

Effective Prayer doesn't have to be elusive.

It takes a trust-worthy servant to be entrusted with big ticket items. (you don't entrust your race car to your child on his first day with his license; you don't give your house over to your child who has proven unreliable). Can God count on you with the answers He would like to provide?

Here is my "4-list" for beginning each morning's prayer event:

- a. **"I am your servant."** I remind myself and I remind God of this.
 - A servant works.
 - A servant has no will of his/her own.
 - "Your wish is my command", is what I have to do.
 - I need to bring God into my mind and decisions early.
 - I need to remind myself who serves who.
- b. **I ask for His Spirit.**
 - I want supernatural results. That is the whole purpose of prayer – tap in to Divine Power. I don't want merely what I can do – I've had a lifetime of that. Without the Spirit and Divine power, I am anemic, miserably insufficient and I have to pick up the pieces too often.
 - I want God's involvement in the day. I invite his involvement. I want God's expansive view. God can see what I cannot. I want to know what He sees. (to be aware of foolishness and deception)
 - I want God's intervention.
- c. **"Cleanse me from all unrighteousness."** In speech, thought, action. Here's a good opportunity to go over in your mind any unrighteousness you want to keep. "I wanna keep my 'tell 'em off'tongue ... "I want to go Clubbin' (and see how close to the border I can stand)... "my questionable friends... "I like doing what I want. "I Don't want anyone telling me what to do. "I like to make business deals go my way..." Do any of those land pretty close to unrighteousness? Do you have to manipulate the facts to make it come across to your benefit?
- d. **"Let me recognize Satan's attacks or attempts to ambush my commitments."** I need to track, when am I more prone to fail? I tracked these in my life:
 - Following a victory of some sort. When I have done well, my next move is often sad. (is Satan trying to destroy the power of momentum? Is he using my pridefulness?)
 - When I am Tired
 - When I am Angry
 - When I am Indecisive
 - When I agree to innocent sounding departures... and suddenly find myself, "how did I get here?"

I pray this "4-list" at the start of each prayer time to remind me Whom I serve, and that I need to be a servant that God can trust with truly powerful answers.

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