

Persistence in Prayer (1 Chronicles 16:7-36)

As Christians, persistence in prayer means to continually and consistently pray with the belief that our prayers will be answered. Many of us think that when we repeat words for some time, God will hear them. But Persistence in prayer involves determination of your heart and involves spending time in prayer with God seeking his response to you .

David also believed that God should be continuously given praise and thanksgiving and he appointed Levites to offer a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God. This passage, (1 Chronicles 16: 7-36), shows that David gave a prayer of thanks to Asaph and his associates in which four elements of true thanksgiving are found

1. Remembering what God has done

In the first part of the passage we see David giving thanks for the wonderful things God did for them. Further, David states in Psalms (103:2) "Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" Taking the time to remember all the blessings God has given you and expressing your thanksgiving should be the first part of all our prayers.

2. Telling others about it

David shows us that we should declare and tell others of the amazing things God has done in your life. In the bible we see many instances of where someone joyfully praised God for the great miracle or act that was performed for example we see in Luke 8:26-39 that Jesus restores a demon possessed man. The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told others how much Jesus had done for him.

Our prayers should include a testimony of the wonderful deeds performed by our Lord in our lives.

3. Showing Gods glory to others

David challenges the Israelites to give God the glory and honor he is due. Isaiah 43:7 says that God created us for His glory. Love for God and appreciation for what he has done for us should create in us a desire to bring as much glory to Him as we possibly can. It is harder to bring glory to God if you don't love Him as you should. The Bible says that we are to do everything for the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31) Showing others of Gods glory in our lives is done through prayer, worship, singing and simply always praising God through all of our actions.

4. Offering Gifts of self, time and resources

Last part of the passage concentrates on David proclaiming that we should bring offerings to God. The greatest offering of praise we can make to God is to offer ourselves and our resources, such as time , talent and financial resources, for furthering of the Kingdom of God.

Persistent prayer benefits us because it takes our minds off our problems and needs and focuses on God's power, mercy, majesty, and love.