would be a fat, bull-face lie if I told you that. I've been praying for my stuff.

I'm going to just tell you that some of you all who come up to me and say, "Pastor, I've been praying for you." You're just lying to me. You're not even praying for me that much. You're not even praying for me that much. You've been praying for your own stuff.

But I've got to change because I need to get some prayers through. I have got to change. And in Matthew chapter 5 verse 43, where Jesus, he says, "Pray for those even who spitefully use you and persecute you." So, when he's talking about praying for others, it's not just the folks who were just so good to you. That's why Jesus said, "Love your enemies." And see, this is why when you really follow the words of Jesus, that thing is not easy, but it will release some things in you. And some of your prayers are not going to get through until you change how you are praying.

The oldest book of the Bible, according to the scholars, is not Genesis. Actually, it's the Book of Job. And I don't think there's any case anywhere of anyone who's gone through more stuff than Job, but he's not in the Bible. See, even Jesus' crucifixion wasn't but a day. Job's stuff was a long, long, long, long time and I believe there's a reason why Job's story is the oldest book because Job lost everything. He lost 10 children. He lost all of his money. He lost his health. He lost his reputation. His friends turned against him so he lost relationships. He lost the joy in his spirit because he cursed the day he was born. When Job prayed, he prayed. Job even prayed for death.

Job chapter 6 verse 8, he says, "Oh that I might have my request; that God would grant me the thing that I long for! That it would please God to crush me, that he would let loose his hand and cut me off!" He was praying, "Lord, just kill me. I'm going through so much stuff. It's just so rough."

And see, it's popular to say that Job lost everything but a nagging wife but he lost his wife too. It's just not in the Bible. It's in the apocryphal writings. These are the books that were never canonized. See, Job's wife was named Uzit, U-Z-I-T. And she died. Uzit was a good woman. Now, all we know about Job's wife was when she told Job, "You ought to curse God and die." But when you read the story, and if you want to read it, it's actually in the Jewish Women's Archive, JWA.org. Just search on Uzitk, U-Z-I-T, and you'll find the story.

Let me tell you the background of when Uzit said, "You ought to just curse God and die." Do you know how long Job's captivity lasted? Some people say 90 days. It wasn't 90 days. It was 48 years. That's how long Job suffered. Now, understand this, when Job lost 10 children, who were killed, don't you know the

mother suffered more than the man? Because children are generally always closer to the heart of the mother. Can you imagine? You got 10 children and all of them getting killed at the same time? Do you know how heavy that is on a mama who has birthed these children? Everybody thinks about what Job went through -- can you imagine what Mrs. Job went through? She lost her 10 children all at the same time. Let me tell you the prelude to when Job's wife said, "You ought to just curse God and die."

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Job couldn't work. He lost all of his money. He would sit out by the gate and beg. He couldn't work because his body was covered with boils and sores. So, his wife was working and she worked by carrying water and doing maid service in people's homes. This is a woman who used to be married to the wealthiest man in the land. It's one thing for you to be a maid and you've always been a maid. But it's another thing for you to be a maid when you were once a queen. It changes things. And yet, even with this -- and the story goes and that Uzit would bring the little bread that she had earned and she would share that bread with Job, sometimes even giving up her bread so Job could eat.

And one day, Uzit was walking through the marketplace and Satan disguised himself as a merchant and told Uzit that, "If you would shave your hair and sell your hair, I'll give you three loaves of bread for your hair" And Satan shaved her head, took her hair, and disappeared and never gave her the bread. It was after this when Uzit was standing in the marketplace, after being shown bald, shamed -- because her hair was her glory. There's a little thing she had left after that had been stripped from her.

So, she had no food, no money, her husband laying down by the gate, begging bread, she's hungry, she's disgraced, she's shamed, she's tired, she's lost all her children, she's lost all the money, she's lost all the prestige as she's standing there, trembling, and that's when she told Job, "You ought to just curse God and die." After 48 years. That's the rest of the story.

So, there comes a time, people, when yes -- we can go through some things and we do need a breakthrough. But even though

Job had gone through all of these, and Job had prayed -- he was a praying man. So, it wasn't that he wasn't praying. Job was praying. And yet, there was no deliverance for Job. It was not until chapter 42, which is the last chapter in the Book of Job. The first book of the Bible has 42 chapters. It was the last chapter. Verse 42:10, "And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends." The Lord restored Job when Job went from "I" to "us". As long as Job prayed "I", he stayed in this position of loss, trouble and despair.

