

National Intercessory Prayer

Be Persistent with Your Petitions



NIP-7



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WE MUST BE PATIENT

Most people today are not patient. This can be seen in the fact that cooking from scratch is becoming a lost art because it takes too long. It is easier to purchase prepared foods that just need to be heated in the oven, microwave, or stove.

All fast-food outlets feature a drive through since people don't want to enter the establishment to place their order. They prefer to place the order from the comfort of their vehicle, pull up to a window, quickly exchange payment for hot food in a bag, and immediately drive off.

I used to wash my vehicles by hand. That involved getting out a hose, bucket, suds, and a long-handled brush. Then I was introduced to the automatic car wash. Wow! It makes my life so much easier and now I am addicted to it. I drive up, the car goes through a series of rollers, suds coming down, water sprays the vehicle, a liquid wax is applied, power streams of air dry the car, and then I am done. What used to take half an hour of work is how accomplished in a couple of minutes and I did not lift a finger.

Our homes are also full of electric gadgets such as WIFI thermostats, washing machines, dishwashers, and robotic vacuum cleaners. This lifestyle in America has spoiled us. In previous

generations, it might have taken the wife a couple of hours to prepare a dinner, but now we can get food on the table in just minutes. This has created a sense of instant expectation to have our needs met quickly and efficiently.

Undoubtedly, this lifestyle also affects what we believe when it comes to prayer. I do not really like the word "prayer," but it is the word associated with "talking with God." Most people do not expect to get an answer to prayer. To them it is a religious custom that is done in church. As a result, these people never receive an answer from God with their ritual. Then there are the more serious Christians who like to talk to God. But if they do not see immediate result, they give up and say it is useless talking to Lord.

THE STATION WAGON

Let me give you an example dating back to 2005. I was driving an old Mercury Sable station wagon and it spent more time in the repair shop than on the road. I started talking to God that I wanted to get a better car and this went on for a good year. I kept talking and talking and I felt that God was not paying attention to me. Aina was driving a Volvo and I wanted one too. The model I liked was a XC-70 and I started talking to God about the car that caught my eye.

A married couple in Chico, California purchased a brand-new 2004 Volvo X-70 station wagon with every option. After driving it for two years, they decided to trade it in for a Land Rover. In the meantime, one of my radio listeners decided I needed a new car. I never talked to him about it and he stipulated in his will that \$20,000 be sent to me as a gift. His death coincided with this couple's decision to trade in their Volvo. They drove 150 miles south to a Land Rover/Porsche dealer in Rocklin. This was an upscale dealership that did not want a station wagon in their inventory. As a result, the price set for this 2-year-old car was \$25,000, which had originally sold for \$40,000.

In the meantime, I had talked to a good friend named Ove, who was an expert on Volvo cars, and I had told him what I was seeking. The Volvo X-70 was sitting on the lot a week since it had been traded in. Ove went to that particular dealership in the afternoon because he needed a part and saw the station wagon that I wanted. The price had been dropped to \$20,000 to induce it to sell quickly.

The next day I drove to the church building for a counseling session and planned to be there for most of the day. Ove called my home phone and told Aina about the car. He said it was a "steal" and we should act on it immediately. When I got to the dealership later in the day, the price was listed as \$25k. When I questioned the salesman about the discrepancy, he told me they would honor the lower price since I knew about it. Ove and I took the X-70 for a test ride and made the purchase. As I sat in the car on my way home, I could not help but praise God for answering my request.

I had been talking to God on and off for two years about a new car and receiving no answer. As I sat in the vehicle, I knew that from the first day that He had moved upon the Chico couple to purchase the \$40k car I wanted but could not afford it. The

Unbeknownst to me, the Lord moved upon a radio listener to finance the purchase, but I had to wait two years until Jesus took this man named Robert home.

God never told me that He was working on it. He wanted me just to trust Him. I kept reminding Him from time to time that I needed a new car and He lovingly ignored me while the details were worked out. I still drive this Volvo today and I have put 130,000 miles on it. It looks just as nice as when I bought it and I ride like a King's kid.

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY!

"AND IT CAME TO PASS, THAT, AS HE WAS PRAYING IN A CERTAIN PLACE, WHEN HE CEASED, ONE OF HIS DISCIPLES SAID UNTO HIM, LORD, **TEACH US TO PRAY**, AS JOHN ALSO TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES." LUKE 11:1

BE PERSISTENT

If you want results in your prayer life, be persistent. If you know that your prayer request is in the will of God, keep on talking to God until He moves on your behalf. This is precisely what Jesus told us to do.

"And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:1-8)

PRAYER TARGET

For the time being, I am not going to introduce any new prayer projects. I want to focus on the following targets until we hear from the Holy Spirit that our requests have been granted and they will be implemented.

Continue to pray for the salvation or demise of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris.

Pray that the work former White House Chief of Staff Ron Klein has left behind will be destroyed.

Pray that the new chief of staff, Jeffrey Zients, will be unable to function and push out the ungodly agenda of the Biden administration.