



*Have You Inquired  
Of The Lord?*



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# Inquiring of the Lord<sup>1</sup>

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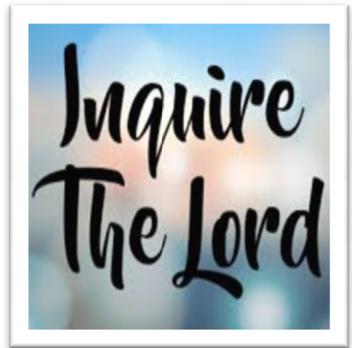
The key to prayer is knowing what God's will is and then praying *that*. When Jesus was praying to His Father, He said: "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in Heaven" (Matthew 6:10). We should also want this. When you come into agreement with God, you come into alignment with Heaven, so that you become a part of bringing what is already God's will in Heaven to earth. "The Bible shows us that God first has a will and wants to do something, next He shows us His will, and then we speak out with our mouth the will that we have come to understand. This is prayer."<sup>2</sup>



The Lord referred to David as a man after His own heart (Acts 13:22). David and the Lord were in the kind of relationship that every time he *inquired* of God, he received an answer. To *inquire* means: *To seek for particular information by asking questions*. David won battle after battle because he first inquired of the Lord. David loved that God would speak to him personally and give him guidance. God wants to have that same kind of relationship with you! Here are some examples:

- "Therefore David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the LORD said to David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah" (1 Samuel 23:2).
- "Then David inquired of the LORD yet again. And the LORD answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into your hand" (1 Samuel 23:4).

- “And David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? Shall I overtake them? And He answered him, Pursue: for you shall surely overtake them, and without fail recover all” (1 Samuel 30:8).
- “And it came to pass after this, that David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up into any of the cities of Judah? And the LORD said to him, Go up. And David said, Where shall I go up? And He said, Unto Hebron” (2 Samuel 2:1).
- “And David inquired of the LORD, saying, Shall I go up to the Philistines? Will You deliver them into my hand? And the LORD said to David, Go up: for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hand” (2 Samuel 5:19).
- *The next time the same group of enemies came:* “And when David inquired of the LORD, He said, You shall not go up; but fetch a compass (*go around*) behind them, and come upon them over against the mulberry trees” (2 Samuel 5:23).
- “Then there was a famine in the days of David three years, year after year; and David inquired of the LORD (*he asked God what the reason for it was*). And the LORD answered, It is for Saul, and for his bloody house, because he slew the Gibeonites” (2 Samuel 21:1).



The Lord still wants to be inquired of. Inquiring of the Lord is as necessary now as it ever was! And when He *is* inquired of—*He still answers*. When God reveals something to you regarding what you have asked, you will *know* how you should pray about it further. And you can then do so *with confident faith!*

In John 5:19-20, Jesus said, “...Truly, truly, I say to you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do: for whatever things He does, these also does the Son likewise. For the

Father loves the Son, and **shows** Him all things that He Himself does: and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel.” We are supposed to do the same. So, how did Jesus “see” what His Father was doing when the Father was not visible here on earth doing things? How did God “show” Jesus what He wanted Him to do? Can God show us things like that?

You can “see” things God wants to show you. Let us “show” you: *Close your eyes, and then picture your house (after you picture it, you can open your eyes back up and read on)...*

You just “saw” a picture in your mind of your house. That *screen* in your mind is the same *screen* you see your dreams on when you’re sleeping. This is the screen God can show you things on. This is not some strange thing; if you stop and think about it, you get “pictures” in your mind all the time. If you become more aware of this, God will be able to “show” you things that will help you.<sup>3</sup>



Here’s an example: One day my friend’s little boy lost his glasses. They looked around and couldn’t find them. Then she said to her son, “Let’s ask the Lord where they are.” As soon as she was done praying, he said, “Mommy! I know where they are!” She asked how he knew and he said, “I just saw a picture of them. They’re in the bushes by the side of the deck.” Sure enough—they were where they were in the picture the Lord gave this little boy in his mind!