This is the other interesting part that most don't know. Many people are familiar with the fact that Job's captivity was turned when he prayed for his friends, but you got to go back up to the 8th verse, two verses prior to that.

When you go back and look at it, chapter 42 at the 7th verse, "And the Lord had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, 'I am angry with you and your two friends.'" Job actually had four friends. Three of them misspoke. One of them didn't. "Because you have not spoken of me what is right as my servant Job has. So, now, take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken of me what is right as my servant Job has."

"So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite did what the Lord told them. And the Lord accepted Job's prayer. After Job had prayed for his friends, the Lord made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had before."

God told his friends, "I'm not even going to accept your prayer but I will accept Job's." That's why his friends went to Job. And they said, "Man, you got to pray for us because God said he's not even going to accept our prayer. Only yours." And when Job prayed for his friends, God restored him everything he had. He gave him all his money back, he gave him 10 more children, he got another wife. You know who his wife was? Most of you don't. His wife was Dinah, the daughter of Jacob.

Do you remember the story of when Shechem raped Dinah because he saw her and instantly, he fell in love with her? That's why it says his daughters were the most beautiful in all

of the land because it was by a different woman, and the new woman was beautiful. That's why Shechem went crazy. Remember, the kings may give you anything you want. Just give my son your daughter, because my son fell in love with your daughter when he first saw her. So, God restored everything to Job but he didn't give him anything until he prayed for his friends.

00:25:05

How to get your prayer through and how to get a breakthrough? You need to change your prayer from just me, mine, and my stuff, my family, my this, my that, I, I, I. You need to change and you need to pray the way Jesus told us to pray -- us. Lord, us, our, we. Man, I needed this message more than you did. Because if anyone should have remembered it, I should have remembered it and I didn't. It had left my mind because when life starts hitting us, all we think about -- "Lord, just help me with my situation." It's just like, if you're suffering right now and you can't pay rent. I can guarantee you.

Let's just say you live in an apartment and you can't pay your rent. Don't you know there's some neighbors right near you that can't pay theirs either? But you have not said a word about God helping them pay their rent. All you're trying to do is to get yours paid. So, you need to say, "Lord, help us to pay our rent." And that's the way we need to start praying. You're not the only somebody who got problems.

See, you don't know what is in someone else's pocket. You just don't know what other folks go through. You don't. It's been a while back but I had a member come up to me after service one Sunday and she said, "Look, Pastor, I'm in bad shape. I need some money so I can put some money on my Breeze Card." And then she said, "You probably don't even know what a Breeze Card is."

A Breeze Card is a plastic, electronic card that you put money on, when you ride the MARTA system which is the rapid transit system here in Atlanta. And she looked and said, "You probably don't even know what a Breeze Card is." And I went to my pocket, went in my wallet and I said, "You mean one of these?"

And her eyes bulged and her mouth flew open. She said, "What

are you doing with a Breeze Card, Pastor? You got multiple cars, what are you doing with a Breeze Card? Why would you have a card that lets you ride the bus and the rapid rail system?" I said, "Because I ride the bus sometimes. That's why I got a Breeze Card."

See, you don't know what's in somebody's pocket. You don't know what somebody else is doing. You don't know what they're going through. You don't know what's on their plate. You don't know. So, you can't judge by looking at somebody. She didn't know I may have been on the bus because I may not have money to put gas in my car. You don't know. Why? Because people, there are some big folks who don't have the money you think they got. You don't know what folks are going through. You can't tell by looking at them and you may see somebody riding on the bus and they may have enough money to buy the whole bus line. You just don't know.

So, you don't know what's in their pocket, big or small, so you can't judge. You don't know what is in their heart, loving or hateful, so you can't judge. What Jesus has commissioned and commanded you to do is pray in light manner. It is to pray for others regardless of what you think of them. It is to include them in your prayer. It's not just about you. And once you start doing that, it's going to change and God will be able to hear from you because some of you all are blocked because your prayers are nothing but self-centered selfishness.

Now, understand this. See, Job was righteous. That's why when Satan came to God, God said, "Have you considered my servant Job?" And I got to admit, people, it's not many people who could have held up under what Job went. Maybe I could have held up a few weeks under that, but 48 years -- that's a long time. That's a long time, brother. I'm not sure I could have made it 48 years. That's about it, you said it, brother. But I said, "Look, Lord, look." Let me talk to you about some stuff, look. "I've been walking around here broke, my family gone, I'm busted, all the folks criticizing me. Look, now, you people up there, what's going on?" I may have had some issues after about 30 years of that. Most of us would have some issues after three days of that.

So, when God said, "Have you considered my servant Job?" He knew that there probably wasn't but one man on the whole

earth who could stand up to that much pain, to that much going through stuff, to that much stuff. He knew there probably wasn't but one man on earth who could hold up to that. And even that man, his spirit got broken. And some of your spirits are broken right now.

Job said, he said, "Look, I just cursed the day I was born." So, his spirit got broken. But even though his spirit got broken, he sinned not. He said, "I understand naked I came into the world and naked I'm going leave. The Lord giveth and Lord taketh away."

00:30:01

And he said, "If we can praise God for when he gives us good things then why are we going to curse him when he gives us some things that we think are bad?" So, Job never sinned against God but yet, God still did not answer his plea until he prayed for his friends, as righteous as Job was. And see, that's when some of you are right and you say, "Lord, I'm doing right. I'm righteous," but all your prayers are self-centered. As righteous as Job was, God still would not answer his prayer, would not reverse his captivity, would not restore him. He still would not do it until he prayed for his friends.

And understand this, his friends were persecuting him. So, it wasn't so much that they would just support him in all of this, and his friends weren't giving him any money because he was out there at the fence, covered with sores, begging bread. So, they weren't helping him in any manner at all. So, Job had a good reason -- "Why would I pray for these rascals? Why would I pray for them? They condemn me, not even helping me, they see the situation I'm in. Why would I pray for my friends?" And some of you all feel that way about other folks. Why should I pray for them after they have done me like this?

You need to pray for them because number one, Jesus told you to. And number two, you may be like Job and your prayer would not get through. Your situation will not be reversed until you pray for other instead of just you.

Now, the two sermons I said I was going to give you -- the two sermons that I said I was going to give you. Now, the first one is Sermon No. 5284. It's called, "Hazards on the Course of Life."

The second sermon, preached four and a half years later, is number 5482 and it's called, "The Lord's Prayer Part 2: It's Not My Prayer." And God says for you to go and listen to both of these. Now, that's it. That's all I'm going to tell you, go listen to them. 5284 and 5482. The same four numbers, it's just the second and the fourth number are reversed. So, 5482 and 5284. Go and listen to those sermons and they will help reinforce and they will help to bless you because people, I do believe we're heading for a different season and it's time for some breakthrough for us. But we have been just praying the wrong way and it's never been God's way for just to focus on you. God even gave up the most precious thing he owned for you.

So, it's a principle, from the oldest book in the Bible to the last book in the Bible, that we include others. It's not just about us. And if you're truly following Jesus, his word told you, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." Love thy neighbor as thyself. That is not an easy command because the flesh focuses on self-preservation and self-gratification. Jesus said, "I will give up my life for you." And actually, more accurately is for you all. It's not just for you, it was for mankind. So, it's not that he is my personal savior, he is our personal savior. And when we understand that mentality, it changes the way we pray, and if we change the way we pray, it will change the way that we act.

And as I listen to that sermon from years ago, at the end of the service, I asked for people to come to the altar and say a prayer for someone other than them. So, this is literally about 10 years later, I'm going to ask the same thing. I want to ask you for those who are led, and you know somebody that you need to pray for -- not you. I want you to come to the altar now and I want you to just pray for someone else. And when you finish that prayer, service will be over. As a matter of fact, I'm going to just say the benediction right now so you can come up and you just stand, you say your prayer, and you can walk out of the door right then. The service is over.

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank you for the message today. Father, I thank you for all that you have done. I thank you for the revelation. Father, and I pray that just even with us, that we learn, that we listen and from this day forward, we change the way that we pray. And Father, it's not just about "I" and "me" and "mine", but Father, it is about your children who are all our brothers and sisters. Help us to move and walk in that

revelation and in that knowledge and as we pray for others, Father, let it also turn the things that have held us captive. In thy son, Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

I have to say this. I just heard God speak. Job's ratio of praying for his friends was three to one. He had one friend who spoke the truth of God's word and didn't condemn him. Three of them did. God said, "Why are you here now? Follow that ratio just while you're here at the office." There are three folks that he wants you to pray for who've done you not the best in the world.

00:35:08

Our normal inclination -- let me just pray for the good folks first who really treated me good. Pray for three folks who have done you wrong, that you think have done you wrong, and then you pray for one who's just been good to you. And see, even that goes against the flesh. Normally, that would be reversed. You might slip one in that had done you wrong. No, he said pray for three who you think have done you wrong and then one who's been good to you. Follow the same ratio of Job because it takes a higher level of spirit to do that -- to pray and to love your enemies.

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