In Amos 8:1-2, God gives a picture and then asks, “What do you see?” What screen is Amos seeing this picture on?...Here are a few more examples from Scripture:

- “Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying, Jeremiah, what do you see? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree” (Jeremiah 1:11).
- “And the word of the LORD came to me the second time, saying, What do you see? And I said, I see a seething pot; and the face thereof is toward the north” (Jeremiah 1:13).
- “Then said the LORD to me, What do you see, Jeremiah? And I said, Figs; the good figs, very good; and the evil, very evil, that cannot be eaten, they are so evil” (Jeremiah 24:3).
- “And the LORD said to me, Amos, what do you see? And I said, A plumbline. Then said the Lord, Behold, I will set a plumbline in the midst of my people Israel: I will not again pass by them any more” (Amos 7:8).
- “And (*the angel*) said to me, What do you see? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof” (Zechariah 4:2).
- “And he (*the angel*) said to me, What do you see? And I answered, I see a flying roll; the length thereof is twenty cubits, and the breadth thereof ten cubits” (Zechariah 5:2).

When the Lord “shows” you something, you will usually know what it means. But if He shows you something and you *don’t know* what it means, simply ask Him: **Lord, what does this mean?** (See Zechariah 1:8-2:2; 4:1-14; 5:1-11; 16:1-15 for examples.)

## Inquiring of the Lord:<sup>4</sup>

Prayer is really finding out what God wants to do and asking Him to do it. When you have something specific for which you need to inquire of the Lord, you could use this pattern:

1. Begin with thanksgiving and praise (Psalm 100:4).
2. Come to stillness inside and just worship the Lord—prepare your heart to hear God.
3. Then begin to inquire of the Lord about the situation:
  - *Abba Father, what is on Your heart concerning this?*
  - *Lord, Who do You want to be for me in this (or the person or people this involves)?*
  - *Lord, what do You want to do concerning this?*
  - *Is there anything You want to tell me or show me about this?*
  - *Is there something from Your Word You want me to pray and apply that would bring Your power into this situation?*
4. Write it down—the Lord may bring something to your mind, or even give you a picture of something. It may be a sudden sense of knowing. Write down the thoughts and words God gives you.
5. Write it into a prayer—add any Scripture the Lord would bring to your remembrance or that would match the thoughts and words God is giving you. If it's only a word or phrase that comes to mind, look it up in a concordance, or Google it, and see how the Lord speaks to you through His Word.
6. Pray the prayer you wrote—asking God for what He revealed to you.
7. Speak it—move into a time of proclaiming what God revealed, as what He *will* do, and declaring God to be Who He said He *will* be for you (or others).
8. Trust Him—to do things in His own time and way.

9. Continue to pray and proclaim with confidence what God has revealed to you.

We are to pray in faith. Faith is *believing*. "Jesus said..., If you can believe, all things are possible to him that believes" (Mark 9:23). It's sure a lot easier to believe, when God Himself tells you what He wants to do and what He wants you to pray.



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## —INQUIRING OF THE LORD<sup>5</sup>—

What I need to Inquire of the Lord concerning: \_\_\_\_\_

*Abba Father, what is on Your heart concerning this?*

*Lord, Who do You want to be for me in this (or the person or people this involves)?*

*Lord, what do You want to do concerning this?*

*Is there anything You want to tell me or show me about this?*

*Is there something from Your Word You want me to pray and apply that would bring Your power into this situation?*



<sup>1</sup> Article from: “Becoming a Warrior of the King” Discipleship Series, New Hope Ministry, ©2003, 2017, [www.newhopeministrycc.org](http://www.newhopeministrycc.org)

<sup>1</sup> *The Prayer Ministry of the Church*, Watchman Nee, Living Stream Ministry, Anaheim, CA, 1993, 36.

<sup>1</sup> Illustration from Derek Steen, [www.windandfire.org](http://www.windandfire.org)

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from: *Crafted Prayer*, Graham Cooke, Brilliant Book House, Vacaville, CA, 2003, 86-87.

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NEW HOPE  
MINISTRY

PO Box 151 • Centerville, IA 52544

Phone: 641-856-3326

[www.NewHopeMinistryCC.org](http://www.NewHopeMinistryCC.org)